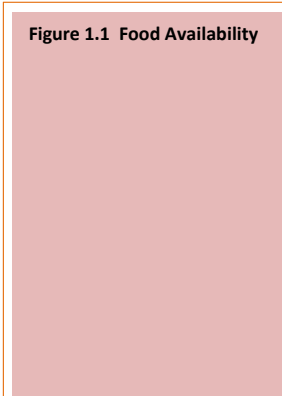




Key Indicators

- Marshall Islands has made significant improvements in health and child survival; nevertheless, it will not achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) on child mortality. A contributing factor for this may be found in an elevated prevalence of infants with Low Birth Weight and in the high level of Vitamin A deficiencies among pre-schoolers.
- Sanitary conditions have improved over the years but remain far from internationally acceptable levels, and significant disparities exist between urban and rural settings.

Figure 1.1 Food Availability



No Data

Figure 1.2 Undernourishment and Economic Growth From 1990 to 2012:

- GDP increased 21%

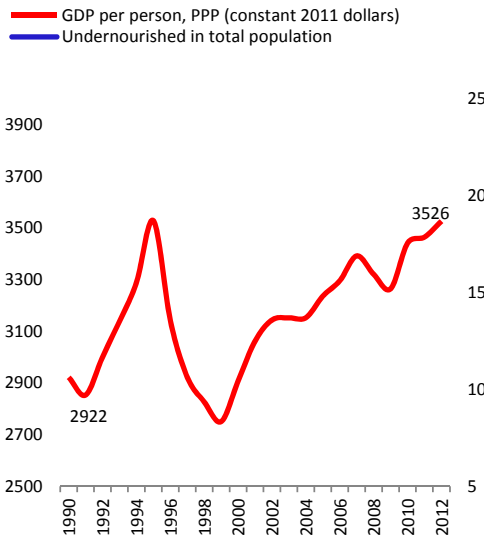
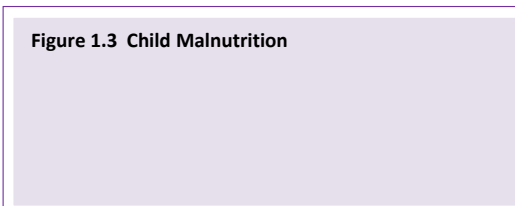


Figure 1.3 Child Malnutrition



No Data

Figure 1.4 Child Mortality From 1990 to 2012:

- Under-5 mortality reduced 23%, and will not achieve the MDG target
- Infant mortality reduced 20%
- Neonatal mortality reduced 17%

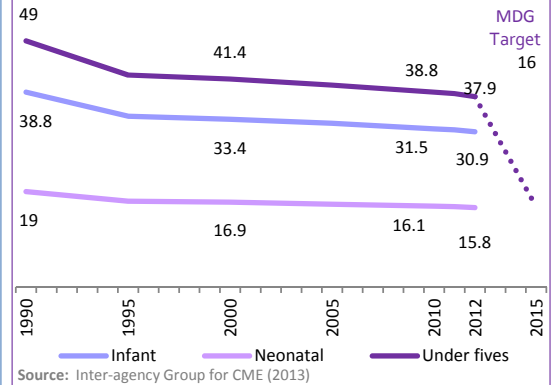
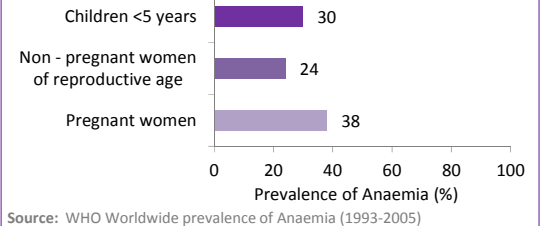


Figure 1.5 Anaemia

- Anaemia is a moderate public health issue among non-pregnant women (24%) and under-5 children (30%), while bordering on severe among pregnant women (38%)
- Deworming and iron supplementation can be effective for reducing anaemia in pregnant women as well as children.



