

Nepal

Population (000s) ¹

29 695



Urban population ²

21.9%



Poverty ³

(PPP<US\$ 2.15 a day)

0.4%

GDP per capita ³
(current US\$)

1 326.1



Current health expenditure
as share of GDP ⁴

6.7%



Monitoring the health SDG goal: Indicator of overall health and well-being

Life expectancy at birth, 2021 ⁵



Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years that a newborn is expected to live if s/he were to pass through life exposed to the sex- and age-specific death rates prevailing at the time of birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area.

Healthy life expectancy (HALE) ⁵ at birth is the average number of years that a person can expect to live in full health by taking into account years lived in less than full health due to disease and/or injury.

Compared to males, females have **3.5 years of longer** life expectancy and **0.9 years of more** HALE.

Universal health coverage (UHC): at the centre of health-related SDGs

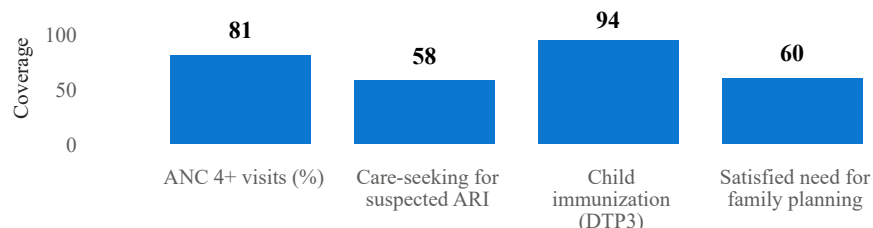
The goal of UHC (SDG3 Target 3.8) is to ensure that every individual and community, irrespective of their circumstances, should receive the health services they need without risking financial hardship. To monitor Target 3.8, two indicators are regularly estimated: 3.8.1 which captures the population coverage dimension of UHC, and 3.8.2 which captures the financial hardship dimension of UHC.

HEALTH SERVICE COVERAGE, 2023

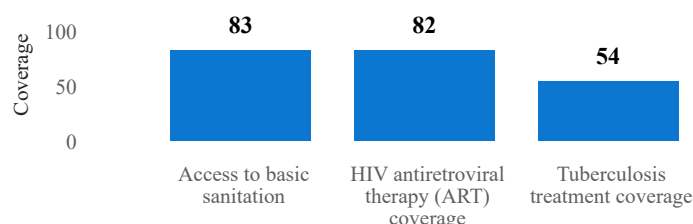
The summary measure of essential health service coverage is the *service coverage index* ⁷ of sub-indicators in four main areas:

(1) reproductive, maternal, newborn and child and adolescent health; (2) infectious diseases; (3) noncommunicable diseases; (4) service capacity, access and health security.

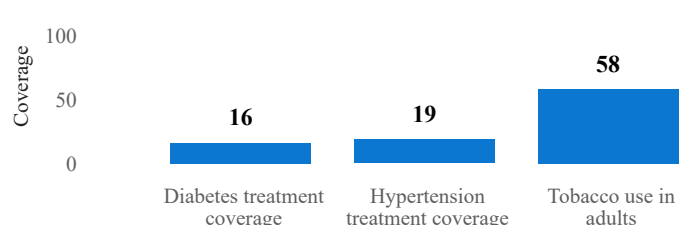
Reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCAH) ⁷



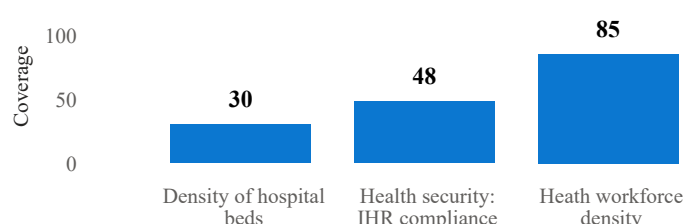
Infectious diseases ⁷



Noncommunicable diseases ⁷



Service capacity, access and health security ⁷

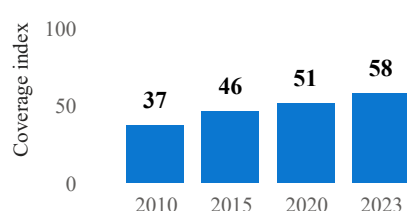


UHC service coverage index (UHC SCI) of essential health services

UHC SCI is a single indicator computed from tracer indicators of the coverage of essential services in the areas of RMNCAH, infectious disease control, NCDs and service capacity and access. Presented on a scale of 0 to 100 (full coverage), the index is constructed from geometric means of the tracer

indicators; weighted geometric mean within each of the four, and then geometric mean of the four to obtain the final summary index.

