

1) Title

Title	Food Security and Nutrition / Suite of Food Security Indicators - Metadata
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2) Data source information

Compiling Organization	FAO, WB, UNICEF and WHO.
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Data source	https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FS/metadata
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3) Contacts

Contact organization	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
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Contact organization unit	Statistics Division (ESS)
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Contact mail address	FAO viale delle Terme di Caracalla , 00153 Rome - Italy
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Contact email address	Food-Security-Statistics@FAO.org
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4) Metadata update

Metadata last posted	24/07/2024
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5) Statistical presentation

Data description	The Suite of Food Security Indicators presents the core set of food security indicators. Following the recommendation of experts gathered in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) Round Table on hunger measurement, hosted at FAO headquarters in September 2011, an initial set of indicators aiming to capture various aspects of food insecurity is presented here. The choice of the indicators has been informed by expert judgment and the availability of data with sufficient coverage to enable comparisons across regions and over time. Many of these indicators are produced and published elsewhere by FAO and other international organizations. They are reported here in a single database with the aim of building a wide food security information system. More indicators will be added to this set as more data will become available. Indicators are classified along the four dimensions of food security -- availability, access, utilization and stability. For definitions of these indicators, see Definitions and standards below (under Item).
Coverage	
Sector coverage	See Definitions and standards below which lists sector coverage with the respective indicator.
Statistical concepts and definitions	See Related Document (Descriptions and Metadata) below which contains statistical concepts and definitions with the respective indicator.
Reference area	When applicable, all countries of the world and geographical aggregates according to the United Nations M-49 list.
Time coverage	Varies depending on indicator. In many cases 2000-2023.
Base period	2005 or 2004-2006 when applicable

6) Unit of measure

Unit of measure

7) Reference period

Reference period

8) Institutional mandate

Legal acts and other agreements	See FAOSTAT metadata for the basic variables, metadata from other international organizations supplying data to FAO and national webpages providing information about the legal act for the data.
Data acquisition and data transmission	Depending on indicator: FAOSTAT, UN Population Division, World Bank, WHO, UNICEF, ILO, WWGI, International Road Federation, World Road Statistics and Electronic

9) Confidentiality

Confidentiality - policy	FAO Statistical Quality Assurance Framework, Principle 10: "All data subject to national confidentiality policies (e.g. concerning people and legal entities, or small aggregates) are kept strictly confidential, and are used exclusively for statistical purposes, or for purposes mandated by legislation."
Confidentiality - data treatment	Only non-confidential data are recorded.
Privacy	Only official national data or approved as a result of country consultation process are published.

10) Release Policy

Release calendar	Dates for new data releases are pre-announced on the FAOSTAT website, usually in July
Release calendar access	https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#release_calendar
User access	User access: In line with FAO's Statistics Code of Practice data are disseminated on FAO's website respecting professional independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably. Terms of use: https://www.fao.org/contact-us/terms/db-terms-of-use/en/ This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO license https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo). In addition to this license, some database specific terms of use are listed: Terms of Use of Datasets.
Open data license	

11) Frequency of dissemination

Frequency of dissemination	Once a year
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12) Accessibility and clarity

News release	On the web
Publications	The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, FAO Global Statistical Yearbook, FAO Regional Statistical Yearbooks.
Online database	ESS Website ESS : Food security indicators. UNSD SDGs Global Database.
Micro-data access	For some indicators, published on FAM catalogue: https://www.fao.org/food-agriculture-microdata/en
Other formats	ESS Website ESS : Food security indicators
Documentation on methodology	See Annex 1B of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report for a summary of methodologies and their references with respective indicators (https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1254en).

13) Relevance

User needs	Main users are International Organizations (i.e. UN, World Bank, International NGOs) as well as Universities, Research Institutes and policy makers and donors. ESS is not aware of unmet user needs.
User satisfaction	The FAOSTAT User Consultation took place during April-December 2018. https://www.fao.org/3/ca7239en/ca7239en.pdf
Completeness	Varies by indicator.

14) Accuracy and reliability

Overall accuracy	Reliability and accuracy depend on the sampling design and size of the basic variables and these might differ significantly between countries just as the use of data sources, definitions and methods. The accuracy of an indicator is very much dependent on the accuracy of the basic variables that make up the indicator.
Model assumption error	For some indicators, measurement error is taken into account in the computation of the confidence interval.
Imputation indicators	
Data revision - policy	Revision is conditional to that of FAOSTAT data and data from other international organizations.
Data revision - practice	Every year. Usually differences in two consecutive years are not very significant.

15) Timeliness and punctuality

Timeliness	Data are uploaded for dissemination once a year in July.
Punctuality	n.a.

16) Coherence and Comparability

Comparability – geographical	Although the indicators are calculated in a consistent way for all countries, in some cases there may be limited geographical comparability between countries due to differences in methodologies and source data for the basic variables.
Comparability - over time	If the methodology and classifications of basic data do not change over time there is reasonably good comparability over time, at least in the short run.
Coherence	Coherence - cross domain: Cross domain coherence is limited due to differences in methodologies, definitions and source data in the basic variables. Coherence - internal: The internal coherence is difficult to access as FAO does not have any information about the pre-validation tests during the collection of basic data.
Classification system	When applicable, FAO Commodity List (FCL), CPC ver. 2.0, HS and FAO Land use classification

17) Statistical process

Source data	See metadata for the basic variables that make up the indicator.
Frequency of data collection and acquisition	Annual
Data collection method	See metadata for the basic variables that make up the indicator.
Data validation	Trend series are analysed and evaluated and, if necessary, discussed with other member of ESS. Every year DES, MDER, ADER and other parameters are revised on the basis of new information received by the countries.
Data compilation	Basic variables contained in the indicators might contain imputed data. If there are no basic data at all available the indicator is not imputed.
Regional aggregation	See Annex 1B of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report for a summary of methodologies and their references with respective indicators (https://doi.org/10.4060/cd1254en).
Adjustment	No adjustment of data.
Imputation	

18) Quality management

Quality assurance	Quality documentation: See above. Quality assurance: Statistics are subject to the general quality assurance framework of FAO, where domain-specific quality assurance activities (the use of best practices, quality reviews, self-assessments, compliance monitoring) are carried out systematically. See also the FAO Statistics Quality Assurance Framework is available https://www.fao.org/docrep/019/i3664e/i3664e.pdf
Quality assessment	Indicators are revised every year on the basis on new information received from countries and international organizations.

19) Recommended uses and limitations

Recommended uses and limitations

20) Comment

Comment
