



Key Indicators

- Solomon Islands has experienced stagnation in per-capita GDP and undernourishment in recent years. Dietary Energy Supply (DES) has continued to increase; nevertheless, the dietary quality remains poor and is based on cereals and starchy roots.
- Despite a slight declining trend in nutritional outcomes, this poor quality of diet is largely responsible for persistent high levels of stunting and underweight, high levels of anaemia, high level of Low Birth Weight, and Vitamin A deficiencies.
- Another factor that can be associated with poor nutritional outcomes is insufficient access to improved sanitation and water sources, particularly in rural areas. The country has not made recent progress in this area; improved water and sanitation levels continue to be far from internationally acceptable standards.

Figure 1.1 Food Availability
From 1990 to 2011:

- DES increased 16%
- Animal-origin supply decreased 9%
- Vegetal-origin products (mainly cereals) increased 20% as the major DES source

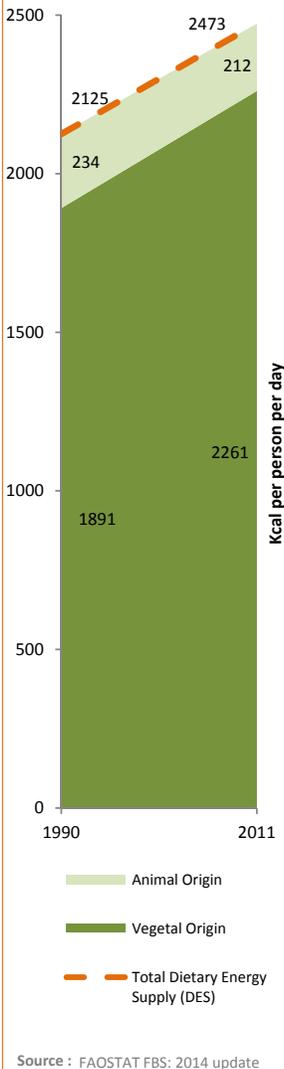


Figure 1.2 Undernourishment and Economic Growth
From 1990 to 2012:

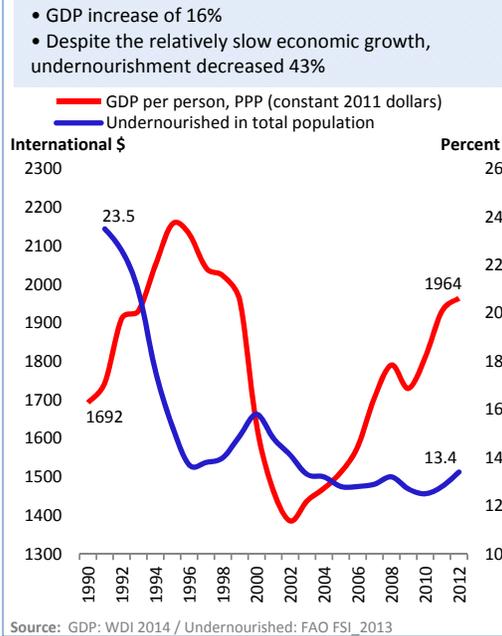


Figure 1.3 Child Malnutrition
in 2007:

- Stunting 39%, underweight 12% in 2007
- Wasting 4% and overweight 3%
- Low Birth Weight 13% in 2007, a public health concern

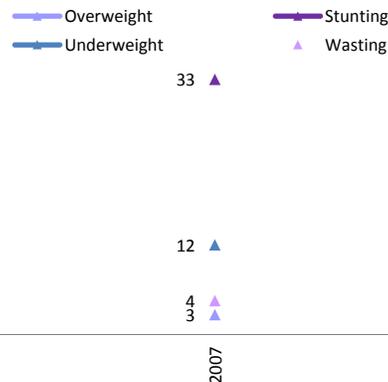


Figure 1.4 Child Mortality From 1990 to 2012:

- Under-5 mortality reduced 19%, will significantly miss the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target
- Infant mortality reduced 18%
- Neonatal mortality reduced 15%

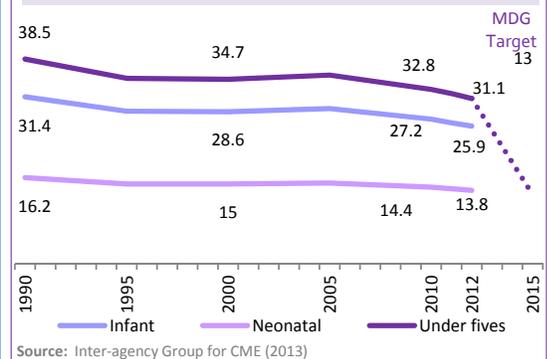
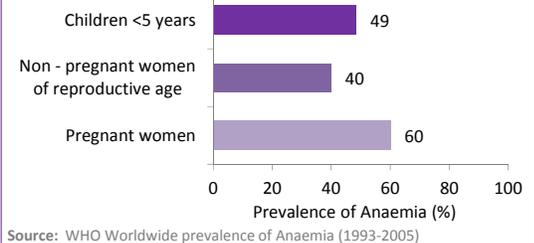


