



# Global Index 2018

## Executive Summary

Generated on: 06-11-2024

The Global Access to Nutrition Index 2018 is the third Global Index published by the Access To Nutrition Initiative (ATNI). The first was published in 2013 and the second in 2016.



#### **Welcome**

The Global Access to Nutrition Index 2018 brings good and bad news. On the one hand, we see evidence that a number of companies are upping their commitments to tackle various aspects of the nutrition challenges, including persistent high levels of undernutrition in many emerging markets.

They are doing this, for example, by reformulating some products, improving labeling and addressing undernutrition as part of their core business strategies. However, the results also show companies need to get better at 'walking the talk' and in particular need to set clear and verifiable targets for improving the healthiness of their product ranges.

ATNI is very proud to share the results of the Global Index and would like to thank our funders, research partners, board, expert group, independent advisory board and ATNI team for their enormous efforts and support in producing the third Global Access to Nutrition Index.

#### **Inge Kauer**

Executive Director, Access to Nutrition Initiative

The Global Access to Nutrition Index focusses on the role that food and beverage manufacturers play in making healthy food affordable and accessible to all consumers globally. In the Global Index 2018, the 22 largest food and beverage manufacturers in the world are ranked on their nutrition-related policies, practices and performance. The companies assessed operate in over 200 countries and generate approximately \$500 billion in sales. They therefore have a huge influence on the diets of consumers and ATNI believes that these companies have an important role to play in addressing the world's nutrition challenges.

This Global Index 2018, for the first time, includes a Product Profile which assesses the nutritional quality of the Index constituents' products. This Index again features a sub-ranking of the compliance of the world's six largest manufacturers of breast-milk substitutes (BMS) with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and subsequent World Health Assembly resolutions.

1 in 3 people is either over or underweight

---

Nearly half of all deaths of children under five are linked to undernutrition (45%)

---

By 2025 the nutrition crisis will cost \$3.3 trillion every year

---

The Global Index 2018 ranks the world's 22 biggest food and beverage companies

---

The Global Index 2018 found that since 2016 several companies have stepped up efforts to encourage better diets

---

The Global Index 2018 analyzed 23,013 products and found that just one third can be classified as healthy

---

The six largest baby food companies continue to fall below the standards of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes

---

The results also show that companies need to get better at 'walking the talk' and in particular need to set clear and verifiable targets for improving the healthiness of their product ranges

---

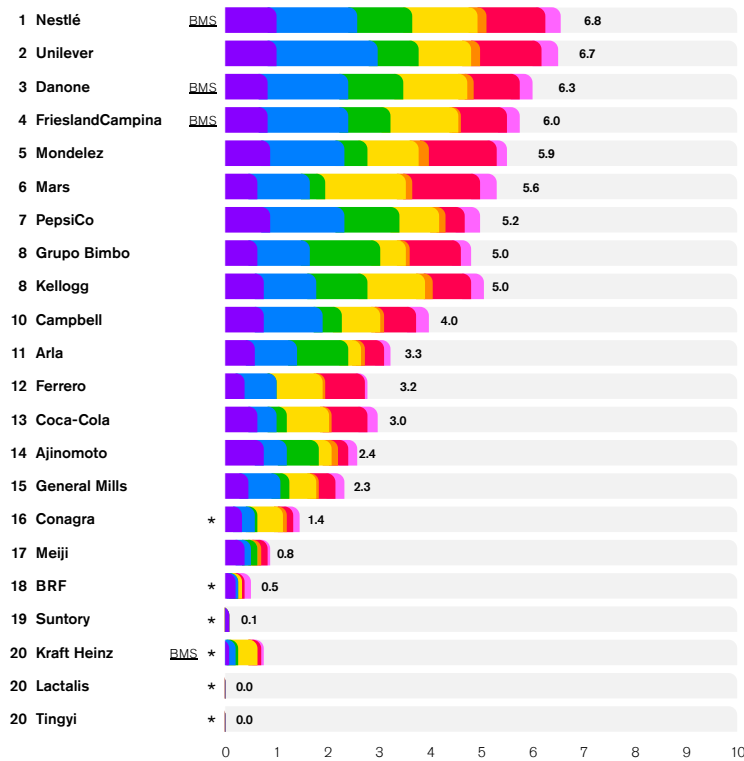
Companies that deliver healthier products are likely to perform better financially over the long term

---

Companies should offer healthier products, make them affordable and accessible, and label and market them responsibly

# Ranking

## Overall Ranking



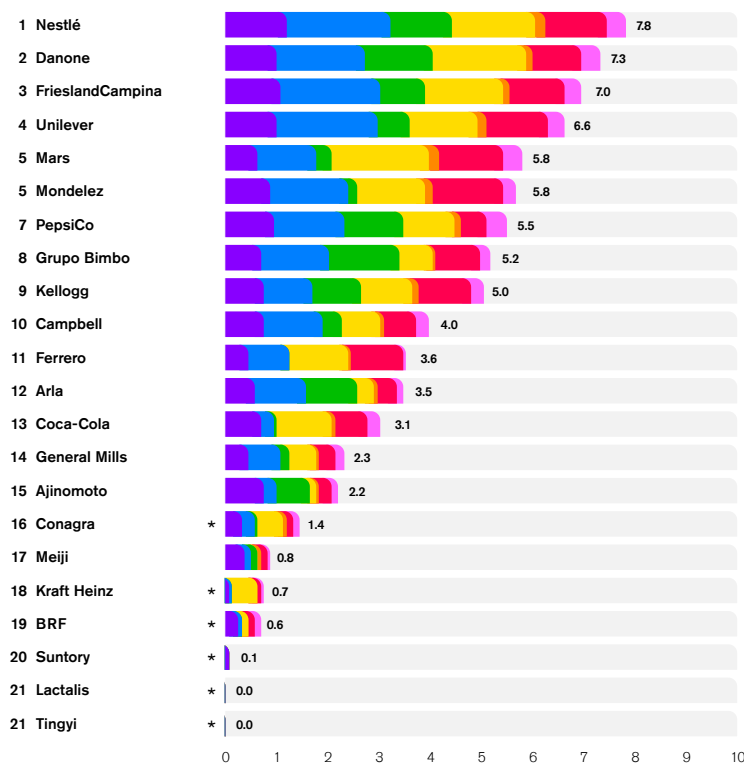
Since 2016, several companies have stepped up efforts to encourage better diets. The average Index score improved from 2.5 in 2016 to 3.3 in 2018. Overall, the 2018 results show that all companies need to do much more to walk their talk.



