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# FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT, 2005



***Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region that has not made progress toward the World Food Summit goal of cutting hunger in half by 2015.***



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# Food Security Assessment, 2005

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## Abstract

In 2005, 777 million people were food insecure in 70 lower income countries. For the 70 countries, on average, there has been a slight (7 percent) decline in the number of hungry people from 688 million in 1992-94 to 639 million in 2002-04. The largest decrease occurred in North Africa. Both Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States experienced a 30-percent drop in the number of hungry people. The number of hungry people in Latin America and the Caribbean has varied slightly over time, but there has been no discernible trend across the region as a whole. Despite strong growth in food production, Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region where the number of hungry people has risen—over 19 percent—during the last decade. In 2002-04, more than half of the region's population—roughly 350 million—were hungry. Between the 2002-04 base period and 2015—the World Food Summit target date for reducing the number of the world's undernourished people by half—results indicate a 10-percent increase in the distribution gap (the amount of food needed to raise consumption levels to nutritional requirements) and a 16-percent jump in the number of hungry people.

**Keywords:** food security, food aid, production, imports, Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Commonwealth of Independent States

## Preface

This report continues the series of food assessments begun in the late 1970s. Global Food Assessments were done from 1990 to 1992, hence the GFA series. In 1993, the title was changed to Food Aid Needs Assessment to more accurately reflect the contents of the report, which focuses on selected developing countries with past or continuing food deficits. In 1997, we widened our analysis beyond the assessment of aggregate food availability to include more aspects of food security. We therefore changed the title to Food Security Assessment.

## Acknowledgments

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# Contents

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List of Figures and Tables .....	iv
Summary .....	v
Food Security Review .....	1
<b>Making Strides in Achieving Food Security:</b>	
<b>The Cases of Ghana, Peru, and Vietnam</b> .....	23
<b>Ghana</b> .....	23
Food Availability .....	24
Food Access .....	25
Looking Ahead .....	26
<b>Peru</b> .....	28
Food Availability .....	29
Food Access .....	31
Looking Ahead .....	32
<b>Vietnam</b> .....	33
Food Availability .....	34
Food Access .....	36
Looking Ahead .....	37
Conclusions .....	38
References .....	38
<b>Appendix</b> .....	41

In previous issues, data on the countries/regions reported on here were available in printed format. With this issue, please see <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/GFA17/> for data and charts in six Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

## List of Figures and Tables

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### Figures

1.	Growth in calorie consumption between 1990 and 2002	3
2.	Daily per capita calorie consumption in 2002	4
3.	Number of hungry people: Change during the last decade	9
4.	Number of hungry people: Present versus future	14
A-1.	Cassava and corn yields have increased in Ghana	24
A-2.	Daily per capita calorie consumption in Ghana	26
A-3.	Daily per capita calorie consumption in Peru	28
A-4.	Peru's merchandise imports and exports	30
A-5.	Daily per capita calorie consumption in Vietnam	33
A-6.	Vietnam's food imports	35

### Tables

1.	Food availability and food gaps for 70 countries	17
2.	Food availability and food gaps for North Africa	18
3.	Food availability and food gaps for Sub-Saharan Africa	19
4.	Food availability and food gaps for Asia	20
5.	Food availability and food gaps for Latin America and the Caribbean	21
6.	Food availability and food gaps for Commonwealth of Independent States	22
A-1.	Indicators for case study countries in 2004	23

### Appendix tables

1.	List of countries and their food gaps in 2005	46
2.	List of countries and their food gaps in 2015	47
3.	Country indicators	48