Figure 1.5 Anaemia

- A severe public health issue, high among pregnant women (60%), non-pregnant women (49%) and under-5 children alike (49%)
- 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	13 %	2007

Source: WHO Global Database on BMI & DHS 2008



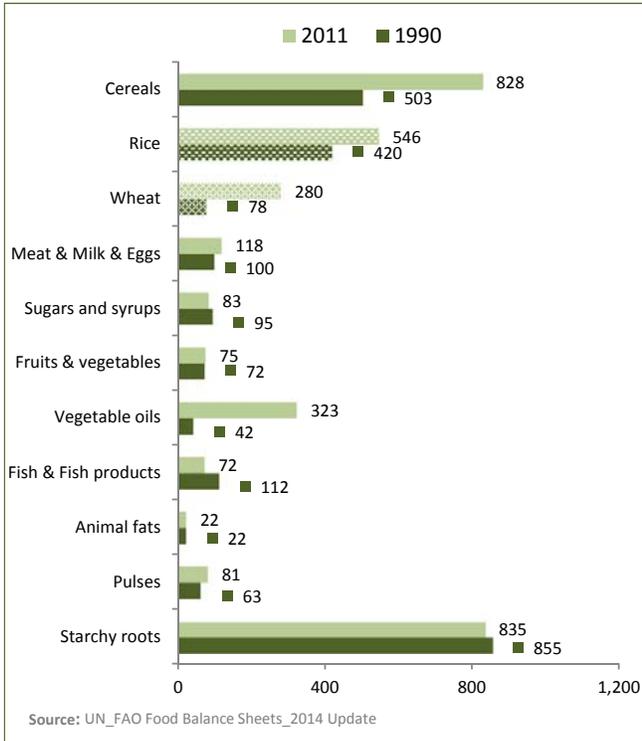
Food Availability / Food Access



Food Availability

Figure 2.1 Food supply by food group

(kcal/person/year) Total dietary energy supply= 2,473 (2011)

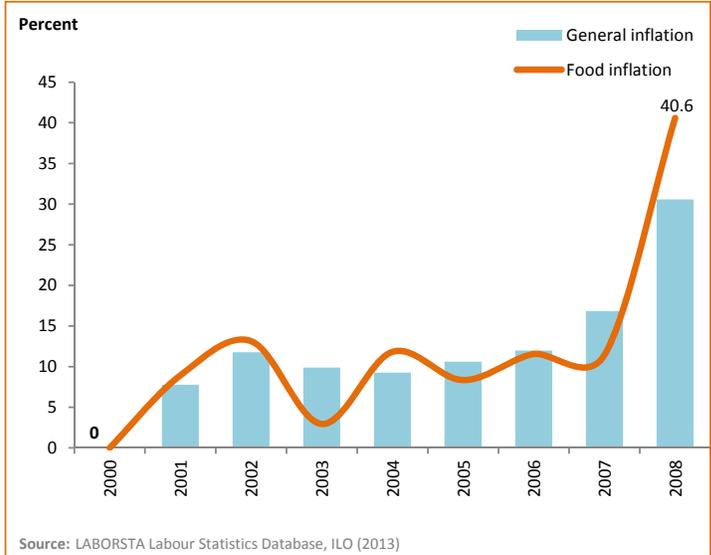


- Starchy roots continue to be the most important source of dietary energy (34%)
- Cereals have increased their contribution as an important source of food energy and represent 33% of the total, Vegetal oils are also significant contributors of DES (13%)
- Rice comprises 66% of the cereal contribution

