

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 3.4%** **Stunting: 17%** **Proportion of population underweight: 6.4%**

Source: Government of Gabon (DHS, 2012)





















Strong Performance

- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Gabon benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2018.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Gabon promotes complementary feeding practices.
- 93.8% of the population of Gabon in 2017 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Gabon 94.7% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2012.
- In Gabon, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (1.5% of public spending in 2019), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Gabon's spending in its health sector (9.7% of public spending in 2017) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- The Government of Gabon has not ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is weak and land markets do not function well.
- In Gabon, the law does not give women economic rights equal to men. Men and women have equal legal access to agricultural land, but this is not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, Gabon's medium/long term national development policy (Plan Strategique du Gabon Emergent) places weak importance to nutrition.
- The Government of Gabon has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for only 0% of children in 2018.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (47.4% in 2017) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Gabon, constitutional protection of the right to food is weak.
- Social safety nets in Gabon are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.



Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
 Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	 1.5%	2019	39th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	 9.7%	2017	Joint 14th
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) ³	 Weak	2019	Joint 36th
 Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	 Moderate	2019	Joint 29th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 89.6%	2012	8th
 Functioning of social protection systems ³	 Weak	2020	Joint 8th
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	 Weak	2016	Joint 29th
 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	 Not in Law	2019	Joint 16th
 Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	 Yes	2016	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	 0.0%	2018	45th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 93.8%	2017	8th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 47.4%	2017	13th
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 94.7%	2012	16th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Weak	2025	Joint 40th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2019	Joint 1st
 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	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