

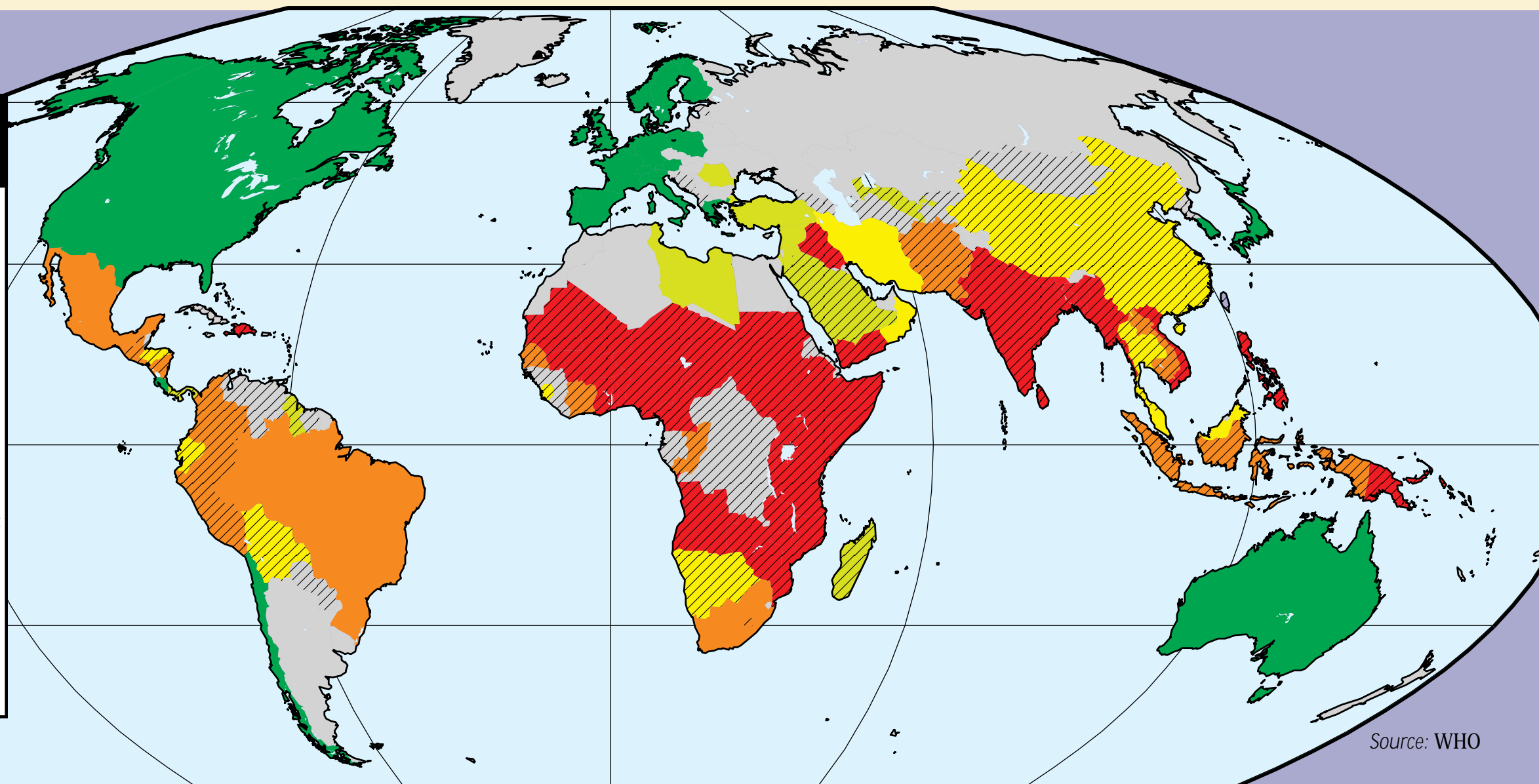


WORLD FOOD
SUMMIT
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Vitamin A deficiency

Degree of public health importance of vitamin A deficiency (1996)

- Clinical
- Severe subclinical
- Moderate subclinical
- Mild subclinical
- Under control
- Data not available
- Dietary energy supply per caput < 2 700 Calories (1992-94)
- Water bodies



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Source: WHO

Vitamin A deficiency is one of the most critical malnutrition problems, resulting mainly from an insufficient diversity in the diet. The number of preschool children living in areas where vitamin A deficiency and its consequences

(blindness, increased mortality and decreased immunity) occur is estimated at around 200 million. Every year 250 000 to 500 000 children become blind because of this deficiency; two-thirds die within a few months afterwards.