

## FOOD SECURITY: The governments of the world agreed on...

*"The Committee affirms that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights... The right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement."*

**International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment 12 on the Right to Adequate Food, 1999.**

*"We consider it intolerable that more than 800 million people throughout the world, and particularly in developing countries, do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs."*

**World Food Summit Plan of Action. Rome, 1996.**

### HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to food is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25

CESCR - Art. 11

CRC - Art. 24 & 27

### INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Food security is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 1

World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 6

Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	PROGRESS OR REGRESSION	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
—	Albania	76				3			
●	Algeria	69	5	5	"	7	9	6	→
○	Angola	—	58	40	→	12	20	31	←
—	Antigua and Barbuda	—				8			
●	Argentina	53	<2.5	<2.5	"	8		5	
—	Armenia	51				7			
—	Australia	28				7			
—	Austria	6				7			
—	Azerbaijan	103				11			
—	Bahamas	60				7			
—	Bahrain	25				8			
○	Bangladesh	159	35	30	→	36	66	52	→
—	Barbados	37				10			
—	Belarus	37				5			
—	Belgium	6				8			
—	Belize	89				6			
⊕	Benin	126	20	15	→	16	35	23	→
—	Bhutan	139				15			
●	Bolivia	110	28	21	→	7	11	8	→
—	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—				4			
⊕	Botswana	88	23	32	←	10		13	
●	Brazil	82	12	9	→	10	7	6	"
—	Brunei Darussalam	47				10			
—	Bulgaria	41				10			
○	Burkina Faso	132	21	19	"	19	33	38	←
○	Burundi	156	48	68	←	16	38	45	←
○	Cambodia	153	43	33	→	11		45	
⊕	Cameroon	134	33	25	→	11	15	21	←
—	Canada	28				6			
—	Cape Verde	89				13			
○	Central African Republic	—	50	43	→	14		24	
⊕	Chad	162	58	34	→	10	35	28	→
●	Chile	22	8	4	→	5	2	1	"
●	China	81	16	11	→	4	17	10	→
●	Colombia	93	17	13	→	9	10	7	→

- Countries in better situation
- ⊕ Countries above average
- ⊖ Countries below average
- Countries in worse situation
- Countries with insufficient data

- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- " Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

**Note:** \* Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
—	Comoros	129				25			
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	32	71	←	12		31	
●	Congo, Rep.	—	54	37	→		24	14	→
—	Cook Islands	105				3			
●	Costa Rica	54	6	4		7	3	5	
●	Côte d'Ivoire	133	18	14	→	17	12	21	←
—	Croatia	33				6			
●	Cuba	28	8	3	→	6		4	
—	Czech Republic	26				7			
—	Denmark	6				5			
—	Dominica	75				10			
●	Dominican Republic	100	27	25		11	10	5	→
●	Ecuador	109	8	4	→	16	17	12	→
●	Egypt	94	4	3		12	10	9	
●	El Salvador	115	12	11		7	15	10	→
—	Equatorial Guinea	154				13			
○	Eritrea	141		73		21	41	40	
—	Estonia	28				4			
○	Ethiopia	161		46		15	48	47	
—	Fiji	61				10			
—	Finland	1				4			
—	France	26				7			
●	Gabon	106	10	6	→	14		12	
●	Gambia	138	22	27	←	17		17	
—	Georgia	78				7			
—	Germany	6				7			
●	Ghana	142	37	13	→	16	30	22	→
—	Greece	6				8			
—	Grenada	83				9			
●	Guatemala	131	16	24	←	12	33	23	→
●	Guinea	140	39	26	→	16		23	
—	Guinea-Bissau	151				22			
○	Guyana	108	21	9	→	12	18	14	→
○	Haiti	—	65	47	→	21	27	17	→
●	Honduras	130	23	22		14	18	17	
—	Hungary	35				9			
—	Iceland	1				4			
○	India	128	25	21	→	30	64	47	→
●	Indonesia	102	9	6	→	9	40	26	→
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	4	4		7		11	
—	Iraq	121				15			
—	Ireland	17				6			
—	Israel	17				8			
—	Italy	40				6			
●	Jamaica	73	14	10	→	10	7	4	→
—	Japan	1				8			
●	Jordan	42	4	7	←	10	6	4	
—	Kazakhstan	54				8			
●	Kenya	—	44	33	→	10	23	20	→
—	Kiribati	—				5			
●	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	18	36	←	7		21	
—	Korea, Rep.	6	<2.5	<2.5		4			

