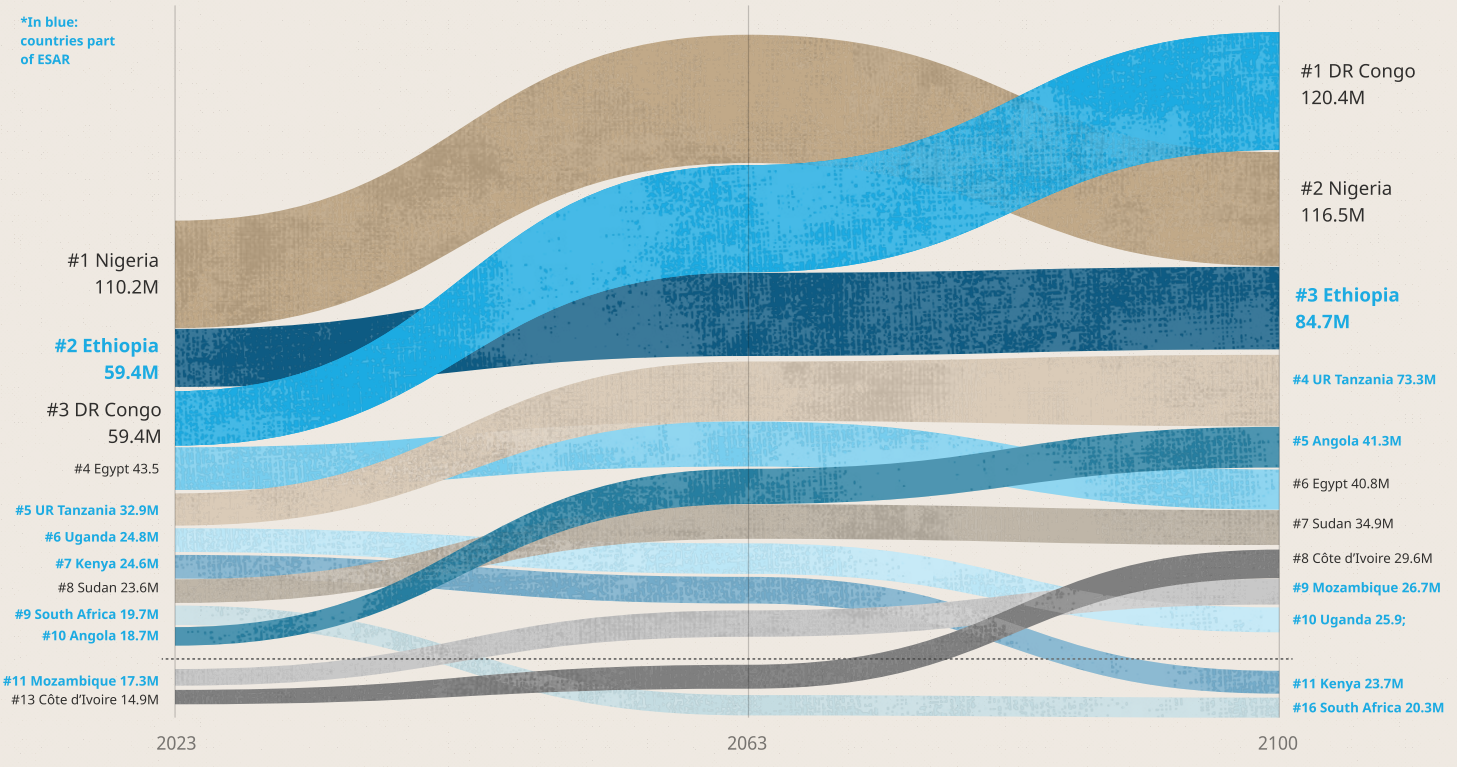
# Top 10 most child populous countries in Africa

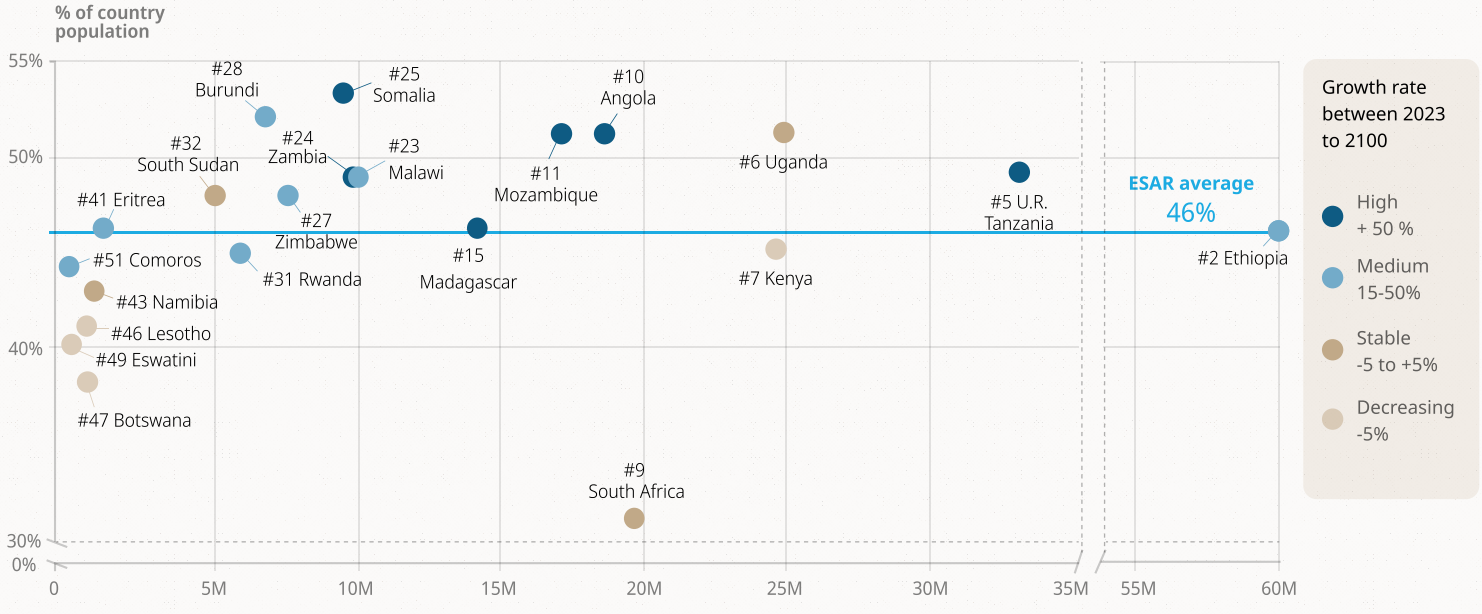
unicef for every child

The top 10 in 2023 accounted for the **61% of children** on the continent.

The top 10 in 2100 will constitute **63% of children** on the continent.




## Child population of Eastern/Southern Africa countries 2023 (rank by child population size in Africa)




## Invest in a prosperous future for all

Key Takeaways

**1**

Across ESAR countries, child population dynamics vary significantly - Tanzania and Angola will more than double, others like Kenya and South Africa see little change whereas Eswatini and Lesotho are projected to shrink.

**2**

Countries with projected high growth need to invest in enhancing birth registration, health, nutrition, education and protection systems to support the growing young population as they move to the working-age.

**3**

Countries with a stable or decreasing population of children are in transition as the working-age population grows - strategic investments in improving education and health are needed and help support employment to fully capitalize on the economic dividend.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2024). World Population Prospects 2024, Online Edition based on UNICEF ESARO calculations.