

# FAOSTAT Food Security

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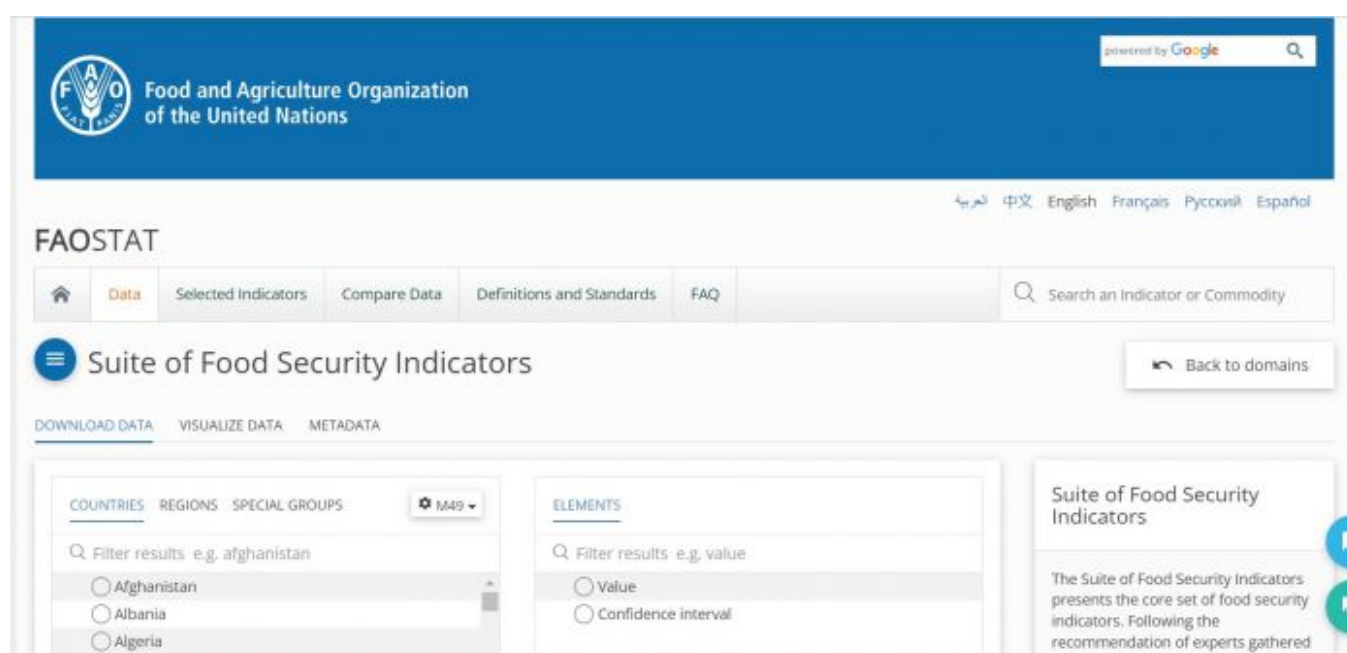
## Summary

FAOSTAT gives users access to food and agriculture data for over 245 countries and territories. Additionally, it covers all FAO regional groupings from 1961 to the most recent year available. The Suite of Food Security Indicators presents the core set of food security indicators. The choice of the indicators has been informed by expert judgment and the availability of data with sufficient coverage to enable comparisons across regions and over time. Many of these indicators are produced and published elsewhere by FAO and other international organizations. More indicators will be added to as more data will become available. Indicators are classified along the four dimensions of food security -- availability, access, utilization and stability.

The data team uses food security indicators for many series, including those related to hunger/malnutrition such as SeriesMalnDietEnSup, SeriesMalnPop%, SeriesMalnCaloricDistribution, SeriesMalnMinNutrRequired. To pull data, follow the instructions below.

## FAO Food Security Pulling Steps

Step 1. Navigate to FAOSTAT Food Security site. This site will display a suite of food security indicators.



FAO Food Security Homepage

Step 2. The page displays four options that must be selected to download data: Countries/Regions/Special Groups, Elements, Years, and Items. For all these options, you can also type in a search box.

**COUNTRIES** REGIONS SPECIAL GROUPS M49

Filter results e.g. afghanistan

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Andorra
- ☐ Angola

Select All Clear All

**ELEMENTS**

Filter results e.g. value

- ☐ Value
- ☐ Confidence interval

Select All Clear All

**ITEMS**

Filter results e.g. featured indicators > (list)

- ☐ Featured Indicators > (List)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)
- ☐ -- Number of people undernourished (million)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the total pop
- ☐ -- Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in
- ☐ -- Number of severely food insecure people (million)

Select All Clear All

**YEARS**

Filter results e.g. 2022 / 2021-2023

- ☐ 2022 / 2021-2023
- ☐ 2021 / 2020-2022
- ☐ 2020 / 2019-2021
- ☐ 2019 / 2018-2020
- ☐ 2018 / 2017-2019
- ☐ 2017 / 2016-2018

Select All Clear All

**Indicators**

The Suite of Food Security Indicators presents the core set of food security indicators. Following the recommendation of experts gathered in the... [Show More](#)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

**Bulk Downloads**

All Data	982 KB
All Data Normalized	1.84 MB
All Area Groups	308 KB
Africa	212 KB
Latin America and the Caribbean	120 KB
Northern America and Europe	142 KB
Asia	176 KB
Oceania	50 KB

Last Update  
August 23, 2023

Related Documents

[Descriptions and metadata](#)

FAO Data Selections

Step 3. For **“Countries”** options, you will generally want to select **“Select All”** to capture all country data.

Filter results e.g. afghanistan

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Andorra

Select All Clear All

**ITEMS**

Filter results e.g. featured indicators > (list)

- ☐ Featured Indicators > (List)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)
- ☐ -- Number of people undernourished (million)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the total pc
- ☐ -- Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity i

Select All Clear All

**YEARS**

Filter results e.g. 2022 / 2021-2023

- ☐ 2022 / 2021-2023
- ☐ 2021 / 2020-2022
- ☐ 2020 / 2019-2021
- ☐ 2019 / 2018-2020
- ☐ 2018 / 2017-2019

Select All Clear All

**Output Type**

Table ☒ Pivot ☐

**File Type**

CSV ☒ XLS ☐

**Thousand Separator in 'Show Data'**

None ☒ Comma ☐ Period ☐

**Output Formatting Options**

Flags ☒ Notes ☒ Codes ☒  
Units ☒ Null Values ☐

**Indicators**

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Related Documents

[Descriptions and metadata](#)

[Update history](#)

**Suggested Reading**

[Default coding and flags](#)

[Definitions and standa...](#)

Country Selection

Step 4. For the **“Elements”** options you will most likely want to select **“Value”**, depending

on the desired dataset.

The screenshot shows the FAO Food Security Indicators selection interface. The 'Filter results' section has 'Value' selected. The 'ITEMS' section shows 'Featured Indicators > (List)' selected. The 'YEARS' section shows '2022 / 2021-2023' selected. The 'Output Type' is 'Table', 'File Type' is 'CSV', and 'Thousand Separator' is 'None'. The 'Output Formatting Options' are 'Flags', 'Notes', 'Codes', 'Units', and 'Null Values'.

Filter results e.g. afghanistan

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Andorra

Select All Clear All

ITEMS

Filter results e.g. featured Indicators > (list)

- ☐ Featured Indicators > (List)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)
- ☐ -- Number of people undernourished (million)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the total pc
- ☐ -- Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity i

Select All Clear All

YEARS

Filter results e.g. 2022 / 2021-2023

- ☐ 2022 / 2021-2023
- ☐ 2021 / 2020-2022
- ☐ 2020 / 2019-2021
- ☐ 2019 / 2018-2020
- ☐ 2018 / 2017-2019

Select All Clear All

Output Type File Type Thousand Separator in 'Show Data' Output Formatting Options

☒ Table ☐ Pivot ☒ CSV ☐ XLS ☒ None ☐ Comma ☐ Period ☒ Flags ☒ Notes ☒ Codes ☒ Units ☐ Null Values

Elements Selection

Step 5. For “**Years**”, you will generally want to select “**Select All**” to capture all years of data available.

The screenshot shows the FAO Food Security Indicators selection interface. The 'Filter results' section has 'Value' selected. The 'ITEMS' section shows 'Featured Indicators > (List)' selected. The 'YEARS' section shows '2022 / 2021-2023' selected. The 'Output Type' is 'Table', 'File Type' is 'CSV', and 'Thousand Separator' is 'None'. The 'Output Formatting Options' are 'Flags', 'Notes', 'Codes', 'Units', and 'Null Values'.

