Southern Europe

Subregional overview

Malnutrition burden

In the Southern Europe subregion, there has been some progress towards achieving global nutrition targets. The global target for female diabetes has 5 countries on course to meet it, low birth weight has 4 countries on course, under-five wasting has 3 countries on course, under-five overweight has 2 countries on course, while under-five stunting has one country on course. However, not a single country in the subregion is on course to meet the targets for infant exclusive breastfeeding, anaemia in women of reproductive age, male diabetes, male obesity, and female obesity. Twelve countries in the subregion have insufficient data to comprehensively assess their progress towards these global targets.

Although it performs relatively well against other subregions, Southern Europe still experiences a malnutrition burden among its under-five population. The average prevalence of overweight in under-fives is 16.2% - the highest compared to other subregions in Europe. The prevalence of stunting in under-fives is 7.6%, this is significantly less than the global average of 21.9%. The Southern Europe subregion's prevalence of wasting in under-fives of 2.8% is also less than the global average of 7.3%.

Some 19.6% of infants under 23 months in the Southern Europe subregion are exclusively breastfed, while the subregion's average low birth weight prevalence of 7.3% is less than the global average of 14.6%.

The Southern Europe subregion's adult population also face a malnutrition burden. An average of 18.4% of women of reproductive age have anaemia, and 7.7% of adult men have diabetes, compared to 5.4% of women. Meanwhile, 22% of men and 21.4% of women have obesity.

Sources: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates, UNICEF/WHO Low birthweight estimates, NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, WHO Global Health Observatory.

Notes: Data on the adult indicators are based on modelled estimates.

Progress against global nutrition targets 2018



Under-five stunting

1 On course

1 Off course

12 No data



Low birthweight

4 On course 10 Off course

0 No data



Under-five wasting

3 On course

0 Off course

11 No data



Exclusive breastfeeding

0 On course

2 Off course

12 No data



Under-five overweight

2 On course

0 Off course

12 No data



Adult female obesity

0 On course

13 Off course

1 No data



Adult male obesity

0 On course13 Off course1 No data



Adult female diabetes

5 On course8 Off course1 No data



Adult male diabetes

0 On course13 Off course1 No data



WRA anaemia

0 On course 13 Off course 1 No data

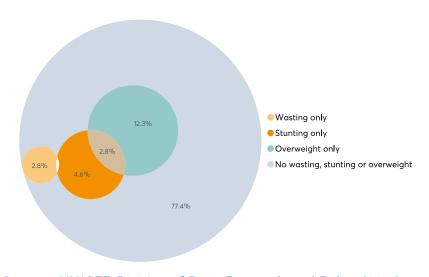
Sources: UNICEF global databases Infant and Young Child Feeding, UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates, NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, WHO Global Health Observatory and Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

Notes: WRA = Women of a reproductive age; NA = not applicable. The methodologies for tracking differ between targets.

Data on the adult indicators are based on modelled estimates.

Child (under-five) nutrition status

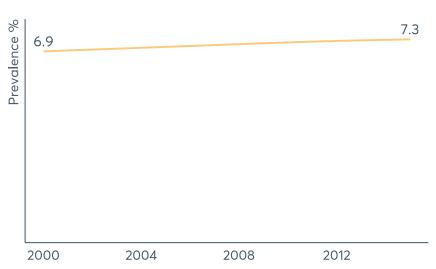
Coexistence of wasting, stunting and overweight



Sources: UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019).
UNICEF Global Databases: Overlapping Stunting, Wasting and
Overweight, January 2019, New York.

Notes: Percentage of children under-five years of age who experience different and overlapping forms of malnutrition. Based on population weighted means of 5 countries.

Low birth weight



Source: UNICEF/WHO Low birthweight estimates, 2019 edition.

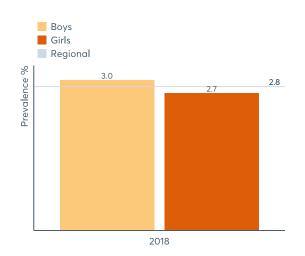
Notes: Based on population weighted means of 14 countries.

Child (under-five) nutrition status over time

Wasting by gender

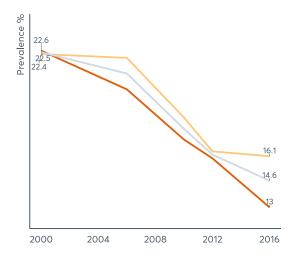
Stunting by gender

Overweight by gender



23.3 23.3

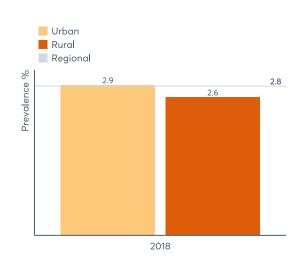
2016

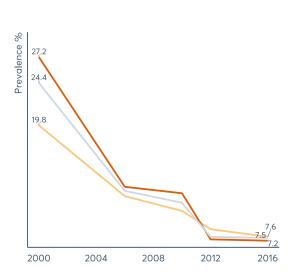


Wasting by location

Stunting by location

Overweight by location



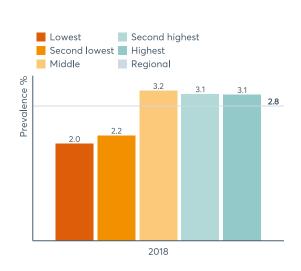


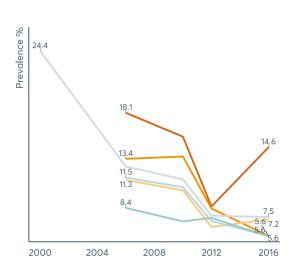


Wasting by income

Stunting by income

Overweight by income



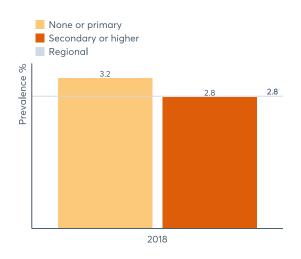


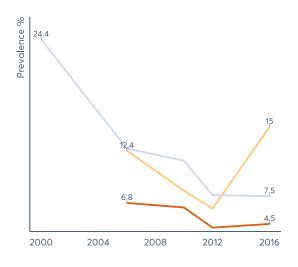


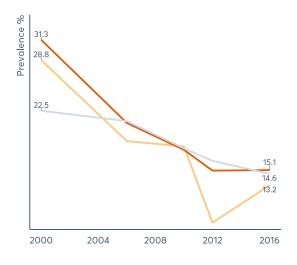
Wasting by mother's education

Stunting by mother's education

Overweight by mother's education







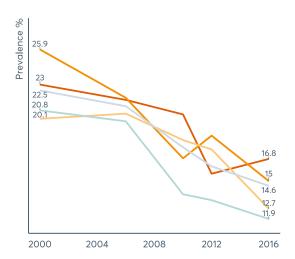
Wasting by age

Stunting by age

Overweight by age





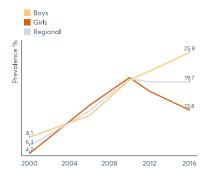


Sources: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group: Joint child malnutrition estimates.

Notes: Regional figures are from UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019) where available and are aggregated otherwise. Based on population weighted means of between 1 and 5 countries.

Infant and young child feeding over time

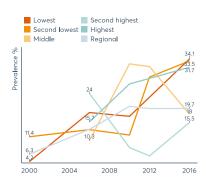
Exclusive breastfeeding by gender



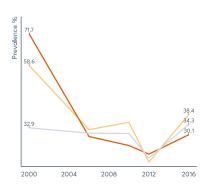
Exclusive breastfeeding by location



Exclusive breastfeeding by income



Continued breastfeeding at 1 year by gender



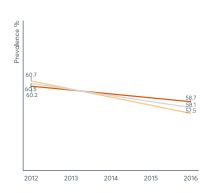
Continued breastfeeding at 1 year by location



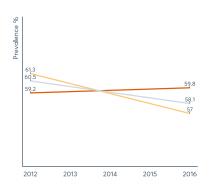
Continued breastfeeding at 1 year by income



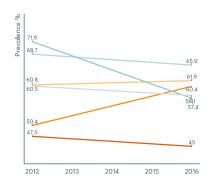
Minimum acceptable diet by gender



Minimum acceptable diet by location



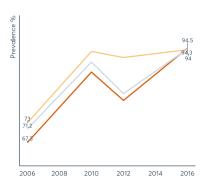
Minimum acceptable diet by income



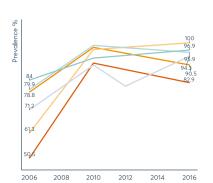
Intro. to solid, semi-solid, soft foods by gender



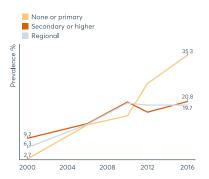
Intro. to solid, semi-solid, soft foods by location