Anthropometry (Table 1.1)

Underweight women (BMI < 18.5 kg/m ²)	-	-
Overweight adults (BMI >= 25 kg/m ²)	-	-
Proportion of infants with low birth weight	18 %	2007

Source: SOWC 2014

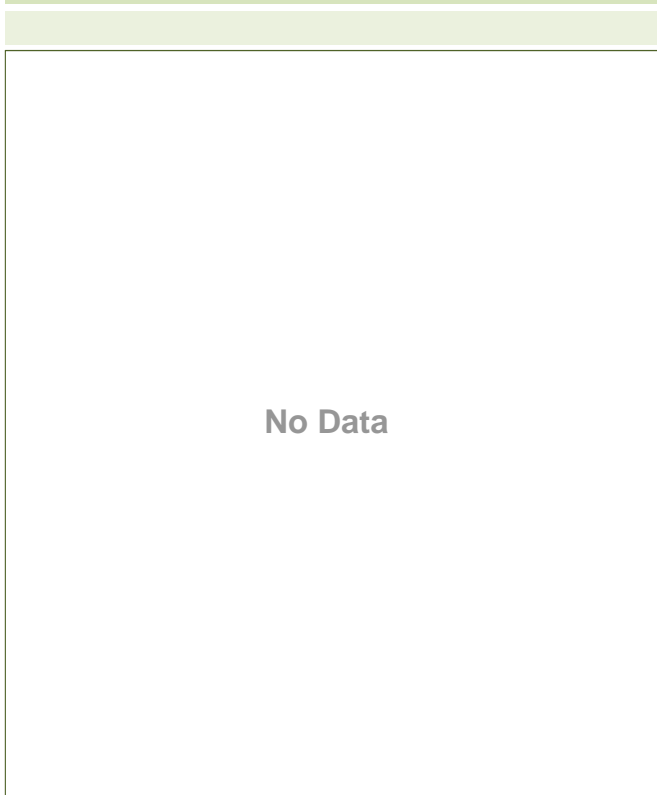


Food Availability / Food Access



Food Availability

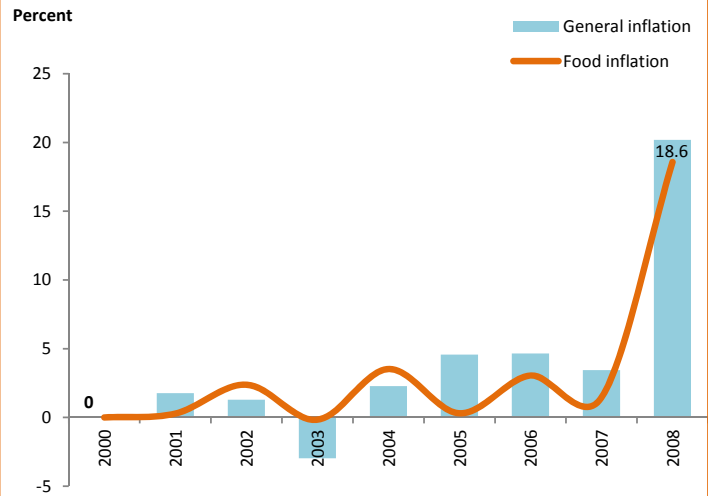
Figure 2.1 Food supply by food group



Access to food

Figure 2.2 Economic access to food

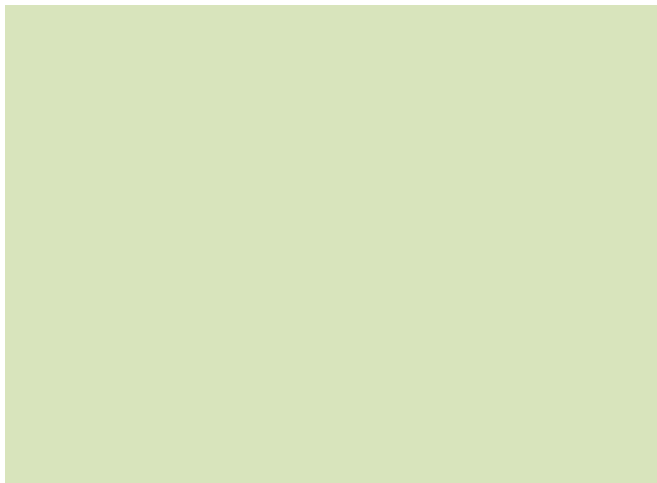
