



THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN
IN DJIBOUTI

COUNTRY FACTSHEET: DECEMBER 2024

Factsheet on the situation of Children in Djibouti

Data Factsheet – December 2024

Prepared by UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office

This country factsheet provides a snapshot of the situation of children, adolescents and youth in Djibouti, aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and relevant child-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The factsheet gives an overview of the most recent child-related statistics, drawing on internationally comparable indicators available through global databases. Indicators have been chosen based on the availability of historical data from 2010 and geographic coverage, with priority to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators.

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- (1) Demographic and Economic Overview
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- (3) Right to proper nutrition
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- (5) Right to be protected
- (6) Right to an equitable chance in life
- (7) Right to a clean and safe environment

HIGHLIGHTS

- Djibouti, a **lower-middle income** economy, experienced GDP per capita growth of 5% in 2022
- Children represented **more than a third** of the population in 2023. Refugees and asylum seekers accounted for **2%** of the population and almost half of them are children in 2023.
- The country has made **considerable progress** in terms of reducing child mortality. However, there are substantial inequalities in access to maternal healthcare between urban and rural areas based on 2012 data.
- About **three-quarters** of children received 3 doses of DTP vaccine and almost **two-third** received 2 doses of measles vaccine in 2023.
- **One in 5** children under five years were stunted and **less than one in five** were underweight in 2019.
- In 2017, about **three-quarters** of youth (15-24) were unemployed and almost a **quarter** were not in employment, education or training.
- Violent child discipline was prevalent with **74% of the children** aged 1-14 years experiencing violent forms of discipline in 2019.
- Only **12%** of the population were covered by at least one social protection benefit in 2019.
- The children's climate risk index was classified as **high** in 2020.

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Demography and Economy

Demography

% of the population 2023

Children (0-4 years)	9.9
Children (0-17 years)	35.6
Adolescents (10-19 years)	19.9

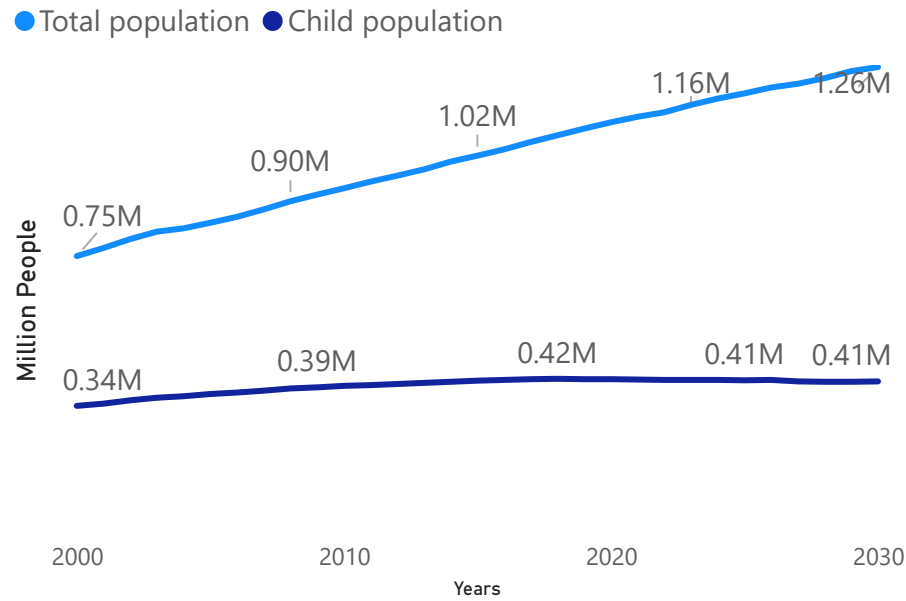
Number of births per year (in thousands) 2023

Number of births	24
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Average number of children per woman over the childbearing years 2023

Total fertility rate	2.6
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Population Trends and Projections (2000-2030)



Total population 2023

2023

1M

Child population 2023

2023

414K

Population growth rate (annual % change)

2023

1.4

Urban population (%)

2023

78.6

Refugees & asylum seekers (% of total population)

2023

2.0

% of children (0-17) years amongst refugee population

2023

42.9

% of children (2-17) years with functional difficulties

No Data

Economy

World Bank 2023/2024 Income classification

Lower middle income

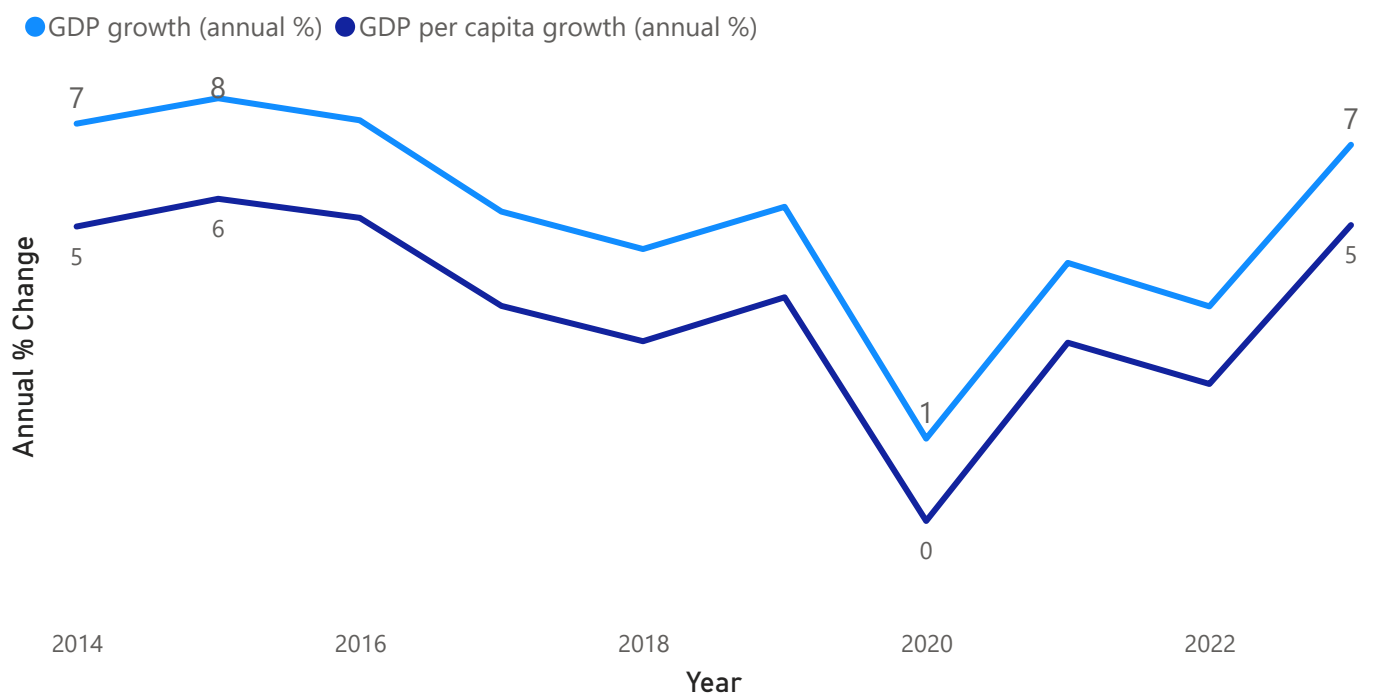
Indicator 2023

GDP per capita (current US\$)	3606.4
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Indicator 2023

Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	1.5
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Annual GDP and GDP per Capita Growth (2000-2023)