Intro. to solid, semi-solid, soft foods by income



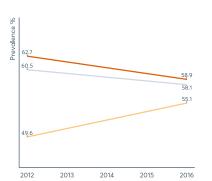
Exclusive breastfeeding by mother's education



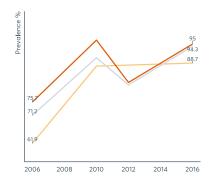
Continued breastfeeding at 1 year by mother's education



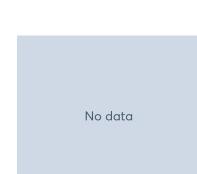
Minimum acceptable diet by mother's education



Intro. to solid, semi-solid, soft foods by mother's education



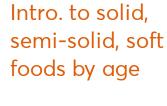
Exclusive breastfeeding by age



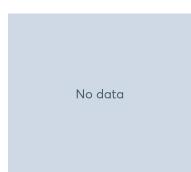
Continued

year by age

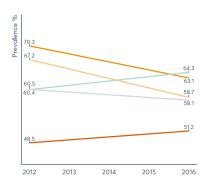
Minimum acceptable diet by age







breastfeeding at 1

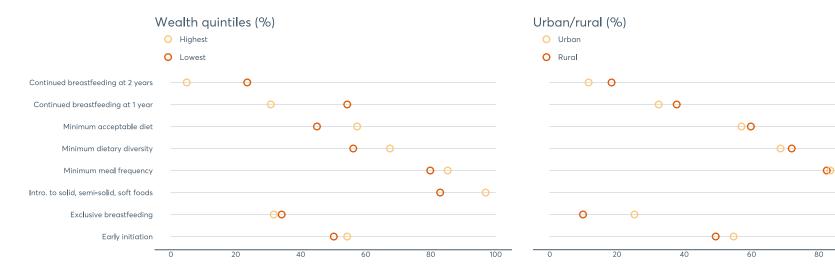




Sources: UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding, New York, May 2019.

Notes: Regional figures are from UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019) where available and are aggregated otherwise. Based on population weighted means of between 1 and 5 countries.

Infant and young child feeding



Sources: UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding: Exclusive breastfeeding, Predominant breastfeeding, New York, May 2019.

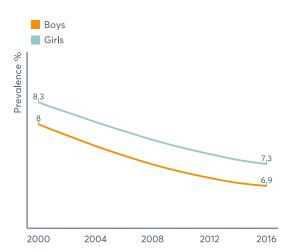
Notes: Based on population weighted means of between 1 and 5 countries.

Child and adolescent (aged 5-19) nutrition status

Underweight by gender

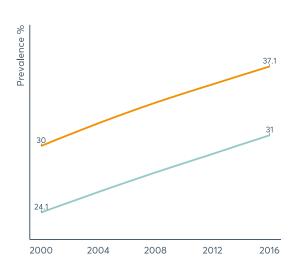
Overweight by gender

Obesity by gender

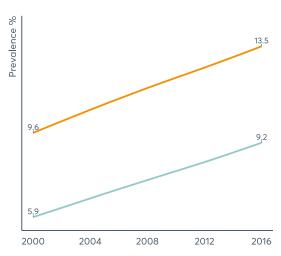


Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.



Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.



Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Adult nutrition status

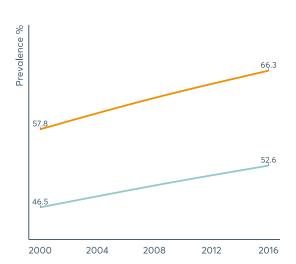
Diabetes by gender

Male Female 7,7 5,4 5,4 5,4 2000 2004 2008 2012

Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

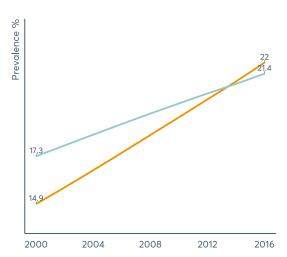
Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Overweight by gender



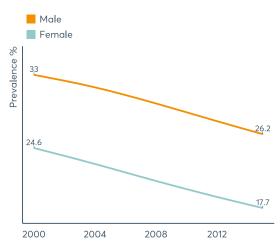
Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Obesity by gender



Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

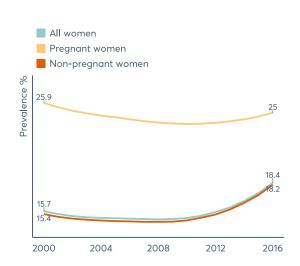
Raised blood pressure by gender



Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

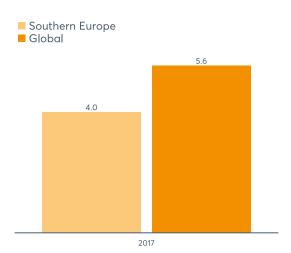
Angemia in WRA



Source: WHO Global Health Observatory.