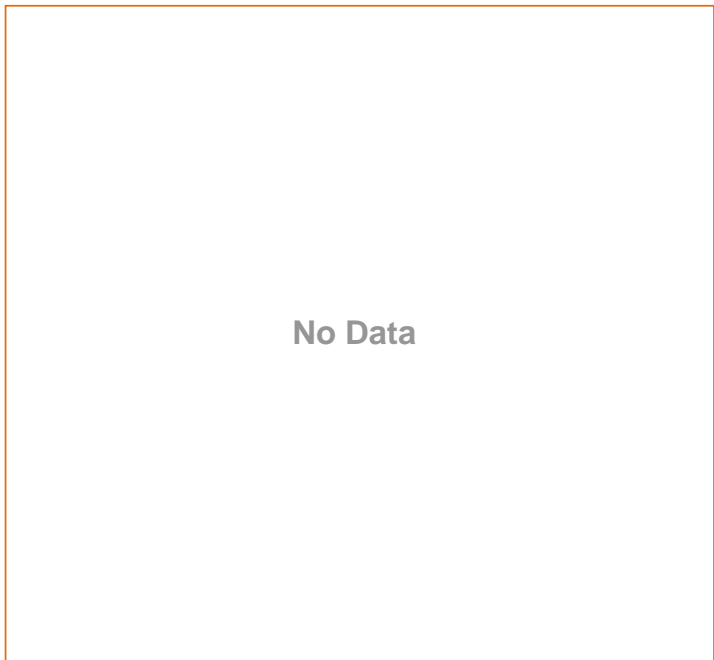
General and food inflation



Source: LABORSTA Labour Statistics Database, ILO (2013)

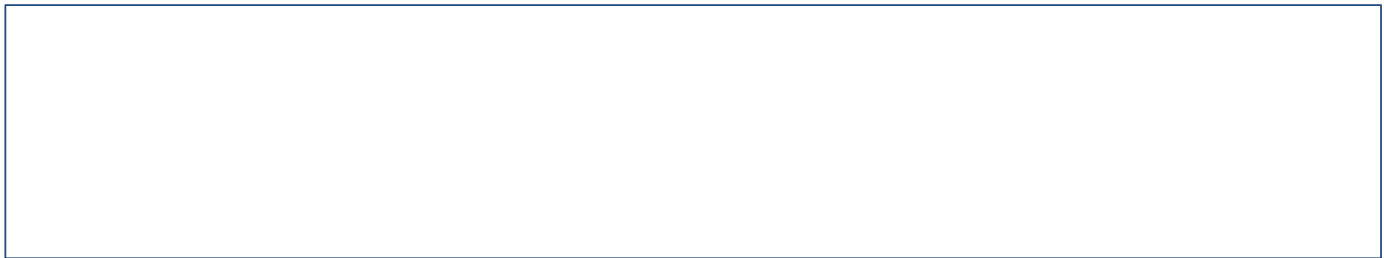
- Food inflation and general inflation are correlated, with no major gaps in past years.
- During the 2008 food price crisis, food inflation and general inflation increased significantly, from roughly 1% and 3% respectively in 2007 to nearly 17% and 18% respectively in 2008