**BMS** Assessed against the BMS methodology: An adjustment based on the BMS score is incorporated in the overall score

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

## Nutrition

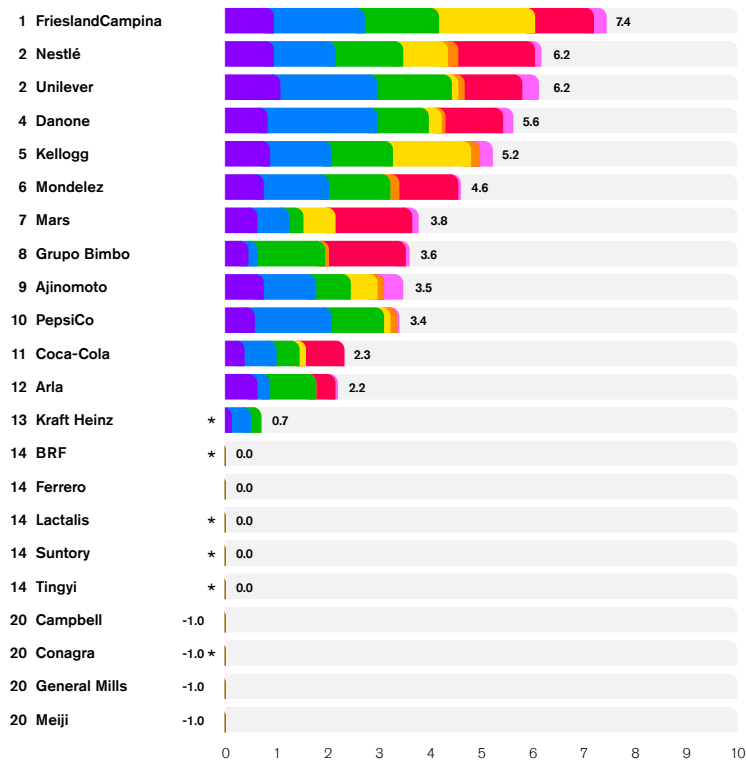


The 2018 ranking is led by Nestlé with a score of 6.8, up from 5.9 in 2016. It delivered above average performance in all, and improvements in most, of the categories of the Index. Unilever is second (6.7 versus 6.4 in 2016), and Danone third (6.3 versus 4.9 in 2016). The average score of all companies improved from 2.5 in 2016 to 3.3 in 2018. Nine companies now score 5 or more, compared to only 2 in 2016.



\* Did not provide information to ATNI

# Undernutrition



Friesland Campina leads the undernutrition sub-ranking and showed the greatest improvement. Danone, Grupo Bimbo, Kellogg and Mondelez also increased their score by two points or more, compared to 2016. More companies (11 in 2018, compared to 8 in 2016) commit to addressing undernutrition, responding positively to Sustainable Development Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition.

- A** Governance
- B** Products
- C** Accessibility
- D** Marketing
- E** Lifestyles
- F** Labeling
- G** Engagement

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

## Methodology

The Global ATNI methodology comprises three components:

### 1. Corporate Profile

This assesses companies' nutrition- and undernutrition-related commitments and policies, practices and disclosure in seven categories:

### 2. Product Profile

This assesses the nutritional quality of the products of the Index companies in nine markets: Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Mexico, New Zealand, the United Kingdom (U.K.), the United States (U.S.) and South Africa. The results are based on scores generated by applying the Health Star Rating (HSR) nutrient profiling system, which analyzes the level of several positive nutrients (e.g. fruits, vegetables and fibers) and several negative nutrients (e.g. salt, sugar and saturated fat) in products.

### 3. BMS Marketing sub-ranking

This assesses companies' policies, practices and disclosure in relation to BMS marketing (BMS 1). In addition, two in-country assessments were conducted in Thailand and in Nigeria (BMS 2).

URL: <https://accesstonutrition.org/index/global-index-2018/methodology/>

# Companies

Based on total global sales in 2016, the 22 largest global food and beverage manufacturers were selected for inclusion in the 2018 Global ATNI.



Ajinomoto



Arla



BRF



Campbell



Coca-Cola



Conagra



Danone



Ferrero



FrieslandCampina



General Mills



Grupo Bimbo



Kellogg



Kraft Heinz



Lactalis



Mars



Meiji



Mondelez



Nestlé



PepsiCo



Suntory



Tingyi



Unilever

# Findings

The 2018 Index shows the world's biggest F&B companies have stepped up their efforts to encourage better diets, mostly through new and updated nutrition strategies and policies, improved commitments on affordability and accessibility, better performance on nutrition labeling and health and nutrition claims, and more disclosure of information across categories. Nevertheless, ATNF has serious concerns about the healthiness of the world's largest global F&B manufacturers' product portfolios.

## Many companies have stepped up their efforts to contribute to better diets over the last two years:

- Seven companies have **strengthened their nutrition strategies** and management systems.
- Ten companies demonstrated that they include **nutrition considerations in their merger and acquisition (M&A) decisions**.
- The companies **report to offer higher percentages of 'healthy' products** (according to their own definitions) as compared to 2016 in their portfolio, with seven companies now reporting that more than half of their products are healthy. This is five more than in 2016. However, most of the companies' definitions are less strict than those applied by ATNI in the Product Profile assessment.
- Seventeen companies commit to **investing in healthy product development** and fourteen commit to aligning their research and development (R&D) to important public health frameworks such as national dietary guidelines.
- Four companies have **improved their Nutrition Profiling System (NPS)**<sup>1</sup> or strengthened the nutritional criteria related to them, and one company is in the process of implementing a new NPS.

## However, there are many aspects of company performance that urgently requires improvement:

- Companies have **only set product reformulation targets for half of the product categories assessed** and **poorly define** these targets.
  - The majority of companies (16) define one or more targets to reformulate their products, but six companies – Ajinomoto, Kraft Heinz, BRF, Suntory, Tingyi and Lactalis – do not report any relevant targets
  - Across all companies and categories, in about half of all product categories assessed (61 out of 117), companies did not set targets for relevant nutrients.
  - None of the companies yet has a full set of targets for all relevant nutrients across all product categories.
  - The large majority of companies (19) have not yet set targets to increase positive nutrients (i.e. fruits, vegetables, nuts, legumes and whole grains).
  - Targets that have been set are poorly defined in many cases. For example, they are not applied to all relevant products or, in case of relative reduction targets, baseline values and deadlines are not made clear.
- Only Ajinomoto, Grupo Bimbo and Nestlé have **global policies** to make healthy food affordable and accessible to all, including to low-income and high-priority populations. Companies should be taking a systematic clear approach in this regard.
- Only six companies cover all types of media in their **responsible marketing commitments to children**. Only one company – Arla – extends its policy on responsible marketing from children to teenagers aged 13 to 18.
- Although many companies commit to invest in the health of their employees, only eight **offer employee health and nutrition programs to all employees**, and only five implement independent evaluations. There is a similar trend for programs to encourage consumers to eat healthy diets and lead active lives. These programs are generally poorly designed, with few clear targets, seldom independently evaluated and insufficiently reported on.
- **Support to breastfeeding mothers** is not yet offered consistently around the world in terms of flexible and supportive working arrangements, and appropriate facilities to express and store breastmilk.
- None of the companies yet commit to **full, interpretative labeling on the front of all their products in all markets** and ten companies still do not report any relevant commitments or practices related to the responsible use of health and nutrition claims.
- Only three companies – Danone, Nestlé and PepsiCo – commit to **lobby in support of measures** to prevent and address obesity and diet-related chronic diseases.



## The analysis of companies' actions to tackle undernutrition in emerging markets among priority populations yielded the following findings:

- Companies have responded positively to **SDG 2**<sup>2</sup>. More companies (11 compared to eight in 2016) now **commit to address undernutrition, especially through their core businesses** as well as other initiatives.<sup>3</sup>
- Twice as many companies provided **evidence of investing in research** to develop solutions to undernutrition: The number increased from six to 12 between 2016 and 2018.
- However, most companies' strategies to address undernutrition are **not well-structured or informed by regular, well-organized input from independent experts**. Only five companies describe well-structured and strategic commercial approaches to address undernutrition, and six assign top-level oversight to their chief executive officer (CEO) or another senior executive. Similarly, only five companies have a formal expert panel in place.
- Only three out of 14 companies that do not sell breast-milk substitutes **focus on women of childbearing age or on children under two** in their commercial and/or non-commercial programs, which experts say should be prioritized in order to achieve the best, long-term health impacts.
- Ten companies commit to **improve the affordability and accessibility of products formulated to address undernutrition in under-served populations**, but few set out measurable objectives and targets. Only six of the companies commit to **exclusively fortify products** that are healthy and of high underlying quality. Related to this, seven companies **commit to using health and nutrition claims** on products that have been fortified only when these products are compliant with the internationally-recognized Codex Alimentarius (Codex) fortification guidelines.
- A limited number of companies (five out of 18) demonstrate a **commitment to the need to develop and deliver marketing strategies** appropriate to reaching undernourished populations.

