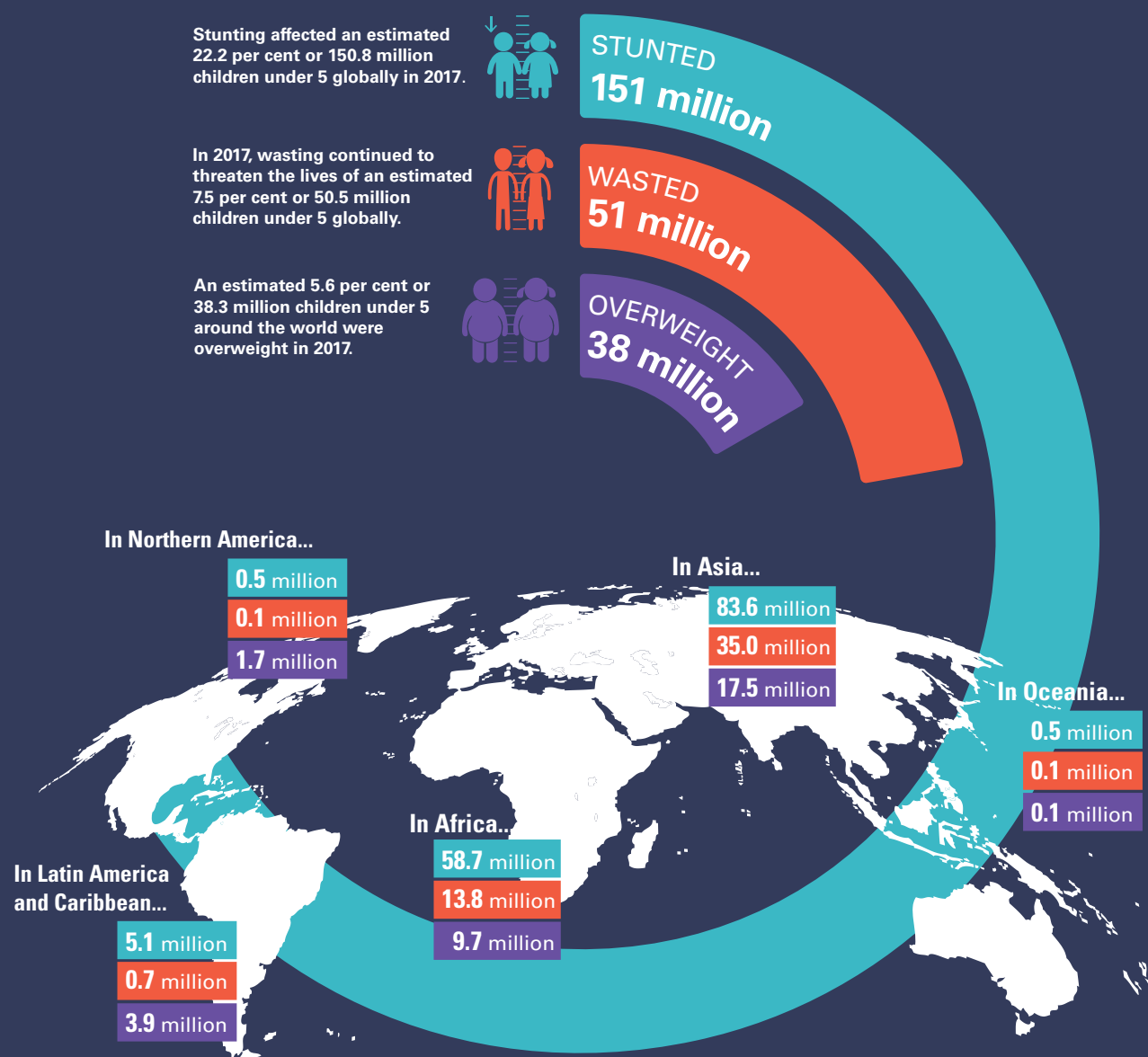


LEVELS AND TRENDS IN CHILD MALNUTRITION

UNICEF / WHO / World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates

Key findings of the 2018 edition



These new estimates supersede former analyses and results published by UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank Group.

The ultimate aim is for all children to be free of malnutrition in all its forms



Good nutrition allows children to survive, grow, develop, learn, play, participate and contribute – while malnutrition robs children of their futures and leaves young lives hanging in the balance.

Stunting is the devastating result of poor nutrition in-utero and early childhood. Children suffering from stunting may never attain their full possible height and their brains may never develop to their full cognitive potential. Globally, approximately 151 million children under 5 suffer from stunting. These children begin their lives at a marked disadvantage: they face learning difficulties in school, earn less as adults, and face barriers to participation in their communities.

Wasting in children is the life-threatening result of poor nutrient intake and/or disease. Children suffering from wasting have weakened immunity, are susceptible to long term developmental delays, and face an increased risk of death, particularly when wasting is severe. These children require urgent feeding, treatment and care to survive. In 2017, nearly 51 million children under 5 were wasted and 16 million were severely wasted.

There is also an emerging face of malnutrition: childhood overweight and obesity. There are now nearly 38 million overweight children globally, an increase of 8 million since 2000. The emergence of overweight and obesity has been

shaped, at least in part, by industry marketing and greater access to processed foods, along with lower levels of physical activity.

