

BEST ESTIMATES PROVINCIAL FACT SHEET 32

ZABUL

When compared with indicators from all 32 provinces in Afghanistan from which similar data is available

Zabul ranks 21st overall.

It ranks amongst the worst ten provinces for under-5 mortality rates and for maternal mortality ratios. Zabul also ranks amongst the worst five provinces for overall primary school attendance and has the worst girls' primary school attendance of all provinces.

When compared to the mean of the world's Least Developed Countries

Zabul is 49 per cent worse off.



Key indicators

Children

Under-18 population	149,000
Under-5 population	47,000
Annual number of births	11,818
Under-5 mortality rate	260
Deaths of under-5's per year	3,073

Women

Women of child-bearing age	57,000
Maternal mortality ratio	2,100
Maternal deaths per year	248

Education

Net primary school attendance	32.4%
Net primary school girls' attendance	1.4%
Primary school age children out of school	36,000
Female literacy rate	5%
Number of illiterate women	61,000

Child health and nutrition

Polio vaccination coverage	28.9%
DPT vaccination coverage	7.5%
Measles vaccination coverage	53.1%
Households consuming iodised salt	1.4%
Children 1-4 years with at least one form of disability	1.7%

Maternal health

Births attended by skilled birth attendant	0.9%
Births delivered at home	100%
Expectant mothers receiving ante-natal care	0.9%

Water and sanitation

Population using safe water source	40.5%
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Threats to childhood

Women 20-24 married before age of 18	35.1%
Children 5-15 years involved in child labour	28.9%
Children under-5 with births registered	1,457

Based on the indicators above, amongst others,

it is recommended that in addition to continuing the successes made in the province, investment is also prioritised in Zabul to:

- ◆ Increase enrolment and attendance of all children in primary school, with a special focus on girls;
- ◆ Increase female literacy levels, which can help reduce poverty, reduce maternal mortality and improve women's status in the community;
- ◆ Increase availability of quality obstetric care services closer to women's homes and the number of professional maternal health workers in the community;
- ◆ Improve the rate of routine immunization to protect children against preventable diseases.