## Key outcomes from the 'Product Profile', an assessment of the nutritional quality of the products manufactured by the Index companies:

- Of the total 23,013 products assessed, less than one third are considered healthy in the Product Profile analysis (i.e. with an HSR of 3.5 or higher), and only 14% of the products meet WHO EURO criteria for marketing to children.
- None of the companies' portfolios comprise more than 50% of products that meet the healthy standard suitable to be marketed to children.
- The ranking of companies on the Product Profile is different to the Corporate Profile, with dairy companies in the lead and companies with diverse portfolios (such as Nestlé, Unilever and PepsiCo) in the middle of the ranking. Companies that predominantly offer confectionery are at the bottom of the ranking, which is expected based on the ingredients of these categories.
- While many companies reported their sales for 2016 generated by 'healthy' products, for the most part their definitions of 'healthy' appear less strict than that of the independent HSR system used in the Product Profile, which is of considerable concern. Seven companies self-report that more than half of their products meet their own definition of healthy, five more than in 2016.
- Only five companies have a portfolio consisting of more than 50% of healthy products and only two – FrieslandCampina and Lactalis – when these products are sales-weighted.
- The healthiness of all companies' portfolios taken together vary by country.
  - The U.S. and New Zealand had the highest mean HSR of the nine countries: 2.6 out of 5. Developed countries such as the U.S. (2.6), New Zealand (2.6), Australia (2.4) and the U.K. (2.3) have higher overall HSRs compared to emerging markets such as India (2.1) and China (1.8) which rank last using this metric.

## The world's six largest baby food companies continue to market BMS using marketing practices that fall considerably below the standards of The Code:

Although these **companies state that they support breastfeeding to some degree, a substantial proportion of their revenues and profits depend on ever-increasing sales of their products, which are substitutes for breastfeeding.** They therefore have strong incentives to market these products pervasively and persuasively – which the Index shows they continue to do.

Three companies have made significant improvements in aligning their BMS marketing policies and management systems with The Code. Danone improved both its BMS marketing policy and management systems following the publication of the 2016 Index, and now ranks first in the 2018 BMS Marketing sub-ranking, overtaking Nestlé which slipped to second place. Danone extended its policy in relation to infant formula to include low-risk countries and committed to follow its own policy in countries where the regulations are weaker than its policy. Abbott has also made significant improvements to both its policy and management systems, moving up from fifth to third place in this subranking. Since being acquired by RB, MJN shared documents with ATNI for this Index (which it did not do previously), resulting in a better score.

ATNI undertook two in-country assessments for the 2018 Global Index. In Thailand and Nigeria, **many marketing practices were found to not comply with the recommendations of The Code and/or local regulations.** This illustrates that, in some cases, the management systems of companies are not being applied effectively. Meanwhile, in other cases, corporate policies do not encompass all the recommendations of The Code, nor all of the products within The Code's scope.

All four companies rated in the BMS Marketing sub-ranking in Thailand were found to have a low level of compliance (where 2,807 incidences of non-compliance were identified in total). Many fewer instances of non-compliance (130) were found in Nigeria, where local regulation at the time of the study was stricter than that in Thailand. In both markets, the two most extensive forms of marketing identified were:

1. Point-of-sale promotions on online retailers' sites, and;
2. Products with labels that were not compliant with The Code or local requirements.

# Best Practices

## STRATEGIC NUTRITION COMMITMENTS

The operating principles embodied in Nestlé's 'Creating Shared Value' strategy include a comprehensive set of nutrition policies covering all areas that the ATNI methodology assesses. The company has defined 15 measurable 2020 nutrition-related commitments against which it reports progress. Nestlé links all of these commitments to the relevant SDGs.

## TRANSPARENT PRODUCT REFORMULATION TARGET

Danone, FrieslandCampina and Unilever meet best practice by publishing, in full, the criteria they use to determine whether their products are healthy, and link product reformulation targets to these definitions in a transparent way. Danone makes the clearest commitment: 100% of its products will meet its 'Nutritional Target 2020' criteria by 2020.

## POSITIVE NUTRIENTS TARGET EXAMPLES

Nestlé has made specific, clear, measurable and time-bound (2017-2020) commitments to *"add at least 750 million portions of vegetables, 300 million portions of fiber-rich grains, pulses and bran, and more nuts and seeds to our products."* However, the company has yet to specify concrete product reformulation targets.

PepsiCo states a similar commitment to *"Increase positive nutrition— like whole grains, fruits & vegetables, dairy, protein and hydration— by expanding our portfolio containing one or more of these ingredients."*

## AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Grupo Bimbo's global strategy for health and wellness is titled 'A Sustainable Way.' One of the focuses is the accessibility and affordability of healthy products to all consumers, based on the company's own definition of healthy. This is guided by the company's ambition to bring its products with improved nutrients closer to consumers.

## RESPONSIBLE MARKETING POLICIES

Danone not only makes commitments that are fully aligned with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Framework, but it also sets additional principles regarding marketing to all consumers that go beyond it. The company is transparent by publishing its commitments and compliance auditing results.

Danone and Mars are the only two companies that appoint an independent party to audit their marketing activities complementary to industry association auditing and both for marketing to all consumers and marketing to children.

Arla is the only company that pledges to market only healthy products to children under age 18 using an audience threshold of 30%.

## NUTRITION LABELING

Mars commits to provide back-of-pack information on all key nutrients assessed by the Index globally: Energy/calories, protein, total carbohydrates, total or added/free sugars, trans-fat, total fat, saturated fat, dietary fiber and sodium/salt. In addition, the company commits to provide percentages of guideline daily amounts (GDAs) extensively on the back of packs and for calories on the front of packs, as well as comprehensive serving size information.

FrieslandCampina defined an objective to include the reference intake guidance or GDA energy icon on 100% of relevant consumer packaging by 2020. The company publishes performance against this objective on its corporate website, showing annual progress since 2015.

## EMPLOYEE AND CONSUMER HEALTH

PepsiCo improved most in promoting healthy employees with a comprehensive program, independent monitoring and a focus on health and business outcomes.

Nestlé demonstrates leading practice in supporting breastfeeding mothers through a set of comprehensive global commitments.

Mondelez and PepsiCo show leadership by funding only healthy eating and lifestyle programs set up and run by third-parties.

## TRANSPARENT LOBBYING AND NUTRITION STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Mars and PepsiCo show leading practice by publishing statements on the topics on which they actively lobby.

Nestlé, PepsiCo and Unilever show leading practice on stakeholder engagement to develop their nutrition policies and programs.

## UNDERNUTRITION COMMITMENTS AND STRATEGIES

Unilever no longer has an independent, philanthropic arm of the business. It now integrates its commercial and philanthropic efforts to address undernutrition and a wider range of sustainability goals into commercial category strategies. The Unilever Sustainable Living Plan (USLP) is the central business strategy to address these goals, which mirrors the SDGs. The company reports that its USLP brands grow faster than the rest of the company.

## UNDERNUTRITION ACCESSIBILITY, AFFORDABILITY AND MARKETING

Unilever describes two programs designed to increase the accessibility of products to address undernutrition: Project Zeinab in Egypt and the Gbemiga Programme in Nigeria. In both cases, Unilever works with external organizations and combines a focus on undernutrition with other important aspects that are part of its Unilever Sustainable Living Plan strategy. It does this by making local women entrepreneurs and ambassadors for nutrition.