Notes: WRA = women of reproductive age. Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Salt intake (grams per day)

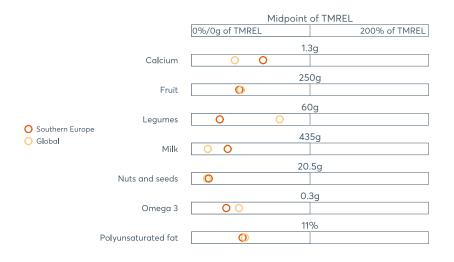


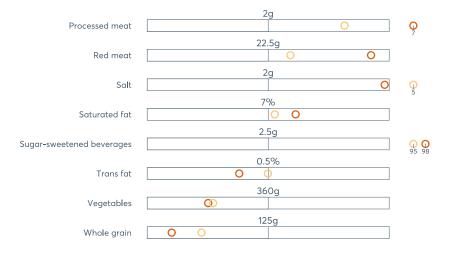
Source: Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Dietary needs

Consumption of food groups and components, 2016





Sources: TMREL = theoretical minimum risk of exposure level. Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

Notes: Men and women aged 25 and older. Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Intervention coverage

Coverage/practice indicator	Total (%)	Boy (%)	Girl (%)	Year
Children 0-59 months with diarrhoea who received zinc treatment	15	13	17	2017
Children 6-59 months who received vitamin A supplements in last 6 months	No data	No data	No data	No data
Children 6-59 months given iron supplements in past 7 days	5	5	4	2008
Women with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey who received iron tablets or syrup during antenatal care	67	NA	NA	2017
Household consumption of any iodised salt	65	NA	NA	2017

Sources: Huestis A. and Kothari M., based on 2016 Global Nutrition Report and UNICEF global databases, 2019.

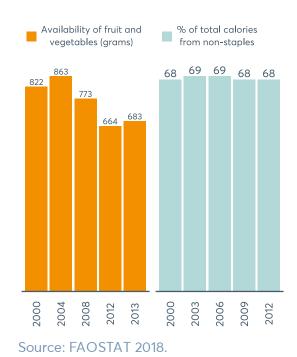
Notes: NA = not applicable. Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country Demographic and Health Surveys for 2005-2018. Based on population weighted means of 1 countries.

Determinants

Undernourishment



Food supply

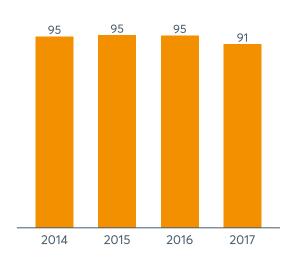


Gender-related determinants



Sources: ¹ UNICEF 2018; ² UNDP 2018. Notes: *0 = low inequality, 1 = high inequality. Based on population weighted means of between 4 and 12 countries.

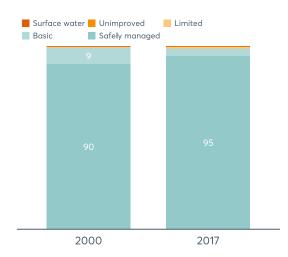
Female secondary education enrolment (net, % population)



Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics 2018.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of between 3 and 10 countries.

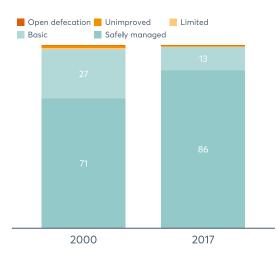
Drinking water coverage (% population)



Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme 2019.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of between 13 and 14 countries.

