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 five countries on course to meet it, low birth weight has four countries on course, under-five wasting has three countries on course, under-five overweight has two 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. 12 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 6 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 global databases Infant and Young Child Feeding, 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

Exclusive breastfeeding

3 On course

0 Off course

0 On course

2 Off course

12 No data

11 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 course 13 Off course







Adult female diabetes

5 On course 8 Off course 1 No data



Adult male diabetes

0 On course 13 Off course 1 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

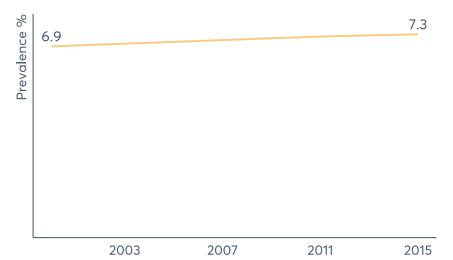
Coexistence of wasting, stunting and overweight

No data

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.

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 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| No data | No data | No data | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Wasting by location | Stunting by location | Overweight by location | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| No data | No data | No data | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Wasting by income | Stunting by income | Overweight by income | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| No data | No data | No data | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

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

Notes: Disaggregated data (coloured lines/bars in charts) is based on population weighted means. Estimates are presented only where available data represents at least 50% of the regional population.

Infant and young child feeding over time

Exclusive Continued Minimum Intro. to solid, breastfeeding by breastfeeding at 1 semi-solid, soft acceptable diet by foods by gender gender year by gender gender No data No data No data No data Exclusive Continued Minimum Intro. to solid, breastfeeding by breastfeeding at 1 semi-solid, soft acceptable diet by foods by location year by location location location No data No data No data No data Exclusive Continued Minimum Intro. to solid, breastfeeding by breastfeeding at 1 acceptable diet by semi-solid, soft foods by income year by income income income No data No data No data No data

| Exclusive | Continued breastfeeding at 1 year by mother's education | Minimum | Intro. to solid, |
|------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| breastfeeding by | | acceptable diet by | semi-solid, soft |
| mother's | | mother's | foods by mother's |
| education | | education | education |
| No data | No data | No data | No data |
| Exclusive | Continued | Minimum | Intro. to solid, |
| breastfeeding by | breastfeeding at 1 | acceptable diet by | semi-solid, soft |
| age | year by age | age | foods by age |
| No data | No data | No data | No data |

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

Notes: Disaggregated data (coloured lines/bars in charts) is based on population weighted means. Estimates are presented only where available data represents at least 50% of the regional population.

No data No data

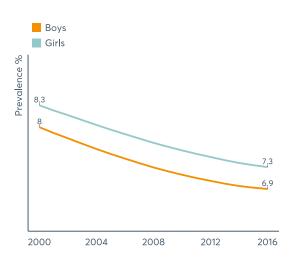
Sources: UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy (2019). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding: Exclusive breastfeeding, Predominant breastfeeding, New York, May 2019.

Child and adolescent (aged 5-19) nutrition status

Underweight by gender

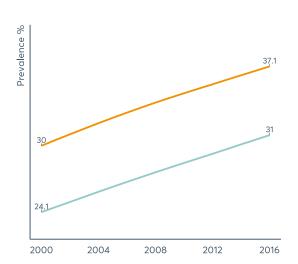
Overweight by gender

Obesity by gender

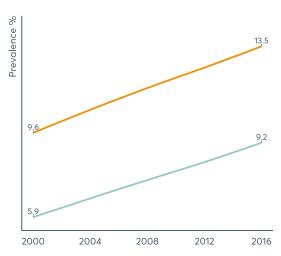


Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.



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Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Adult nutrition status

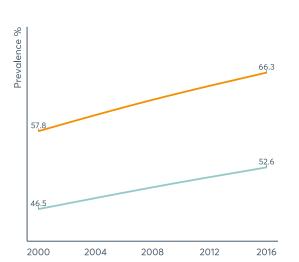
Diabetes by gender

Male Female 6,6 5,4 2002 2006 2010 2014

Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

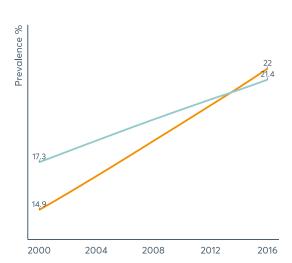
Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Overweight by gender



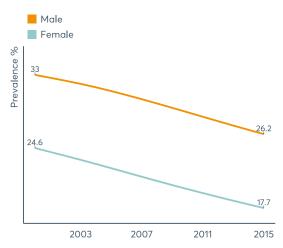
Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Obesity by gender



Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

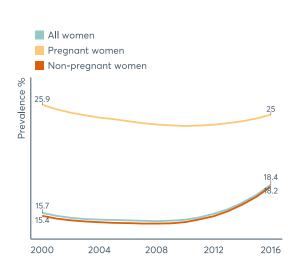
Raised blood pressure by gender



Sources: NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

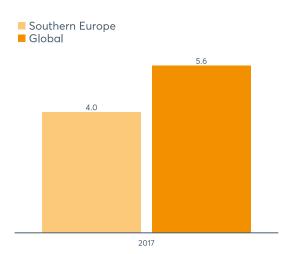
Anaemia in WRA



Source: WHO Global Health Observatory.