UHC service coverage index ⁷



FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

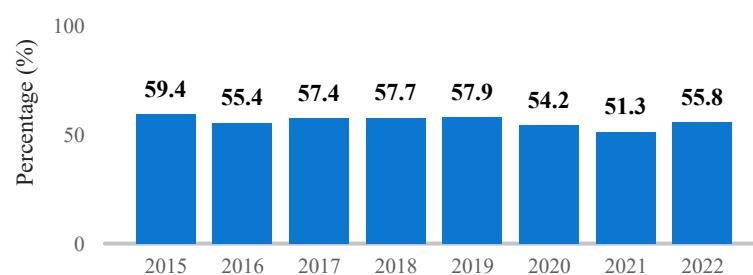
Financial hardship occurs when out-of-pocket (OOP) health spending threatens people's living standards or compromises access to needed services or household welfare.

SDG Indicator 3.8.2: Proportion of the population with positive out-of-pocket household expenditure on health exceeding 40% of household discretionary budget (*The household discretionary budget is defined as total household consumption /expenditure (or income) minus the societal poverty line (SPL).*)

24.9% or approximately **7 409 531** people faced financial hardship due to out-of-pocket health spending ⁶.

Out-of-pocket expenditure ⁴

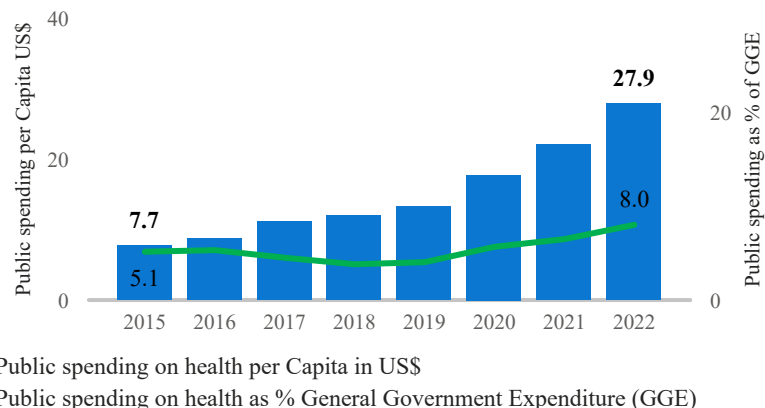
In most cases, a high percentage of out-of-pocket expenditure in current health expenditure is associated with low financial protection.



■ Out-of-pocket (OOP) as % of current health expenditure (CHE)

Public spending on health ⁴

Public spending on health reflects both a government's investment and its prioritization of the health sector.

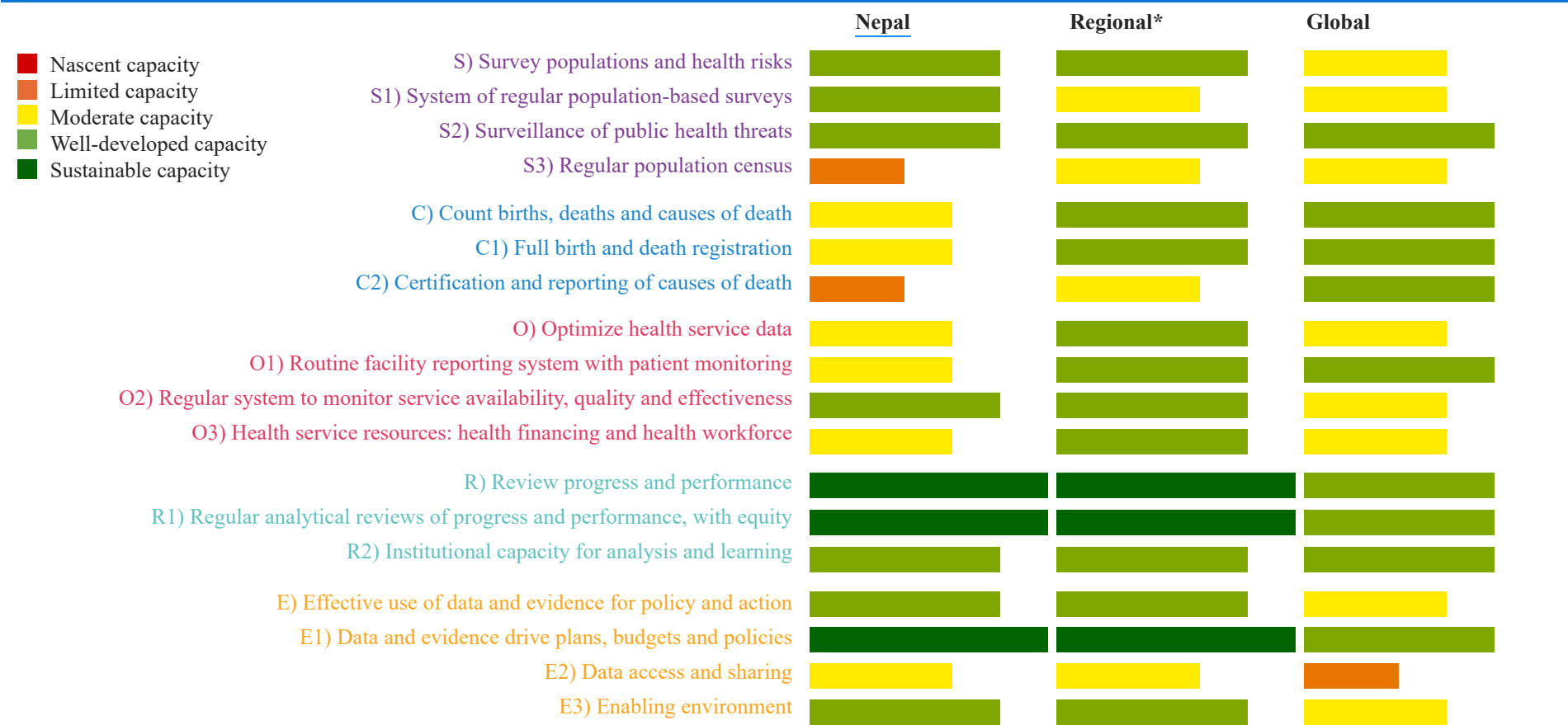


■ Public spending on health per Capita in US\$

■ Public spending on health as % General Government Expenditure (GGE)

This health and health-related SDG country profile is a tool for action. It supports each country to assess progress in population health and to identify opportunities to address intervention coverage gaps and accelerate progress in improving coverage and health outcomes.

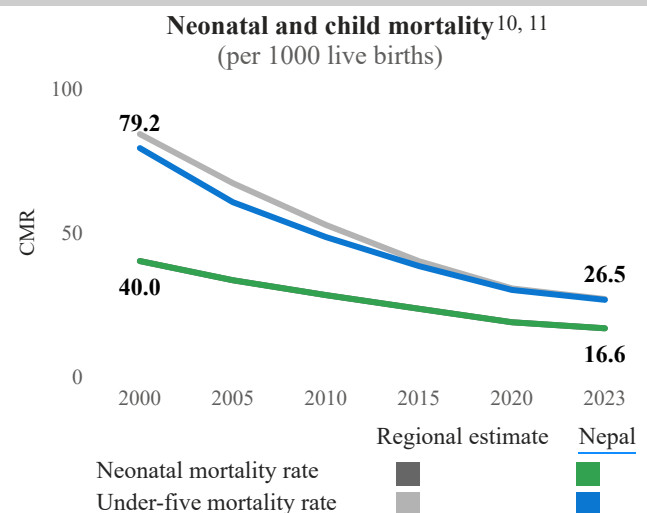
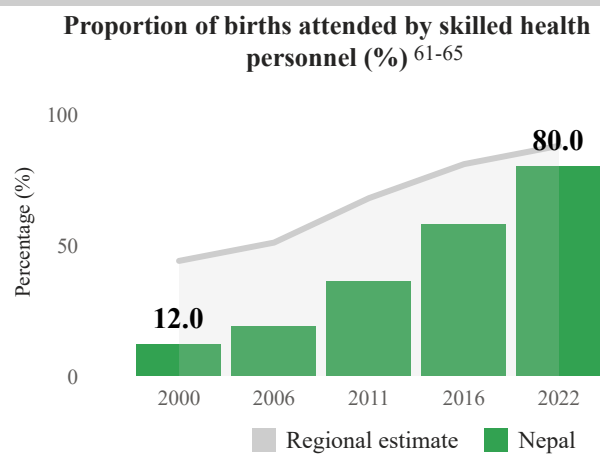
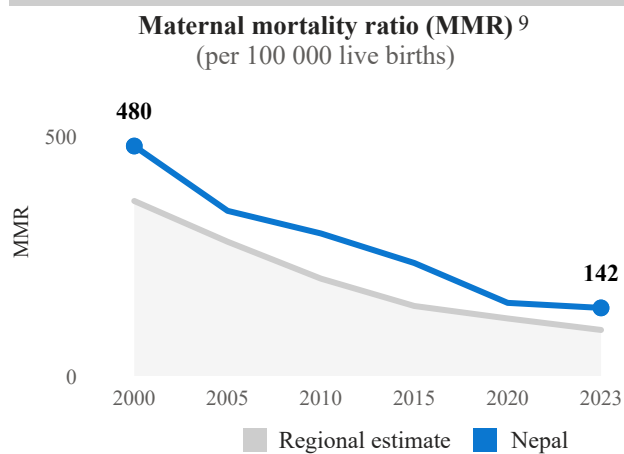
SCORE at a glance, 2024 ⁸



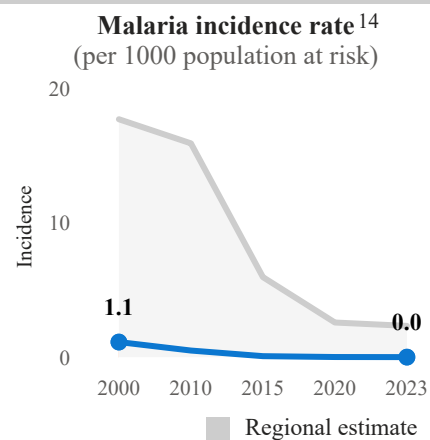
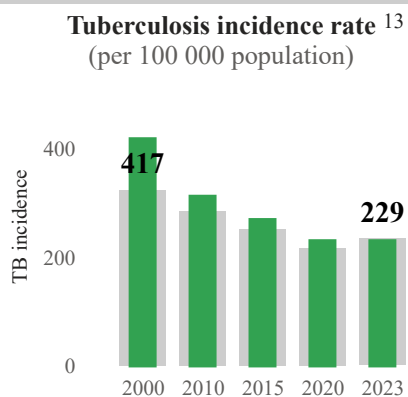
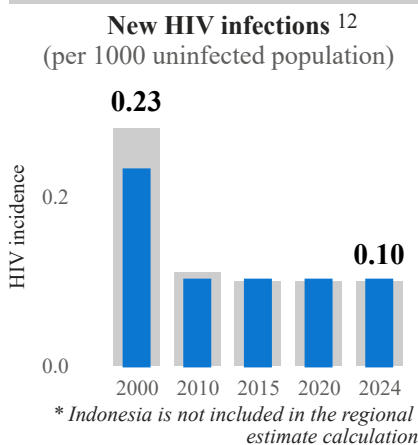
* Indonesia is not included in the regional estimate calculation

SDG 3: Health targets

Maternal, neonatal and child mortality (SDG target 3.1, 3.2)



Infectious diseases (SDG target 3.3)



Indicator	Year	<u>Nepal</u>	Regional estimate
Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) prevalence among children under 5 years (%) ¹⁵	2020	0.16	0.38
Reported number of people requiring interventions against NTDs ¹⁶	2023	14 786 109	787 674 482

