



Photo courtesy: WHO

Facts and Figures Healthy Ageing



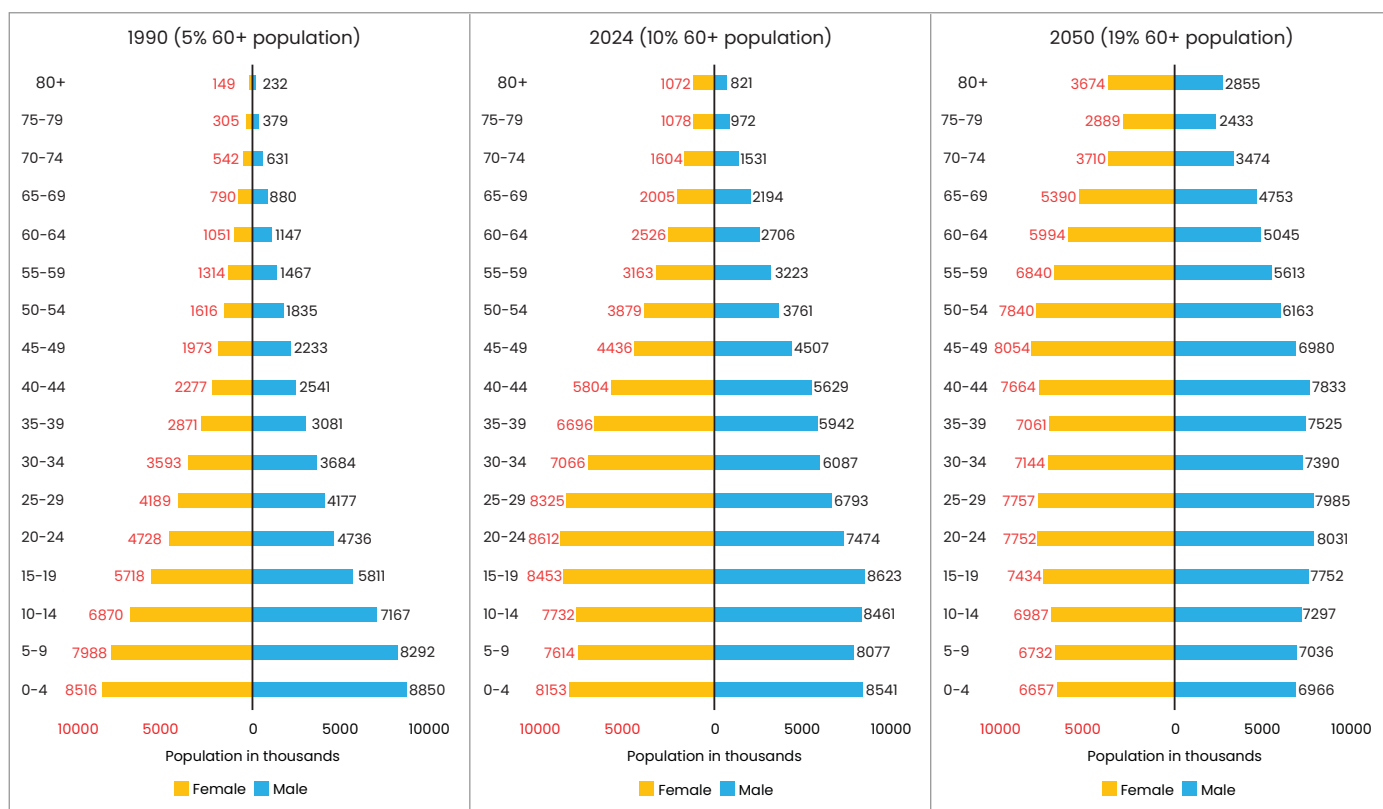
Bangladesh



Demographic profile, 2024

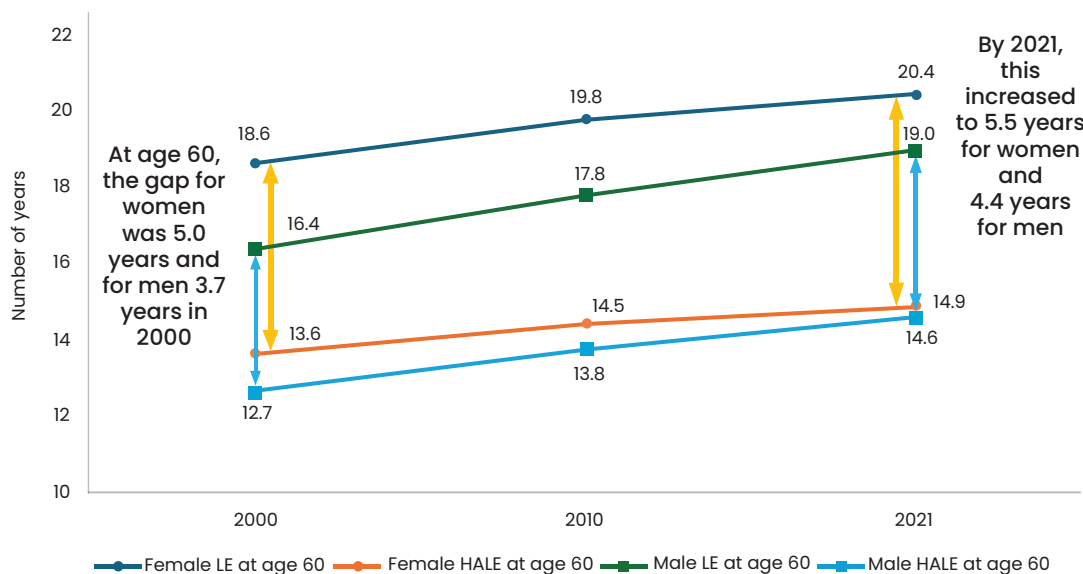
	Total	Female	Male
Total population	173 562 000	88 219 000 (51%)	85 344 000 (49%)
Total 60+ years population	16 511 000 (10%)	8 286 000 (9%)	8 225 000 (10%)
Total 80+ years population	1 893 000 (1.1%)	1 072 000 (1.2%)	821 000 (1.0%)

Demographic shift:
Share of people aged 60 years and above expected to increase from 10% in 2024 to 19% in 2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2024). World Population Prospects 2024, Online Edition (accessed on 1 August 2025)

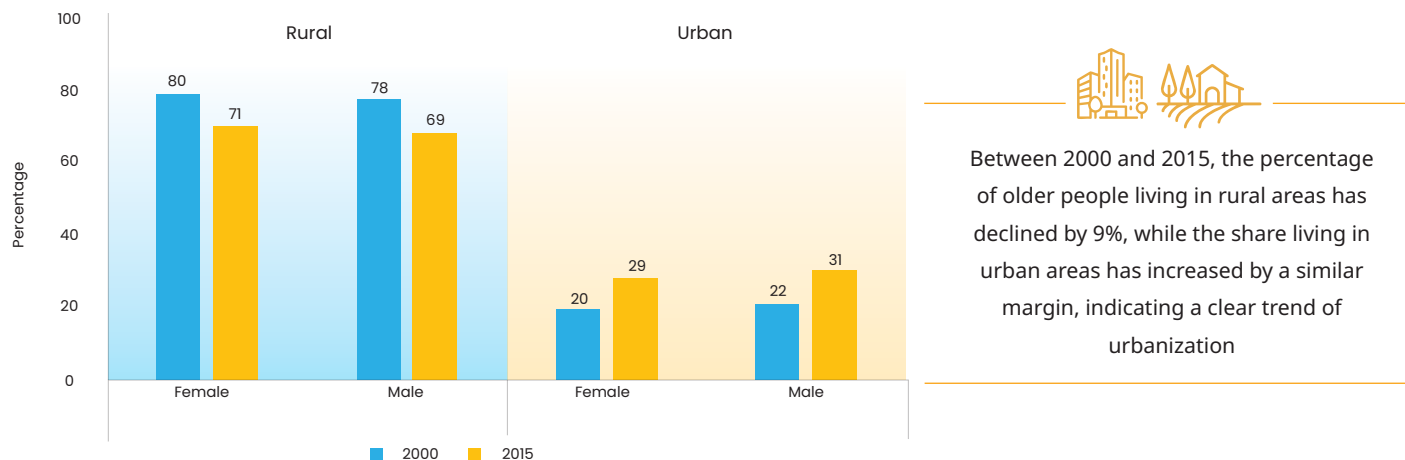
Gap between life expectancy and health life expectancy at age 60 years, 2000–2021