## TARGETING PRIORITY POPULATIONS

Ajinomoto states its intention to address undernutrition through the recently founded Ajinomoto Foundation, which will take noncommercial approaches to meeting undernutrition challenges. It demonstrates best practice by linking its efforts to SDG 2, with a focus on improving maternal and child nutrition.

FrieslandCampina demonstrates best practice by selecting high-priority countries such as Nigeria, Indonesia and Myanmar to pilot new initiatives to address undernutrition.

FrieslandCampina provides several examples of improving affordability in Nigeria and other high-priority countries. In addition, the company provides evidence of working with behavioral specialists and using multiple communication channels to reach undernourished consumers through specific marketing strategies.

# Recommendations

**The 2018 Index report calls on companies to, first and foremost, work to improve the nutritional quality of their existing products, particularly established, high-sales volume products. It also calls on companies to:**

- Ensure senior executives and boards take more responsibility for spearheading a strategic response to delivering better nutrition as part of core business strategy.
- Set measurable, independently verifiable nutrition targets, for example to reduce levels of salt and sugar in their products.
- Widen their product ranges to include more healthy products that are affordable and accessible for all consumers.
- Reformulation targets should also include increasing positive nutrients for qualifying products. Similar to the 2016 Index, 19 companies do not yet make commitments to increase levels of fruits, vegetables, nuts, legumes and whole grains.
- Companies and industry associations should define product reformulation targets so that they can be verified by third-parties.
- Companies should commit to lobby only in support of improving diets and public health and be more transparent about their lobbying activities.
- Develop commercial strategies for tackling undernutrition by investing in healthy products that address existing micronutrient deficiencies in priority countries.
- Commit to display easy-to-interpret information for consumers on front-of-pack labels about the healthiness of products, regardless of where they live.
- Do more to stop on- and offline marketing of products to children that do not meet the standards set by the WHO.
- Baby milk manufacturers must ensure their marketing policies align fully to The Code and are applied fully and consistently around the world and to all products including growing-up milks.

# Future Opportunities

## **Corporate Profile**

ATNI sees many opportunities to develop its work and amplify its impact. For the next Global Index, we intend to streamline the methodology to reduce the time required from companies to provide input to the research process. We will also look to utilize more independently generated research and/or verify data submitted by companies, similar to the approach used for the Product Profile. This could include, for instance, product pricing data and marketing expenditure or in-store marketing practices. We also aim to develop ways to clearly track companies' progress against their stated targets over time. Regarding undernutrition, ATNI will increase the focus on addressing undernutrition commercially in future Indexes.

## **BMS Marketing**

ATNI will also continue to commission and publish in-country assessments on an ongoing basis. In the future we also hope to be able to incorporate the findings of NetCode based studies of BMS marketing conducted by others. We see opportunities to expand our assessment of baby food companies by, for example, developing an NPS for complementary foods and/or commissioning or utilizing studies done by other organizations relating to the marketing of baby foods. There is also potential to broaden the scope of assessment of companies' contributions to infant and young child nutrition and/or supporting breastfeeding more broadly.

## **Product Profile**

This report sets out the results of the first ever multi-country Product Profile study published. It demonstrates the great value of such studies in providing a comprehensive picture of the nutritional quality of packaged foods that major companies sell in markets around the world. In the future, we will consider the feasibility of combining the Product Profile scores with the Corporate Profile scores to generate a combined score. In addition, we will explore integrating the Product Profile assessment into the Corporate Profile assessment to address the current limitation of depending on a company's own definition of healthy products.

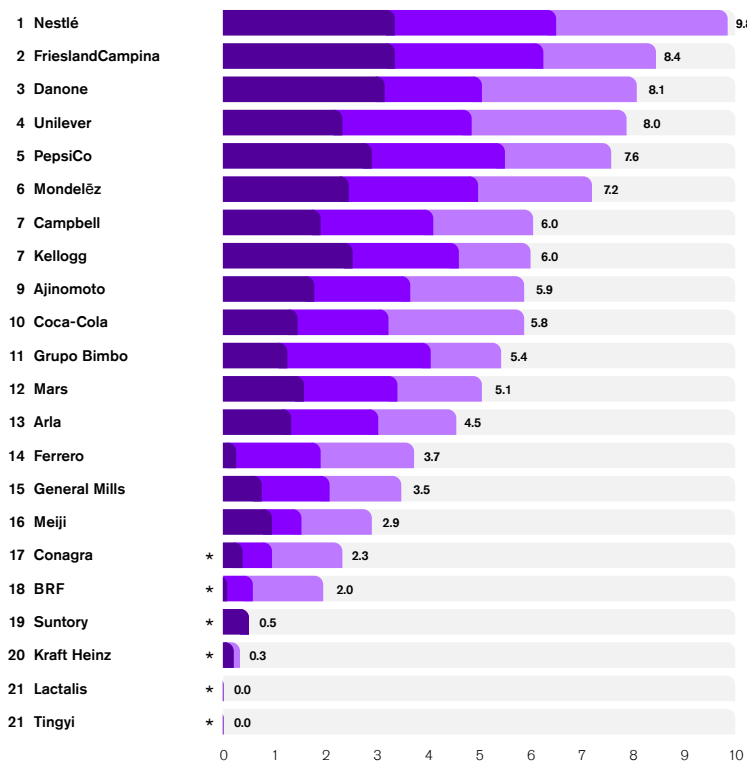
The accuracy of future Product Profiles would be greatly improved if all Index companies were to provide their full product lists and nutrition content information. Combining sales figures for individual products would generate much more accurate sales-weighted figures but would also add complexity. Again, companies could provide these figures (although this information is clearly highly commercially sensitive), or the data could be purchased from commercial data providers (however, it is very expensive).

ATNI will work with The George Institute – and would welcome input from others – on improving future Product Profiles. Factoring in serving size, for example, would be a useful additional analytical tool, as would looking at the relative pricing of healthier versus less healthy products and the marketing spending on both types of products.

# Corporate Profile

## Nutrition

The Corporate Profile assesses companies' nutrition and undernutrition-related commitments and policies, practices and disclosure in seven categories.

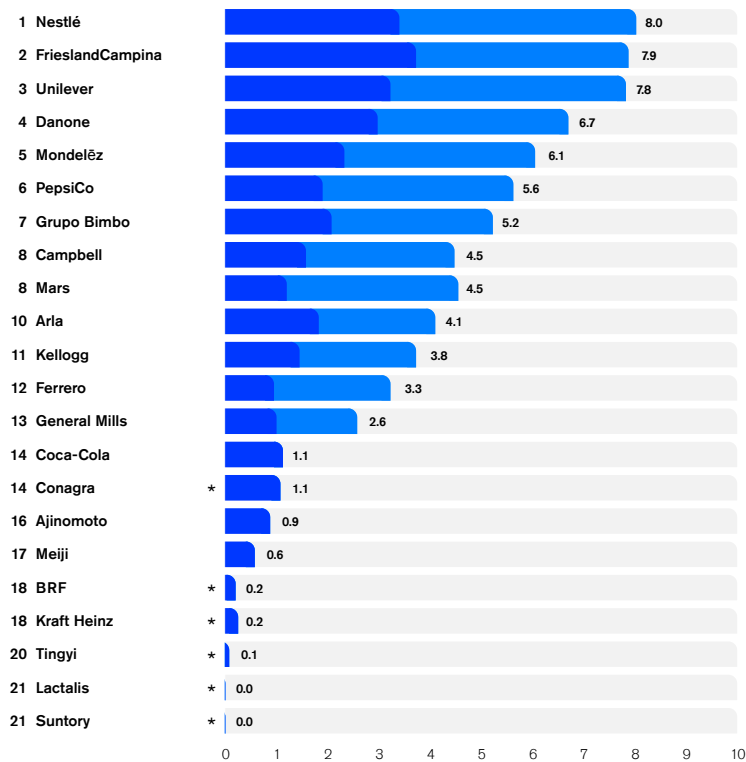


### Governance

The average Category A nutrition score increased to 4.7 from 3.9 in 2016 (as shown in Figure 2), and Nestlé currently leads the score with 9.8 points. FrieslandCampina showed the largest improvement by increasing its score by almost 4 points, mainly due to its new more comprehensive nutrition strategy and strengthened nutrition governance and management system. Category A remains the highest-scoring category on the Index. Many companies have strengthened their nutrition policies and management systems.

