

Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (HANCI)

Key data for Tanzania



Hunger 1 million people **Stunting** 42% of children under 5 **Wasting** 5% of children under 5

HANCI compares 45 developing countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. These come under three areas of government action: public spending, policies and laws.

Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

| Public spending | Score | HRCI Rank of 45 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Government expenditure on agriculture as a percentage of total | 5.5% | 22nd |
| General government expenditure on health as a percentage of total | 13.8% | 8th |
| Policies | | |
| Access to land | Medium/High | 6th |
| Access to agriculture research and extension services | High | 1st |
| Coverage of civil registration system – live births (latest year) | 16% | 41st |
| Status of Welfare Regime | 4 | 10th |
| Laws | | |
| Level of Constitutional protection of the right to food | Medium/Low | 15th ¹ |
| Women's access to agricultural land (2012) | Medium | Joint 6th ² |
| Women's Economic rights | Medium | 33rd ³ |
| Constitutions recognising the right to social security | Yes | Joint 1st ⁴ |

¹ Tanzania is one of 8 HANCI countries with a medium to low level of constitutional protection of the right to food. ² Tanzania is one of 32 HANCI countries where women have equal legal rights but there are discriminatory practices. ³ Tanzania is one of 13 HANCI countries where there are no economic rights for women in law and systematic discrimination based on sex may have been built into law. ⁴ Tanzania is one of 29 HANCI countries where the constitution clearly references a right to social security.

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Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

| Public spending | Score | NCI Rank of 45 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Separate budget for nutrition | Yes | 1st ¹ |
| Policies | | |
| Vitamin A supplement for children | 99% | 10th |
| Government promotes complementary feeding | Yes | 1st ² |
| Access to an improved water source | 53% | 37th |
| Access to sanitation | 10% | 44th |
| Health care visits for pregnant women | 88% | 21st |
| Nutrition features in national development policies | No | 40th |
| National nutrition plan (yes/no) | Yes | 1st ³ |
| Multi-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination (yes/no) | Yes | 1st ⁴ |
| Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no) | No | 17th ⁵ |
| National nutrition survey (yes/no) | Yes | 1st ⁶ |
| Laws | | |
| Monitoring and enforcement of International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes | Highest | 1st ⁷ |

¹Tanzania is one of 23 HANCI countries with a separate nutrition budget. ²Tanzania is one of 36 HANCI countries to promote complimentary feeding. ³Tanzania is one of 41 HANCI countries to have a costed national nutrition plan. ⁴Tanzania is one of 36 HANCI countries to have a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism. ⁵Tanzania is one of 28 HANCI countries to have no time-bound nutrition targets. ⁶Tanzania is one of 34 HANCI countries to have conducted a DHS / MICS /comparable national nutrition survey in the past three yrs. ⁷Tanzania is one of 18 HANCI countries where ICBMS provisions are fully enshrined in law.

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Progress

- Tanzania has instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, improving public oversight and accountability for spending.
- The Government of Tanzania has established a National Nutrition Strategy and a coordinating body bringing together stakeholders from across sectors
- Tanzania has institutional, legal and market frameworks that allow a majority of poor rural households, including women, indigenous populations and other vulnerable groups, to gain access to secure land tenure.
- Tanzania scores top marks for its diverse and effective research and extension services, effectively reaching out to poor farmers, whether men or women.
- The government promotes complementary feeding practices and 99% of children aged 6–59 months received 2 high doses of vitamin A supplements within the last year.
- In the area of maternal health, 88% of women aged 15–49 were attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel.
- The principles of the International Code of Marketing Breastmilk Substitutes are fully enshrined in Tanzanian law.

Areas for improvement

- The Vision 2025 long term development strategy does not recognise a role for nutrition as a key development factor (unlike its shorter term MKUKUTA II poverty reduction strategy).
- People's access to improved sources of drinking water (53%) and sanitation (10%) are relatively low in Tanzania, and this is likely to significantly hold back better nutrition outcomes.
- The government could set out time-bound nutrition targets in its national nutrition and development strategies, to show leadership and forward vision.
- The constitution of Tanzania sets out a right to social security and a right to a minimum wage, however, it does not explicitly or implicitly enshrine a right to food.
- Whereas Tanzanian law asserts equal land ownership rights, in practice discrimination against women reduces their access to, and ownership of land. This increases women's vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Tanzanian law does not protect economic rights for women; systematic discrimination based on sex may be built into law.
- Only one in six live births are officially registered in Tanzania. This potentially limits many children's access to basic services, where such access is dependent on proof of legal identity.