Noncommunicable diseases, substance abuse and road traffic injuries

Indicator	SDG target	Year	Nepal		Regional estimate	
Probability of dying between the ages of 30 and 70 years from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases (%) ¹⁷	3.4.1	2010		19.1		22.8
		2021		19.4		22.3
Suicide mortality rate (per 100 000 population) ¹⁸	3.4.2	2010		10.1		12.2
		2021		10.1		10.1
Contact coverage of treatment services for alcohol use disorders (%) ¹⁹	3.5.1	—	—		—	
Contact coverage of treatment services for drug use disorders (%) ²⁰	3.5.1	—	—		—	
Total alcohol per capita (≥ 15 years of age) consumption (litres of pure alcohol) ²¹	3.5.2	2010		1.7		3.6
		2022		3.7		3.6
Road traffic mortality rate (per 100 000 population) ²²	3.6.1	—	—		—	
		2021		28.2		16.1

Note: En dash (–) implies relevant data are not available

Indicator	SDG target	Year	Nepal		Regional estimate	
Sexual and reproductive health						
Proportion of women of reproductive age who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%) ^{63, 66}	3.7.1	2011		56.2		72.6
		2022		55.1		76.8
Adolescent birth rate (per 1000 women aged 10–14 years) ²³	3.7.2	2015		1.0		0.8
		2020		0.0		0.4
Adolescent birth rate (per 1000 women aged 15–19 years) ²³	3.7.2	2015		88.0		29.6
		2020		71.2		24.0
Mortality due to environment pollution						
Age-standardized mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (per 100 000 population) ²⁴	3.9.1	2010		182.1		177.0
		2019		179.5		133.9
Mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH services (per 100 000 population) ²⁵	3.9.2	—	—		—	
		2019		17.8		29.6
Mortality rate from unintentional poisoning (per 100 000 population) ²⁶	3.9.3	2010		3.3		0.3
		2021		2.9		0.2
Tobacco use						
Age-standardized prevalence of tobacco use among persons 15 years and older (%) ²⁷	3.a.1	2010		44.0		37.2
		2022		28.3		26.5
Essential medicines and vaccines						
Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%) ²⁸	3.b.1	2010		93.0		82.0
		2024		97.0		92.0
Measles-containing-vaccine second-dose (MCV2) immunization coverage by the locally recommended age (%) ²⁹	3.b.1	2010		0.0		15.0
		2024		93.0		90.0
Pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose (PCV3) immunization coverage among 1-year olds (%) ³⁰	3.b.1	2010		0.0		0.0
		2024		96.0		88.0
HPV immunization coverage estimates among primary target cohort (9–14 years old girls) (%) ³¹	3.b.1	—	—		—	
		—	—		—	
Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors per capita (US\$), by recipient country ³²	3.b.2	—	—		—	
		2023		3.7		0.5
Proportion of health facilities with a core set of relevant essential medicines available and affordable on a sustainable basis (%) ³³	3.b.3	—	—		—	
Health workforce density						
Density of medical doctors (per 10 000 population) ³⁴	3.c.1	2013		5.5		—
		2023		10.1		—
Density of nursing and midwifery personnel (per 10 000 population) ³⁵	3.c.1	2013		18.3		—
		2023		40.9		—
Density of dentists (per 10 000 population) ³⁶	3.c.1	2017		2.2		—
		2023		1.6		—
Density of pharmacists (per 10 000 population) ³⁷	3.c.1	2012		0.4		—
		2023		2.3		—
Early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks						
Average of 15 International Health Regulations core capacity scores ³⁸	3.d.1	2021		44.0		64.0
		2024		49.0		67.0
Percentage of bloodstream infections due methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) (%) ³⁹	3.d.2	2018		55.6		—
		2022		83.3		—
Percentage of bloodstream infection due to Escherichia coli resistant to 3rd-generation cephalosporin (%) ⁴⁰	3.d.2	2018		65.3		—
		2022		77.1		—
Other health-related SDGs						
General government health expenditure						
Domestic general government health expenditure (GGHE-D) as percentage of general government expenditure (GGE) (%) ⁴	1.a.2	2010		4.8		5.9
		2022		8.0		8.4
Malnutrition in children under-five						
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%) ⁴¹	2.2.1	2010		42.8		41.4
		2024		26.0		29.7

Note: En dash (–) implies relevant data are not available

5 Global Health Estimates 2021: Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy. Geneva, World Health Organization; 2024 (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/gho-ghc-hale-healthy-life-expectancy-at-birth, accessed 10 February 2025)

6 These are preliminary estimates based on country consultation conducted by WHO and WB on SDG UHC indicators, as of September 2025. Final figures will be published in the Global Monitoring Report on UHC December 2025.
Method Transformation:
- Use of Discretionary budget instead of total expenditure or consumption as denominator.
- A single threshold of 40% instead of earlier two 10 % and 25%
- Single series of indicator as compared to previously two series for reporting.