Figure 2.3 Share of food expenditure





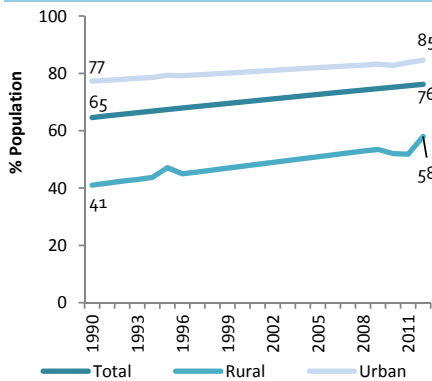
Food Utilization



Water and Sanitation

Figure 3.1 Access to Improved Sanitation
From 1990 to 2012:

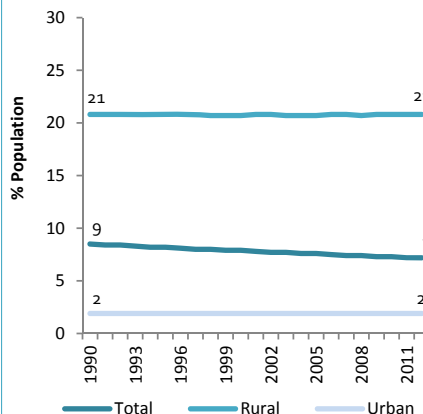
- Access to improved sanitation increased 18% in 22 years
- Disparities between rural and urban areas remained, although improvements in rural areas were significantly higher
- 24% of people do not have access to improved sanitation



Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

Figure 3.2 Open Defecation

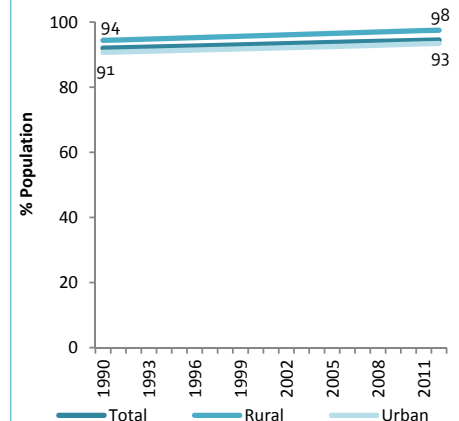
- Overall, 7% of the population practices open defecation, mostly in rural areas (21%)



Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

Figure 3.3 Access to Improved Water Sources
From 1990 to 2012:

- Access to improved water sources remained high, at 93%.



Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

Food Safety

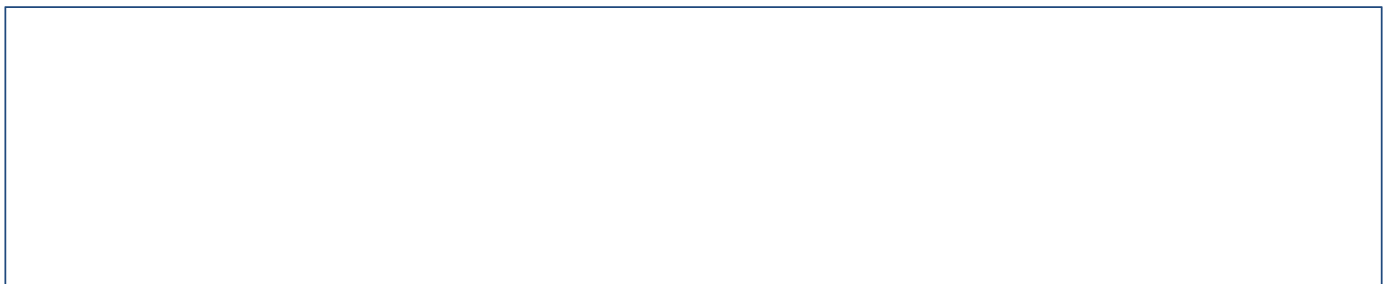


Figure 3.4 Diarrhoea

No Data

Management of Diarrhoea (Table 3.1)

Zinc

Share of children under age 5 with diarrhoea receiving zinc treatment

-

Existing policy framework

Zinc Supplementation and Reformulated Oral Rehydration Salt in the Management of Diarrhea

