The Challenge of Hunger and Climate Change.

Index by Severity. Map in 2019 Global Hunger Index: H. Fritschel. 2019. “Figure 2.4: 2019 Global Hunger

Recommended citation: K. von Grebmer, J. Bernor and acceptance by Welthungerhilfe (WHH) or Concern

used on this map do not imply official endorsement

territories; see Chapter 1 for details.

countries with small populations, and non-independent

data on child mortality are for 2017. GHI scores

undernourished are for 2016–2018; data on child

Note: For the 2019 GHI, data on the proportion of

Source: Authors.

Not available and for certain high-income countries,

period 2014–2018 for which data are available; and

data for child mortality are for 2017. GHI scores

Not included or insufficient data**

See Chapter 1 in the GHI 2019 full report for details. *See Box 2.1 in the GHI 2019 full report for details.

Low ≤ 9.9

Moderate 10.0–19.9

Extremely alarming ≥ 50.0

**See Chapter 1 in the GHI 2019 full report for details.

Brazil

Argentina

North Macedonia

Russian Federation

Mexico

Serbia

Colombia

Azerbaijan

Guatemala

United States

of America

Iran

Costa Rica

Albania

Armenia

Central American

Bolivia

Argentina

Panama

Morocco

Morocco

Mauritius

Mongolia

Thailand

Uzbekistan

Suriname

Greenland

Guinea-Bissau

Belize

French Guiana

Bolivia

Austria

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CONCEPT OF THE GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is based on four component indicators:

1. **Undernourishment:** the proportion of undernourished people as a percentage of the population (reflecting the share of the population with insufficient caloric intake).
2. **Child Wasting:** the proportion of children younger than age five who suffer from wasting (low weight-for-height, reflecting acute undernutrition).
3. **Child Stunting:** the proportion of children younger than age five who are stunted (low height-for-age, reflecting chronic undernutrition).
4. **Child Mortality:** the mortality rate of children younger than age five (partially reflecting the fatal synergy of inadequate nutrition and unhealthy environments).

Combining the proportion of undernourished in the population with the indicators relating to children under age five ensures that both the food supply situation of the population as a whole and the effects of inadequate nutrition on a physiologically very vulnerable group are captured. Children’s nutritional status deserves particular attention because a deficiency of nutrients places them at high risk of physical and mental impairment and death. For many children in developing countries who die from infectious diseases, the indirect cause of death is a weakened immune system due to a lack of dietary energy, vitamins, and minerals.

Since the first three indicators—the proportion of undernourished and the prevalence of wasting and stunting in children—do not capture premature death as the most tragic consequence of hunger, the under-five mortality rate is also included.

The Global Hunger Index goes beyond dietary energy availability to reflect the multidimensional causes and manifestations of hunger. Inequitable resource allocations between and within households are also taken into consideration since the latter affect the physical well-being of children. Sufficient food availability at the household level does not guarantee that all members benefit from it to equal measure. The GHI varies between the best possible score of 0 and the worst possible score of 100. Higher scores indicate greater hunger, the lower the score, the better the country’s situation. GHI scores above 20 are considered serious, scores greater than 35 are alarming and scores above 50 are extremely alarming.

The GHI is calculated for countries where data on all four component indicators are available and measuring hunger is most relevant. Most higher-income countries are not included because the indicators used to calculate the GHI are best suited to reflect the hunger and nutrition circumstances in low and middle-income countries and because many of these data are not collected regularly for higher-income countries. In addition, GHI scores are not calculated for certain countries with small populations or for certain non-independent entities or territories.

For more information, visit www.globalhungerindex.org, www.weltihungerhilfe.de, and www.concern.net.