7 These are preliminary estimates based on country consultation conducted by WHO on UHC indicators as of September 2025. Final figures will be published as part of Global Monitoring Report on UHC in December 2025.
Method transformation:
* Health worker density: Proxy indicator. Health workforce density is both capped at maximum thresholds, and values above this threshold are held constant at 100. These thresholds are based on minimum values observed across OECD countries.
- medical doctors per 1,000: rescaled value = minimum (100, original value / 6*100)
- nursing and midwifery personnel per 1,000: rescaled value = minimum (100, original value / 6*100)
The health workforce threshold is based on the 5th percentile among high-income countries in 2013. If the value of a transformed indicator happens to be zero or above 100, it is set to 1 (out of 100) and 100 (out of 100) respectively before computing the weighted geometric mean.

8 WHO SCORE for health, global assessment 2nd round; accessed 10 August 2025

9 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/maternal-mortality-ratio-\(per-100-000-live-births\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/maternal-mortality-ratio-(per-100-000-live-births)), accessed 27 May 2025)

10 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Under-five mortality rate (per 1000 live births) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/under-five-mortality-rate-\(probability-of-dying-by-age-5-per-1000-live-births\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/under-five-mortality-rate-(probability-of-dying-by-age-5-per-1000-live-births)), accessed 27 May 2025)

11 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Neonatal mortality rate (per 1000 live births) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/neonatal-mortality-rate-\(per-1000-live-births\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/neonatal-mortality-rate-(per-1000-live-births)), accessed 27 May 2025)

12 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: New HIV infections (per 1000 uninfected population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/new-hiv-infections-\(per-1000-uninfected-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/new-hiv-infections-(per-1000-uninfected-population)), accessed 28 July 2025)

13 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Tuberculosis incidence (per 100 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/incidence-of-tuberculosis-\(per-100-000-population-per-year\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/incidence-of-tuberculosis-(per-100-000-population-per-year)), accessed 10 February 2025)

14 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Malaria incidence (per 1000 population at risk) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/malaria-incidence-\(per-1-000-population-at-risk\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/malaria-incidence-(per-1-000-population-at-risk)), accessed 10 February 2025)

15 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) prevalence among children under 5 years (%) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/hepatitis-b-surface-antigen-\(hbsag\)-prevalence-among-children-under-5-years](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/hepatitis-b-surface-antigen-(hbsag)-prevalence-among-children-under-5-years), accessed 27 May 2025)

16 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Reported number of people requiring interventions against NTDs (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/reported-number-of-people-requiring-interventions-against-ntds, accessed 27 May 2025)

17 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Probability of dying between the ages of 30 and 70 years from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases (%) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/probability-of-dying-between-exact-ages-30-and-70-from-any-of-cardiovascular-disease-cancer-diabetes-or-chronic-respiratory-\(-\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/probability-of-dying-between-exact-ages-30-and-70-from-any-of-cardiovascular-disease-cancer-diabetes-or-chronic-respiratory-(-)), accessed 27 May 2025)

18 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Suicide mortality rate (per 100 000 population) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/mental-health/suicide-rates, accessed 10 February 2025)

19 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Contact coverage of treatment services for alcohol use disorders (%) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/contact-coverage-of-treatment-services-for-substance-use-disorders, accessed 10 February 2025)

20 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Contact coverage of treatment services for drug use disorders (%) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/contact-coverage-of-treatment-services-for-substance-use-disorders, accessed 10 February 2025)

21 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Total alcohol per capita (≥ 15 years of age) consumption (litres of pure alcohol) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/total-\(recorded-unrecorded\)-alcohol-per-capita-\(15-\)-consumption](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/total-(recorded-unrecorded)-alcohol-per-capita-(15-)-consumption), accessed 26 September 2025)

