

Statistics for the SDGs - global indicators



Name of the indicator	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment
Sustainable Development Goal	Goal 2. Zero hunger
Target	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round
Definition	Proportion of population among which normal food consumption is insufficient to provide the dietary energy level necessary to maintain a normal, active and healthy life.
Unit	percent [%]
Available dimensions	total
Methodological explanations	<p>The indicator has been used by FAO to monitor among others one of the MDG targets (i.e. halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger). It allows monitoring trends in the extent of dietary energy deficit. The indicator is a result of the combination of changes in the overall availability of food, in the households' ability to access it, and in the socio-demographic characteristics of the population, as well as differences across countries and regions in any given moment in time.</p> <p>Undernourishment is defined by FAO as the condition by which a person has access, on a regular basis, to amounts of food that are insufficient to provide the energy required for conducting a normal, healthy and active life, given his or her own dietary energy requirements. While the undernourishment condition applies to individuals, the indicator can only be referred to a population, or group of individuals (due to conceptual considerations). The prevalence of undernourishment is thus an estimate of the percentage of individuals in that group, but it does not allow for the identification of which individuals in the group are, in fact, undernourished.</p>
Data source	Food and Agriculture Organization – FAO
Data availability	Annual data, since 2010
Notes	Estimated data, calculated by FAO. The value of 2.5 for Poland should be interpreted as lower than 2.5 (<2.5).
Data updated on	26-08-2025
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