

World hunger – Glossary

affect verb [transitive]

to cause physical damage to something

AIDS noun [uncountable]

acquired immune deficiency syndrome: a serious disease that destroys the body's immune system (=its ability to defend itself against infection) and usually causes death. AIDS is passed from one person to another through body fluids (=liquids), especially blood and semen. People first become HIV-positive and then develop full-blown AIDS
an AIDS test

basic adjective

basic products and services are ones that everyone needs such as food, medicine, and fuel

billion number

the number 1,000,000,000

crisis noun [countable/uncountable]

an urgent, difficult, or dangerous situation
a period of economic/financial/political crisis

distribution noun [countable/uncountable]

the process of giving something such as food, clothes, or money to a group of people, especially so that each person gets an equal share
Oxfam organized the distribution of food and clothing in the disaster area.

drought noun [countable/uncountable]

a long period of time when there is little or no rain and crops die

estimate verb [transitive]

to say what you think an amount or value will be, either by guessing or by using available information to calculate it

flood verb [intransitive]

to become covered or filled with water

go around phrasal verb

to be enough so that everyone can have one or some

lack verb [transitive]

to not have any or enough of something that you need or want

malaria noun [uncountable]

a serious illness caused by being bitten by a mosquito, usually in a hot country

malnourished adjective

weak or ill because you do not eat enough or do not eat enough of the right foods

obesity noun [uncountable]

a condition in which someone is too fat in a way that is dangerous for their health

overuse verb [transitive]

to use something so much that it is no longer effective

percentage noun [countable/uncountable]

an amount or rate that is equal to a particular part of a total that you have divided by 100

point noun [countable]

an idea or opinion among a number of others

populous adjective

a populous nation, city, area etc has many people living in it

poverty noun [uncountable]

a situation in which someone does not have enough money to pay for their basic needs

proportion noun [countable]

a quantity of something that is a part or share of the whole

quarter noun [countable]

one of four equal parts of something
Nearly three quarters of the children were ill.

sharply adverb

suddenly and by a large amount

shocked adjective

very surprised and upset by something bad that happens unexpectedly

speculation noun [countable/uncountable]

attempts to make a large profit by buying and selling things such as property or shares

tuberculosis noun [uncountable]

a serious infectious disease affecting your lungs