Access to food

Figure 2.2 Economic access to food

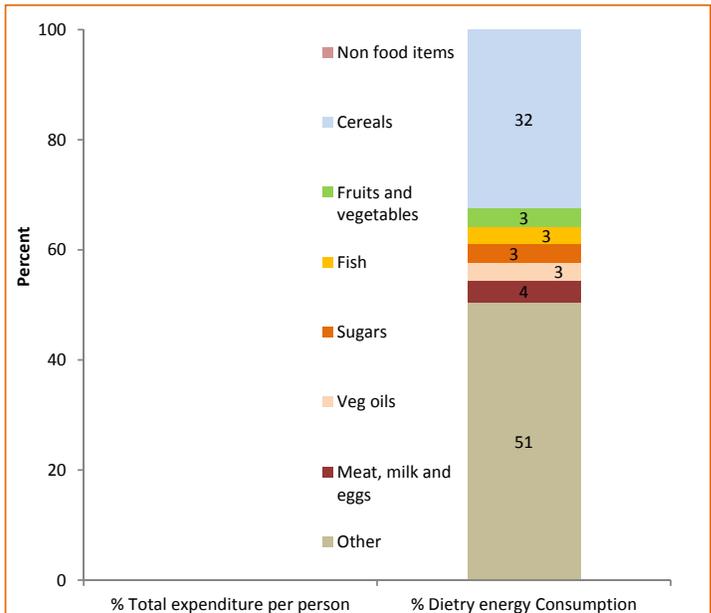
General and food inflation



- Food inflation has remained in proportion to general inflation for most years, although the increase in 2008 (the global food price crisis) was significantly higher

Figure 2.3 Share of food expenditure

(2009)





Food Utilization

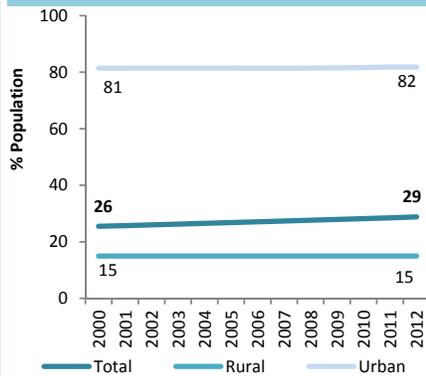
Food utilization refers both to household preparation practices of foods, which influence nutrient content of consumed foods, and to the absorption of nutrients by the human body after consumption. Nutrient absorption in the gut is strongly influenced by health status, particularly the presence of diarrhoea. Hygienic environmental conditions related to improved water and sanitation are important determinants of health and infection incidence and prevalence.

Water and Sanitation

Figure 3.1 Access to Improved Sanitation

From 2000 to 2012:

- No major changes in overall access to improved sanitation in 12 years
- Wide disparities between rural and urban areas also have remained without change
- Just 15% of the rural population has access, a concerning statistic given that around 80% of the population is rural

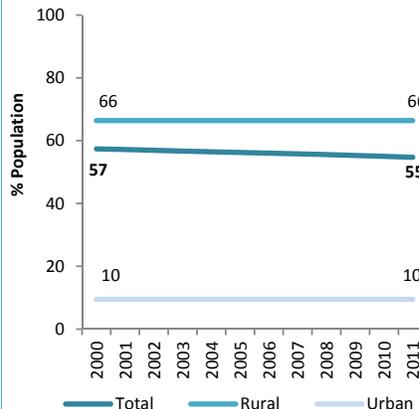


Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

Figure 3.2 Open Defecation

From 2000 to 2012:

- No major changes in sanitation in 12 years
- two thirds of rural households still follow this practice, compared to 10% in urban areas

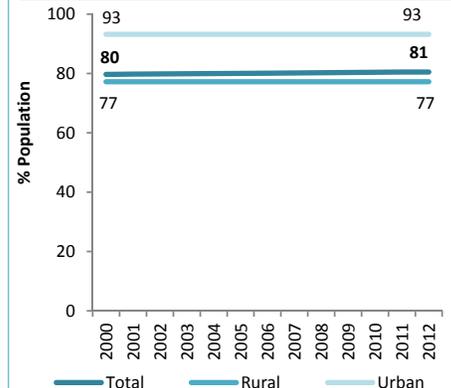


Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

Figure 3.3 Access to Improved Water Sources

From 2000 to 2012:

- No major changes in access to improved water sources in 12 years
- Wide disparities between rural and urban areas also have remained unchanged
- 81% of people have access to improved water sources



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:

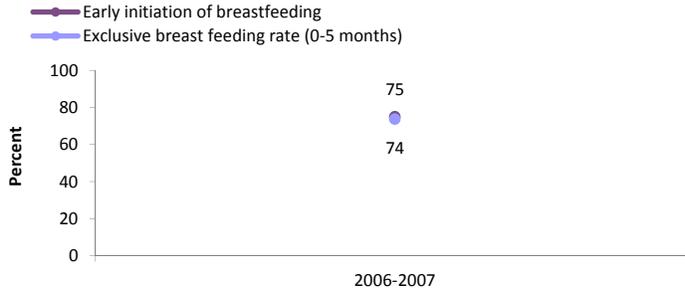


Food Utilization

Nutrition and Health

Figure 3.5 Exclusive Breastfeeding

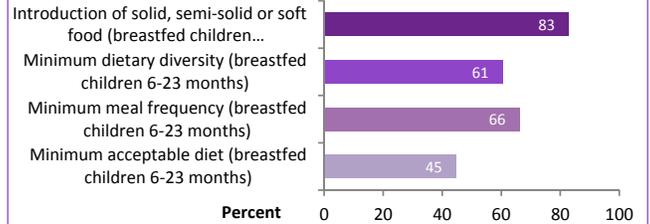
- Exclusive breastfeeding in 2006/2007 was 74% and early initiation of breast feeding 75%



