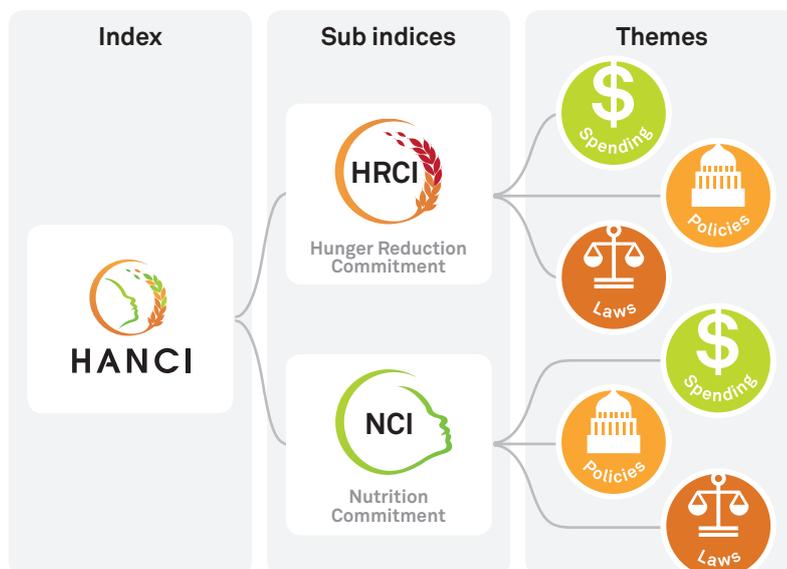


Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (HANCI)

Key data for Afghanistan



The structure of the HANCI



Existing rates of: **Hunger** 37% of population **Stunting** 59% of children under 5 **Wasting** 9% of children under 5

Source: WHO

HANCI compares 45 developing countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. All the countries compared in the index have high rates of hunger and undernutrition. The comparative approach of the index means that country scores are calculated in relation to the political commitment of the other countries in the index.

Strong performance

- Afghanistan gives some policy attention to nutrition, and shows reasonable performance on selected outcome indicators.
- The government promotes complementary feeding practices of children aged 6–9 months and continued breastfeeding of children at ages 12–15 and 20–23 months.
- Further, 96% of children aged 6–59 months received 2 high doses of vitamin A supplements within the last year.
- Women have equal legal rights but there are discriminatory practices against women's access to and ownership of land in practice.
- Regular (once every three years) nutrition surveys enable policymakers to have access to up to date information.
- Afghanistan is one of 18 countries that have fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing Breastmilk Substitutes in domestic law.

Areas for improvement

- Afghanistan's investment in agriculture is very low at 1% of total public spending.
- Although a near majority of poor rural households have access to some land, tenure is often insecure. Frequently, vulnerable groups such as women, and indigenous populations do not enjoy the same access to land as other poor groups.
- Only 36% of women aged 15–49 were attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel.
- There are no economic rights for women in law and systematic discrimination based on sex may have been built into law.
- The agricultural research and extension system is weak and does not address the needs of poor farmers.

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Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

● Strong performance ● Areas for improvement

Public spending

	Score	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending	1.0%	43rd
Public spending on health as share of total public spending	1.6%	44th

Policies

Access to land (security of tenure) ¹	Weak	41st
Access to agricultural research and extension services ¹	Moderate	38th
Coverage of civil registration system - live births (latest year)	37%	31st
Status of welfare regime ²	Non-existent	41st

Laws

Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	Low	44th
Women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	0.5	Joint 6th
Women's economic rights ⁵	Negligible	33rd
Constitutions recognising the right to social security (yes/no)	No	30th

¹ Scores range from 0 (no or limited legal rights for women) to 1 (equal access)

Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending

	Score	NCI Rank of 45
Separate budget for nutrition	No	24th

Policies

Vitamin A supplement for children (6-59 months) in last year	96%	17th
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	50%	39th
Population with access to improved sanitation	37%	21st
Health care visits for pregnant women	36%	44th
Nutrition features in national development policies ²	Weak	18th
National nutrition plan (yes/no)	Yes	Joint 1st
Multi-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination (yes/no)	Yes	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	Joint 1st

Laws

Monitoring and enforcement of International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes	Fully enshrined	Joint 1st
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² Score indicates mentions of key search terms in key docs / no. of pages