22 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Road traffic mortality rate (per 100 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/estimated-road-traffic-death-rate-\(per-100-000-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/estimated-road-traffic-death-rate-(per-100-000-population)), accessed 10 February 2025)

23 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Adolescent birth rate (per 1000 women) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/adolescent-birth-rate-\(per-1000-women-aged-15-19-years\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/adolescent-birth-rate-(per-1000-women-aged-15-19-years)), accessed 27 May 2025)

24 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Age-standardized mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (per 100 000 population) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/ambient-and-household-air-pollution-attributable-deaths, accessed 10 February 2025)

25 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH services (per 100 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/mortality-rate-attributed-to-exposure-to-unsafe-wash-services-\(per-100-000-population\)-\(sdg-3-9-2\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/mortality-rate-attributed-to-exposure-to-unsafe-wash-services-(per-100-000-population)-(sdg-3-9-2)), accessed 10 February 2025)

26 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Mortality rate from unintentional poisoning (per 100 000 population) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/topics/indicator-groups/poison-control-and-unintentional-poisoning, accessed 10 February 2025)

27 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Age-standardized prevalence of tobacco use among persons 15 years and older (%) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/gho-tobacco-control-monitor-current-tobaccouse-tobaccosmoking-cigarrettesmoking-agedstobagestdcurr, accessed 10 February 2025)

28 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/diphtheria-tetanus-toxoid-and-pertussis-\(dtp3\)-immunization-coverage-among-1-year-olds-\(-\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/diphtheria-tetanus-toxoid-and-pertussis-(dtp3)-immunization-coverage-among-1-year-olds-(-)), accessed 30 July 2025)

29 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Measles-containing-vaccine second-dose (MCV2) immunization coverage by the locally recommended age (%) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/measles-containing-vaccine-second-dose-\(mcv2\)-immunization-coverage-by-the-nationally-recommended-age-\(-\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/measles-containing-vaccine-second-dose-(mcv2)-immunization-coverage-by-the-nationally-recommended-age-(-)), accessed 30 July 2025)

30 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose (PCV3) immunization coverage among 1-year olds (%) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/pneumococcal-conjugate-vaccines-\(pcv3\)-immunization-coverage-among-1-year-olds-\(-\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/pneumococcal-conjugate-vaccines-(pcv3)-immunization-coverage-among-1-year-olds-(-)), accessed 30 July 2025)

31 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: HPV immunization coverage estimates among primary target cohort (9-14 years old girls) (%) (<https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/girls-aged-15-years-old-that-received-the-recommended-doses-of-hpv-vaccine>, accessed 30 July 2025)

32 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors per capita (US\$), by recipient country (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/total-net-official-development-assistance-to-medical-research-and-basic-health-sectors-per-capita, accessed 30 July 2025)

33 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Proportion of health facilities with a core set of relevant essential medicines available and affordable on a sustainable basis (%) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/proportion-of-health-facilities-with-a-core-set-of-relevant-essential-medicines-available-and-affordable-on-a-sustainable-basis, accessed 27 May 2025)

34 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Density of medical doctors (per 10 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/medical-doctors-\(per-10-000-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/medical-doctors-(per-10-000-population)), accessed 27 May 2025)

35 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Density of nursing and midwifery personnel (per 10 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/nursing-and-midwifery-personnel-\(per-10-000-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/nursing-and-midwifery-personnel-(per-10-000-population)), accessed 27 May 2025)

36 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Density of dentists (per 10 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/dentists-\(per-10-000-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/dentists-(per-10-000-population)), accessed 27 May 2025)

37 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Density of pharmacists (per 10 000 population) ([www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/pharmacists-\(per-10-000-population\)](http://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/pharmacists-(per-10-000-population)), accessed 27 May 2025)

38 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Average of 15 International Health Regulations core capacity scores (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/sdgihr2021, accessed 27 May 2025)

39 World Health Organization. (2025). Global Health Observatory: Percentage of bloodstream infections due methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) (%) (www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/sdg-3.d.2-amr-infect-mrsa, accessed 27 May 2025)

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