Older women live longer than men but spend more years in poor health, with the LE-HALE gap at 5.5 years for women and 4.4 years for men in 2021

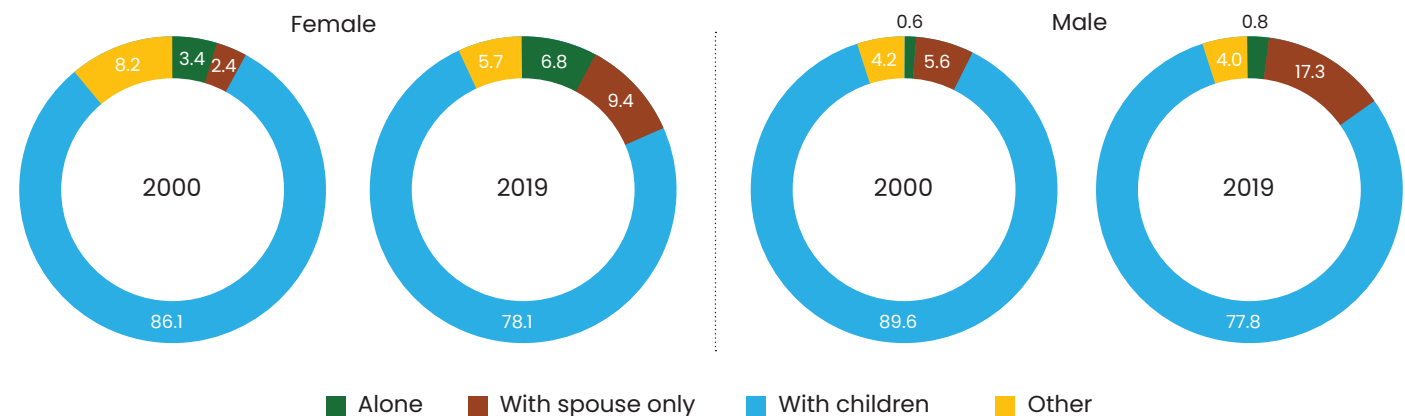
Source: Global Health Observatory–World Health Organization (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Percentage of older people aged 60 years and above living in rural and urban areas



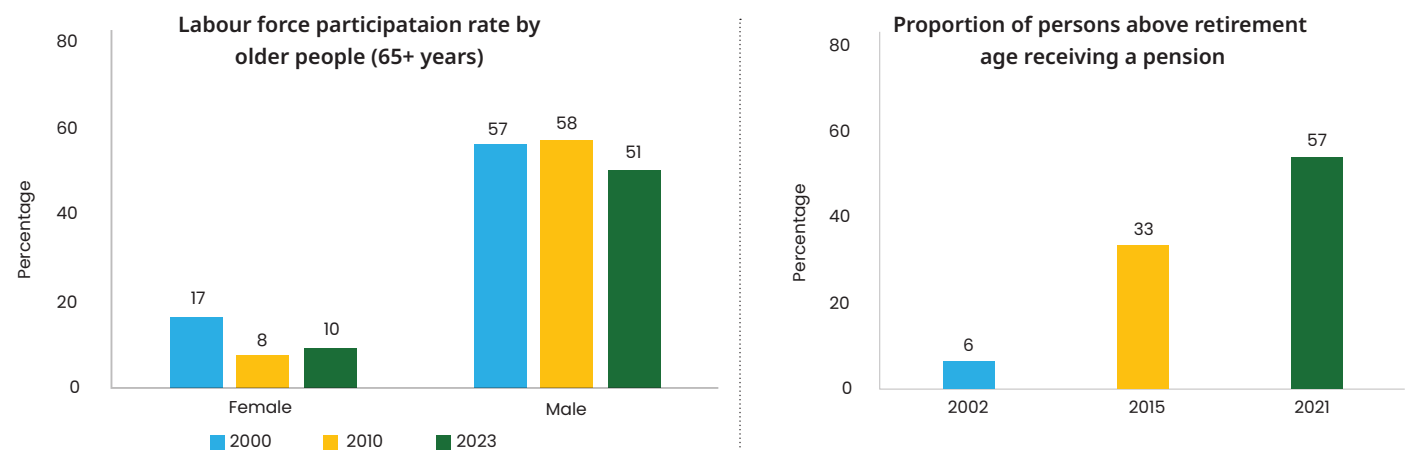
Source: Ageing Data Portal–World Health Organization (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Household living arrangements (60+ years)