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

Salt intake (grams per day)

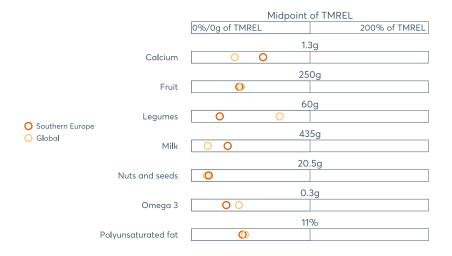


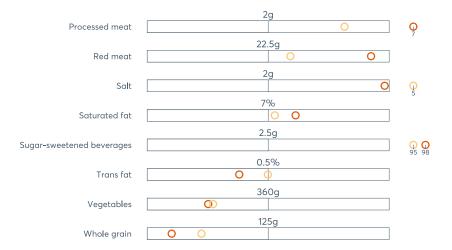
Source: Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

Dietary needs

Consumption of food groups and components, 2016





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

Notes: TMREL = theoretical minimum risk of exposure level. Men and women aged 25 and older. Based on population weighted means of 13 countries.

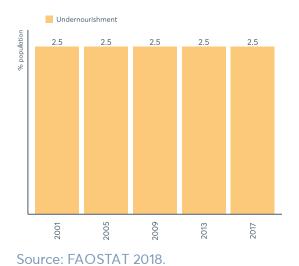
Intervention coverage

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

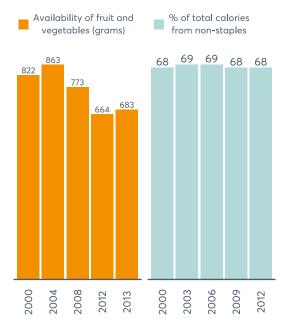
Notes: NA = not applicable. Data is compiled using STATcompiler and taken from country Demographic and Health Surveys for 2005-2018.

Determinants

Undernourishment



Food supply



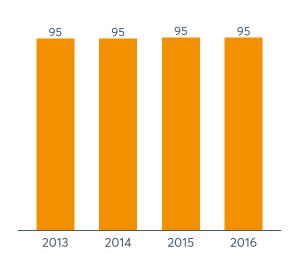
Source: FAOSTAT 2018.

Gender-related determinants



Sources: 1 UNICEF 2018; 2 UNDP 2018. Notes: * 0 = low inequality, 1 = high inequality.

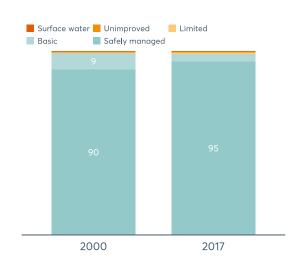
Female secondary education enrolment (net, % population)



Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics 2018.

Notes: Based on population weighted means of between 4 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)

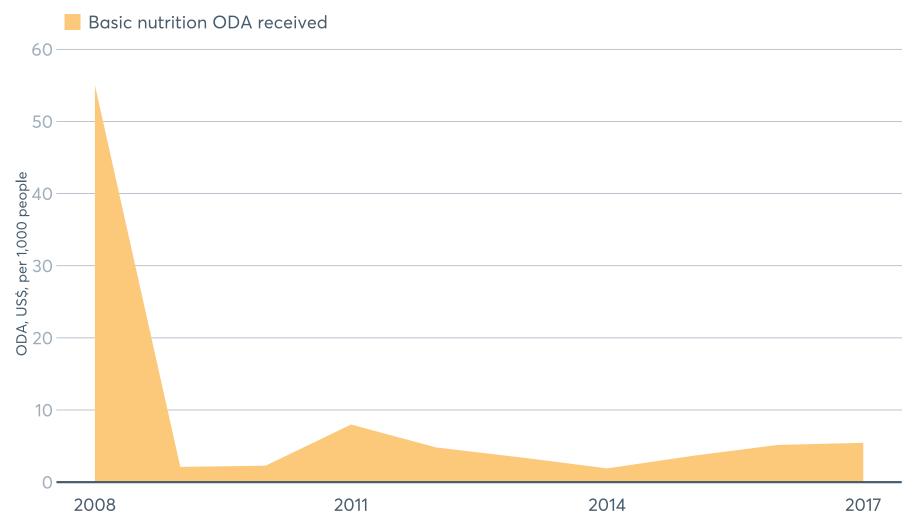


Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme 2019.

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 | 2/14 |
| 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

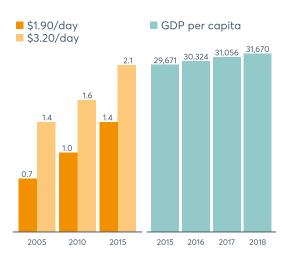
| Stunting | Anaemia | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 2/14 | 0/14 | |
| Low birth weight | Child overweight | |
| 3/14 | 10/14 | |
| Exclusive breastfeeding | Wasting | |
| 4/14 | 1/14 | |
| Salt intake | Overweight adults and adolescents | |
| 8/14 | 12/14 | |
| Multisectoral comprehensive 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\$)

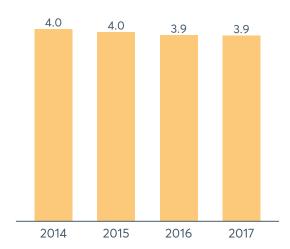


Sources: World Bank 2019, IMF World Economic Outlook Database 2019.

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 (159).

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.