Source:

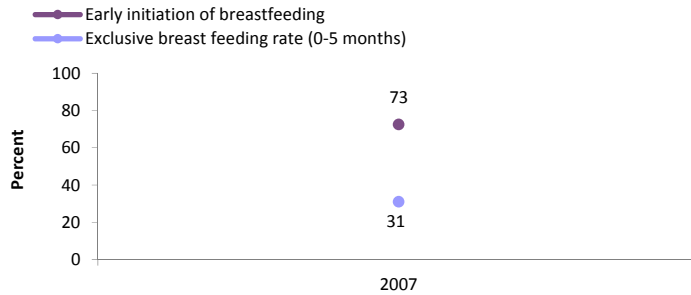


Food Utilization

Nutrition and Health

Figure 3.5 Exclusive Breastfeeding

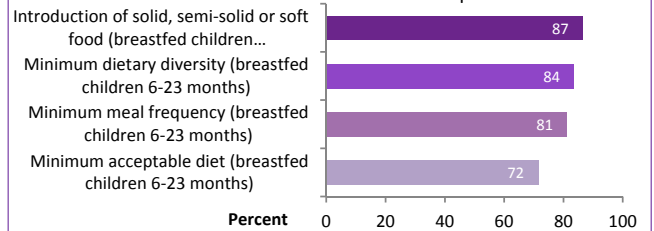
- Exclusive breastfeeding in 2007 stood at only 31%, although early initiation of breastfeeding is high, at 73%



Source: DHS 2007, Final report

Figure 3.6 Complementary Feeding

- Introduction of complementary feeding is timely for 87% of children
- 84% of children aged 6-23 months meet the minimum dietary diversity
- 81% of children achieve the desired meal frequency
- 72% of children do not meet the minimum acceptable diet



Source: MHL_Marshall Islands Demographic and Health Survey 2007_2008

Figure 3.7 Duration of Breastfeeding

No Data

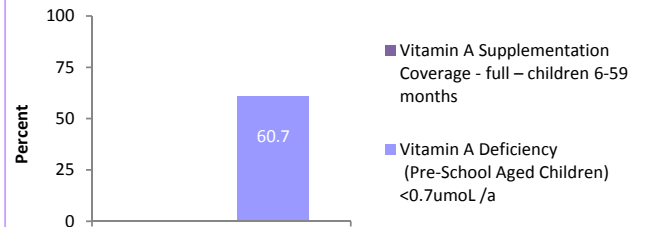
Figure 3.8 Child Malnutrition and Poverty

No Data

Micronutrient Status

Figure 3.9 Vitamin A

- Vitamin A deficiencies are severely high (61% of pre-schoolers), indicating that Vitamin A is lacking in the daily diet and that supplementation efforts may be necessary. Vitamin A deficiency is the leading cause of preventable paediatric blindness and also contributes to the mortality risk of infections and episodes of



* VAD is a severe public health problem if >20% of preschool children (6-71 months) have low serum retinol (<0.7µmol/L)

Source: a/ WHO Global prevalence of vitamin A deficiency in population at risk 1995-2005 report.

Iodine (Table 3.2)

Households consuming iodized salt	-
Iodine deficiency (Urinary Iodine Concentration <100ug/L) among school-age children	-

*Optimal UIE 100 - 199ug/L

Source:



Enabling environment for Nutrition and Food security - Policy documents addressing nutrition issues		

Nutrition related issues covered in these policies		Covered	Comments
Maternal and Child Undernutrition	Child undernutrition		
	Low Birth Weight		
	Maternal undernutrition		
Obesity and diet related NCDs	Child obesity		
	Adult obesity		
	Diet related NCDs		
Infant and Young Child Nutrition	Breastfeeding		
	Complementary feeding		
	Int'l Code of Marketing of BMS		
Vitamins and Minerals	Supplementation: Vitamin A children/women Iron Folate children/women Zinc children Other vitamins & min child/women		
	Food fortification		
Underlying and contextual factors	Food Safety		
	Food security		
	Food Aid		
	Nutrition and Infection		
	Gender Maternal leave		

