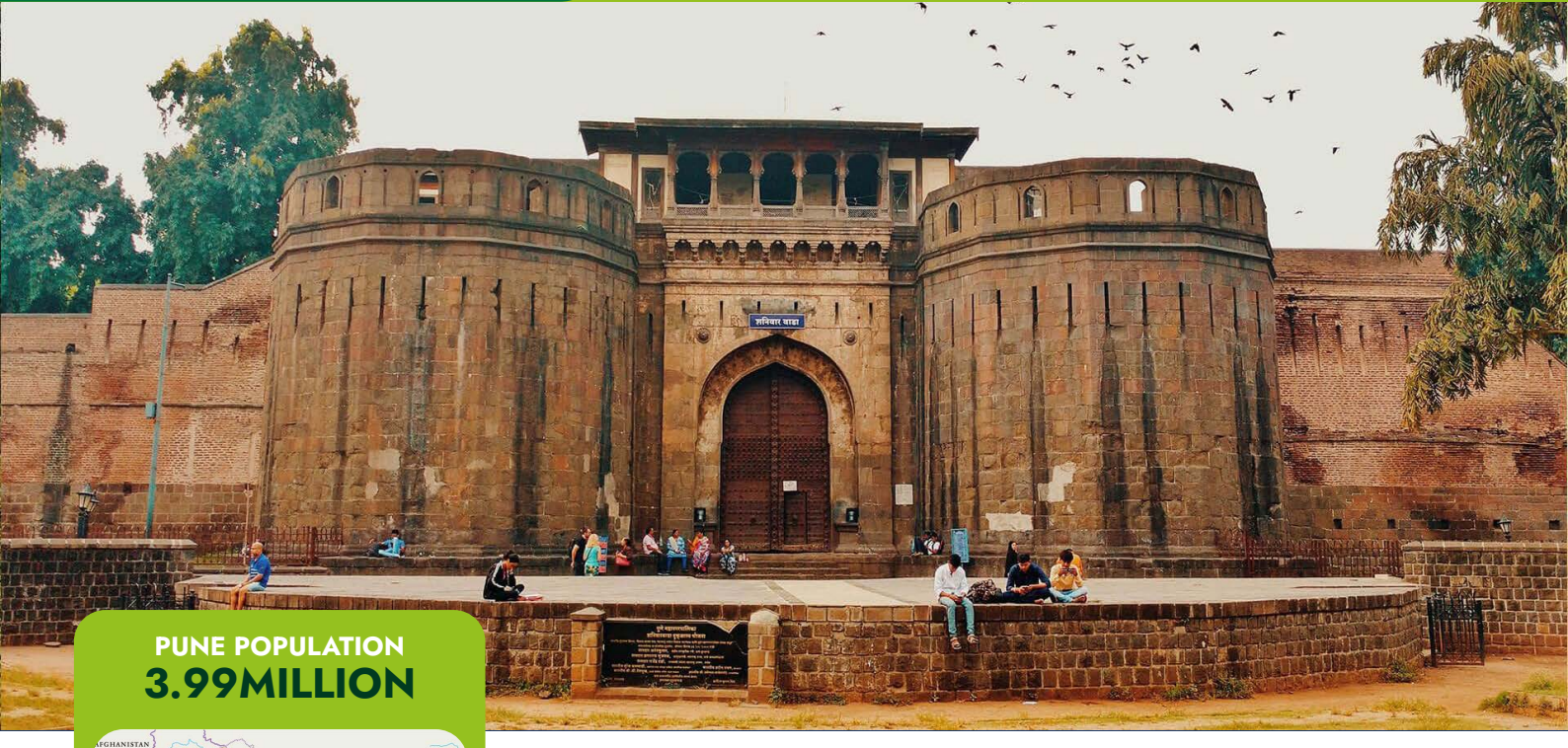




# FOOD CITIES 2022

## PROFILE PUNE



**PUNE POPULATION**  
**3.99MILLION**



Pune is a second-largest city in the state of Maharashtra, with an estimated population of 5 million. City has vibrant reputation and established itself as one of the leading 'smart cities' in India. It has been ranked as "the most liveable city in India" several times. Pune is widely regarded as the second major "IT hub of India and the top "automobile and manufacturing hub of India". It is known as the Oxford of the East with the presence of a wide range of educational institutions. The city's IT sector attracts business from across the world and the city has also seen a rise in entrepreneurs and SMES. Pune is famous for its festivals, cultures, cultural heritage and architecture as per the view of history and culture.