Source: Ageing Data Portal–World Health Organization (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Labour force participation rate by older people (65+ years) and proportion of persons above retirement age receiving a pension



Source: ILOSTAT (accessed on 1 August 2025)

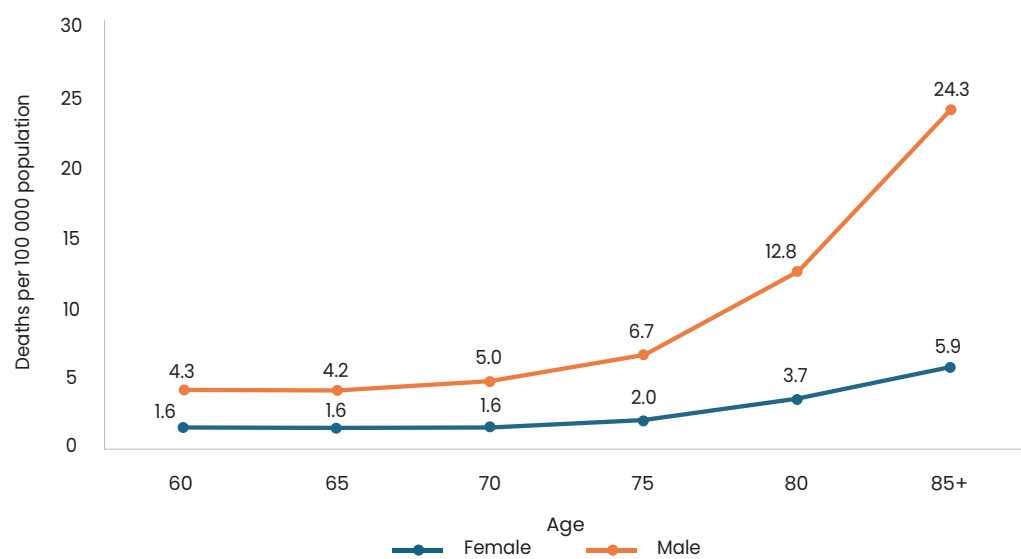


Mortality profile
Top five causes of mortality in older people

Rank	60+ older population				85+ older population			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
	2000	2021	2000	2021	2000	2021	2000	2021
1	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke	Stroke
2	Tuberculosis	Ischaemic heart disease	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Ischaemic heart disease	Diarrhoeal diseases	Diabetes mellitus	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Ischaemic heart disease
3	Ischaemic heart disease	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Ischaemic heart disease	COVID-19	Tuberculosis	Ischaemic heart disease	Ischaemic heart disease	COVID-19
4	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	COVID-19	Tuberculosis	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Tuberculosis	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
5	Diarrhoeal diseases	Diabetes mellitus	Diarrhoeal diseases	Tuberculosis	Diabetes mellitus	Diarrhoeal diseases	Diarrhoeal diseases	Diabetes mellitus

Source: World Health Organization - Global Health Estimates (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Suicide mortality rate (per 100 000 population) among older people, 2021



Suicide mortality rates among older people rose sharply for males, and were consistently higher in males than females, with the gap widening significantly in the oldest age groups

Source: World Health Organization-Global Health Estimates (accessed on 7 October 2025)



Morbidity profile

Top five causes of years of healthy life lost due to disability (YLD)

