Nutrition policy status in Germany

NOURISHING policy index

May 2023



This country snapshot presents detailed results of the **NOURISHING policy index** [1] for Germany. It highlights strengths and weaknesses in the design of national government nutrition policies. This snapshot supplements the policy index results with an in-depth look at the quality of policy design in each country. Full policy index results are outlined in the NOURISHING policy brief, which compares Germany to 29 other European countries.

Main messages

- 1 Germany implements policy actions at national government level in seven out of ten policy areas of the NOURISHING framework. One policy area received a good assessment which was in increasing public awareness of healthy eating through communication campaigns (I2). Three policy areas received a moderate assessment in nutrition label standards and regulations (N1), setting healthy food standards in public institutions (O) and limits or removal of specific nutrients in food products (I1).
- **2** Within the policy areas that received moderate assessment, weaknesses and gaps were identified throughout, such as a lack of food and drink availability in the school vicinity, which impacts otherwise well-designed standards for food in schools (O).
- 3 No action was taken in three policy areas which included good marketing and advertising to young people particularly in/around schools (R), creating a healthy retail and food service environment (S) and nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings (N2). Greater attention is needed to improve financial incentives which increases the availability and affordability of healthy food (U) and public food procurement policies (H) beyond a poor assessment.

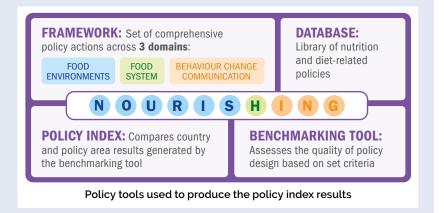
Overview of policy status	NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED	POOR	FAIR	MODERATE	GOOD	EXCELLENT	
Nutrition label standards and regulations on the use of claims and implied claims on food					MODERATE		
Offer healthy food and set standards in public institutions and other specific settings					MODERATE		
Use economic tools to add	Use economic tools to address food affordability and purchase incentives					POOR	
Restrict food advertising a	Restrict food advertising and other forms of commercial promotion				NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED		
Improve nutritional quality of the whole food supply				MODERATE			
Set incentives and rules to	S Set incentives and rules to create a healthy retail and food service environment				NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED		
H Harness supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health				POOR			
Inform people about food and nutrition through public awareness			GOOD				
Nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings				NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED			
G Give nutrition education and skills				FAIR			

This snapshot is based on national level policies only. Policies issued by provincial, regional or local governments are outside the scope of this project.

Methods

The NOURISHING policy index methods are fully explained in the associated **policy brief**. In short, the policy index combines values for a) policy presence, and b) policy design for 41 benchmarks.

The benchmarks are applied to policies in the **NOURISHING database** [2], collected through a comprehensive scan in 30 European countries, including Germany.



Breakdown of policy index results (For full details on the policy design criteria, consult the policy brief) No policy identified Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria Meets up to 99% of policy design criteria Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria Meets all aspirational standards

Nutrients on back of pack Front of pack labels Warning labels Rules on nutrient claims Rules on health claims Food and drink available in schools, including restrictions on unhealthy foods Measures relating to sugar-sweetened beverage provision in schools Fruit and vegetables initiatives in schools Food and drink available in immediate vicinity of schools Unhealthy food in out-of-education locations Health-related food taxes or tariffs Income related subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food Targeted subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food Marketing to young people through advertising Direct marketing to young people Marketing through sponsorship to young people Marketing to young people through point of sale measures Marketing to young people through product placement and branding Marketing to young people through product design and packaging Marketing in/or around schools Limit or removal of specific nutrients in food products			
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product design and packaging Marketing in/or around schools Limit or removal of specific nutrients			×
Limit or removal of specific nutrients			X
		Marketing in/or around schools	X

S	Planning restrictions regarding food service outlets around schools	×
	Planning restrictions on food service outlets	×
	Initiatives to increase the availability of healthier food in stores and food service outlets	×
H	Measures to support food producers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×
	Measures to support food manufacturers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×
	Measures to support food retailers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×
	Governance structures for multi- sectoral/stakeholder engagement	×
	Nutrition standards for public procurement	
	Supporting urban agriculture in health and planning policies	×
	Community food production	×
	Development and communication of food-based dietary guidelines	
	Public awareness, mass media and informational campaigns and social marketing on healthy eating	
N	Nutrition advice and counselling in primary care	×
	Nutrition advice and counselling in school healthcare setting	×
G	Nutrition education in curricula	×
	Training for educators	
	Training for health professionals	
	Cooking skills	
	Training in schools in growing food	X
	Training for caterers	X

Note: The policy landscape in any country evolves over time. These findings reflect our knowledge as of May 2023. To see latest results and for further technical information on the policy indexes, please consult our website: wcrf.org/our-policy-work.

For feedback or suggested updates, please email policy@wcrf.org. More info in the CO-CREATE project can be found at co-create.eu

[1] Policy index: wcrf.org/nutrition-policy-index

[2] Policy database: policydatabase.wcrf.org





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