- A1** Strategy
- A2** Management
- A3** Strategy

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

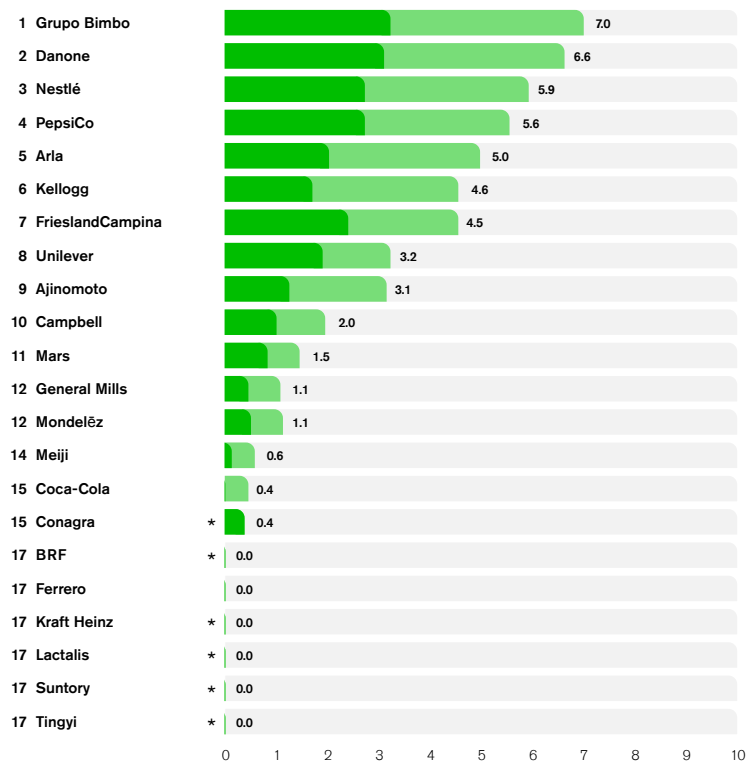


## Products

The average score increased to 3.4 from 2.8 in 2016 (as shown in Figure 2), and Nestlé currently leads the ranking with a score of 8.0 points. Campbell's showed the largest improvement by increasing its score by three points, mainly related to more reporting on nutritional criteria, which are therefore now recognized as a precursor to a NPS in Criterion B2.

**B1** Formulation  
**B2** Profiling

\* Did not provide information to ATNI



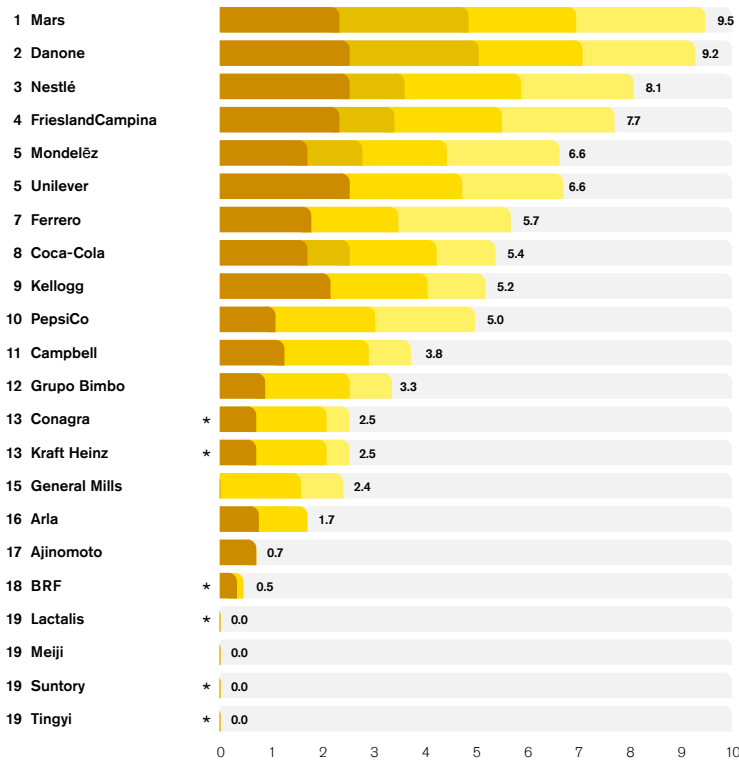
## Accessibility

The average Category C nutrition score increased to 2.4 from 0.9 in 2016, and Grupo Bimbo currently leads with 7.0 points. PepsiCo showed the largest improvement by increasing its score by more than 5 points. Since 2016, on average, Category C performance has considerably improved. While scores are still very low (2.4 out of 10), they have more than doubled between 2016 and 2018.

**C1** Pricing  
**C2** Distribution

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

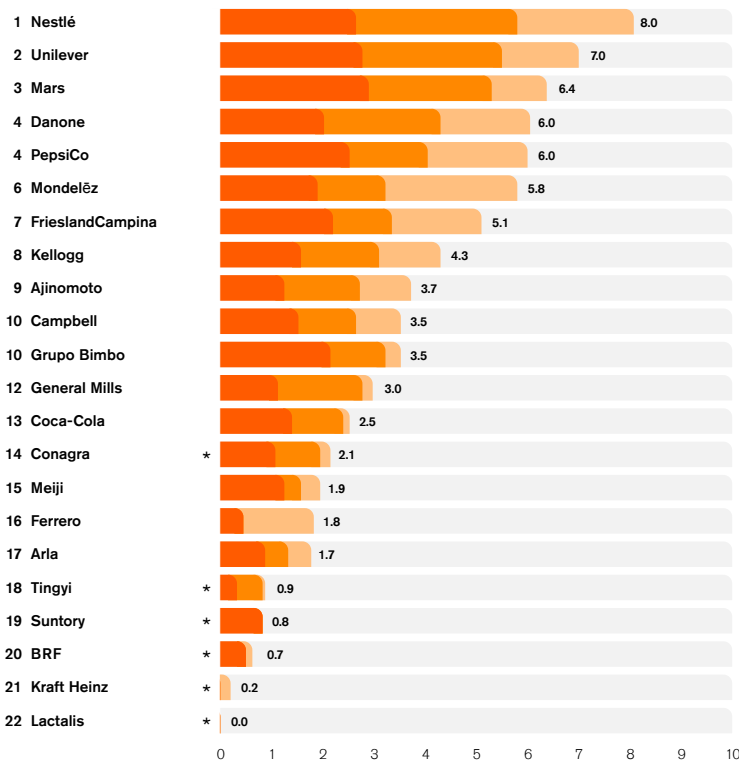




## Marketing

The average Category D nutrition score increased to 3.9 from 3.8 in 2016, and Mars currently leads the ranking with a score of 9.5 points. FrieslandCampina showed the largest improvement by increasing its score by almost five points, primarily related to its updated global responsible marketing guidelines, which were updated in 2017. Since 2016, companies strengthened their responsible marketing commitments – seven companies updated their marketing commitments to all consumers, and ten companies updated their marketing commitments to children.

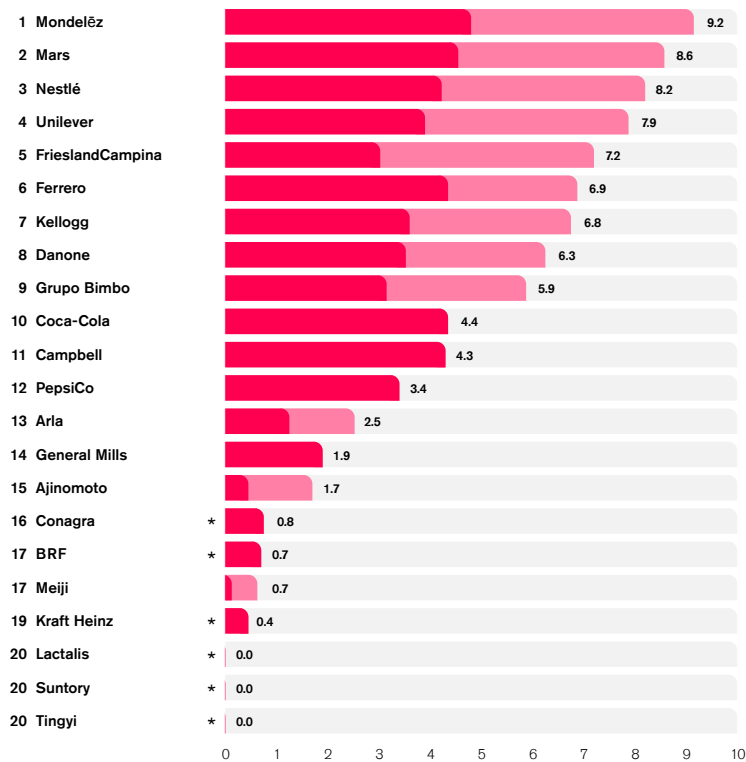
- D1** Policy (all)
  - D2** Compliance (all)
  - D3** Policy (children)
  - D4** Compliance (children)
- \* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Lifestyles

The average score increased to 3.4 from 2.5 in 2016, and Nestlé currently leads the ranking with a score of 8.0 points. PepsiCo showed the largest improvement by increasing its score by more than three points, which is mostly related to clearer articulation of expected health and business outcomes in relation to the nutrition, diet and activity elements of its health and wellness program. Since the previous Index, companies' support for healthy diets and active lifestyles overall has increased.

- E1** Employees
  - E2** Breastfeeding
  - E3** Consumers
- \* Did not provide information to ATNI

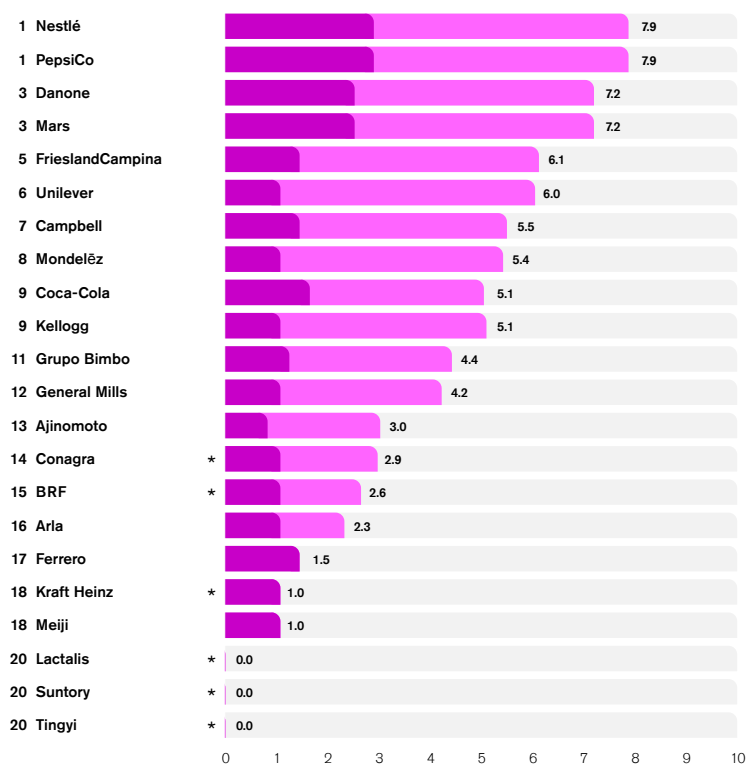


## Labeling

The average score increased to 4.0 from 2.5 in 2016 (as shown in Figure 2), and Mondelez leads the ranking with 9.2 points. Mars showed the most improvement by increasing its score by more than five points, which is mostly related to the complete roll-out of its labeling commitments and disclosure of this information, as well as its tracking of health and nutrition claims, which was not reported in 2016. Overall, companies have made considerable progress on nutrition labeling since 2016.

**F1** Facts  
**F2** Claims

\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Engagement

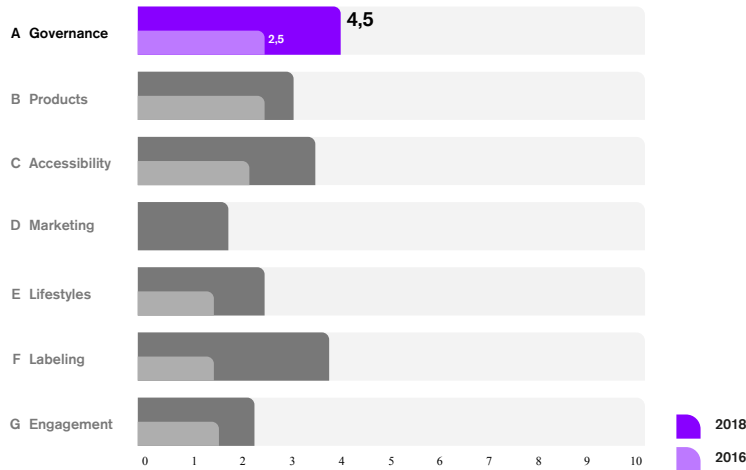
The average score decreased to 3.9 from 4.0 in 2016. Nestlé and PepsiCo lead the ranking, both with a score of 7.9 points. PepsiCo also showed the largest improvement in score, increasing more than three points, mainly due to disclosing more information regarding structured stakeholder engagement (related to criteria G2). Performance related to stakeholder engagement (in Criterion G2) has improved, with the majority of companies providing relevant evidence of using stakeholder input to inform their nutrition policies and programs.

**G1** Lobbying  
**G2** Stakeholder

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

# Undernutrition

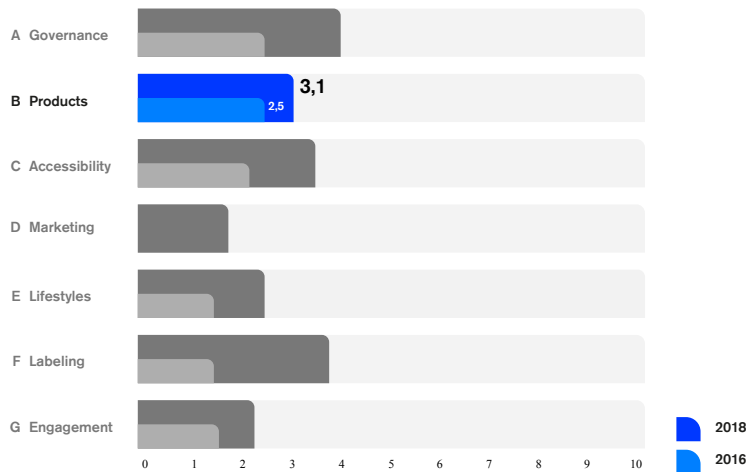
The Corporate Profile assesses companies' nutrition and undernutrition-related commitments and policies, practices and disclosure in seven categories.



