

Global Nutrition Report

The Global Nutrition Report is the world's leading independent assessment of the state of global nutrition. It was conceived following the first Nutrition for Growth Initiative Summit (N4G) in 2013.

The Global Nutrition Report 2020 was released on May 13, 2020. As per the report, India was named as one of the 88 countries that are likely to miss global nutrition targets by 2025. This year's report also looks beyond global and national patterns, revealing significant inequalities in nutrition outcomes within countries and populations.

Global Nutrition Report - An Overview

The Global Nutrition Report was conceived in 2013 as a mechanism for tracking the commitments made by 100 stakeholders spanning governments, aid donors, civil society, the UN and businesses. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative, consisting of a Stakeholder Group, Independent Expert Group and Report Secretariat.

Given below is a brief overview of the Global Nutrition Report:

Who publishes the Global Nutrition Report?	World Health Organisation
When is the report published?	Once every year
Global Nutrition Report Vision	A world free from malnutrition in all its forms
When was the first Global Nutrition Report published?	2014
Latest Global Nutrition Report	GNR 2020

What is the mission of the Global Nutrition Report?

The Global Nutrition Report drives greater action to end malnutrition in all its forms and is responsible for assessing the state of global nutrition.

What is the key objective of the Global Nutrition Report?

The report is released based on data analysis done every year to cast light on the areas of both, progression and challenges. It aims to inspire the Government and other concerned authorities to take the required steps to completely abolish malnutrition.

What are the Global Nutrition Targets?

Concerned with the accelerated issue of malnutrition across the globe, the World Health Assembly in 2012 endorsed and specified a set of six global nutrition targets which are to be achieved by 2025:

- 40% reduction in stunting for children who are below 5 years of age
- Achieve a 50% reduction of anaemia in women of reproductive age
- Achieving a 30% reduction in the low birth weight
- Ensuring no increase in childhood overweight
- increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 50%
- reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%

Global Nutrition Report 2020 - Key Observations for UPSC

The 2020 Global Nutrition Report examines the critical role of addressing inequity to end malnutrition in all its forms. Inequity is a cause of malnutrition – both undernutrition and overweight, obesity and other diet-related chronic diseases.

Although the 2020 report was written before the Coronavirus pandemic situation, it emphasises nutritional well-being for all and the fact that COVID-19 does not treat us equally. The undernourished are more at risk of getting affected by such viruses because of weak metabolism.

Discussed further below are the important points and observations made by the data collected for India in the 2020 report.

Global Nutrition Report 2020 - India's Status

Of the set targets based on which the report is formed, India succeeded with only two and the condition for the rest was reported to worsen even further.

The targets which were found on the track included:

- Stunting percentage for children below the age of 5 years
- Under-5 overweight

The targets where either no progression was made or the conditions worsened further, include:

- WRA anaemia
- Under-5 wasting
- Adult male and female obesity
- Adult male and female diabetes

Given below are some important pointers mentioned in the Global Nutrition Report 2020 for India:

- Although India is on course to meet the target for stunting, but 34.7% of children under 5 years of age are still affected, which is higher than the average for the Asia region (21.8%)
- India has made no progress towards achieving the target for wasting, with 17.3% of children under 5 years of age affected, which is higher than the average for the Asia region (9.1%) and also one among the highest in the world

- As for overweight children below the age of 5 years, India is on track with the developments with just a 1.6% figure
- The country has even shown limited progress towards achieving the diet-related non-communicable disease (NCD) targets
- In terms of obesity in adults, India has not made much progress, with an estimated 5.1% of adult women and 2.7% of adult men living with obesity. At the same time, diabetes is estimated to affect 8.3% of adult women and 9.1% of adult men
- No progress has been made towards achieving the target of reducing anaemia among women of reproductive age, with 51.4% of women aged 15 to 49 years now affected