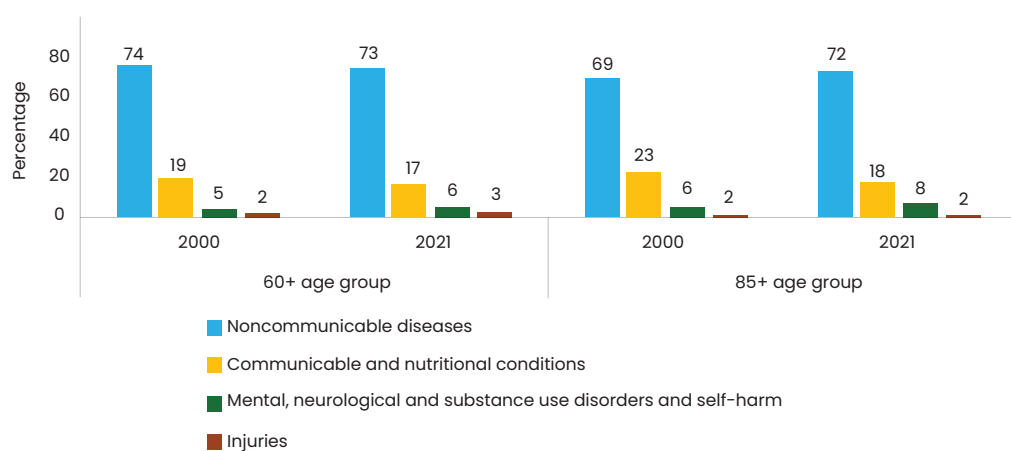
	60+ older population				85+ older population			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
Rank	2000	2021	2000	2021	2000	2021	2000	2021
1	Back and neck pain	Back and neck pain	Back and neck pain	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss
2	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss	Other hearing loss	Back and neck pain	Cataracts	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Cataracts	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
3	Depressive disorders	Diabetes mellitus	Iron-deficiency anaemia	Diabetes mellitus	Back and neck pain	Back and neck pain	Alzheimer disease and other dementias	Alzheimer disease and other dementias
4	Cataracts	Depressive disorders	Depressive disorders	Depressive disorders	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Alzheimer disease and other dementias	Back and neck pain	Back and neck pain
5	Iron-deficiency anaemia	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Diabetes mellitus	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Alzheimer disease and other dementias	Cataracts	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Cataracts

Source: World Health Organization-Global Health Estimates (accessed on 1 August 2025)



Back and neck pain and hearing loss remain leading causes in 60+ years, while COPD and Alzheimer's disease and other dementias rise sharply among those 85+ years between 2000 and 2021

Distribution of Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) among older people



Between 2000 and 2021, the DALYs in older people were dominated by non-communicable diseases, with a rising contribution from mental, neurological, and substance use disorders - while the share from communicable and nutritional conditions declined

Source: World Health Organization - Global Health Estimates (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Incidence and prevalence of common health conditions

Age group	Tuberculosis* 2021		Acute hepatitis B* 2021		Falls* 2021		Hearing impairments** 2021		Vision impairments** 2019		Anaemia** 2021		Lower back pain** 2021	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
60–64	27 966	29 670	68 611	134 424	428	583	51	56	62	53	46	37	27	15
65–69	34 412	36 805	66 620	134 452	470	605	59	64	75	65	50	40	28	16
70–74	33 390	33 446	65 619	131 220	617	671	66	71	85	75	49	42	29	17
75–79	31 926	34 226	64 038	127 589	1020	896	72	77	90	81	48	47	31	19
80–84	37 832	49 326	62 835	126 151	1450	1201	77	81	93	85	51	48	34	19
85–89	43 341	64 615	59 565	120 501	1664	1426	80	83	95	89	65	56	35	20
90–94	48 724	76 515	56 216	114 626	1755	1492	81	84	97	93	83	91	32	19
95+	54 415	135 668	54 772	109 803	1765	1444	83	84	99	96	81	93	27	17

Source: Global Burden of Disease (accessed on 1 August 2025)

*Incidence rate per 100 000 population **Prevalence

The health burden in older age is shaped by a dual challenge of infectious diseases (higher in men) and chronic/functional impairments (higher in women)



Tuberculosis

Increases with age, with men consistently showing higher incidence than women



Acute hepatitis B

Declines with age, but men have nearly double the rates compared to women



Falls

Incidence rises sharply in advanced age, especially among women



Hearing impairments

Prevalence increases steadily with age, slightly higher among men



Vision impairments

Affect the majority of older adults, surpassing 90% in the 85+ age group, with women more affected



