

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 3.3%** **Stunting: 27.6%** **Proportion of population underweight: 11.2%**

Source: Gov. of Zimbabwe (MICS, 2014)





















### 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 Zimbabwe benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2014.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Zimbabwe promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In Zimbabwe 93.7% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2014.
- In Zimbabwe, constitutional protection of the right to food is strong.




### Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (9.51% of public spending in 2014) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Zimbabwe's spending in its health sector (8.5% of public spending in 2014) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- Government of Zimbabwe has not ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is weak and land markets do not function well.
- Extension services are the preserve of government and poor farmers have no say in setting policy priorities. The agricultural research and extension system is not properly reaching out to poor farmers. There is no policy promoting gender equity in access to extension services.
- In Zimbabwe, 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.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, Zimbabwe's medium/long term national development policy (Zimbabwe Medium Term Plan) places weak importance to nutrition.
- Zimbabwe does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- The Government of Zimbabwe has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 32% of children in 2014.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (36.8% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Zimbabwe, constitutional protection of the right to social security is weak.
- Social safety nets in Zimbabwe are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.

## Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

























Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
 Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	 9.51%	2014	5th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	 8.5%	2014	31st
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>2</sup>	 Weak	2011	Joint 43rd
 Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>2</sup>	 Weak	2007	Joint 42nd
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 48.8%	2010-2011	33rd
 Functioning of social protection systems <sup>2</sup>	 Weak	2016	Joint 20th
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>2</sup>	 Strong	2016	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>3</sup>	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's economic rights <sup>3</sup>	 In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 7th
 Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	 No	2013	Joint 28th

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

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are:  Very Weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very Strong

<sup>3</sup> 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	2015	Joint 29th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 32%	2014	38th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 76.9%	2015	23rd
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 36.8%	2015	19th
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 93.7%	2014	19th
 Nutrition features in national development policy <sup>1</sup>	 Weak	2011-2015	Joint 35th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMBMS <sup>^</sup> Enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>	 Fully Enshrined	2016	Joint 1st

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are:  Very Weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are:  Not Enshrined in Law  Few/Many Aspects Enshrined  Fully enshrined.

<sup>^</sup> International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes