



Existing rates of: **Wasting: 8.1%** **Stunting: 42.6%** **Proportion of population underweight: 23.4%**

Source: Government of Democratic Republic of the Congo (DHS, 2013-14)

Strong Performance

- Relative to other HANCI countries, DR Congo's medium/long term national development policy (Second generation growth and poverty reduction strategy paper (GPRSP II)) assigns strong importance to nutrition.
- DR Congo instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, enabling transparency and accountability for spending.
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in DR Congo benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2013-2014.
- The Government of DR Congo promotes complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 94% of children in 2015.
- In DR Congo, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (2.4% of public spending in 2016), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- DR Congo's spending in its health sector (5% of public spending in 2015) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In DR Congo, the law does not give women economic rights equal to men. Men and women have equal legal access to agricultural land, but this is not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Weak access to an improved source of drinking water (54.1% in 2015) and an improved sanitation facility (19.7% in 2015) prevents positive outcomes for hunger and nutrition in DR Congo.
- The Government of DR Congo does not provide social safety nets.
- Civil registration rates are weak (24.6% in 2013-2014) 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	2.4%	2016	36th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	5%	2015	Joint 32nd
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) ³	Moderate	2016	33rd
Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	Moderate	2013	Joint 27th
Civil registration system — coverage of live births	24.6%	2013-2014	Joint 40th
Functioning of social protection systems ³	Very Weak	2016	Joint 43rd
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	Strong	2016	Joint 1st
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	Not in Law	2014	Joint 26th
Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	Yes	2011	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are: ● <75% of agri. spending pledges (AU commitments set out in the Maputo Declaration) ● >=75% & <100% ● >=100%

² Possible scores are: ● <75% of health spending pledges (AU commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration) ● >=75% & <100% ● >=100%

³ Possible scores are: ● Very Weak/Weak ● Moderate ● Strong/Very 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)	Yes	2016	Joint 1st
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	94%	2015	12th
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	54.1%	2015	43rd
Population with access to improved sanitation	19.7%	2015	35th
Health care visits for pregnant women	88.4%	2013-2014	29th
Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	Strong	2011-2015	12th
National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	Yes	2017	Joint 1st
Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	Yes	2017	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	2017	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	2013-2014	Joint 1st
Laws			
ICMBS [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	Many Aspects Enshrined	2016	Joint 15th

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

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

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes