



COMMITTING TO CHILD SURVIVAL

A PROMISE RENEWED

Maternal & child survival – telling the story and inspiring action

THE BIG PICTURE

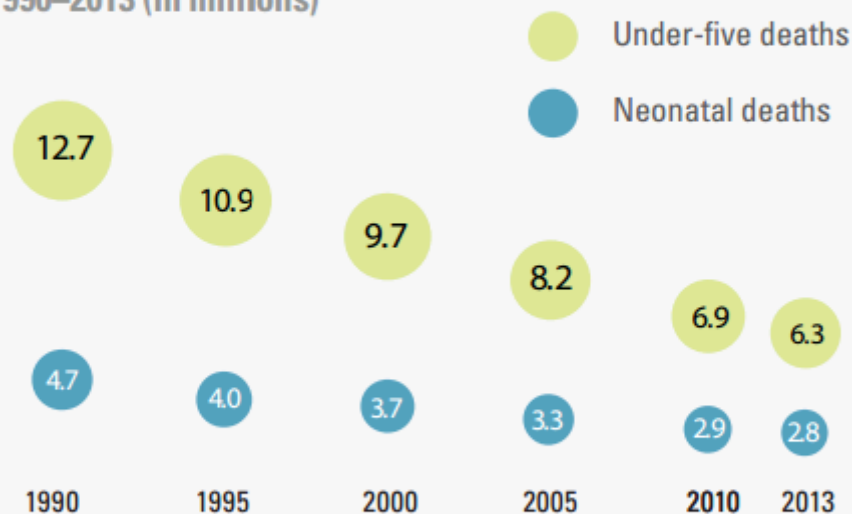


Maternal and child survival – the good news

- The total number of under-five deaths in the world has declined from 12.7 million in 1990 to 6.3 million in 2013 – a reduction of about 50%.
- The under-five mortality rate has declined by 49%, dropping from 90 to 46 deaths per 1,000 live births between 1990 and 2013. All regions have reduced the under-five mortality rate by more than half since 1990 except sub-Saharan Africa.
- Thanks to accelerated progress in reducing child mortality, the world saved almost 100 million children – among them, 24 million newborns – who would have died had mortality remained at 1990 rates.

The number of under-five deaths is falling steadily

Global under-five and neonatal deaths, 1990–2013 (in millions)



Source: United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) 2014.

The unfinished business

- Despite this great progress, 6.3 million children died in 2013 – or 17,000 per day Under-five mortality is declining in all regions
- Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia together account for 4 out of 5 under-five deaths globally. Sub-Saharan Africa also continues to shoulder the world's highest under-five mortality rates: 1 in 11 children born in this region still dies before age five, nearly 15 times the average in high-income countries.

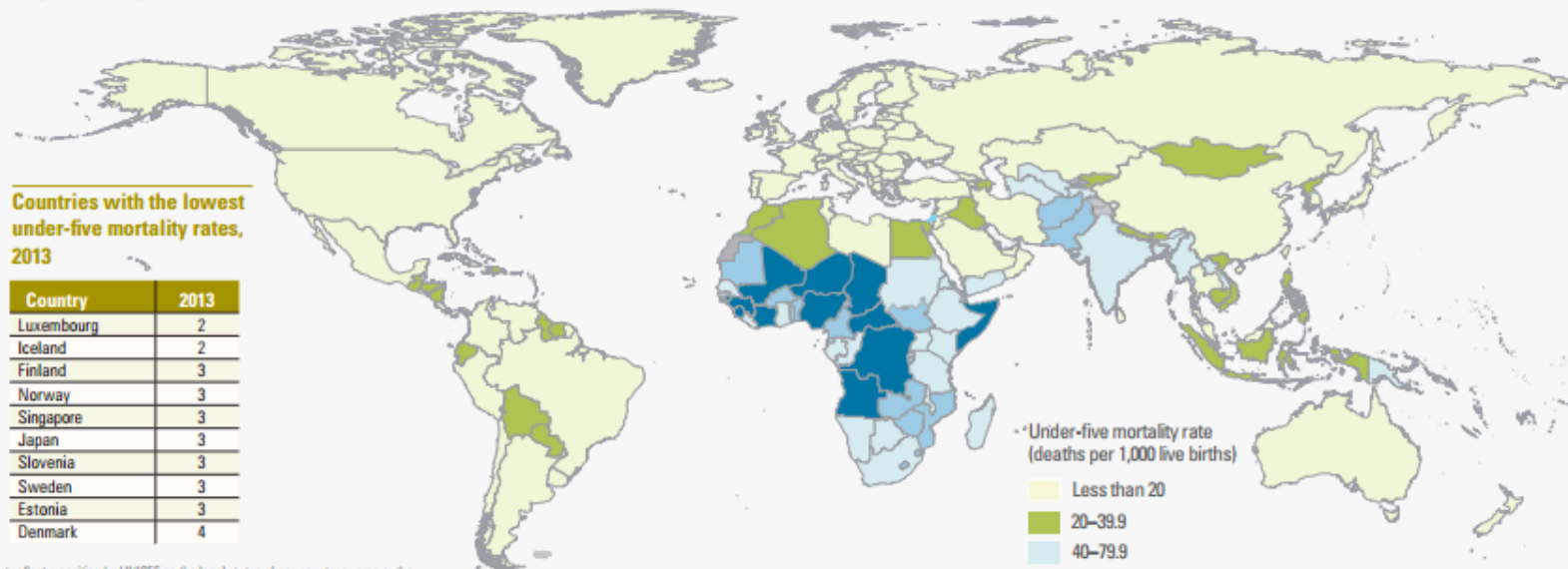
Under-five mortality rate, by country, 2013

