



HUNGER: JUST THE FACTS

Food security occurs when people have consistent access – physically and economically – to sufficient safe and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. For too many people, food security is a dream – and **food insecurity** is their reality.

Worldwide:

- ▶ **925 million people do not have enough to eat** – *that's nearly three times the population of the U.S.*
- ▶ **98 percent of the world's hungry live in developing countries.**
- ▶ **Malnutrition leads to nearly one third of all childhood deaths before age 5.**
- ▶ **More than 60 percent of the world's hungry are women.**
- ▶ **Hunger kills more people annually than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.**
- ▶ **One in seven people will go to bed hungry tonight.**
- ▶ **One in four children in developing countries is underweight.**

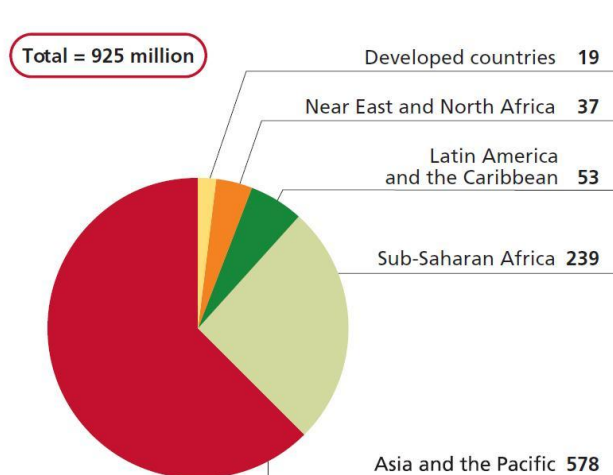
Myth: The United States spends between 20 and 25 percent of its budget on foreign aid.

Fact: *Less than 1 percent of the U.S. budget goes to humanitarian and development assistance to reduce hunger and poverty in poor countries.*

Fact: Many U.S. development programs literally save lives. *Funding cuts put lives at risk.*

Fact: Polls show consistent majority support for helping hungry people overseas even when resources are tight at home.

Undernourishment in 2010, by region (millions)



Note: All figures are rounded.

Source: FAO.

In the United States:

- ▶ **50.2 million Americans live in food-insecure households.**
- ▶ **17.2 million children in our country don't get enough healthy food to eat.**
- ▶ **Households with children experience almost double the food insecurity rate of childless households.**
- ▶ **5.6 million households relied on a food pantry one or more times in 2009.**
- ▶ **1 in 8 Americans currently participate in SNAP (formerly the Food Stamp program)**

