



Existing rates of: **Wasting:** 5.6% **Stunting:** 32.1% **Proportion of population underweight:** 15.3%

Source: Gov. of Liberia (DHS, 2013)

Strong Performance

- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Liberia benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2013.
- In Liberia, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (9.07% of public spending in 2013) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Government of Liberia has not ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is weak and land markets do not function well.
- In Liberia, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Liberia does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- The Government of Liberia does not promote complementary feeding practices.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (16.8% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- Civil registration rates are weak (24.6% in 2013) and potentially hold back children's access to critical public services such as health and education.

Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
 Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	 9.07%	2013	6th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹	 19.2%	2012	2nd
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) ²	 Weak	2013	38th
 Access to agricultural research and extension services ²	 Moderate	2013	Joint 34th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 24.6%	2013	40th
 Functioning of social protection systems ²	 Weak	2014	Joint 20th
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ²	 Moderate	2006	Joint 7th
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ³	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's economic rights ³	 In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 1st
 Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	 Yes	2006	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are:  <75% of agriculture (Maputo) and health (Abuja) spending pledges  >=75 % and <100%  >=100%

² Possible scores are:  Weak  Moderate  Strong

⁴ Possible scores are:  Not in Law  In Law Not in Practice  In Law & Practice

Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	NCI Rank of 45
 Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)	 No	2014	Joint 28th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 88%	2013	24th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 No	2010	Joint 40th
 Population with access to an improved water source	 74.6%	2012	24th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 16.8%	2012	36th
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 79.3%	2007	37th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Moderate	2011-2016	23rd
 National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2012	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMSB [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	 Voluntary Adoption	2014	Joint 32nd

¹ Possible scores are:  Weak  Moderate  Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

² Possible scores are:  Not Enshrined in Law  Voluntary Adoption  Fully enshrined.

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes