



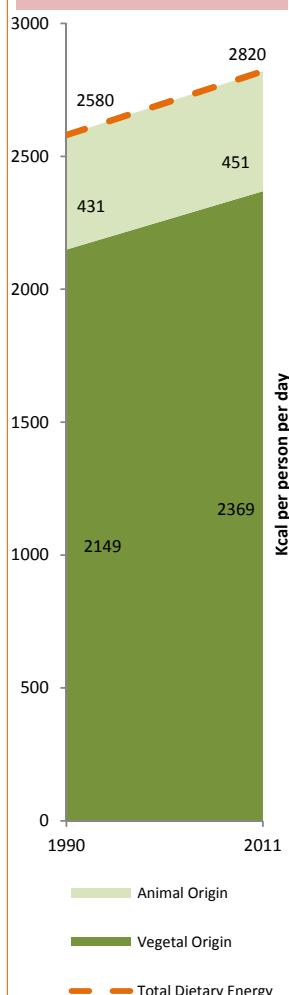
## Key Indicators

- Vanuatu has experienced a modest increase in per-capita GDP and Dietary Energy Supply (DES) in recent years. Malnourishment also has shown a modest decline.
- Despite a decreasing trend in infant mortality rates, nutrition outcomes are poor. Levels of stunting and underweight have not changed significantly over the years and are not at internationally acceptable levels. The prevalence of anaemia is a serious public health concern, and overweight affects almost half of the adult population
- A contributing factor for these poor nutritional outcomes arises from the fact that access to improved sanitation is still far from internationally acceptable levels.

**Figure 1.1 Food Availability**

From 1990 to 2011:

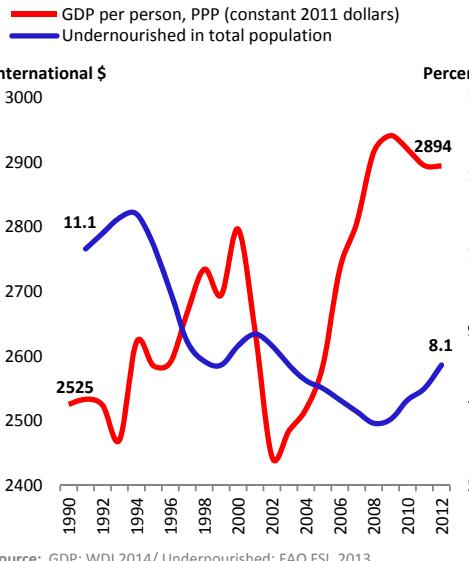
- DES increased 9%
- Animal-origin supply increased 5%
- Vegetal-origin products increased 10% and remained the major DES source



**Figure 1.2 Undernourishment and Economic Growth**

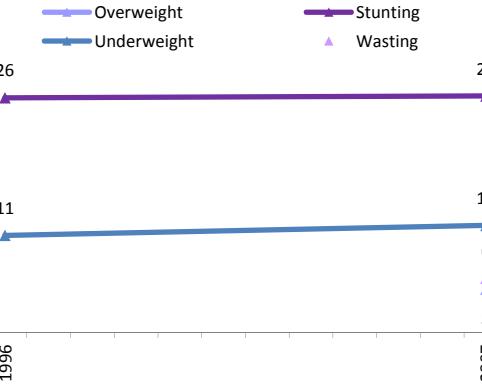
From 1990 to 2012:

- GDP increased 15%
- Undernourishment declined 27%



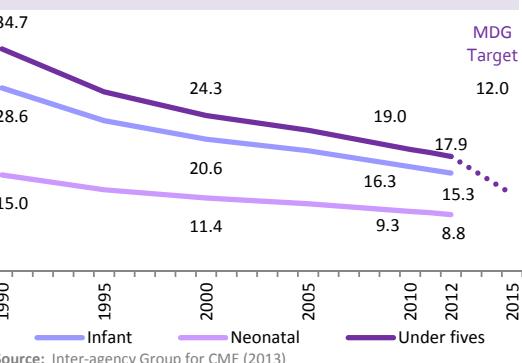
**Figure 1.3 Child Malnutrition** From 1996 to 2007:

- Stunting remained at 26%, while underweight increased 10%
- Wasting was 6% in 2007
- Overweight in children 5% in 2007
- Overweight in adults was 49% in 1998
- Low Birth Weight was 10% in 2007



**Figure 1.4 Child Mortality** From 1990 to 2012:

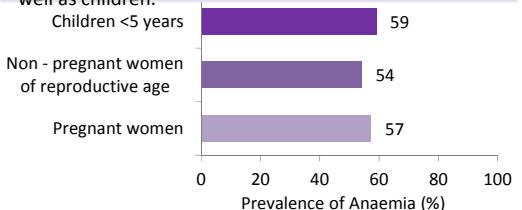
- Under-5 mortality reduced 48% and will not achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target
- Infant mortality reduced 47%
- Neonatal mortality reduced 41%