## Governance

The average score increased substantially from 2.5 to four points. However, there is clearly still room to do much more. Unilever leads the rankings in Category A with the most comprehensive approach to address undernutrition, followed by Nestlé, FrieslandCampina, Kellogg and Danone.

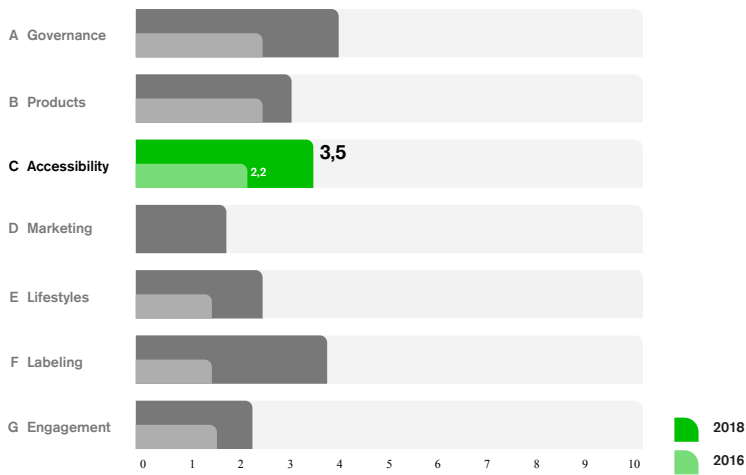
\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Products

Progress has been made compared to 2016 as more companies make commitments to develop fortified or other appropriate products to address undernutrition. However, the quality of these commitments falls well below the expectations they raise through their commitments to address undernutrition. The average score increased from 2.5 to 3.1 points. Danone leads the ranking in Category B – Undernutrition as it makes a number of relevant commitments, demonstrates it is developing or already offers a range of products fighting undernutrition and discloses many of its commitments publicly. It is followed by Unilever, FrieslandCampina, PepsiCo, Mondelez and Nestlé.

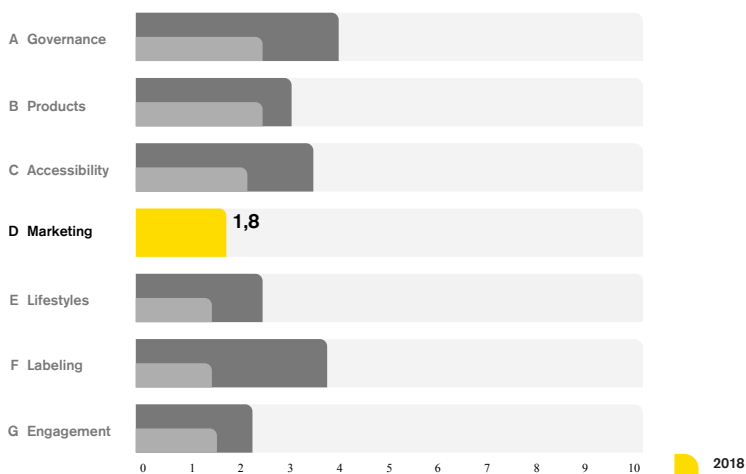
\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Accessibility

More companies make commitments and provide examples of improving the affordability and accessibility of products formulated to address undernutrition in underserved populations, increasing the score from 2.2 to 3.5 points. Unilever leads the ranking in Category C because it has the most complete set of commitments, provides good evidence of performance and public disclosure thereof. It is followed by FrieslandCampina, Grupo Bimbo and Nestlé.

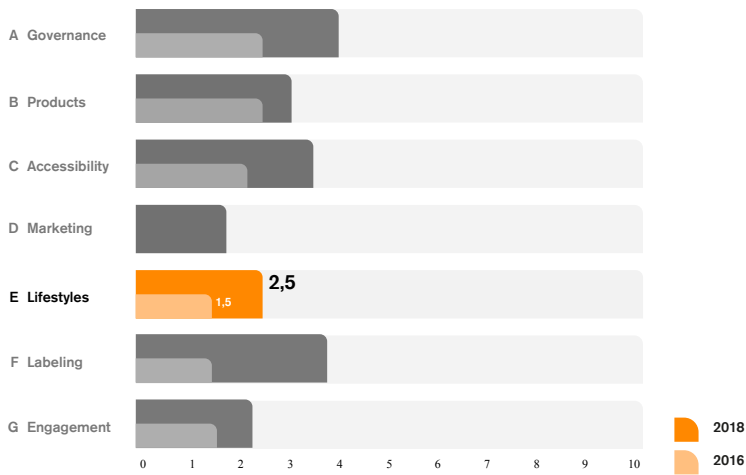
\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Marketing

More companies report a relevant commitment and provide more evidence than they did in 2016. Category D indicators related to undernutrition were not scored in 2016, therefore a comparison in score is not possible. Although the average score is low with 1.8 points, FrieslandCampina leads the ranking in Category D Undernutrition with an almost full score, followed by Kellogg, Nestlé and Mars.

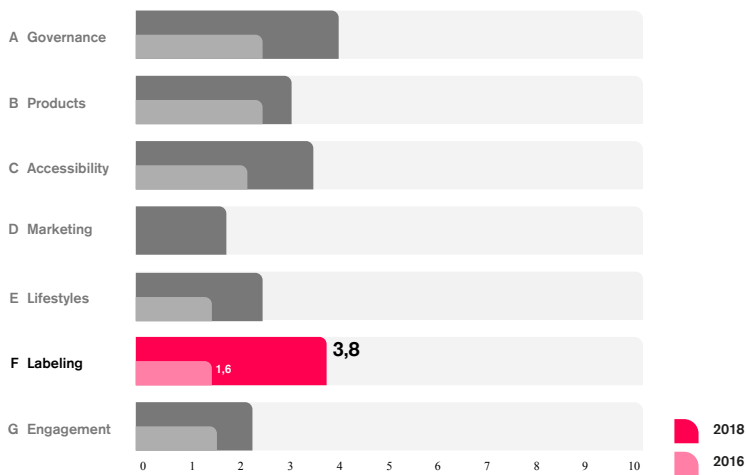
\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Lifestyles

Compared to 2016, more companies make a commitment to educate undernourished consumers in developing countries about healthy foods (that address micronutrient deficiencies) by supporting relevant programs, while the public disclosure of information regarding these programs has remained fairly stable. Overall, only eight companies report supporting relevant undernutrition education programs in developing countries, which is the lowest across the seven categories in the assessment related to undernutrition. The average score increased from 1.5 to 2.5 points. Mondelez leads the ranking with a clearly defined and publicly disclosed approach to fund and support independently designed and evaluated programs, followed by Nestlé, Kellogg, PepsiCo and Ajinomoto.

