

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 4%** **Stunting: 17.2%** **Proportion of population underweight: 8.8%**

Source: Government of São Tomé and Príncipe (MICS, 2014)





Strong Performance

- São Tomé and Príncipe has devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in São Tomé and Príncipe benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2014.
- 95.1% of the population of São Tomé and Príncipe in 2015 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In São Tomé and Príncipe 97.5% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2014.
- In São Tomé and Príncipe, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.
- Strong civil registration rates (95.2% in 2014) potentially enable children's access to critical public services such as health and education.




Areas for improvement




- Spending on agriculture (8.5% of public spending in 2016) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- São Tomé and Príncipe's spending in its health sector (10.7% of public spending in 2015) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In São Tomé and Príncipe, 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.
- Even though São Tomé and Príncipe has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy, clear time-bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism are still lacking.
- The Government of São Tomé and Príncipe has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of São Tomé and Príncipe does not promote complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for only 42% of children in 2015.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (40.1% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- Social safety nets in São Tomé and Príncipe 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 ¹	 8.5%	2016	12th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	 10.7%	2015	Joint 10th
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) ³	 Moderate	2016	Joint 25th
 Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	 Moderate	2013	26th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 95.2%	2014	5th
 Functioning of social protection systems ³	 Weak	2014	Joint 41st
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	 Moderate	2017	Joint 8th
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	 In Law, not in Practice	2013	Joint 1st
 Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	 In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 1st
 Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	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)	 Sectoral only	2013	Joint 17th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 42%	2015	Joint 35th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 No	2014	Joint 42nd
 Population with access to an improved water source	 95.1%	2015	6th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 40.1%	2015	18th
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 97.5%	2014	5th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Moderate	2012-2016	30th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2013	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 No	2017	Joint 35th
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 No	2017	Joint 39th
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMSB [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	 Not Enshrined in Law	2016	Joint 33rd

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