Source: SLB_DHS 2006-2007_2009

Figure 3.6 Complementary Feeding

- Introduction of complementary feeding is timely for 85% of children
- 66% of children aged 6-23 months meet the minimum meal frequency
- Meeting the recommended quality of diet remains a challenge.



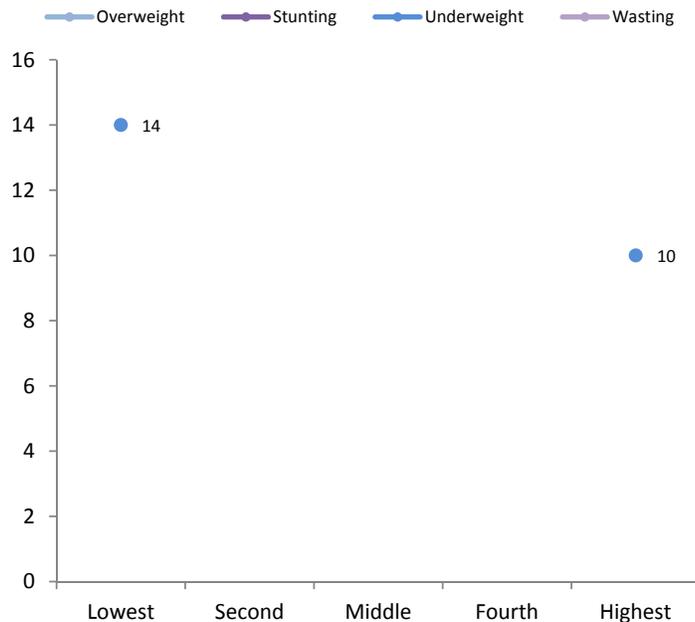
Source: SLB_DHS 2006-2007_2009

Figure 3.7 Duration of Breastfeeding

No Data

Figure 3.8 Child Malnutrition and Poverty

- Underweight prevalent in 14% of young children in the lower wealth quintile and 10% in the higher

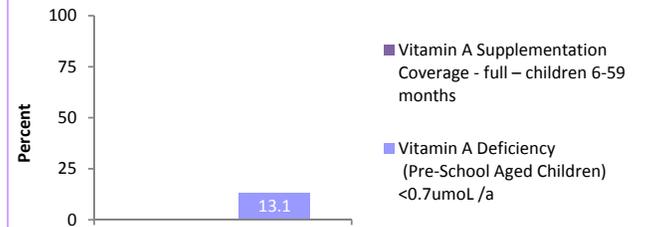


Source: UNICEF-WHO Joint Global Malnutrition Estimates

Micronutrient Status

Figure 3.9 Vitamin A

- Vitamin A deficiencies (13% of pre-schoolers) indicates that Vitamin A is still lacking in the daily diet of some children



* 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		



Solomon 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	550	2012	GDP annual growth rate /c	3.9 %	2012	
Average annual population growth/a	2.13 %	2012	GDP per capita (PPP) (constant 2011 international dollars) /c	1,964	2012	
Proportion of population urbanised/c	20.9 %	2012				
Number of children <5 years (thousand)/a	81	2012	Gini index /c (100= complete inequality; 0= complete equality)	-	-	
Education level of mothers of under-fives: None (%)	-	-		-	-	
Life expectancy at birth (Years) /c	Male	66	2012	Unemployment rate /c	31.9 %	1999
	Female	68.9	2012	Population below US \$ 1.25 (PPP) per day /c (%)	-	-
Agriculture population density(people/ ha of arable land /b)	4.5	2006-2008	Poverty gap ratio /e		-	-
Employment in agriculture sector (% of total employment) /c	-	-	Income share held by households /c	Poorest 20%	-	-
Women employed in agriculture sector (% of total female employment) /c	-	-		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) /d	70	2008-2011				
Adolescent girls aged 15-19 currently married or in union /d	12.5 %	2005-2012				
Women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18 /d (%)	15	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.



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