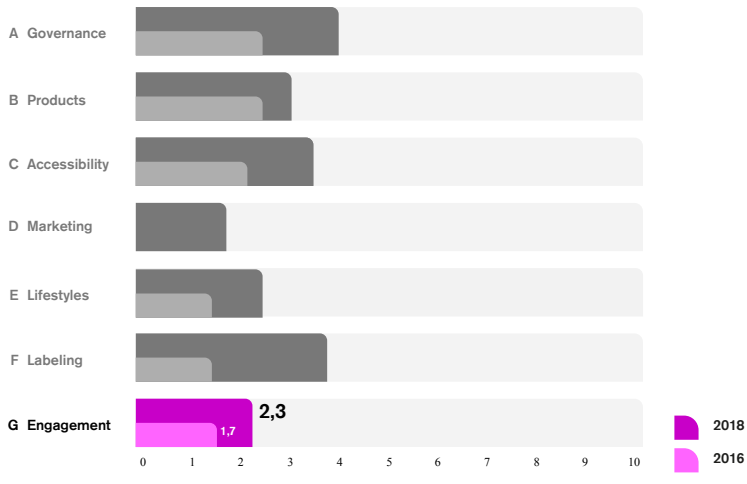
\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Labeling

More companies make and disclose relevant commitments, increasing the average score from 1.6 to 3.8 points. Grupo Bimbo, Mars and Nestlé achieved a full score. They were followed in the ranking by Danone, FrieslandCampina, Mondelez and Unilever.

\* Did not provide information to ATNI



## Engagement

The average score in Category G, related to undernutrition, remained fairly stable increasing from 1.7 to 2.3 points Unilever leads the ranking for this category, followed by Ajinomoto, Kellogg, FrieslandCampina and Danone.

\* Did not provide information to ATNI

# Product Profile



The purpose of this Product Profile is to begin to build a picture of the role that products of companies in the Global Index play in consumers' diets. It is designed to assess how healthy companies' products are. In other words, to establish the nutritional quality of the products they sell, which is determined by the levels of fat, salt, sugar, fruit, vegetables and other ingredients.

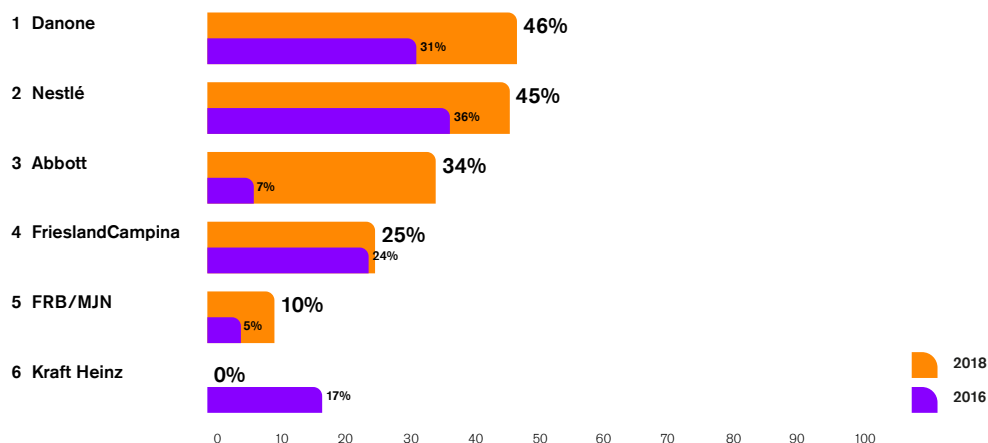
The Product Profile scores companies out of ten to provide comparability with the Corporate Profile.

While many companies reported their sales for 2016 generated by 'healthy' products, for the most part their definitions of 'healthy' appear less strict than that of the independent HSR system used in the Product Profile, which is of considerable concern. Read the full Product Profile report for detailed information on the healthiness of Index companies' product portfolios.

# Breast-milk Substitutes (BMS) Marketing



The world's six largest baby food companies continue to market breast-milk substitutes using marketing practices that fall considerably below the standards of The International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk substitutes (The Code). Companies have a role to play in contributing to optimal infant and young child nutrition (ICYN). Breastfeeding is a crucial element of ICYN. Increasing breastfeeding to near universal levels could prevent over 820,000 deaths of children under five each year and provides lifetime protection against a range of illnesses. Inappropriate marketing of BMS can undermine optimal ICYN.



Danone leads the 2018 BMS Marketing sub-ranking with an overall score of 46%, a significant improvement on its score of 31% in 2016, when it ranked second. Nestlé's level of compliance is 45% overall, a 9% improvement on its score in 2016, though it has slipped to second place in this ranking. Abbott has jumped to the third place with an overall BMS Marketing score of 34%, compared to a score of only 7% in the last Index. Kraft Heinz scored zero and ranks last. Though several improvements were put in place, even the highest score of 46% is still far from complete compliance with recommendations of The Code.



# Amplifying Impact

Companies urgently need to deliver on the Sustainable Development goals



**End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition**



**Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all**

ATNI encourages all stakeholders to actively use the 2018 Index results and provide their feedback to ATNI. We hope that the rated companies will commit to make changes based on our recommendations and that their investors will use them in their engagement with those companies to press for improvements in their policies, practices and disclosure. Further, we hope that governments and policymakers, NGOs, academics and others are able to use our analysis and findings in their work to encourage better diets worldwide.

# Acknowledgements

The Global Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI) 2018 would not have been possible without the generous support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS). The Global Index 2018 was produced by the Access to Nutrition Foundation (ATNI) team, consisting of Inge Kauer, Marije Boomsma, Paul Vos, Simona Kramer, Ellen Poolman, Fiona Kirk, Magdalis Mercillia and Rachel Crossley. The ATNF team drew on the expertise and advice of the ATNI Expert Group. Their close engagement throughout the ATNI development process has been a source of invaluable guidance, and this report benefited greatly from their input. The views expressed in this report, however, do not necessarily reflect the views of the group's members or of their institutions.

**Footnotes**

1. A system used to assess and improve the healthiness of products.
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Despite making more commitments to address undernutrition through their core businesses, companies did not provide evidence to demonstrate increased sales from these initiatives.

# Disclaimer

## Global Index

### 2018

#### General Disclaimer

As a multi-stakeholder and collaborative project, the findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in the report may not necessarily reflect the views of all companies, members of the stakeholder groups or the organizations they represent or of the funders of the project. This report is intended to be for informational purposes only and is not intended as promotional material in any respect. This report is not intended to provide accounting, legal or tax advice or investment recommendations. Whilst based on information believed to be reliable, no guarantee can be given that it is accurate or complete.

**Sustainalytics** participated in the data collection and analysis process for the Global Index 2018, contributed to the company scorecards and supported writing the report.

**Westat** is responsible for the collection of data related to company compliance with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and any additional country specific regulations related to marketing of these products in Bangkok, Thailand and Lagos, Nigeria. Westat is responsible for the analysis of the data related to compliance with the BMS Marketing standards and for the preparation of its final study report, the results of which have been incorporated by ATNF into the 2018 Global Access to Nutrition report and the scoring of company performance for the same Index.

**The George Institute for Global Health (TGI)** is responsible for the data collection for the Product Profile assessment, using data from available databases that was supplemented with data provided by companies to ATNF. TGI is also responsible for the analysis of the data related to the Product Profile and the TGI Product Profile final report, the results of which have been incorporated by ATNF into the 2018 Global Access to Nutrition report. Furthermore, TGI is responsible for the data collection and analysis related to the historic sodium reduction assessment in Australia, the results of which have been incorporated into the Product Profile chapter of the 2018 Global Access to Nutrition report.

**Innova Market Insights (Innova)** is responsible for the data collection and analysis related to the historic sodium reduction assessment that was performed in four countries, the results of which have been incorporated into the Product Profile chapter of the 2018 Global Access to Nutrition report.

**Euromonitor International Disclaimer** Although Euromonitor International makes every effort to ensure that it corrects faults in the Intelligence of which it is aware, it does not warrant that the Intelligence will be accurate, up-to-date or complete as the accuracy and completeness of the data and other content available in respect of different parts of the Intelligence will vary depending on the availability and quality of sources on which each part is based.

Euromonitor International does not take any responsibility nor is liable for any damage caused through the use of our data and holds no accountability of how it is interpreted or used by any third-party.