Filter results e.g. afghanistan

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Andorra

Select All Clear All

ITEMS

Filter results e.g. featured Indicators > (list)

- ☐ Featured Indicators > (List)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)
- ☐ -- Number of people undernourished (million)
- ☐ -- Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the total pc
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Select All Clear All

YEARS

Filter results e.g. 2022 / 2021-2023

- ☐ 2022 / 2021-2023
- ☐ 2021 / 2020-2022
- ☐ 2020 / 2019-2021
- ☐ 2019 / 2018-2020
- ☐ 2018 / 2017-2019

Select All Clear All

Output Type File Type Thousand Separator in 'Show Data' Output Formatting Options

☒ Table ☐ Pivot ☒ CSV ☐ XLS ☒ None ☐ Comma ☐ Period ☒ Flags ☒ Notes ☒ Codes ☒ Units ☐ Null Values

Years Selection

Step 6. For **“Items”**, select the desired indicator. You can also type in the search box for the indicator. This example will use **“Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)”**.

The screenshot shows the FAO Data Explorer interface. On the left, there are three filter panels. The top panel shows a list of countries with radio buttons for selection. The middle panel, labeled 'ITEMS', shows a list of indicators with radio buttons. A red arrow points to the 'Prevalence of undernourishment (percent)' indicator. The bottom panel, labeled 'YEARS', shows a list of year ranges with radio buttons. On the right, there is a sidebar with information about the Suite of Food Security Indicators, including a 'Bulk Downloads' section with a table of download sizes.

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Items Selection

Step 7. After selecting for these for options, the page will display the completed selections.

The screenshot shows the FAO Data Explorer interface with the completed selections. The top panel shows a list of countries with checkboxes for selection. The middle panel, labeled 'ITEMS', shows a list of indicators with checkboxes. The bottom panel, labeled 'YEARS', shows a list of year ranges with checkboxes. The right sidebar is the same as in the previous screenshot.

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Completed Selections



Step 8. Scroll down below the options. You also have options to select the “Output Type”, “File Type”, and “Thousand Separator in ‘Show Data’”. It’s recommended to select “**Pivot**” under “**Output Type**” to have easier data cleaning.

Output Type

Table

**Pivot**

File Type

CSV

XLS

Thousand Separator in 'Show Data'

None

**Comma**

Period

Output Formatting Options

Flags

Notes

Codes

Units

Null Values

Statistical Database Terms of Use

CC

BY

NC

SA

Show Data

Download Data

Show Data

2000-2002 [20002002]

Unit

Value

Flag Description

Note

%

46.4

Estimated value [E]

2001-2003 [20012003]

Unit

Value

Flag Description

Note

%

44.1

Estimated value [E]

2002-2004 [20022004]

Unit

Value

Flag Description

Note

%

39

Estimated value [E]

Afghanistan [004]

Value [6121]

Prevalence of undernourishment (percent) (3-year average) [210041]

%

46.4

Estimated value [E]

Albania [008]

Value [6121]

Prevalence of undernourishment (percent) (3-year average) [210041]

%

4.9

Estimated value [E]

%

7.4

Estimated value [E]

Additional Data Options

Step 9. You may select “**Show Data**” to look at the data before downloading. This option will populate data at the bottom of the page.

Step 10. Click “**Download Data**”. Either an Excel or CSV sheet will download. Now you can format the data to upload it into IFs. To import data into IFs, please follow the instructions found in the Importing Data (general instructions) page.

Output Type

☐ Table
☒ Pivot

File Type

☒ CSV
☐ XLS

Thousand Separator in 'Show Data'

☐ None
☒ Comma
☐ Period

Output Formatting Options

☒ Flags
☒ Notes
☒ Codes
☒ Units
☐ Null Values

Statistical Database Terms of Use

Show Data

				2000-2002 [20002002]				2001-2003 [20012003]				2002-2004 [20022004]			
				Unit	Value	Flag Description	Note	Unit	Value	Flag Description	Note	Unit	Value	Flag Description	Note
<input type="checkbox"/>	Afghanistan [004]	<input type="checkbox"/>	Value [6121]		Prevalence of undernourishment (percent) (3-year average) [210041]			%	46.4	Estimated value [E]		%	44.1	Estimated value [E]	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Albania [008]	<input type="checkbox"/>	Value [6121]		Prevalence of undernourishment (percent) (3-year average) [210041]			%	4.9	Estimated value [E]		%	6	Estimated value [E]	

Show and Download Data

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