Countries with an under-five mortality rate of at least 100 deaths per 1,000 live births, 2013

Country	2013
Angola	167
Sierra Leone	161
Chad	148
Somalia	146
Central African Republic	139
Guinea-Bissau	124
Mali	123
Democratic Republic of the Congo	119
Nigeria	117
Niger	104
Guinea	101
Côte d'Ivoire	100

Countries with the lowest under-five mortality rates, 2013

Country	2013
Luxembourg	2
Iceland	2
Finland	3
Norway	3
Singapore	3
Japan	3
Slovenia	3
Sweden	3
Estonia	3
Denmark	4



Note: This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the Parties. The final boundary between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. The final status of the Abyei area has not yet been determined.

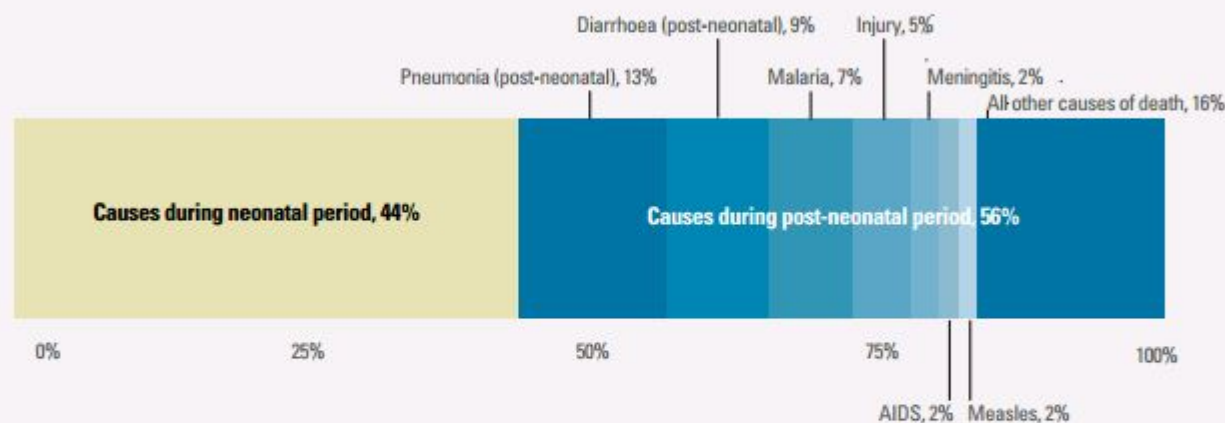
Note: Classifications in this map are based on unrounded numbers. Tables exclude countries with fewer than 1,000 live births in 2013.

Source: UN IGME 2014.

The unfinished business

- 44% of deaths are during the neonatal period: preterm complications, intra-partum complications, sepsis, etc.
- 60% of under-5 deaths are caused by preterm birth complications, pneumonia, intrapartum-related complications, diarrhoea and malaria
- And mortality varies widely between and within countries.

Global distribution of deaths among children under 5 by cause, 2013



Globally, nearly half of all deaths among children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition

Source: WHO-CHERG provisional estimates 2014 (http://www.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/ChildCOD_method.pdf).

A PROMISE RENEWED



A Promise Renewed - Overview

- Seeking to revitalize global efforts on maternal and child survival, the Governments of US, India and Ethiopia, together with UNICEF, launched 'A Promise Renewed' in 2012.
- A Promise Renewed brings together public, private and civil society committed to advocacy and action for women, newborns and children.
- Over 178 governments, as well as hundreds of civil society and faith based organizations, have signed a pledge, vowing to take concrete action to stop women and children from dying of causes that are easily avoidable.
- Over 20 countries have launched new national strategies for reducing maternal and child survival.

A Promise Renewed - actions

- The partners that support A Promise Renewed have jointly committed to five priority actions:
 1. Focus efforts in the countries with the greatest burden of maternal and under-5 deaths
 2. Scale-up access to under-served populations everywhere
 3. Address the leading causes of under-five mortality worldwide, which account for nearly 60 per cent of all under-five deaths (preterm birth complications, pneumonia, intrapartum related complications, diarrhoea and malaria)
 4. Increase the emphasis on the underlying causes of maternal and child mortality, such as women's education and empowerment
 5. Rally around a shared goal and use common metrics to track progress. A growing number of countries are taking action and implementing these strategic shifts within national strategies for maternal, newborn and child survival.

