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# **Country report: Ukraine**

**Global Food Security Index 2022**

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### About the Global Food Security Index 2022

The Global Food Security Index (GFSI), developed by Economist Impact and supported by Corteva Agriscience, considers food affordability, availability, quality and safety, and sustainability and adaptation across 113 countries. The index is a dynamic quantitative and qualitative benchmarking model constructed from 68 unique indicators that measure the drivers of food security across both developing and developed countries.

This edition of the GFSI incorporates 14 new indicators to reflect the global nature and interconnectedness of the food system and to highlight the importance of “first mile” and farm-level metrics in determining food security for populations.

This year, the Economist Impact team has adjusted the “Availability” category to start at food production, capturing more farmer-focused measures on access to agricultural inputs. This includes moving access to finance and financial products from the affordability pillar to the availability pillar, as these measures are farmer-related. Government commitment to innovative technologies and a new composite indicator for on-farm infrastructure have been added to this category to more accurately reflect what is happening on the fields as well as further along the supply chain.

Reflecting a global impetus to move to sustainable food systems and adapt to growing climate shocks, the GFSI’s fourth category, previously called “Natural resources and resilience,” has been renamed “Sustainability and adaptation.”

This report is based on research conducted by Economist Impact between April and July 2022. Economist Impact bears sole responsibility for the content of this report. The findings and views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the partners and experts.

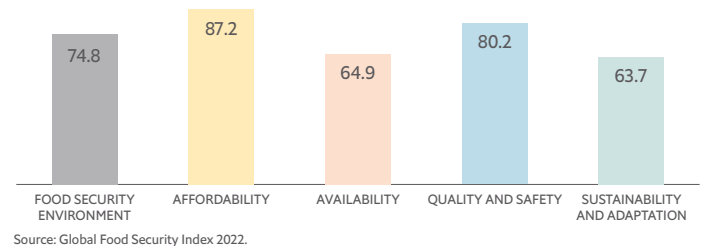
The GFSI 2022 model, the model user guide, the global research report and all 32 country reports are available online at [economistimpact.com/food-security-index](https://economistimpact.com/food-security-index). Please visit the website for more information on the global rankings, key findings and the 2022 methodology.

# Ukraine

## Europe—regional snapshot

Europe scores an average of 74.8 on the overall food security environment in the 2022 GFSI, making it the second most food-secure region globally. Out of the four pillars of the index, the region scored the highest on the Affordability pillar (87.2) and the lowest on the Sustainability and Adaptation pillar (63.7). Food remains affordable and safe for consumers. However, in order to mitigate short-term availability risks and long-term climate related risks there is room to further improve food production (and its levels of volatility); policy commitments on food security and access by various governments; and protection of its oceans, lakes and rivers.

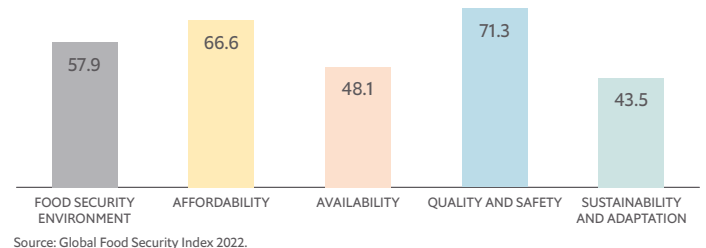
Global Food Security Index 2022: Average scores for Europe



## Ukraine -- Food Security Overview

Ukraine ranks 71st globally and 26th out of the 26 countries in Europe. It performs the best in Quality and Safety (71.3), driven by high protein quality and food safety. The country performs the weakest in the Sustainability and Adaptation pillar, with a score of 43.5. Ukraine has consistent gaps in developing policies to protect and adapt its natural resources, particularly its agricultural water sources. Although it has improved on political commitments to adaptation over the past decade, there is significant room for improvement. Moreover, despite having a sufficient supply of food in the country, Ukraine's availability score is low owing to weak supply-chain infrastructure, armed conflict, corruption and political instability, and absence of a food security agency or strategy.

Global Food Security Index 2022: Scores for Ukraine



## The four pillars of food security—analysis for 2022

- Affordability:** Ukraine ranks 65th globally and 26th out of the 26 countries in Europe for Affordability, with a score of 66.6. Between last year and this year, there has been a decline of 9.6 points in this pillar.
  - The country's relatively weak performance in this pillar can be attributed to low scores in 1.1) *Change in average food cost* and 1.5) *Food safety-net programmes*. In both of these indicators, Ukraine scores in the "weak" range (40-54.9). Ukraine's score in 1.1) *Change in average food costs* dropped dramatically in 2021-22, falling by 40 points.
- Availability:** Ukraine ranks 93rd globally and 26th out of the 26 countries in Europe for Availability, with a score of 48.1.
  - "Very weak" scores in 2.2) *Agricultural research and development*, 2.6) *Supply-chain infrastructure*, 2.8) *Political and social barriers to access*, and 2.9) *Food security and access policy commitments* lower the country's overall score.
  - Despite score improvements in 2.1) *Access to agricultural inputs* and 2.2) *Agricultural research and development*, any overall improvements were counterbalanced by sharp declines in 2.6) *Supply-chain infrastructure* and 2.8) *Political and social barriers to access*.
- Quality and safety:** Ukraine performs slightly better on Quality and Safety than it does in other areas. The country ranks 52nd globally and 25th out of the 26 countries in Europe, scoring 71.3.
  - Ukraine's relatively strong performance in Quality and Safety can be attributed to its "very good" scores (80-100) in 3.4) *Protein quality* and 3.5) *Food Safety*. Despite scoring high on these indicators, there remains room for improvement in 3.1) *Dietary diversity*, for which Ukraine's score is classified as weak (40-54.9).
- Sustainability and adaptation:** Sustainability and Adaptation is Ukraine's weakest performing pillar—it ranks joint 94th globally and 25th out of the 26 countries in Europe.
  - Though there are significant score improvements in 4.5) *Political commitment to adaptation* and 4.6) *Disaster risk management*, the country maintains "weak" scores (40-54.9) in 4.1) *Exposure*, 4.4) *Oceans, rivers and lakes*, 4.5) *Political commitment to adaptation*, and 4.6) *Disaster risk management*, and has a "very weak" score (0-39.9) in 4.2) *Water*.

**Snapshot: Ukraine 2012-22 Food Security Environment**

Over the GFSI's 11-year tracking period, Ukraine has seen an improvement in Availability, Quality and Safety, and Sustainability and Adaptation, while scores have fallen in the Affordability pillar.

A decline of 10.3 points in Affordability can be attributed to declines of 25.6 points in 1.5) *Food safety-net programmes* and of 21 points in 1.1) *Change in average food costs*. In both of these indicators, the country scores in the "weak" range (40-54.9). War in Ukraine has had an immediate effect on the affordability of food.

The largest improvement over the 11-year period of the GFSI has taken place in the Sustainability and Adaptation pillar, for which Ukraine's

score has improved by 15.3 points, to reach 43.5 in 2022. The country has experienced a score gain of 43.8 points in 4.6) *Disaster risk management* owing to significant improvements in risk management co-ordination among local governments. It has also seen an increase of 30.9 points in 4.5) *Political commitment to adaptation* because of the implementation of environmental-economic accounting and improvements in national agricultural adaptation policy. Despite these improvements, there remains much room for improvement, as the country maintains scores in the "weak" range (scores 40-54.9) in both of these indicators (4.5 and 4.6) and the overall pillar.

**Ukraine**

The diagram below shows country performance in 2022 (latest available data). Scores are normalized 0-100, where 100=best conditions. Δ = change in score, 2022 compared with 2012. ↑ = Score improved ↓ = Score deteriorated ↔ = no change in score

FOOD SECURITY ENVIRONMENT		Score	Δ
		57.9	↑ +2.1
1 AFFORDABILITY	2 AVAILABILITY	3 QUALITY AND SAFETY	4 SUSTAINABILITY AND ADAPTATION
Score	Score	Score	Score
66.6	48.1	71.3	43.5
↓ -10.3	↑ +1.8	↑ +5.4	↑ +15.3
1.1 Change in average food costs	2.1 Access to agricultural inputs	3.1 Dietary diversity	4.1 Exposure
46.5	62.4	47.4	53.2
↓ -21.0	↑ +29.2	↓ -1.4	↔
1.2 Proportion of population under global poverty line	2.2 Agricultural research & development	3.2 Nutritional standards	4.2 Water
99.9	36.1	70.2	13.8
↑ +0.1	↓ -0.3	↑ +40.4	↔
1.3 Inequality-adjusted income index	2.3 Farm infrastructure	3.3 Micronutrient availability	4.3 Land
67.5	62.0	69.5	65.1
↑ +3.2	↑ +2.9	↓ -1.1	↑ +0.2
1.4 Agricultural trade	2.4 Volatility of agricultural production	3.4 Protein quality	4.4 Oceans, rivers and lakes
78.1	74.8	81.3	44.3
↓ -2.7	↑ +34.0	↓ -1.5	↑ +16.8
1.5 Food safety net programmes	2.5 Food loss	3.5 Food safety	4.5 Political commitment to adaptation
47.6	74.9	87.0	41.1
↓ -25.6	↓ -7.6	↓ -10.1	↑ +30.9
	2.6 Supply chain infrastructure		4.6 Disaster risk management
	23.6		43.8
	↓ -8.6		↑ +43.8
	2.7 Sufficiency of supply		
	79.4		
	↓ -2.5		
	2.8 Political and social barriers to access		
	23.4		
	↓ -33.2		
	2.9 Food security and access policy commitments		
	0.0		
	↔		

■ Very good (80-100)  
 ■ Good (70-79.9)  
 ■ Moderate (55-69.9)  
 ■ Weak (40-54.9)  
 ■ Very weak (0-39.9)

Source: Global Food Security Index 2022.

**Strengths and opportunities for action**

Ukraine has shown capabilities in ensuring that food is high quality, protein rich and aligns with high nutritional standards set forth by national nutrition policies. Moreover, the country also has a strong supply of food for its population. However, the war in Ukraine has had a sharp, negative impact on food production, resulting in an overall increase in food insecurity. Armed conflict has also caused disruptions to supply chains, created political barriers to access and contributed to skyrocketing food costs.

**Strengths**

- 3.4) Protein quality:** Since the beginning of the tracking period, the country has main-tained a "very good" score in this indicator. A high amount of high-quality protein is behind this.
- 3.5) Food safety:** The country performs well on this indicator with a "very good" score of 87 and a rank of 58 in 2022. This can be attributed to its consistent top performance in 3.5.1) *Relevant food safety legislation* (with scores of 100 in all years of the index). Although the country has experienced a score drop over the 11-year reporting period, the country has been able to stay within the "very good" classification.
- 3.2) Nutritional standards:** Between 2012 and 2022, Ukraine has improved by 40.4 points and risen 44 places on this indicator. In 2022, the country achieves a "good" score of 70.2 and is ranked joint 13th regionally. This can be attributed to an 11-year score gain of 100 points in 3.2.1) *National dietary guidelines* and 3.2.2) *National nutritional plan or strategy*. In both of these sub-indicators, the country ranks joint 1st globally this year.

**Areas for improvement**

- 2.8) Political and social barriers to access:** Ukraine's score for this indicator has declined by 33.2 points and the country has dropped 53 places. This year, the country scores 23.4 and ranks 106th globally and last in the Europe region. This drop is attributed to a score decline of 100 points in the sub-indicator 2.8.1) *Risk of armed conflict*, for which the country ties in last position (rank =103) owing to the current conflict with Russia.
- 2.6) Supply-chain infrastructure:** Between 2012 and 2022, Ukraine's score has declined by 8.6 points in this indicator. The country scores 23.6 points and ranks 95th globally (and last in Europe). This can be mainly attributed to an 11-year score decline of 25 points in 2.6.2) *Road infrastructure*, indicating a deterioration of road quality that creates challenges in the "last mile" of the food supply chain.
- 1.1) Change in average food costs:** Ukraine's score on this indicator has declined by 21 points since 2012, and the country has dropped 36 places in the rankings. Ukraine's score for this indicator has shifted most dramatically the past year: it has fallen by 40 points since last year. This indicates a high amount of food cost volatility amplified by Russia's invasion of the country.