

Need another word that means the same as “shortage”? Find 18 synonyms and 30 related words for “shortage” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Shortage” are: dearth, famine, deficit, shortfall, scarcity, sparseness, sparsity, paucity, poverty, insufficiency, deficiency, inadequacy, lack, want, meagreness, scantiness, rarity, rareness**

## Shortage as a Noun

### Definitions of "Shortage" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “shortage” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *The property of being an amount by which something is less than expected or required.*
- *An acute insufficiency.*
- *A state or situation in which something needed cannot be obtained in sufficient amounts.*



## Synonyms of "Shortage" as a noun (18 Words)

- dearth** A situation where food is in short supply.  
*There is a **dearth** of evidence.*
- deficiency** The amount by which something, especially revenue, falls short; a deficit.  
*Water is the critical **deficiency** in desert regions.*
- deficit** A deficiency or failing, especially in a neurological or psychological function.  
***Deficits** in speech comprehension.*
- famine** An acute insufficiency.  
*The **famine** of 1921 2.*
- inadequacy** Lack of an adequate quantity or number.  
*Juvenile offenses often reflect an **inadequacy** in the parents.*
- insufficiency** Inability of a bodily part or organ to function normally.  
***Insufficiency** of adequate housing.*
- lack** The state of needing something that is absent or unavailable.  
*There is a **lack** of parking space in the town.*
- meagreness** The quality of being meager.  
*Job satisfaction eclipses the **meagreness** of income.*

<b>paucity</b>	An insufficient quantity or number. <i>A <b>paucity</b> of information.</i>
<b>poverty</b>	The state of being extremely poor. <i>Thousands of families are living in abject <b>poverty</b>.</i>
<b>rareness</b>	Noteworthy scarcity.
<b>rarity</b>	A rarified quality. <i>To take the morning off was a <b>rarity</b>.</i>
<b>scantiness</b>	The quality of being small or insufficient in quantity or amount. <i>Problems because of the <b>scantiness</b> of reliable information.</i>
<b>scarcity</b>	A small and inadequate amount. <i>A time of <b>scarcity</b>.</i>
<b>shortfall</b>	A deficit of something required or expected. <i>They are facing an expected 10 billion <b>shortfall</b> in revenue.</i>
<b>sparseness</b>	The property of being scanty or scattered; lacking denseness.
<b>sparsity</b>	The property of being scanty or scattered; lacking denseness.
<b>want</b>	A desire for something. <i>I tried to supply his <b>wants</b>.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Shortage" as a noun

- *A shortage of hard cash.*
- *The problems of land shortage in the countryside.*
- *Food shortages.*





## Associations of "Shortage" (30 Words)

<b>cutback</b>	A reduction in quantity or rate. <i><b>Cutbacks</b> in defence spending.</i>
<b><u>dearth</u></b>	A scarcity or lack of something. <i>There is a <b>dearth</b> of evidence.</i>
<b><u>defective</u></b>	Imperfect or faulty. <i>I returned the appliance because it was <b>defective</b>.</i>
<b>deficiency</b>	The state of needing something that is absent or unavailable. <i>A budget <b>deficiency</b> of 96 billion.</i>
<b><u>deficit</u></b>	A deficiency or failing, especially in a neurological or psychological function. <i>They have serious linguistic <b>deficits</b>.</i>
<b>drought</b>	A prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water. <i>He ended a five game goal <b>drought</b>.</i>
<b>dryness</b>	Lack of interest, excitement, or embellishment; dullness. <i>A certain <b>dryness</b> of style.</i>
<b><u>famine</u></b>	Extreme scarcity of food. <i>The <b>famine</b> of 1921 2.</i>

<b>flaw</b>	Add a flaw or blemish to make imperfect or defective. <i>He had his <b>flaws</b> but he was great nonetheless.</i>
<b><u>hunger</u></b>	Feel or suffer hunger. <i>When he had fasted forty days and forty nights he afterwards <b>hungered</b>.</i>
<b><u>inaction</u></b>	The state of being inactive. <i>Future generations will condemn us for <b>inaction</b>.</i>
<b><u>inadequacy</u></b>	The state or quality of being inadequate; lack of the quantity or quality required. <i>The <b>inadequacy</b> of unemployment benefits.</i>
<b>indigence</b>	A state of extreme poverty; destitution. <i>He did valuable work towards the relief of <b>indigence</b>.</i>
<b>insufficiency</b>	The inability of an organ to perform its normal function. <i>Renal <b>insufficiency</b>.</i>
<b><u>insufficient</u></b>	Not enough; inadequate. <i>There was <b>insufficient</b> evidence to convict him.</i>
<b>jaundice</b>	Affect with or as if with jaundice. <i>Jealousy had <b>jaundiced</b> his judgment.</i>
<b>lack</b>	Be without. <i>There is no <b>lack</b> of entertainment aboard ship.</i>
<b>lacking</b>	Deficient or inadequate. <i>The students are not <b>lacking</b> in intellectual ability.</i>
<b>leukocyte</b>	Blood cells that engulf and digest bacteria and fungi; an important part of the body's defense system.
<b>minus</b>	Involving disadvantage or harm. <i><b>Minus</b> or negative factors.</i>
<b>need</b>	Have or feel a need for. <i><b>Need</b> I say more.</i>
<b><u>needy</u></b>	Needy people collectively. <i><b>Needy</b> and elderly people.</i>
<b>paucity</b>	An insufficient quantity or number. <i>A <b>paucity</b> of information.</i>
<b>scant</b>	Less than the correct or legal or full amount often deliberately so. <i>He does not <b>scant</b> his attention to the later writings.</i>
<b>scarcity</b>	A small and inadequate amount. <i>A time of <b>scarcity</b>.</i>

- shortcoming** A fault or failure to meet a certain standard, typically in a person's character, a plan, or a system.  
*He is so forthright about his **shortcomings** it s hard to chastise him.*
- shortfall** A deficit of something required or expected.  
*They are facing an expected 10 billion **shortfall** in revenue.*
- starve** Have a craving, appetite, or great desire for.  
*The Royalists were **starved** out after eleven days.*
- vitamin** A pill containing a specified amount of a particular vitamin or vitamins taken as a dietary supplement.  
*Most people can get all the **vitamins** they need from a healthy diet.*
- wanting** Nonexistent.  
*Mandibles are **wanting** in many of these insects.*