Indicator data available

- Data.unicef.org: time-series on child mortality and on the coverage of life-saving interventions for children and their mothers
- Breakdowns by urban/rural, poorest/richest 20%, etc. for many countries

Household survey microdata available

- mics.unicef.org has microdata ready for analysis using Stata/SPSS/etc. for 300+ household surveys measuring a wide range of issues

Details of new data products/websites



[Data.unicef.org](#) provides data on UNICEF's programmatic work, including an overview with a narrative on overall progress and data files to download. Additionally, new country profile pages provide key indicators on a wide range of issues pertaining to children.



[Mics.unicef.org](https://mics.unicef.org) presents detailed data on the status of children in middle and low income countries drawn from the MICS household survey programme.



THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

The MDGs

- The Millennium Development Goals

- The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are eight international development goals that were established following the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000, following the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

1. To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. To achieve universal primary education
3. To promote gender equality and empower women
4. To reduce child mortality
5. To improve maternal health
6. To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. To ensure environmental sustainability
8. To develop a global partnership for development

- **The MDGs have guided global development efforts during the past 15 years.**

The SDGs

- The era of the MDGs is coming to an end, and they will be replaced by...
- **The Sustainable Development Goals**
 - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a proposed set of targets relating to future international development. They are to replace the Millennium Development Goals once they expire at the end of 2015.
 - Governments are currently negotiating the content of the SDGs, which will be announced in September at the UN General Assembly.

The SDGs – The challenge

- There were only 8 MDGs
 - Simple
 - Easy to understand and communicate
 - But lacking in many areas – didn't focus enough on inequality, weren't sufficiently context specific, didn't cover enough areas
- SDGs will be more comprehensive, more nuanced
- But also much more complex and hard to understand, especially for the general public
- Currently proposal is for 17 goals and 169 targets!
- Risk of loss of focus. Potential for countries to ignore targets where they perform less well.
- Also potential for areas to be neglected. UNICEF is calling for targets to be set around maternal, newborn and under-5 mortality (under-5: 25 per 1000 live births; newborns: 12 per 1000 live births; maternal deaths: 70 per 100,000 live births.)



THE CHALLENGE

Our challenge to you...

- Use maternal and child survival data to...
 - Showcase the success of the MDGs - share the good news, demonstrate impact, and show what is working
 - Focus attention on the unfinished agenda - highlight the huge problems that remain
 - Instill confidence that we have the tools to finish the job and that we can achieve zero preventable maternal and child deaths

Our challenge to you...

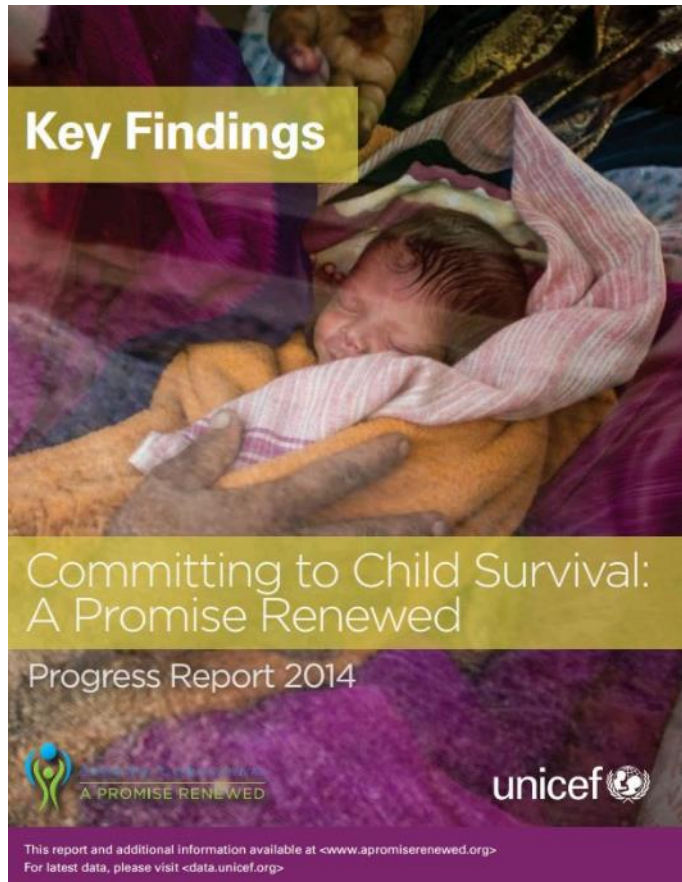
- Use maternal and child survival data to...
 - Mobilize and inspire people in developing and donor countries to take action, and demand effective action from their governments
 - Show governments that maternal and child survival are still top priorities and now is the time to double down on efforts, not let up

Target audiences

- Government leaders and policy makers
 - In developing countries with high levels of maternal and child mortality
 - In donor countries
- Informed millennials:
 - In developing countries with high levels of maternal and child mortality
 - In donor countries

Recommended reading

APR 2014 Key Findings Report



Available on Publications page of
www.apromiserenewed.org

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