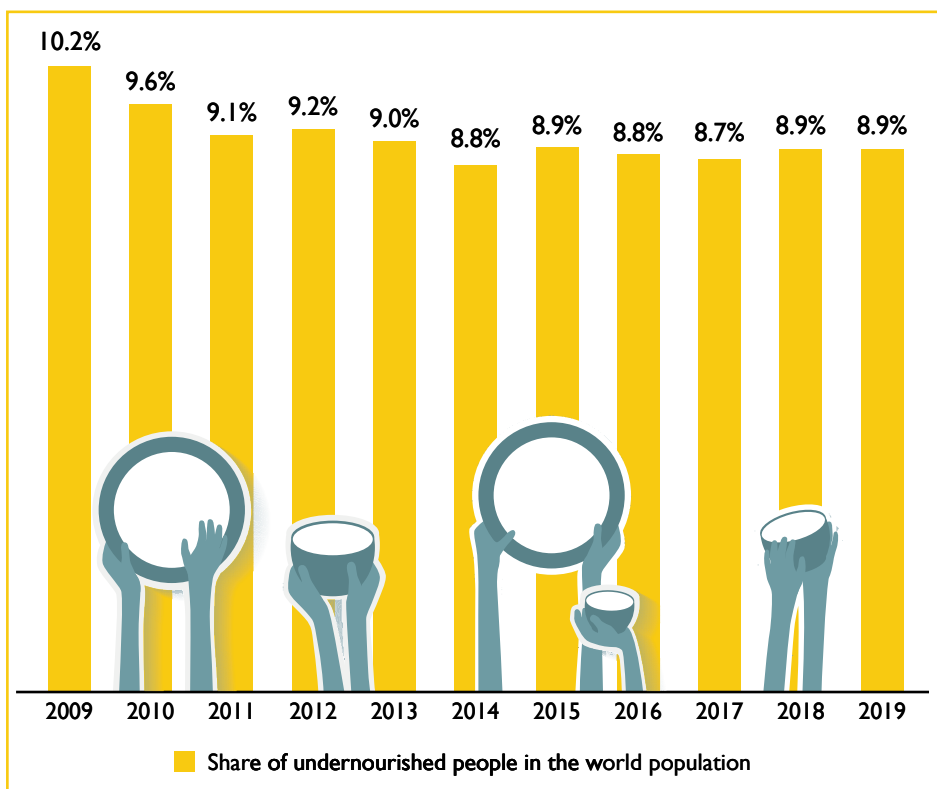


# 10-Year Comparison

## Undernourishment



Prevalence of undernourishment (PoU) worldwide in per cent. FAO's calculation of the minimum dietary energy requirement (global average 2019: 1827 kcal) is based on demographic data for each country, taking into account age and sex, weight, height or physical activity level of the population.

### Empty plates and hungry bellies – a constant crisis

Between 2009 and 2019, the prevalence of undernourishment (PoU) in the world declined slightly, and has increased again since 2014. In 2019, almost 690 million people suffered from chronic hunger. This figure is much lower than previously estimated due to a revision of data for China, bringing the PoU for China down to under 2.5%, as compared to almost 10% without this revision. However, the upwards trend of the curve remains and the Covid-19 pandemic may add an additional 132 million undernourished people in 2020. The global figures disguise alarming regional figures: In 2019, PoU was 22% in Sub-Saharan Africa, up from 20.3% in 2014, an increase of 46 million people. In absolute numbers, most of the world's undernourished people live in Asia (381.1 million), followed by Africa (250.3 million). 135 million people worldwide faced acute hunger in 2019.

### Sources

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- 2 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO (2019 and 2020). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019/2020 (SOFI). Rome, FAO. 2020: <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca9692en> 2019: [www.fao.org/3/ca5162en/ca5162en.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/ca5162en/ca5162en.pdf)
- 3 FSIN Food Security Information Network and the Global Network against Food Crises (2020). The Global Report on Food Crises 2020. [https://www.fsinplatform.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/GRFC\\_2020\\_ONLINE\\_200420.pdf](https://www.fsinplatform.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/GRFC_2020_ONLINE_200420.pdf)