**Figure 1.5 Anaemia**

- Anaemia is severe public health issue for pregnant women (57%), non-pregnant women (54%) and under-5 children alike (59%)

- 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 <sup>2</sup> )	2.9 %	1998
Overweight adults (BMI >= 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	48.8 %	1998

\* BMI values calculated using adult cut off points, population < 20 should be analyzed using WHO growth reference for school aged children and adolescents

Proportion of infants with low birth weight	10 %	2007
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Source: UN\_WHO Global Database on Body Mass Index\_2013



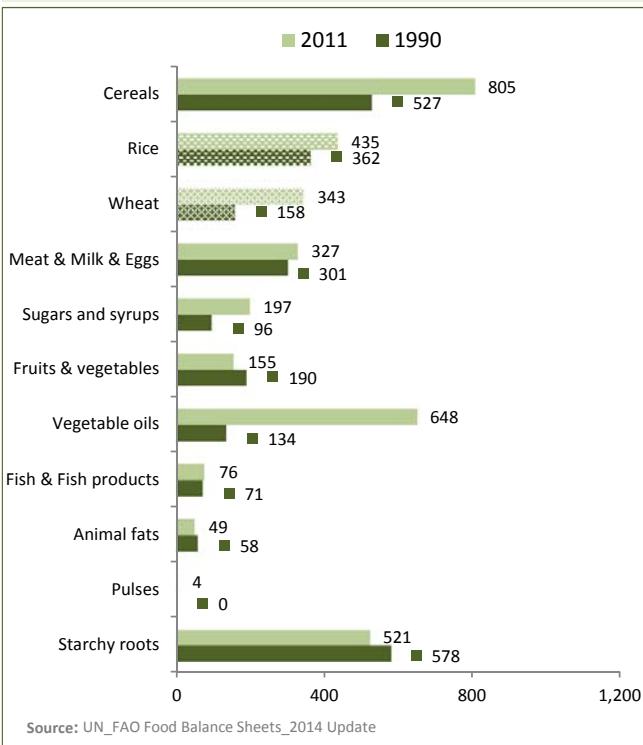
## Food Availability / Food Access



### Food Availability

Figure 2.1 Food supply by food group -

(kcal/person/year) Total dietary energy supply = 2,820 (2011)



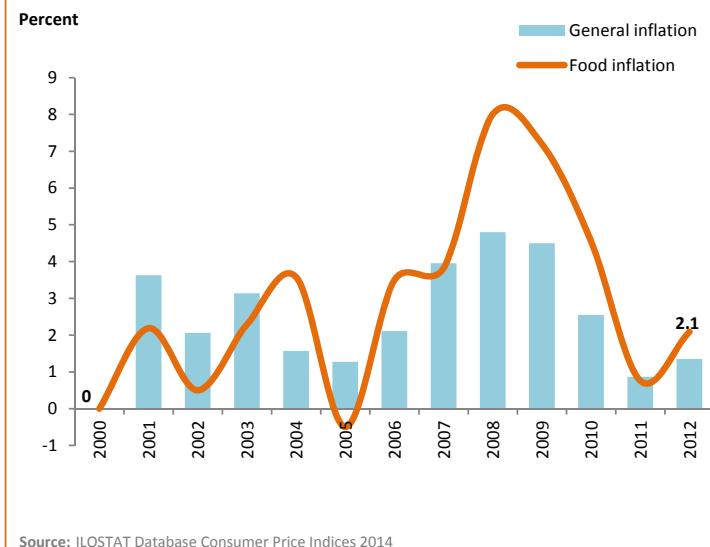
- Cereals are the most important source of overall food energy (29%), although vegetable oil and oilcrops, (23%), and starchy roots are most important (18%) as individual energy providers in the diet