While malnutrition can manifest in multiple ways, the path to prevention is virtually identical: adequate maternal nutrition before and during pregnancy and lactation; optimal breastfeeding in the first two years of life; nutritious, diverse and safe foods in early childhood; and a healthy environment, including access to basic health, water, hygiene and sanitation services and opportunities for safe physical activity. These key ingredients can deliver a world where children are free from all forms of malnutrition.

Despite this opportunity, the UNICEF, WHO, World Bank global and regional child malnutrition estimates reveal that we are still far from a world without malnutrition. The joint estimates, published in May 2018, cover indicators of stunting, wasting, severe wasting and overweight among children under 5, and reveal insufficient progress to reach the World Health Assembly targets set for 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals set for 2030.

Improving children's nutrition requires effective and sustained multi-sectoral nutrition programming over the long term, and many countries are moving in the right direction. Regular data collection is critical to monitor and analyse country, regional and global progress going forward.

Forms of malnutrition* highlighted in this key findings report



Stunting refers to a child who is too short for his or her age. These children can suffer severe irreversible physical and cognitive damage that accompanies stunted growth. The devastating effects of stunting can last a lifetime and even affect the next generation.



Overweight refers to a child who is too heavy for his or her height. This form of malnutrition results from energy intakes from food and beverages that exceed children's energy requirements. Overweight increases the risk of diet-related noncommunicable diseases later in life.



Wasting refers to a child who is too thin for his or her height. Wasting is the result of recent rapid weight loss or the failure to gain weight. A child who is moderately or severely wasted has an increased risk of death, but treatment is possible.



Overweight and stunted



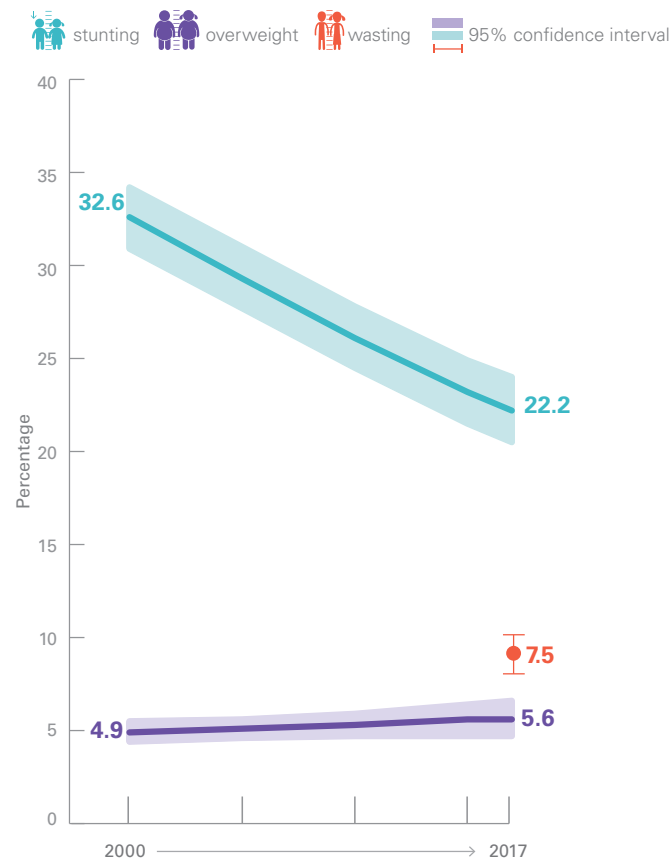
Stunted and wasted

* Some children suffer from more than one form of malnutrition – such as **stunting and overweight** or **stunting and wasting**. There are currently no joint global or regional estimates for these combined conditions.

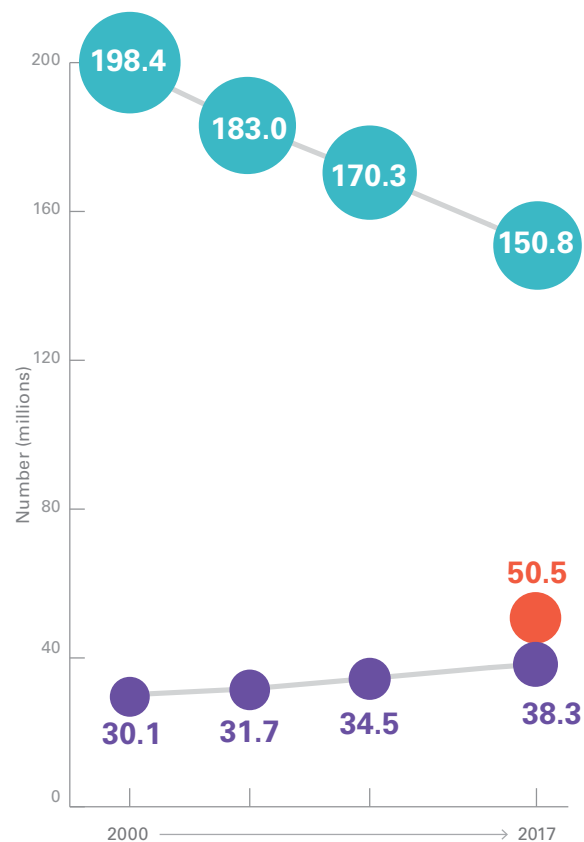
GLOBAL OVERVIEW



Malnutrition rates remain alarming: stunting is declining too slowly while wasting still impacts the lives of far too many young children



Percentage of stunted, overweight and wasted children under 5, global, 2000–2017



Number (millions) of stunted, overweight and wasted children under 5, global, 2000–2017

Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition.
See Notes on Data on page 14 on why only one time point is presented for wasting on the graphs above.

Africa and Asia bear the greatest share of all forms of malnutrition



In 2017, more than half of all **stunted** children under 5 lived in Asia and more than one third lived in Africa.



In 2017, almost half of all **overweight** children under 5 lived in Asia and one quarter lived in Africa.



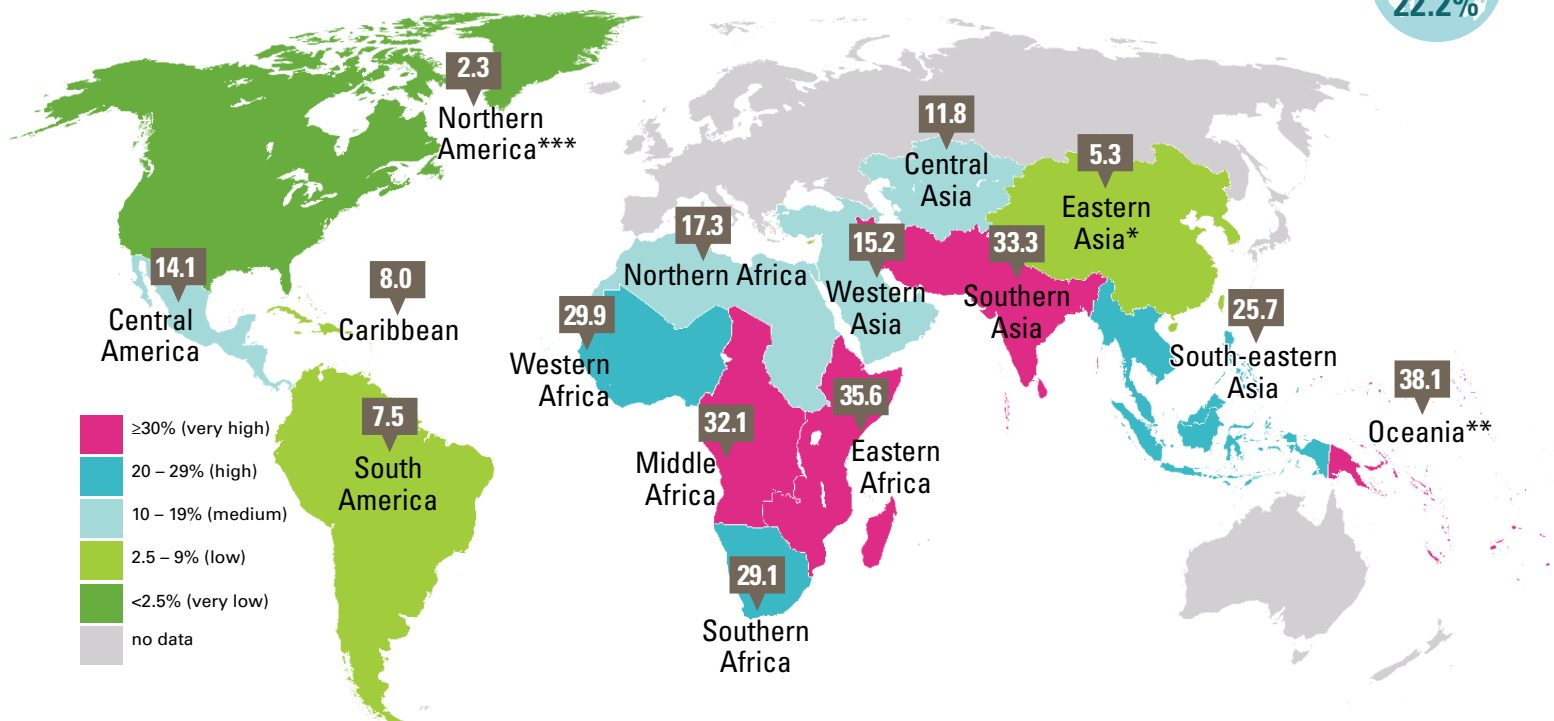
In 2017, more than two thirds of all **wasted** children under 5 lived in Asia and more than one quarter lived in Africa.

Stunting PREVALENCE

In 7 sub-regions, at least one in every four children under 5 is stunted

Percentage of stunted children under 5, by United Nations sub-region, 2017

GLOBAL
22.2%



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Eastern Asia excluding Japan; **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. ***Northern America sub-regional average based on United States data. There is no estimate available for the sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. These maps are stylized and not to scale and do not reflect a position by UNICEF, WHO or World Bank Group on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers.

Large disparities in stunting reduction exist within regions/between sub-regions

Trends in the percentage of stunted children under 5, by United Nations region/sub-region, 2000 – 2017

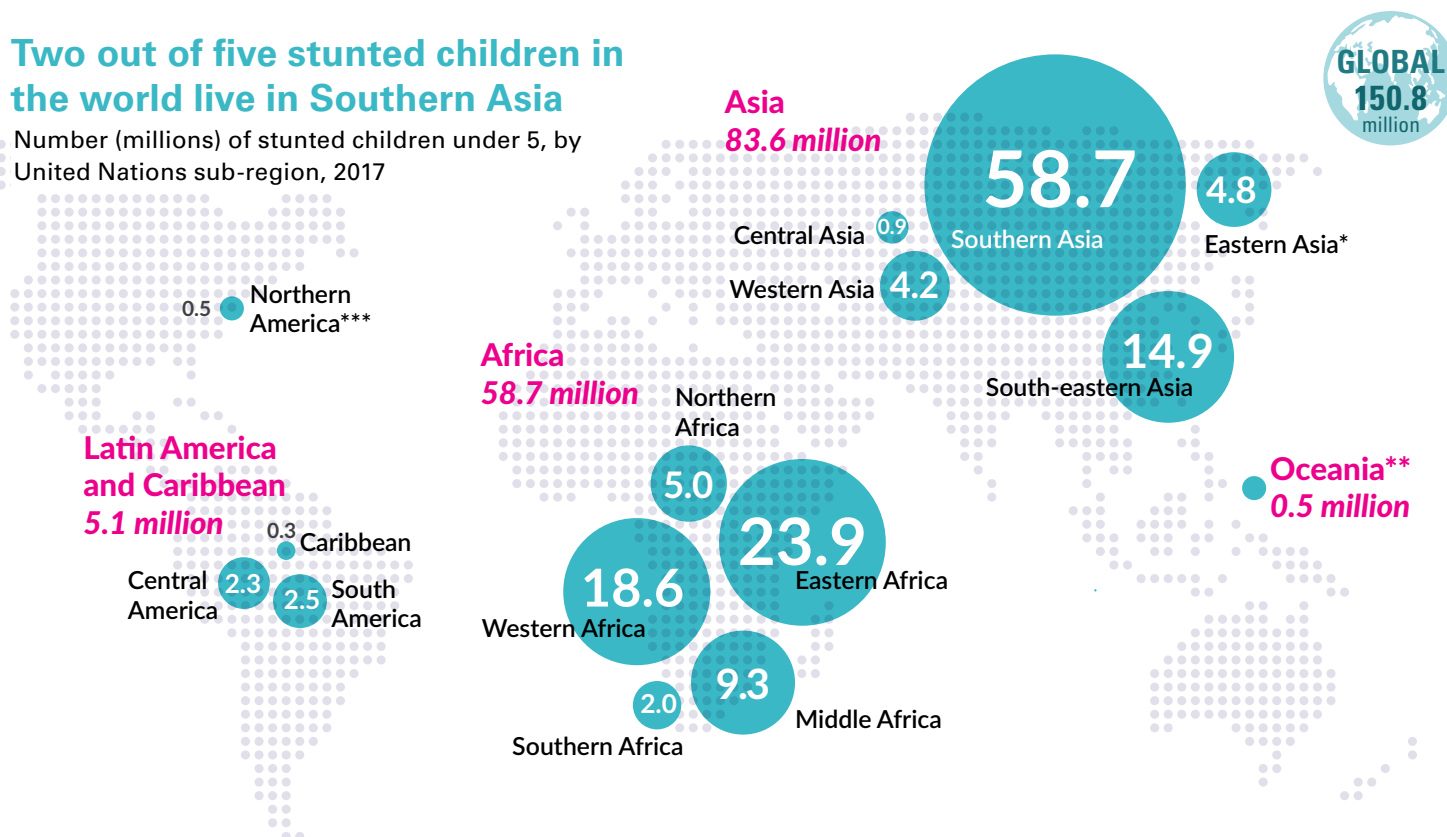


Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan. **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. ***Northern America sub-regional average based on United States data only. There is no estimate available for the More Developed Region or for sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. †represents regions/subregions where the change has been statistically significant; see page 12 for the 95% confidence intervals for graphed estimates.

NUMBERS AFFECTED

Two out of five stunted children in the world live in Southern Asia

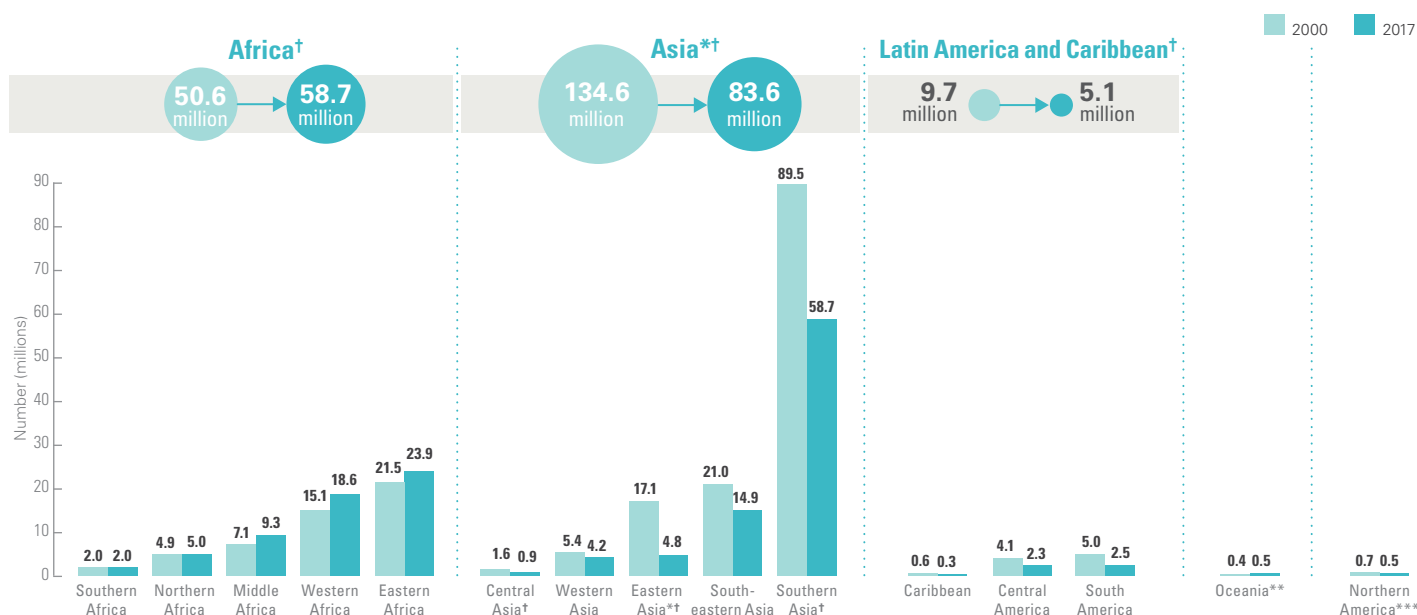
Number (millions) of stunted children under 5, by United Nations sub-region, 2017



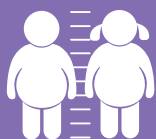
Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Eastern Asia excluding Japan; **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand, ***The Northern America sub-regional average based on United States data; There is no estimate available for the More Developed Region or for sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. Aggregates may not add up due to rounding.

Africa is the only region where the number of stunted children has risen

Trends in the number (millions) of stunted children under 5, by United Nations region/sub-region, 2000 and 2017



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan. **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. ***Northern America sub-regional average based on United States data only. There is no estimate available for the More Developed Region or for sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. †represents regions/subregions where the change has been statistically significant; see page 13 for the 95% confidence intervals for graphed estimates.

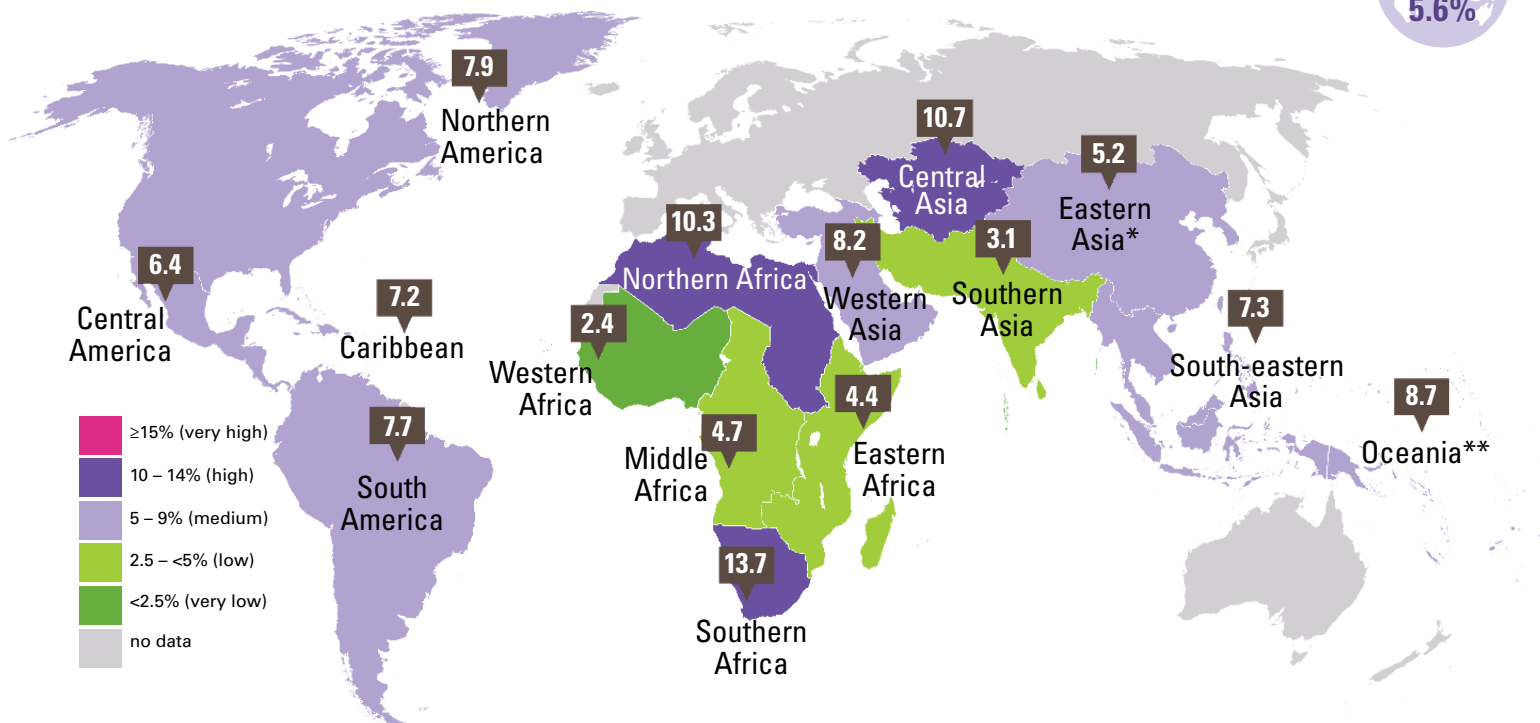


Overweight PREVALENCE

In three sub-regions, at least one in every ten children under five is overweight

Percentage of overweight children under 5, by United Nations sub-region, 2017

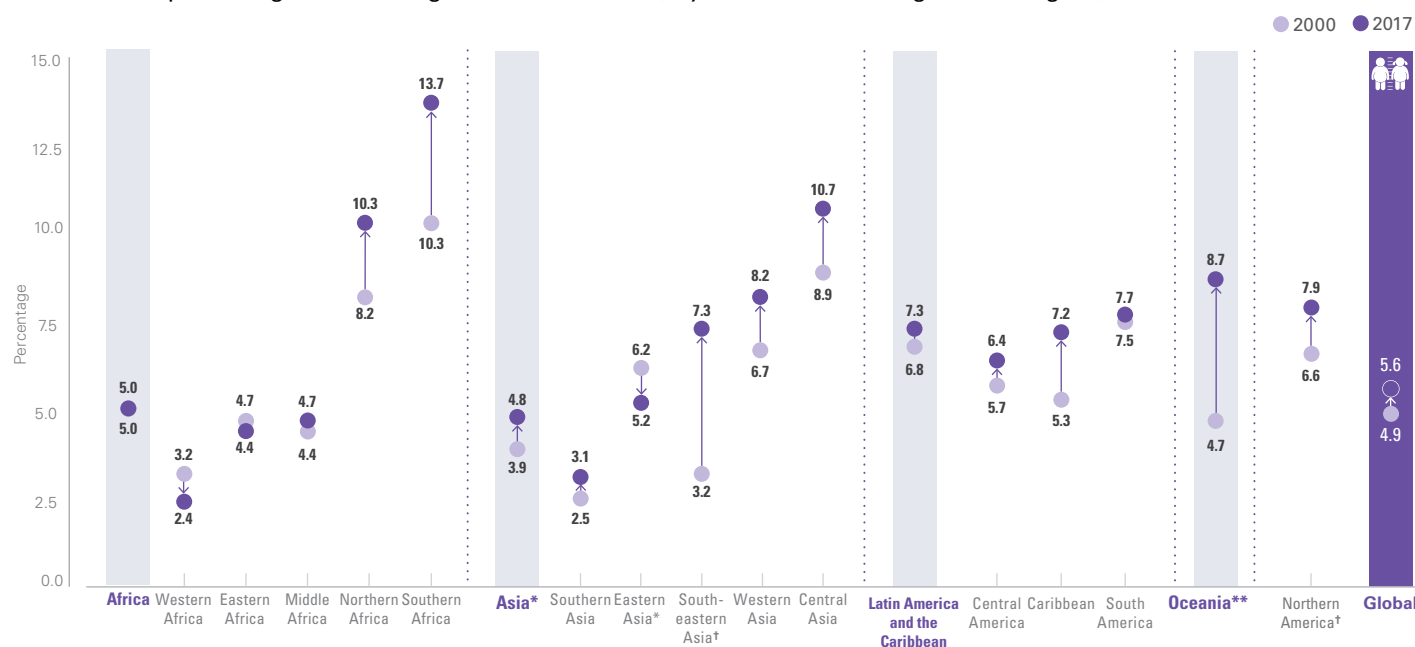
GLOBAL
5.6%



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Eastern Asia excluding Japan; **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. There is no estimate available for the sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. These maps are stylized and not to scale and do not reflect a position by UNICEF, WHO or World Bank Group on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers. The legend contains a category for >15 per cent (pink) but there is no sub-region with a rate this high.

There has been no progress to stem the rate of overweight in more than 15 years

Trends in the percentage of overweight children under 5, by United Nations region/sub-region, 2000 – 2017



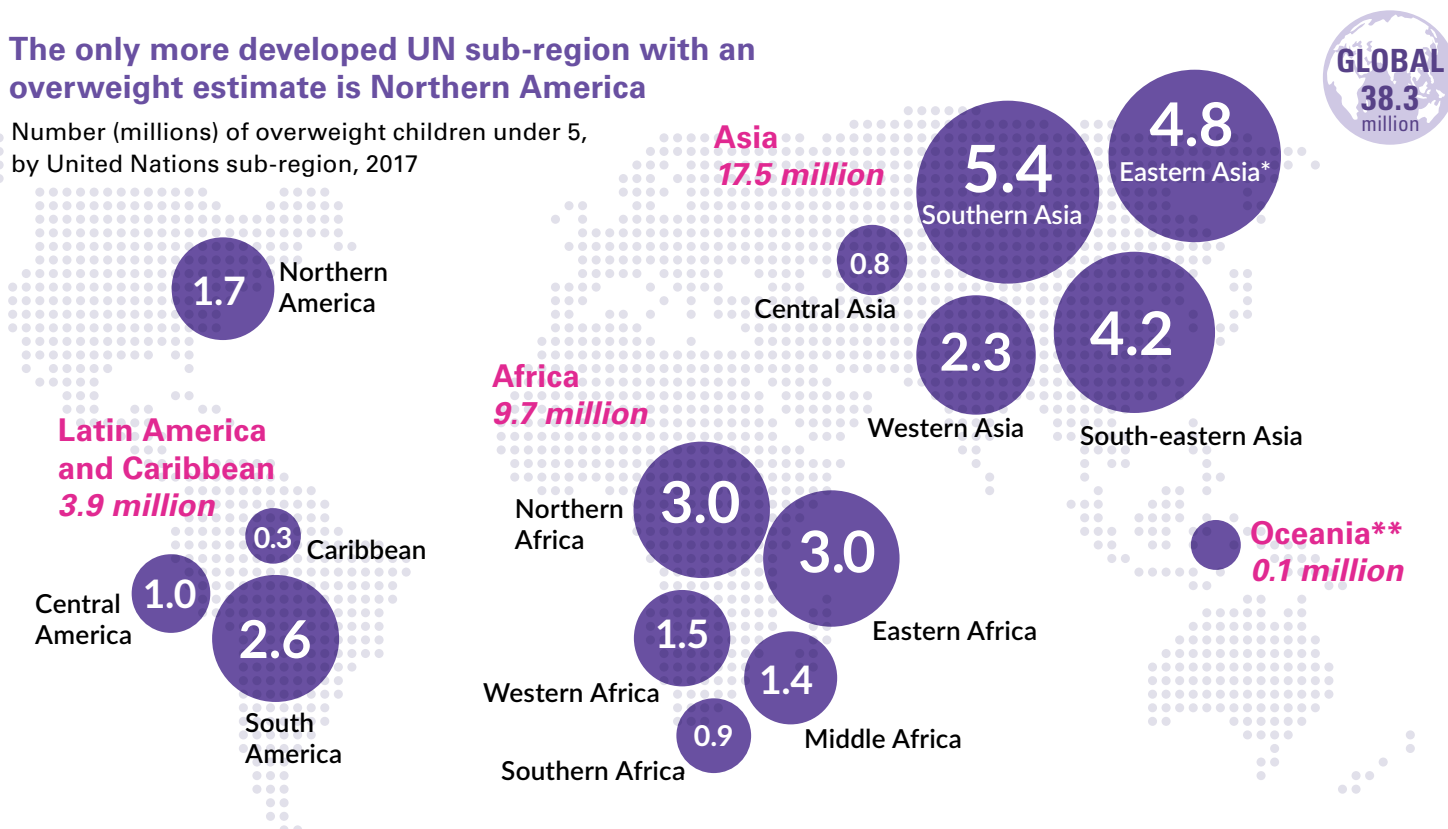
Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan. **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. There is no estimate available for the More Developed Region or for sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. †represents regions/subregions where the change has been statistically significant, for South-eastern Asia change is marginally significant below 95% confidence level; see page 12 for the 95% confidence intervals for graphed estimates.

Overweight

NUMBERS AFFECTED

The only more developed UN sub-region with an overweight estimate is Northern America

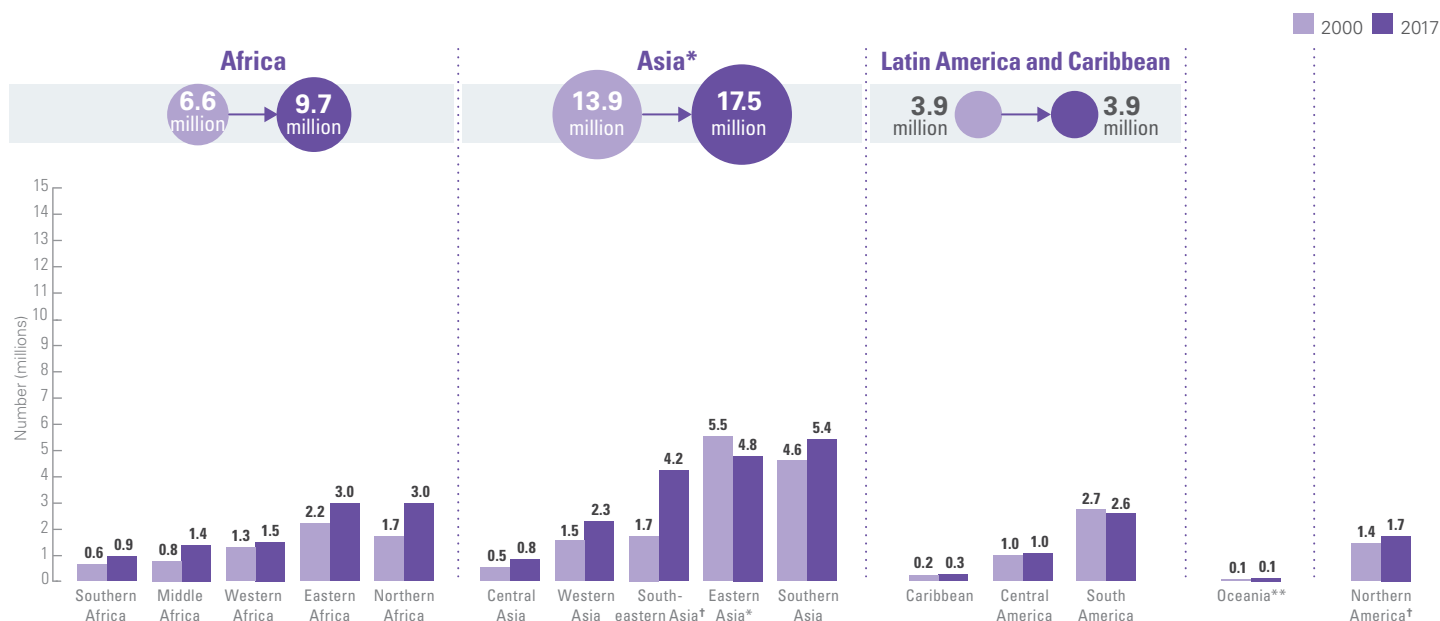
Number (millions) of overweight children under 5, by United Nations sub-region, 2017



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Eastern Asia excluding Japan. **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. There is no estimate available for the More Developed Region or for sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. Aggregates may not add up due to rounding.

Two sub-regions have seen a significant increase in the number of overweight children

Number (millions) of overweight children under 5, by United Nations region, 2000 and 2017



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan. **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. †represents regions/subregions where the change has been statistically significant; see page 13 for the 95% confidence intervals for graphed estimates.

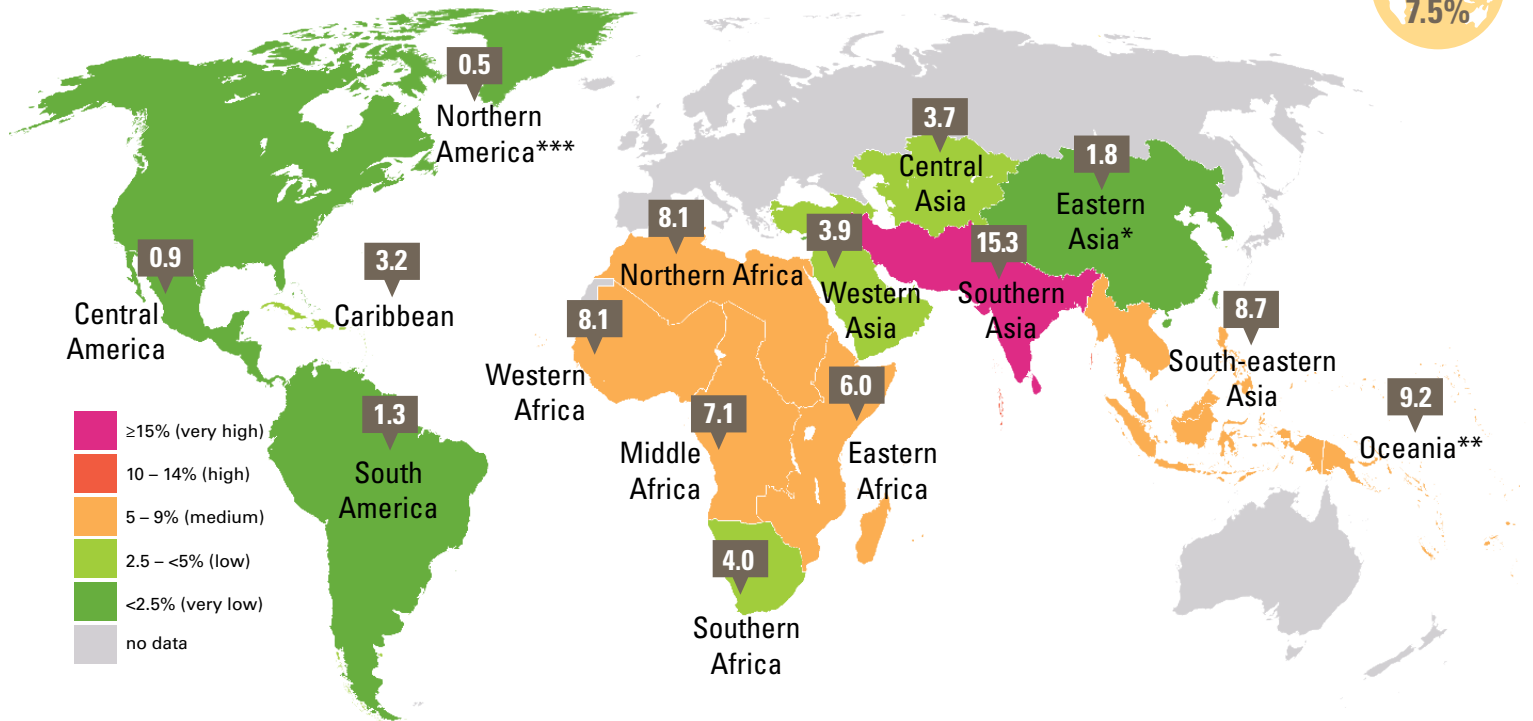


Wasting PREVALENCE

Wasting in Southern Asia constitutes a critical public health emergency

Percentage of wasted children under 5, by United Nations sub-region, 2017

GLOBAL
7.5%



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition. Note: *Eastern Asia excluding Japan; **Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand. ***Northern America sub-regional average based on United States data. There is no estimate available for the sub-regions of Europe or Australia and New Zealand. These maps are stylized and not to scale and do not reflect a position by UNICEF, WHO or World Bank Group on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers.

Millions of young lives are in jeopardy around the globe due to wasting

Percentage of wasted children under 5, by United Nations region, 2017

15
14
13
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11

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_25806