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			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression		1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)
●	Kuwait	92	23	5	→	7	11	2	→
—	Kyrgyzstan	—				7			
○	Lao PDR	155	29	22	→	14	44	40	→
—	Latvia	37				5			
●	Lebanon	56	<2.5	3		6		3	
●	Lesotho	137	17	12	→	14	16	18	
○	Liberia	145	34	46	←			27	
●	Libya	—	<2.5	<2.5		7		5	
—	Lithuania	35				4			
—	Luxembourg	49				8			
—	Macedonia, FYR	62				6			
○	Madagascar	144	35	37		17	41	33	→
●	Malawi	148	50	33	→	16	28	22	→
●	Malaysia	73	3	<2.5		9	25	12	→
—	Maldives	113				22			
○	Mali	143	29	29		23	31	33	
—	Malta	17				6			
—	Marshall Islands	95				12			
●	Mauritania	120	15	10	→		48	32	→
●	Mauritius	33	6	6		14	24	15	→
●	Mexico	85	5	5		8	17	8	→
—	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—				18			
—	Moldova	63				5			
●	Mongolia	70	34	28	→	7	12	13	
●	Morocco	112	6	7		11	12	9	→
○	Mozambique	150	66	47	→	15		24	
●	Myanmar	136	10	6	→	15	32	35	←
●	Namibia	98	35	22	→	14	26	24	
○	Nepal	157	20	17	→	21		48	
—	New Zealand	6				6			
●	Nicaragua	127	30	27	→	12	11	10	
○	Niger	158	41	34	→	13	43	40	→
●	Nigeria	146	13	9	→	14	35	29	→
—	Niue	—				0			
—	Norway	1				5			
—	Oman	48				8			
○	Pakistan	152	24	20	→	19	40	38	
—	Palau	77				9			
●	Panama	86	21	26	←	10	6	7	
—	Papua New Guinea	122				11			
●	Paraguay	107	18	14	→	9	4	5	
●	Peru	101	42	13	→	11	11	7	→
○	Philippines	117	26	22	→	20	34	31	→
—	Poland	22				6			
—	Portugal	6				8			
—	Qatar	57				10			
—	Romania	65				9			
—	Russian Federation	—				6			
●	Rwanda	160	44	37	→	9	29	27	
—	Samoa	50				4			
—	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116				20			
●	Saudi Arabia	67	4	3		11		14	

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			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Senegal	124	23	24		18	22	23	
—	Serbia and Montenegro	—				4			
○	Sierra Leone	—	46	50	←	23	29	27	
—	Singapore	—				8			
—	Slovakia	57				7			
—	Slovenia	32				6			
—	Solomon Islands	—				13			
—	South Africa	96				15			
—	Spain	6				6			
○	Sri Lanka	—	28	22	→	22	37	29	→
—	St. Kitts and Nevis	66				9			
—	St. Lucia	57				8			
—	St. Vincent and Grenadines	63				10			
○	Sudan	110	32	27	→	31	34	41	←
●	Suriname	91	13	11		13		13	
●	Swaziland	118	14	19	←	9		10	
—	Sweden	1				4			
—	Switzerland	6				6			
●	Syrian Arab Republic	97	5	4		6	12	7	→
—	Tajikistan	103				15			
○	Tanzania	125	37	44	←	13	29	29	
●	Thailand	45	28	20	→	9	25	18	→
—	Timor-Leste	—				12			
○	Togo	135	33	26	→	18	25	25	
—	Tonga	79				0			
●	Trinidad and Tobago	45	13	12		23	7	6	
●	Tunisia	70	<2.5	<2.5		7	10	4	→
●	Turkey	83	<2.5	3		16	10	8	
—	Turkmenistan	—				6			
—	Tuvalu	—				5			
●	Uganda	146	24	19	→	12	23	23	
—	Ukraine	42				5			
●	United Arab Emirates	42	4	<2.5		15		7	
—	United Kingdom	17				8			
—	United States of America	22				8			
●	Uruguay	52	6	4		8	6		
—	Uzbekistan	—				7			
—	Vanuatu	99				6			
●	Venezuela	72	11	17	←	9	8	4	→
●	Viet Nam	87	31	19	→	9	45	33	→
—	West Bank and Gaza	67				9			
○	Yemen	149	34	36		32	30	46	←
○	Zambia	123	48	49		12	25	28	←
●	Zimbabwe	119	45	44		11	12	13	

**UDHR:** Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
**CESCR:** International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights  
**CRC:** Convention on the Rights of the Child

**Sources:**  
**Undernourishment:** The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005, FAO (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/a0200e/a0200e03.pdf>).  
**Estimated low birth weight:** The State of the World's Children 2006, UNICEF ([www.unicef.org/sowc06](http://www.unicef.org/sowc06)).  
**Under-5 children malnutrition:** The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005, FAO (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/a0200e/a0200e03.pdf>).

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