

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 2.9%** **Stunting: 23.5%** **Proportion of population underweight: 9.7%**

Source: Government of Zimbabwe (MICS,2019)





















Strong Performance

- Zimbabwe has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in Zimbabwe benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2018-2019.
- 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 93.3% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2019.
- In Zimbabwe, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (4% of public spending in 2019), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- 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 yet have a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- The Government of Zimbabwe has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for only 40% of children in 2018.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (36.7% in 2019) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- Social safety nets in Zimbabwe are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.
- Civil registration rates are weak (48.7% in 2019) 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	 4%	2019	24th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	 15.2%	2017	1st
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) ³	 Moderate	2019	Joint 21st
 Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	 Moderate	2019	20th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 48.7%	2019	34th
 Functioning of social protection systems ³	 Weak	2018	Joint 25th
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	2019	Joint 3rd
 Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	 In Law, not in Practice	2019	Joint 9th
 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	2019	Joint 16th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 40%	2018	35th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2014	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 77.1%	2019	29th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 36.7%	2019	21st
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 93.3%	2019	20th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Weak	2011-2015	39th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 No	2019	Joint 33rd
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2019	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2019	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2018-2019	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMBMS [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	 Fully Enshrined	2019	Joint 1st

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