

TABLE 2. NUTRITION

Countries and territories	% of infants with low birthweight 2005–2009*	Early initiation of breastfeeding (%) 2005–2009*	% of children (2005–2009*) who are:			% of under-fives (2003–2009*) suffering from:					Vitamin A supplementation coverage rate (6–59 months) 2009	% of households consuming iodized salt 2003–2009*	
			exclusively breastfed (<6 months)	breastfed with complementary food (6–9 months)	still breastfeeding (20–23 months)	underweight (NCHS/WHO)		wasting (WHO)		stunting (WHO)			Full coverage ^a (%)
						moderate & severe	moderate & severe	severe	moderate & severe	moderate & severe			
Afghanistan	–	–	–	29 x	54 x	39 y	33 y	12 y	9 y	59 y	95	28 y	
Albania	7	43	39	54	31	6	5	2	9	19	–	76	
Algeria	6	50	7	39	22	4	3	1	4	15	–	61	
Andorra	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Angola	12 x	55	11 x	77 x	37 x	–	16 y	7 y	8 y	29 y	28	45	
Antigua and Barbuda	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Argentina	7	–	–	–	28	4 y	2 y	0 y	1 y	8 y	–	90 x	
Armenia	7	28	33	57	15	4	4	1	5	18	–	97	
Australia	7 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Austria	7 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Azerbaijan	10	32	12	44	16	10	8	2	7	25	79 w	54	
Bahamas	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Bahrain	8 x	–	34 x	65 x	41 x	9 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Bangladesh	22	43	43	74	91	46	41	12	17	43	91	84 y	
Barbados	14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Belarus	4	21	9	38	4	1	1	1	2	4	–	55 y	
Belgium	8 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Belize	14	51	10	–	27	6	4	1	2	22	–	90 x	
Benin	15	32	–	76	92 y	23	18	5	8	43	56	67	
Bhutan	9	–	–	–	–	19 x	14 x	3 x	3 x	48 x	–	96 x	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	6	61	60	81	40	6	4	1	1	27	45	89 y	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	57	18	29	10	2	1	0	4	10	–	62 y	
Botswana	13	20	20	46	6	14	–	–	–	–	89	66 x	
Brazil	8	43	40	70	25 y	–	2	–	2	7	–	96 y	
Brunei Darussalam	10 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Bulgaria	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	100	
Burkina Faso	16	20	16	–	–	31	26	7	11	35	100	34	
Burundi	11	–	45	88	–	35	–	–	–	–	90	98 y	
Cambodia	9	35	66	89	47	–	29	9	9	40	98	73 y	
Cameroon	11	20	21	64	21	19	16	5	7	36	–	49 y	
Canada	6 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Cape Verde	6	73	60	80	13	9 y	–	–	–	–	–	0 x	
Central African Republic	13	39	23	55	47	29	24	8	12	43	87	62	
Chad	22 x	34 x	2 x	77 x	65 x	37	–	–	–	–	71	56	
Chile	6	–	–	–	–	1 y	–	–	–	–	–	100 x	
China	3	41	28	43	–	7	6	–	–	15	–	96 y	
Colombia	6	49	47	65	32	7 y	5 y	2 y	2 y	15 y	–	92 x	
Comoros	25 x	25 x	21 x	34 x	45 x	25	–	–	–	–	40	82 x	
Congo	13	39	19	78	21	14	11	3	8	30	8	82	
Cook Islands	3 x	–	19 x	–	–	10 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Costa Rica	7	–	15	–	49	5 x	–	–	–	–	–	92 x	
Côte d'Ivoire	17	25	4	54	37	20	16	5	8	40	88	84 y	
Croatia	5	–	23 x	–	–	1 x	–	–	–	–	–	90 x	
Cuba	5	70	26	47	16	4	–	–	–	–	–	88	
Cyprus	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Czech Republic	7 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	7 x	–	65 x	31 x	37 x	23 y	18 y	7 y	9 y	45 y	99	40 y	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	10	48	36	82	64	31	25	8	10	46	89	79	
Denmark	5 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Djibouti	10	55	1	23	18	33 y	31 y	9 y	17 y	33 y	94	0	
Dominica	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Dominican Republic	11	74	9	62	21	4	7	2	3	18	–	19	
Ecuador	10	–	40 x	77 x	23 x	9	6	–	–	–	–	99 x	
Egypt	13	56	53	66	35 y	8	6	1	7	29	–	79	
El Salvador	7 x	33	31	72	54	9 y	6 y	1 y	1 y	19 y	–	62 x	
Equatorial Guinea	13 x	–	24 x	–	–	19 x	16 x	5 x	9 x	43 x	–	33 x	
Eritrea	14 x	78	52 x	43 x	62 x	40 x	35 x	13 x	15 x	44 x	44	68 x	
Estonia	4 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Ethiopia	20	69	49	54	88 y	38	33	11	12	51	84	20	
Fiji	10 x	57 x	40 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	31 x	
Finland	4 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	

