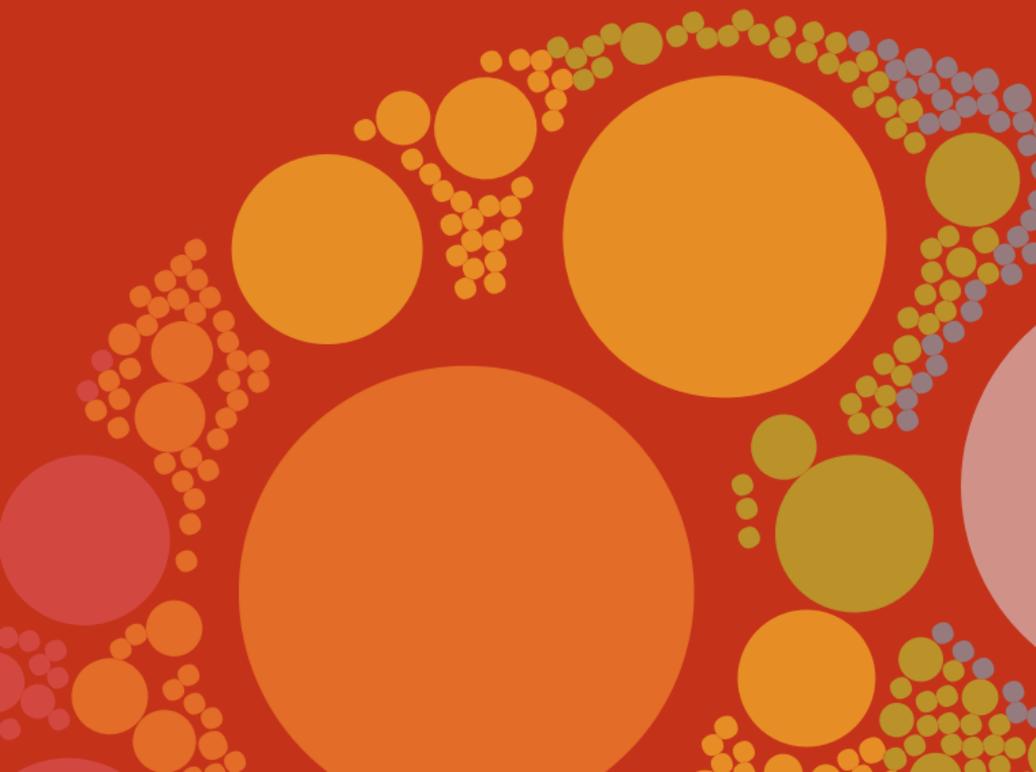




Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

FAO  
STATISTICS

**WORLD FOOD  
AND AGRICULTURE**  
**STATISTICAL POCKETBOOK**  
**2018**



World Food and Agriculture  
Statistical Pocketbook  
2018

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# Foreword

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is just at the outset. Pursuing the broad and ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) poses major challenges at all levels, from subnational to regional and international, and calls for timely decisions on effective policy actions in a rapidly evolving world of scarce resources.

In this context, the ability to design sound policies and monitor their outcomes is a key requirement. Measuring progress towards international goals and their national and sub-national specifications is of paramount importance. Statistics is the main tool for taking stock and building upon the many small efforts that are carried out to pursue the main objectives, such as reducing hunger and malnutrition, tackling rural poverty, promoting sustainable agricultural development, hence contributing to addressing climate change, promoting inclusive food systems, and improving resilience to extreme conditions.

FAO's strategic framework, being aligned with the SDGs, makes the Organization ready and able to support countries in strengthening their statistical capacities, which are an essential prerequisite for pursuing and monitoring the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. The role of FAO as "custodian" for 21 of the 230 indicators of the SDG Monitoring Framework testifies to the centrality of the Organization in this process.

This publication presents, at a glance, selected key indicators on agriculture and food security, and is meant as an easy-access quick reference. The content is in two sections, one thematic and one country-specific; and is organized along four main themes.

**The setting** provides information on resources employed in agriculture, including the use of land, labour, capital and inputs. Data in this section highlight the pressure that demographic and macroeconomic development is exerting on food systems.

**Hunger dimensions** describe the state of food insecurity and malnutrition in the world, starting from the SDG2 indicators for which FAO holds responsibility, which are the prevalence of undernourishment and the access to food measured through the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).

**Food supply** offers detailed information on the nature and quantity of world agricultural production and trade, while at the same time considering different utilizations, such as food, feedstuffs and others.

**Environment** highlights the crucial issue of sustainability, by considering the interactions of agriculture with the ecosystem in the evolving context of climate variability and change.

On all these matters, FAO is committed to supporting national, regional and international partners in improving the availability of high-quality and timely data, in view of promoting sustainable agricultural development and SDG 2, Zero Hunger.

Pietro Gennari  
Chief Statistician

José Rosero Moncayo  
Director, Statistics Division

# How to use this pocketbook

## The structure

This publication presents selected key indicators related to agriculture and food security that the international community, governments, the private sector and civil society can use to assess current trends and prioritize their actions. It is divided into two sections, one thematic and one country-specific. It presents a variety of dimensions of agriculture and food security along four main focus areas:

**The setting**, including land, labour, capital and inputs.

**Hunger dimensions**, highlighting food availability, access, stability and utilization.

**Food supply** looks at agricultural production, trade and utilization.

**Environment** examines land, water, forestry and emissions.

This publication includes data from FAOSTAT and other FAO sources, as well as other partner organizations from the international community. The source for all indicators, as well as more information about each of them, is included in the "Definitions" section at the end (page 236).

## Country definitions and classification

The country classification adopted in this publication is based on the United Nations M49 classification (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>). The country names have been abbreviated. The official FAO names can be found at <http://termportal.fao.org/faonocs/appl/>.

## Aggregations

Regional and subregional aggregates are based on the country groupings defined in the United Nations M49 classification. A small subset of indicators is based on the aggregation rules defined in *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018* report (<http://www.fao.org/3/I9553EN/i9553en.pdf>) and are used in the "Hunger dimensions" section.

Two types of aggregations are used: sum and weighted mean. A sufficiency condition is imposed when computing the aggregation – the aggregation is computed only when sufficient countries have reported data, and the current threshold is set at 50 percent of the variable and the weighting variable, if present.

## Data presentation conventions

The cut-off date for the data in this publication is 26 September 2018.

The asterisk (\*) in charts and maps indicates the most recent year available in the specified time interval. In the country profiles, when the country data have not been reported for the reference year, data in italics indicate that the value for the most recent year of complete information is shown. Exceptions are population data, for which the latest information available refers to the year 2017; and regional aggregates of prevalence of undernourishment and prevalence of severe food insecurity, which show 2017 data.

In the tables, n.a. means not applicable or, for an aggregate, not analytically meaningful. A 0 or 0.0 means zero or a number that is small enough to round to zero at the displayed number of decimal places.

The ~ in the maps refers to the range specified in the class intervals.

In addition:

- <2.5 proportion less than 2.5 percent
- <0.1 less than 100 000 people

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## The setting

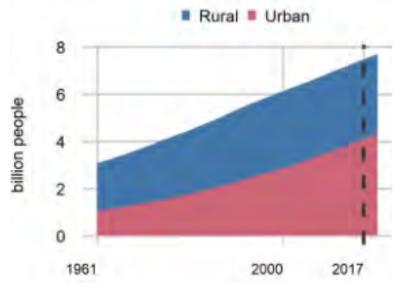
### Population

Notwithstanding the long-term decline of growth rates, the world's population has doubled since the early 1960s, approaching 7.5 billion people.

This is the outcome of fast-improving life expectancy that combines with the high fertility of younger populations.

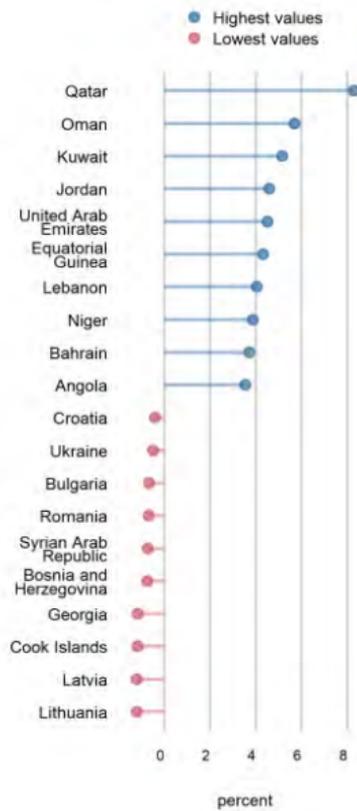
Urban dwellers, based on national definitions, are currently 55 percent of the global world population.

**CHART 1: Rural and urban population**

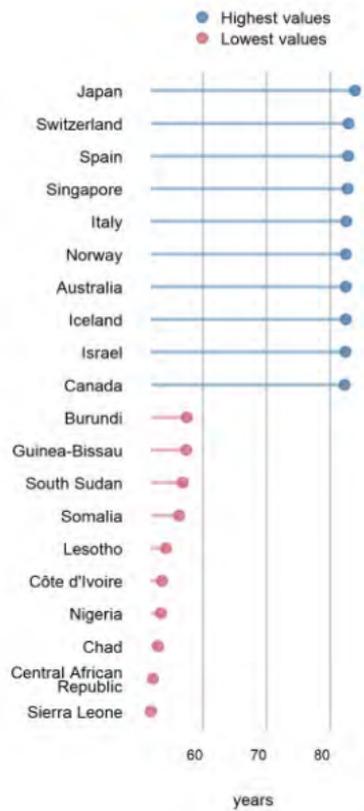


Data after 2017 are projections

**CHART 2: Population, average annual growth, top and bottom 10 countries (2007–17)**



**CHART 3: Life expectancy at birth, top and bottom 10 countries (2016)**



**CHART 4: Total rural population**

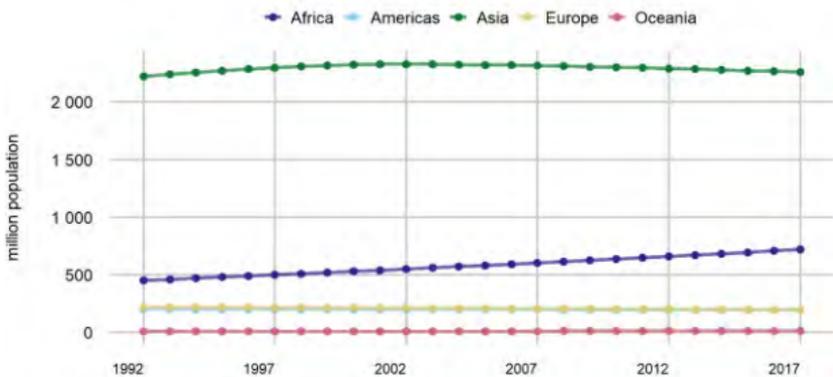


FIGURE 1: Rural population, share of total population (2017)



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