Anaemia

Becomes more common with age, disproportionately affecting women

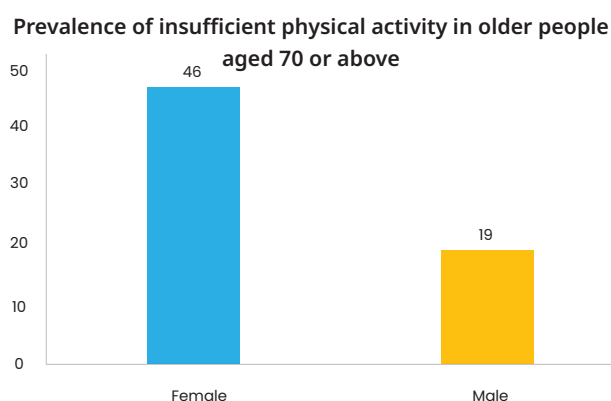
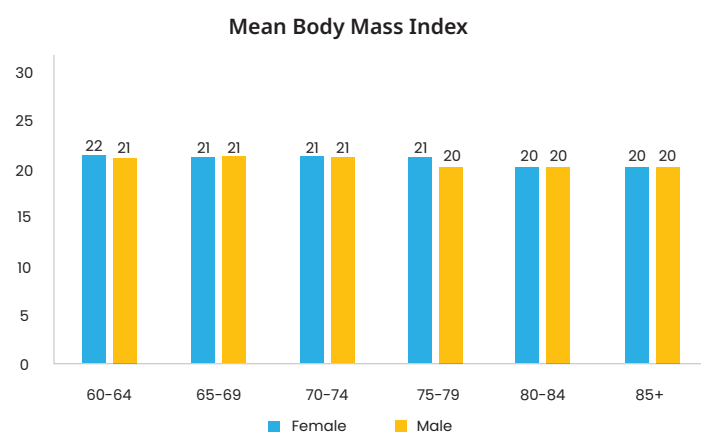


Lower back pain

Higher prevalence among women than men



Mean Body Mass Index (based on measured height and weight) and Prevalence of insufficient physical activity in older people aged 70 years or above, 2016



Source: Global Health Observatory–World Health Organization (accessed on 1 August 2025)



UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030)

10 national indicators	2020	2023
Focal point on ageing and health in the Ministry of Health	No	Yes
National plans, policies or strategies on ageing and health	Yes	No
National multi-stakeholder forum or committee on ageing and health	Yes	No
National legislation and enforcement strategies against age-based discrimination	No	Yes
Legislation / regulations that provide older adults with access to assistive devices from the WHO Priority Assistive Products List	No	Yes
A national programme to support activities in line with the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities	Yes	Yes
National policies in place to support comprehensive assessments of the health and social care needs of older people	No	Yes
National long-term care policy / plan / strategy / framework (stand-alone or integrated within an ageing and health plan)	No	Yes
Nationally representative, cross-sectional, publicly available and anonymous individual level data on older persons and their health status and needs collected since 2010	No	No
Nationally representative longitudinal surveys on health status and needs of older persons available in the public domain	No	No

Additional indicators	2023
Policy, legislation, strategy, or programme to support combatting ageism	No
Human rights mechanisms dedicated to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons	No
Specific legal, administrative, or other effective remedies (anti-discrimination body; national human rights institution) to older persons who have been subject to discrimination	No
Contributing to the UN-Open ended working group on ageing	Not reported
Country that implemented actions to support income generation activities for older persons	No
Provision of out-patient-service free of charge in the public sector for older persons	Yes
Provision of assistive devices and technologies free of charge in the public sector for older persons	Yes
Pharmaceutical products and/or other medical supplies free of charge in the public sector for older persons	No
Capacity-building plans to strengthen the geriatric and gerontology workforce	Yes
National guidelines for organizing geriatric care and training	Yes
National competency frameworks for geriatrics care workers	No
Programmes (in-person or online) available for caregivers of older persons	No
Policy, legislation, strategy, or programme to support the integration of palliative care services into the structure and financing of national healthcare systems at all levels of care	No

Availability of human and financial resources to address the UN Decade strategic priorities

	Adequate resources	Substantial resources	Limited resources	Very limited resources	No resources	No response
Combating Ageism				✓		
Age-friendly Environment			✓			
Integrated Care for Older Persons			✓			
Long-term Care			✓			

Source: Global Health Observatory-World Health Organization (accessed on 1 August 2025)

Bangladesh reported having limited to very limited human and financial resources for combating ageism, strengthening age-friendly environments, advancing integrated care, and developing long-term care

Together for
Health, care and dignity
of older population



World Health
Organization

South-East Asia Region