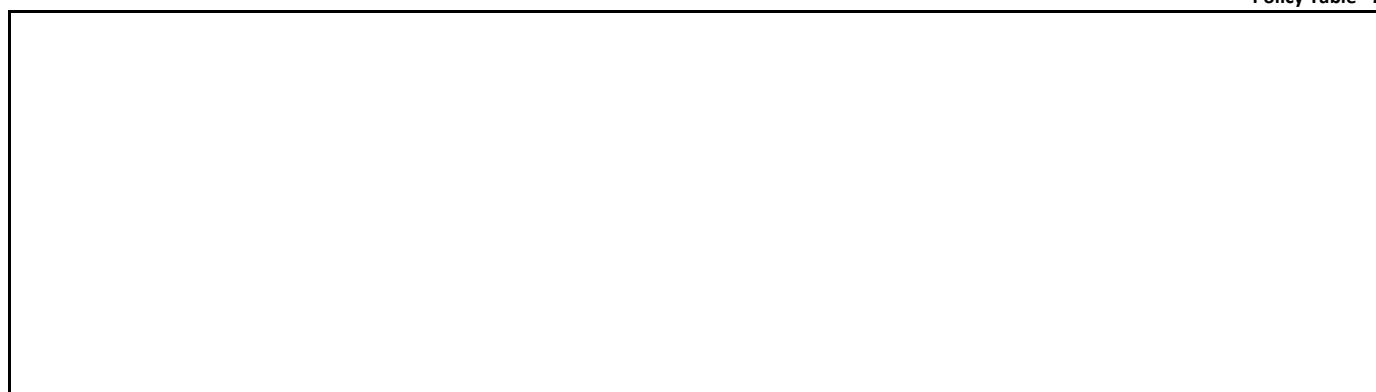
Social Protection policies or legislation including food or nutrition component		



Marshall Islands - Food and Nutrition Security Profiles



Policy Table - 2



Demographic Indicators (Table - 5.1)		Year	Economic Indicators (Table - 5.3)		Year	
Population size (thousands) /a	53	2012	GDP annual growth rate /c	1.9 %	2012	
Average annual population growth	0.11 %	2012	GDP per capita (PPP) (constant 2011 international dollars) /c	3,526.3	2012	
Proportion of population urbanised	72.15 %	2012				
Number of children <5 years (thousand)	5	2012	Gini index /c (100= complete inequality; 0= complete equality)	-	-	
Education level of mothers of under-fives: None (%)	-	-		-	-	
Life expectancy at birth (Years) /a	Male	-	-	Unemployment rate /c	30.9 %	1999
	Female	-	-	Population below US \$ 1.25 (PPP) per day /c (%)	-	-
Agriculture population density(people/ ha of arable land /b)	1.4	2006-2008	Poverty gap ratio /e		-	-
Employment in agriculture sector (% of total employment) /c	20.8 %	1999	Income share held by households /c	Poorest 20%	-	-
Women employed in agriculture sector (% of total female employment) /c	6.5 %	1999		Richest 20%	-	-
Adolescents (Table - 5.2)		Year	Sources: a/ World Bank, Health Nutrition and Population Statistics Database 2014 Update b/ FAOSTAT 2013 Update; c/ World Bank, World Development Indicators Database, 2014 Update; d/ UNICEF, State of the World Children 2014 (data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified)			
Adolescent birth rate (number of births per 1,000 adolescent girls aged 15-19) /a	105	2006				
Adolescent girls aged 15-19 currently married or in union /d	21.1 %	2005-2012				
Women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18 /d (%)	21	2008-2012				

The information included in this Food Security and Nutrition profile, is backed by recognized, validated and properly published information available until June 2014. Although updated information might be available at national level from different sources, until requirements of quality, validity and proper publication are met, it has not been included in this profile.