	% of infants with low birthweight 2005–2009*	Early initiation of breastfeeding (%) 2005–2009*	% of children (2005–2009*) who are:			% of under-fives (2003–2009*) suffering from:					Vitamin A supplementation coverage rate (6–59 months) 2009 Full coverage ^a (%)	% of households consuming iodized salt 2003–2009*
			exclusively breastfed (< 6 months)	breastfed with complementary food (6–9 months)	still breastfeeding (20–23 months)	underweight (NCHS/WHO)		wasting (WHO)	stunting (WHO)			
						moderate & severe	moderate & severe			severe		
France	7 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Gabon	14 x	71 x	6 x	62 x	9 x	12 x	8 x	2 x	4 x	25 x	0	36 x
Gambia	20	48	41	44	53	20	16	4	7	28	–	7
Georgia	5	65	–	43	17	–	1	1	2	11	–	100
Germany	7 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ghana	13	52	63	75	44	17	14	3	9	28	90	32
Greece	8 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Grenada	9	–	39 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Guatemala	12 x	60 x	50	71	46	19	–	–	–	–	43	76
Guinea	12	35	48	32	–	26	21	7	8	40	–	41
Guinea-Bissau	24	23	16	35	61	19	15	4	8	47	80	1
Guyana	19	43	33	59	49	–	11	2	5	18	–	–
Haiti	25	44	41	87	35	22	18	6	10	29	–	3
Holy See	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Honduras	10	79	30	69	48	11	8	1	1	29	–	80 x
Hungary	9 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Iceland	4 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
India	28	41	46	57	77	48	43	16	20	48	66	51
Indonesia	9	44	32	75	50	–	18	5	14	37	84	62 y
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	7	56	23	68	58	5	–	–	–	–	–	99 y
Iraq	15	31	25	51	36	8	6	2	6	26	–	28
Ireland	6 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Israel	8 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Italy	6 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jamaica	12	62	15	36	24	–	2	–	2	4	–	100 x
Japan	8 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jordan	13	39	22	66	11	–	2	0	2	8	–	88 x
Kazakhstan	6	64	17	39	16	4	4	1	5	17	–	92
Kenya	8	58	32	83	54	20	16	4	7	35	51	98
Kiribati	5 x	–	80 x	–	–	13 x	–	–	–	–	–	–
Kuwait	7 x	–	12 x	26 x	9 x	10 x	–	–	–	–	–	–
Kyrgyzstan	5	65	32	49	26	3	2	0	3	18	99	76
Lao People's Democratic Republic	11	30	26	70	48	37	31	9	7	48	88	84 y
Latvia	5 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lebanon	6 x	–	27 x	35 x	11 x	4	–	–	–	–	–	92
Lesotho	13 x	63 x	54	58	35	–	13	2	4	39	–	91
Liberia	14	67	29	62	47	24	19	6	8	39	92	–
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	7 x	–	–	–	23 x	5 x	4 x	–	4 x	21 x	–	90 x
Liechtenstein	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lithuania	4 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Luxembourg	8 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Madagascar	16	72	51	89	61	–	–	–	–	50	95	53
Malawi	13	58	57	89	72	21	15	3	4	53	95	50
Malaysia	11	–	29 x	–	12 x	8	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maldives	22 x	–	10 x	85 x	–	30 x	26 x	7 x	13 x	32 x	52	44 x
Mali	19	46	38	30	56	32	27	10	15	38	100	79
Malta	6 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Marshall Islands	18	73	31	77	53	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mauritania	34	64	35	62	47	20 y	14 y	2 y	6 y	23 y	89	23
Mauritius	14 x	–	21 x	–	–	15 x	–	–	–	–	–	0 x
Mexico	8	–	20 x	–	25 x	5	3	–	2	16	–	91
Micronesia (Federated States of)	18 x	–	60 x	–	–	15 x	–	–	–	–	–	–
Monaco	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mongolia	5	81	57	57	65	6	5	1	3	27	–	83 y
Montenegro	4	25	19	35	13	3	2	1	4	7	–	71 x
Morocco	15 x	52 x	31 x	66 x	15 x	10	9	2	10	23	–	21
Mozambique	15	63	37	84	54	18	18	5	4	44	97	25
Myanmar	15 x	–	15 x	66 x	67 x	32	30	9	11	41	95	93
Namibia	16	71	24	72	28	21	17	4	8	29	–	63 x
Nauru	27	76	67	65	65 y	–	5	1	1	24	–	–
Nepal	21	35	53	75	95	45	39	11	13	49	95	63 x
Netherlands	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
New Zealand	6 x	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	83 x