Sanitation coverage (% population)

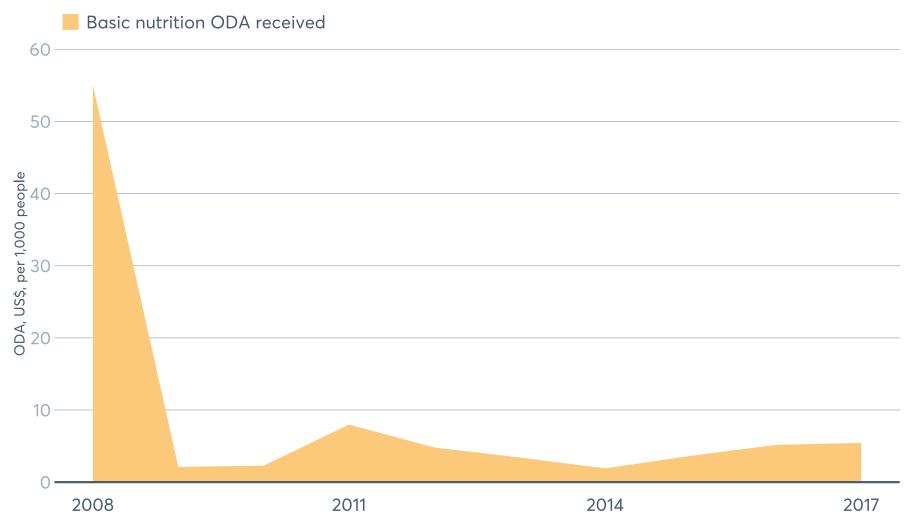


Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme 2019.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of between 12 and 14 countries.

Resources, policies and targets

Development assistance



Sources: Development Initiatives based on OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Creditor Reporting System (CRS).

Notes: ODA = official development assistance. Amounts based on gross ODA disbursements, constant 2017 prices. Figure includes ODA grants and loans, but excludes other official flows and private grants.

National policies

Mandatory legislation for salt iodisation	7/14
Sugar-sweetened beverage tax	1/14
Food-based dietary guidelines	10/14
Policy to reduce salt consumption	9/14
Operational policy, strategy or action plan to reduce unhealthy diet related to NCDs	13/14
Operational, multisectoral national NCD policy, strategy or action plan	10/14
Operational policy, strategy or action plan for diabetes	13/14
Policy to reduce the impact on children of marketing of foods and beverages high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt	6/14
Policy to limit saturated fatty acids and virtually eliminate industrially produced trans-fats	5/14

Sources: Global Fortification Data Exchange 2018; Sugar-sweetened data prepared using data from the NOURISHING database, academic references and market reports; FAO 2018; WHO Global database on the Implementation of Nutrition Action (GINA), 2nd Global Nutrition Policy Review, WHO Global Health Observatory.

Notes: Value refers to the number of countries with policy. NA = not applicable; NCD = non-communicable disease.

Targets included in national (nutrition or other) plan

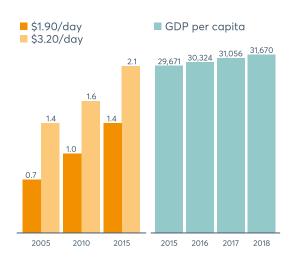
Stunting	Anaemia
2/14	0/14
Low birth weight	Child overweight
3/14	10/14
Exclusive breastfeeding	Wasting
4/14	1/14
Salt intake	Overweight adults and adolescents
8/14	12/14
Multisectoral comprehensive nutrition plan	
7/14	

Sources: WHO Global database on the Implementation of Nutrition Action (GINA), 2nd Global Nutrition Policy Review.

Notes: Value refers to the number of countries with target.

Economics and demography

Poverty rates (%) and GDP (PPP\$)



Sources: World Bank 2019, IMF World Economic Outlook Database 2019.

Notes: PPP = purchasing power parity.

Based on population weighted means of between 12 and 13 countries.

Under-five mortality (per 1,000 live births)



Source: UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation 2018.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 14 countries.

Government revenues (\$m)



Sources: IMF Article IV staff reports (country specific) and IMF World Economic Outlook Database (April 2019).

Income inequality

Gini index score ¹	Gini index rank ²	Year
NA	NA	NA

Sources: World Bank 2019.

Notes: ¹ 0 = perfect equality, 100 = perfect inequality. ² Countries are ranked from most equal (1) to most unequal (120).

Population

Population (thousands)	40,783	2018
Under-five population (thousands)	6,422	2019
Rural (%)	28	2018
>65 years (thousands)	32,110	2019

Sources: World Bank 2019, UN Population Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs 2019.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 14 countries.

Population density of health workers per 1,000 people

Physicians	3.92	2016
Nurses and midwives	5.45	2016
Community health workers	No data	No data

Sources: WHO's Global Health Workforce Statistics, OECD, supplemented by country data.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 14 countries.