



Existing rates of: **Wasting:** 8.1% **Stunting:** 42.7% **Proportion of population underweight:** 23.4%

Source: Government of Democratic Republic of the Congo (DHS, 2013)

Strong Performance

- Relative to other HANCI countries, DR Congo's medium/long term national development policy (Second generation growth and poverty reduction strategy paper (GPRSP II)) assigns strong importance to nutrition.
- DR Congo instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, enabling transparency and accountability for spending.
- DR Congo has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in DR Congo benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2017-2018.
- The Government of DR Congo promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In DR Congo, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (5.9% of public spending in 2019), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- DR Congo's spending in its health sector (3.3% of public spending in 2017) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- The Government of DR Congo has not ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is weak and land markets do not function well.
- Extension services are the preserve of government and poor farmers have no say in setting policy priorities. The agricultural research and extension system is not properly reaching out to poor farmers. There is no policy promoting gender equity in access to extension services.
- In DR Congo, 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.
- DR Congo does not yet have a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Weak access to an improved source of drinking water (55.2% in 2017) and an improved sanitation facility (20.5% in 2017) prevents positive outcomes for hunger and nutrition in DR Congo.
- The Government of DR Congo does not provide social safety nets.
- Civil registration rates are weak (24.6% in 2013-2014) and potentially hold back children's access to critical public services such as health and education.



Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	5.9%	2019	19th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	3.3%	2017	39th
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) ³	Weak	2019	Joint 43rd
Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	Weak	2019	Joint 37th
Civil registration system — coverage of live births	24.6%	2013-2014	Joint 41st
Functioning of social protection systems ³	Very Weak	2018	Joint 43rd
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	Strong	2019	Joint 1st
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	In Law, not in Practice	2019	Joint 28th
Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	Not in Law	2019	Joint 16th
Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	Yes	2011	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are: ● <75% of AU's commitments set out in the Maputo Declaration ● >=75 % and <100% ● >=100%

² Possible scores are: ● <75% of AU's commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration ● >=75 % and <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)	Yes	2019	Joint 1st
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	78%	2018	18th
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	55.2%	2017	45th
Population with access to improved sanitation	20.5%	2017	35th
Health care visits for pregnant women	88.4%	2013-2014	26th
Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	Strong	2011-2015	12th
National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	No	2019	Joint 42nd
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	2017-2018	Joint 1st
Laws			
ICMBS [^] enshrined in domestic law ²	Many Aspects Enshrined	2019	Joint 19th

¹ Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● 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