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Countries and territories	% of infants with low birthweight 2005–2009*	Early initiation of breastfeeding (%) 2005–2009*	% of children (2005–2009*) who are:			% of under-fives (2003–2009*) suffering from:					Vitamin A supplementation coverage rate (6–59 months) 2009	% of households consuming iodized salt 2003–2009*
			exclusively breastfed (<6 months)	breastfed with complementary food (6–9 months)	still breastfeeding (20–23 months)	underweight (NCHS/WHO)		wasting (WHO)	stunting (WHO)	Full coverage ^a (%)		
						moderate & severe	moderate & severe					
Nicaragua	8	54	31	76	43	7	6	1	1	22	6	97
Niger	27	40	10	52	—	41 y	34 y	11 y	12 y	46 y	95	46
Nigeria	12	38	13	75	32	29	24	9	11	43	78	97
Niue	0 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	5 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Occupied Palestinian Territory	7	—	27	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	86
Oman	9	85	—	91 x	73 x	18 x	11 x	2 x	7 x	13 x	—	69 x
Pakistan	32	29	37	36	55	38 x	31 x	13 x	14 x	42 x	91	17 x
Palau	9 x	—	59 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Panama	10 x	—	25 x	38 x	21 x	—	4 y	—	1 y	19 y	—	95 x
Papua New Guinea	10	—	56	76	72	26 y	18 y	5 y	5 y	43 y	12	92
Paraguay	9 x	21 x	22 x	60 x	—	4	3	—	1	18	—	94 y
Peru	8	53	70	81	51	6	4	1	1	24	—	91
Philippines	21	54	34	58	34	26	22	—	7	32	91	45
Poland	6 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	8 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Qatar	10 x	—	12 x	48 x	21 x	6 x	—	—	—	—	—	—
Republic of Korea	4 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Republic of Moldova	6	65	46	18	2	4	3	1	5	10	—	60
Romania	8 x	—	16 x	41 x	—	3 x	4 x	1 x	4 x	13 x	—	74
Russian Federation	6	—	—	—	—	3 x	—	—	—	—	—	35 y
Rwanda	6	68	88	69	77	23	18	4	5	51	94	88
Saint Kitts and Nevis	11	—	56 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100 x
Saint Lucia	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Samoa	4 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
San Marino	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sao Tome and Principe	8	35	51	77	20	—	13	3	11	29	37	37
Saudi Arabia	11 x	—	31 x	60 x	30 x	14 x	—	—	—	—	—	—
Senegal	19	23	34	61	42	17	14	4	9	19	97	41
Serbia	6	17	15	39	8	2	1	0	4	7	—	32
Seychelles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sierra Leone	14	51	11	73	50	25	21	7	10	36	99	58
Singapore	8 x	—	—	—	—	3 x	3 x	0 x	4 x	4 x	—	—
Slovakia	7 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slovenia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Solomon Islands	13	75	74	81	67	—	12	2	4	33	—	—
Somalia	—	26	9	15	35	36	32	12	13	42	62	1
South Africa	15 x	61 x	8 x	49 x	31 x	12	—	—	—	—	—	62 x
Spain	6 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sri Lanka	17	80	76	87	84	27	21	4	15	17	—	92 y
Sudan	31 x	—	34	56	35	31	27	10	16	40	84	11
Suriname	13 x	34	2	34	15	10	7	1	5	11	—	—
Swaziland	9	44	33	—	23 y	10	7	1	1	40	27	80
Sweden	4 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Switzerland	6 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syrian Arab Republic	9	32	29	37	16	10	9	2	10	28	—	79
Tajikistan	10	57 y	25	15	34	18	15	6	7	39	87	62
Thailand	9	50	5	43	19	9	7	1	5	16	—	47
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	6	—	37 x	8 x	10 x	2	2	0	3	11	—	94 y
Timor-Leste	12 x	—	52	80	33	—	49	15	25	54	45	60
Togo	12	53	48	70 y	—	21	21	3	6	27	100	25
Tonga	3 x	—	62 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trinidad and Tobago	19	41	13	43	22	6 x	—	—	—	—	—	28
Tunisia	5	87	6	61	15	3	—	—	—	—	—	97 x
Turkey	11	39	42	68	22	3	2	0	1	12	—	69
Turkmenistan	4	60	11	54	37	11	8	2	7	19	—	87
Tuvalu	5 x	—	35	40	51 y	—	2	0	3	10	—	—
Uganda	14	42	60	80	54	20	16	4	6	38	64	96
Ukraine	4	41	18	55	6	1 x	—	—	—	—	—	18
United Arab Emirates	15 x	—	34 x	52 x	29 x	14 x	—	—	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	8 x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	% of infants with low birthweight 2005–2009*	Early initiation of breastfeeding (%) 2005–2009*	% of children (2005–2009*) who are:			% of under-fives (2003–2009*) suffering from:					Vitamin A supplementation coverage rate (6–59 months) 2009 Full coverage ^Δ (%)	% of households consuming iodized salt 2003–2009*
			exclusively breastfed (< 6 months)	breastfed with complementary food (6–9 months)	still breastfeeding (20–23 months)	underweight (NCHS/WHO)		wasting (WHO)	stunting (WHO)			
						moderate & severe	moderate & severe			severe		
United Republic of Tanzania	10	67	41 x	91 x	55 x	22	17	4	4	44	94	43
United States	8 x	–	–	–	–	2 x	1 x	0 x	0 x	3 x	–	–
Uruguay	8	60	57	35	28	5 x	5 x	2 x	2 x	15 x	–	–
Uzbekistan	5	67	26	45	38	5	4	1	4	19	65	53
Vanuatu	10	72	40	62	32	16	–	–	–	–	–	23
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	8	–	7 x	50 x	31 x	5	–	–	–	–	–	90 x
Viet Nam	5	58	17	70	23	20	–	–	–	–	99 w	93
Yemen	32 x	30	12 x	76 x	–	46	43	19	15	58	–	30
Zambia	11	57	61	93	42	19	15	3	5	45	91	77 x
Zimbabwe	11	69	26	89	21	16 y	12 y	2 y	2 y	35 y	77	91 y