children between 6 and 59 months of age have anaemia. There is limited data on childhood obesity and exclusive breastfeeding rates in Pune, but less than 10% of children 6 to 59 months were recorded as consuming an 'adequate diet' in the National Family Health Survey.

Contributing factors to this complex nutrition situation include household food insecurity, changes to the diet and to the food environment — including increasing access 'obesogenic' foods and environments —and changes to agricultural production. Pune and India have several initiatives in place seeking to address nutrition challenges, many of which are coordinated through the Integrated Child Development scheme and its system of Anganwadi community centres. Most of the current initiatives seek to address undernutrition, however Pune has recently launched a new initiative on childhood obesity.

### Food System Challenges

As with the rest of India, the district of Pune faces multiple nutrition challenges at the same time, including under nutrition, overweight, chronic diseases and micronutrient deficiencies. Nearly a quarter of children in Pune are stunted, and roughly the same percentage respectively are wasted and underweight. At the same time, a third of adults in Pune are overweight or obese, and this has been increasing over time. Half of

### City Food Vision

The City of Pune has been actively developing food strategy and policy since 2016 when the Municipality signed up to the 'BINDI' Birmingham India Nutrition Partnership.







The Food Foundation facilitated a learning partnership between Birmingham, UK and Pune, India which involved the development of policies and practices as part of a 'Food Smart City' initiative. Food Smart Cities use data and technology to change the way that food is produced, processed, distributed and consumed. Birmingham and Pune have a common ambition to seize opportunities to support safer, healthier and more sustainable city food environments which prevent malnutrition in all its forms. The focus of the partnership is on policies regarding food prepared out of the home – to encourage that food which is available and promoted is safe, nutritious, affordable and procured in a manner which supports environmental sustainability and local economic development. In the first 18-month phase, the Food Foundation worked with local authorities in both cities to design the partnership, based on citizen engagement and evidence from elsewhere around the globe. A Situational Analysis Reports for both Birmingham and Pune compiled secondary data on the nutrition situation in both cities to inform the partnership. Both cities signed a Memorandum of Understanding to formalise the learning partnership.



### Food Strategy

Pune secured funding from the World Bank to implement a series of food policy actions focused on transforming the food environment. The Pilot Programme on Urban Food Systems aims to build safe food systems (by following the Eat Right India Framework), improve the nutritional status of Pune citizens and develop strong rural urban links. This involves the implementation of a range of food policy actions including

- Implementation of the EatRight India framework,
- Rolling out farmer's markets across the city
- Improving the nutrition quality of mid-day meals offered in schools
- Procuring food for schools from community based organisations
- Providing access to post harvest infrastructure (including cold storage to reduce waste)
- Improving the goat meat value chain

The programme will last five years.

### Expertise

PMC is recognised for engaging citizens in the development of strategies and plans. In 2019, PMC, in partnership with the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, conducted a household dietary survey to explore the eating habits, understanding of healthy food and policy changes that citizens want to see to help them to secure healthier diets. The survey highlighted new findings about dietary choices including the use of online delivery platforms to order food 1.6 times a week, with 61% of citizens using them one – three times a week and 11% using them four – 10 times weekly.

### Learning Needs

1. Integrating food policy into urban planning
2. Development of multi-stakeholder platforms
3. Supporting migrant workers to develop food skills for jobs within the food economy
4. Evidence based behaviour change campaigns to support Pune's citizens to make healthier, sustainable food choices.

### Resources

- 🔗 [Pune Situational Analysis](#)
- 🔗 [BINDI report](#)
- 🔗 [Multi-stakeholder Group on food systems - draft proposal](#)