- Sugar and syrup have increased 105%

### Access to food

Figure 2.2 Economic access to food

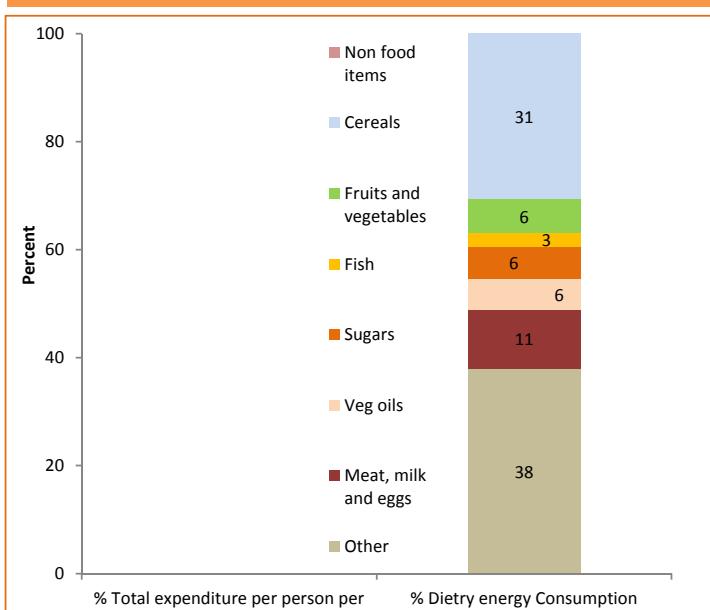
General and food inflation



- The general inflation and food inflation indices have shown correlation over the years

Figure 2.3 Share of food expenditure

(2009)



Source: UN\_FAO RAP based on national HIES, ECS, SES, HLSS\_2013 Update, Vanuatu



## Food Utilization

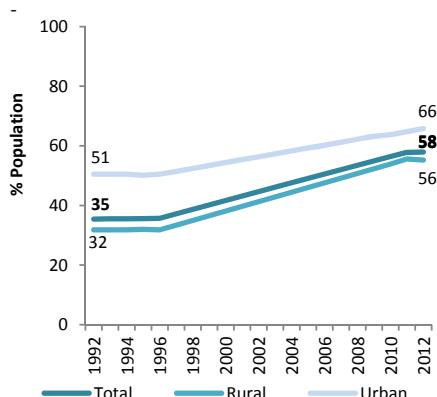
*Food utilization refers both to household preparation practices of foods, which influence nutrient content of consumed foods, and to the absorption of nutrients by the human body after consumption. Nutrient absorption in the gut is strongly influenced by health status, particularly the presence of diarrhoea. 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 1995 to 2012:*

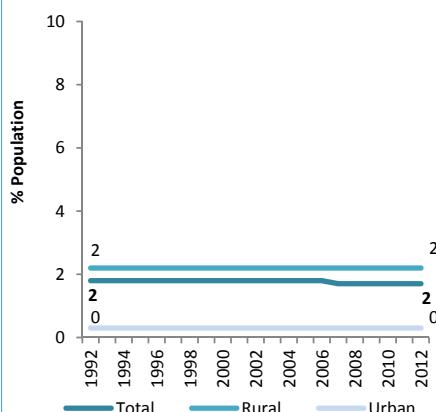
- Access to improved sanitation increased 64% in 20 years
- Disparities between rural and urban areas has decreased significantly
- 42% of people do not have access to improved sanitation



Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

**Figure 3.2 Open Defecation**

- Open defecation is no longer an issue in urban areas, but still had a prevalence of 2% in rural areas in 2012

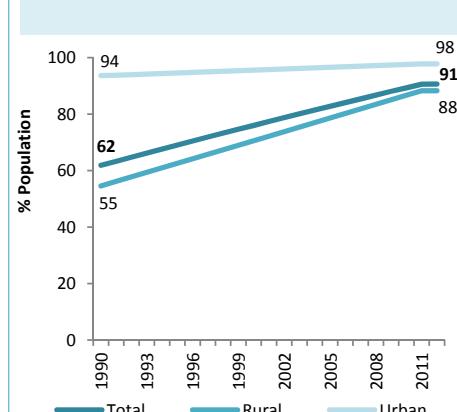


Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

**Figure 3.3 Access to Improved Water Sources**

*From 1990 to 2012:*

- Disparities between urban and rural areas in access to improved water sources have been reduced significantly, but still show a 10% gap
- At least 91% of the population has sustainable access to improved water sources

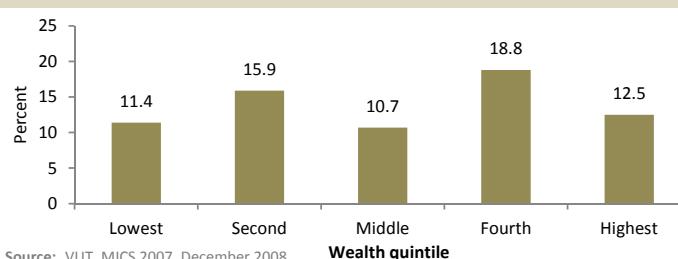


Source: WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, 2014

## Food Safety

**Figure 3.4 Diarrhoea**

- Diarrhoea is a serious public health concern. Prevalence is high among all quintiles, with no relation to the wealth of the population.