SUMMARY INDICATORS

Africa [†]	13	49	34	69	49	24	20	6	9	40	81	62
Sub-Saharan Africa [†]	14	49	33	70	51	27	22	7	9	42	81	61
Eastern and Southern Africa	14	61	47	72	64	25	21	6	7	44	77	53
West and Central Africa	13	39	23	70	43	28	23	8	10	40	84	74
Middle East and North Africa	10	47	32	57	35	14	14	5	10	31	–	60
Asia [†]	18	41	38	54	68	31	27	13	17	35	76 **	73
South Asia	27	39	45	56	75	47	42	15	19	48	73	55
East Asia and Pacific	6	44	28	52	–	11	11	–	–	22	88 **	87
Latin America and Caribbean	8	49	43	70	32	7	4	–	2	14	–	89
CEE/CIS	7	47	29	52	21	5	4	1	3	16	–	51
Industrialized countries [§]	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Developing countries [§]	15	44	36	59	56	26	22	9	12	34	77 **	72
Least developed countries [§]	16	50	42	69	68	33	28	9	11	44	87	57
World	15	44	36	59	56	26	22	9	12	34	77 **	71

[†] For a complete list of countries and territories in the regions and subregions, see page 124.

[§] Includes territories within each country category or regional group. Countries and territories in each country category or regional group are listed on page 124.

DEFINITIONS OF THE INDICATORS

Low birthweight – Percentage of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams at birth.

Early initiation of breastfeeding – Percentage of infants who are put to the breast within one hour of birth.

Underweight (NCHS/WHO) – Moderate and severe: Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who are below minus two standard deviations from median weight for age of the NCHS/WHO reference population.

Underweight (WHO) – Moderate and severe: Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who are below minus two standard deviations from median weight for age of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards; Severe: Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who are below minus three standard deviations from median weight for age of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

Wasting (WHO) – Moderate and severe: Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who are below minus two standard deviations from median weight for height of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

Stunting (WHO) – Moderate and severe: Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who are below minus two standard deviations from median height for age of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

Vitamin A supplementation (full coverage) – The estimated percentage of children aged 6–59 months reached with 2 doses of vitamin A supplements.

Iodized salt consumption – Percentage of households consuming adequately iodized salt (15 parts per million or more).

MAIN DATA SOURCES

Low birthweight – Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), other national household surveys, data from routine reporting systems, UNICEF and WHO.

Breastfeeding – DHS, MICS, other national household surveys and UNICEF.

Underweight, wasting and stunting – DHS, MICS, other national household surveys, WHO and UNICEF.

Vitamin A – UNICEF.

Salt iodization – DHS, MICS, other national household surveys and UNICEF.

NOTES

– Data not available.

w Identifies countries with national vitamin A supplementation programmes targeted towards a reduced age range. Coverage figure is reported as targeted.

x Data refer to years or periods other than those specified in the column heading, differ from the standard definition or refer to only part of a country. Such data are not included in the calculation of regional and global averages.

y Data refer to years or periods other than those specified in the column heading, differ from the standard definition or refer to only part of a country. Such data are included in the calculation of regional and global averages.

^Δ Full coverage with vitamin A supplements is reported as the lower percentage of 2 annual coverage points (i.e., lower point between round 1 (January–June) and round 2 (July–December) of 2008).

* Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified in the column heading.

** Excludes China.