Source: VUT\_MICS 2007\_December 2008

**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: MICs 2005-2006



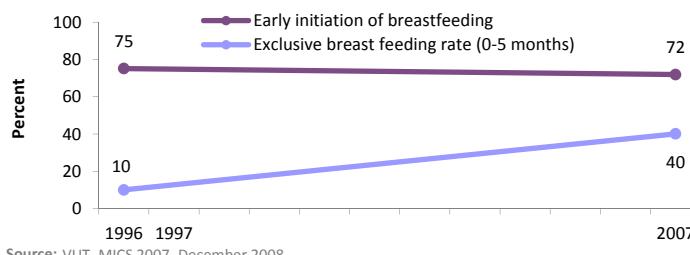
## Food Utilization

### Nutrition and Health

#### Figure 3.5 Exclusive Breastfeeding

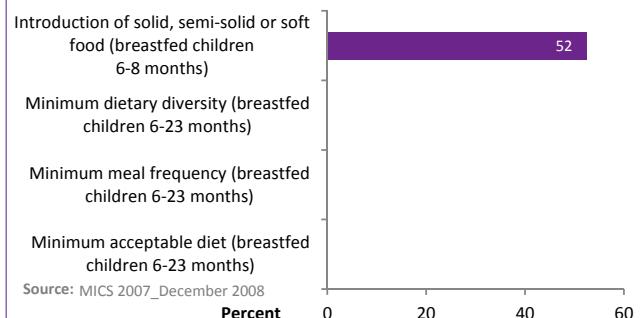
From 1996 to 2007:

- Exclusive breastfeeding increased from 10% in 1996 to 40% in 2007, a remarkable 300% increase in 11 years. In contrast, early initiation of breastfeeding has decreased 4% over the same period but is still prevalent for 71.9% of children.



#### Figure 3.6 Complementary Feeding

- Introduction of complementary feeding (52%) is not timely for almost half of children.



#### 3.7 Duration of Breastfeeding

No Data

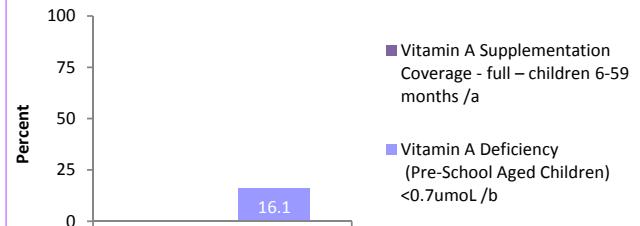
#### Figure 3.8 Child Malnutrition and Poverty

No Data

#### Micronutrient Status

##### Figure 3.9 Vitamin A

- Vitamin A deficiencies (16% of pre-schoolers) indicate that Vitamin A is lacking in the daily diet. This is a public health concern and warrants ongoing attention.



Source: a/ UNICEF, State of the World's Children 2012,

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

#### Iodine (Table 3.2)

Households consuming iodized salt (2003)/b	22.9 %
Iodine deficiency (Urinary Iodine Concentration <100ug/L) among school-age children (2003) /a	-
*Optimal UIE 100 - 199ug/L	

Source: a/ WHO Global database on iodine deficiency, b/UNICEF State of the World's Children



Enabling environment for Nutrition and Food security - Policy documents addressing nutrition issues					
<p>1. Nutrition Policy (1986, updated 2005)</p> <p>2. Breastfeeding Policy (1997, updated 2005)</p>					
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				
Social Protection policies or legislation including food or nutrition component					



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Demographic Indicators (Table - 5.1)			Year	Economic Indicators (Table - 5.3)		Year
Population size (thousands) /a	247	2012	GDP annual growth rate /c	2.25 %	2012	
Average annual population growth/a	2.24 %	2012	GDP per capita (PPP) (constant 2011 international dollars) /c	2,894	2012	
Proportion of population urbanised/c	25.2 %	2012	Gini index /c (100= complete inequality; 0= complete equality)	-	-	
Number of children <5 years (thousand)/a	34	2012	Unemployment rate /c	4.6 %	2009	
Education level of mothers of under-fives: None (%)	9	2007	Population below US \$ 1.25 (PPP) per day /c (%)	-	-	
Life expectancy at birth (Years) /c	Male	69	Poverty gap ratio /e	-	-	
	Female	73.5	Income share held by households /c	Poorest 20% Richest 20%	-	-
Agriculture population density(people/ ha of arable land /b)	0.5	2006-2008	Sources:			
Employment in agriculture sector (% of total employment) /c	60.5 %	2009	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) e/ UN Statistics Division, MDG database 2013 Update.			
Women employed in agriculture sector (% of total female employment) /c	62.3 %	2009				
Adolescents (Table - 5.2)						
Adolescent birth rate (number of births per 1,000 adolescent girls aged 15-19) /c	66	2009				
Adolescent girls aged 15-19 currently married or in union /d	12.8 %	2007				
Women aged 20-24 who gave birth before age 18 /d (%)	-	-				

*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.*



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