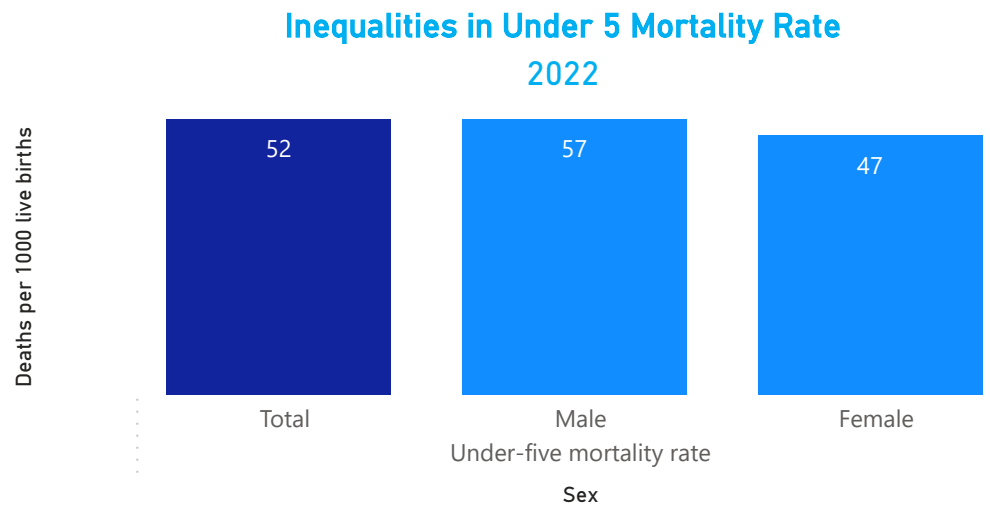


Child Mortality

Mortality rates (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	2022
Neonatal mortality rate	43	28
Infant mortality rate	79	44
Under-five mortality rate	100	52

Under-five deaths
2022

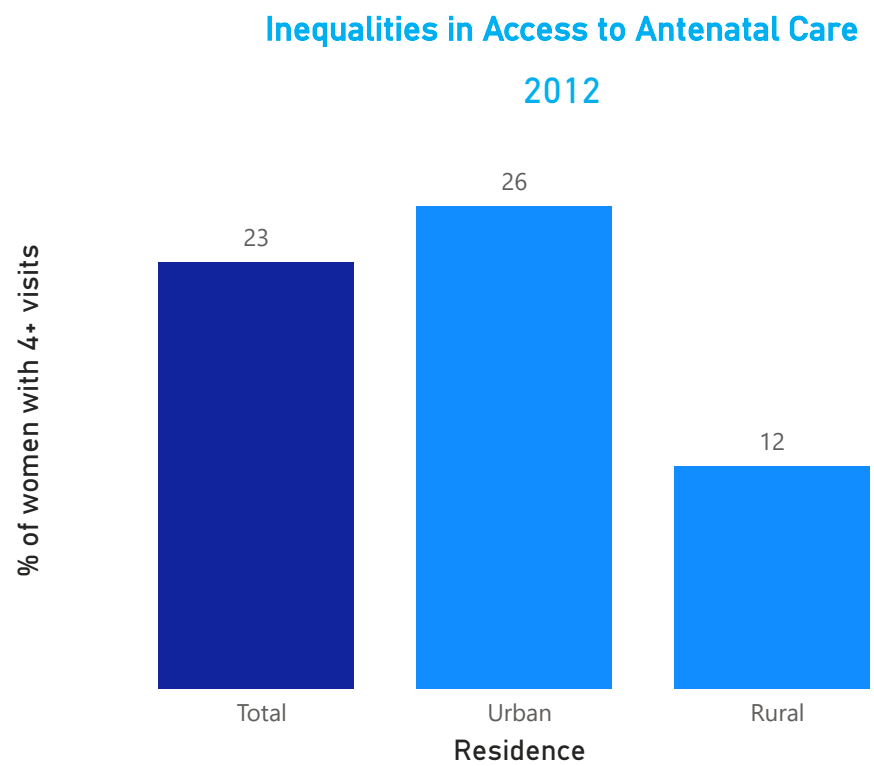
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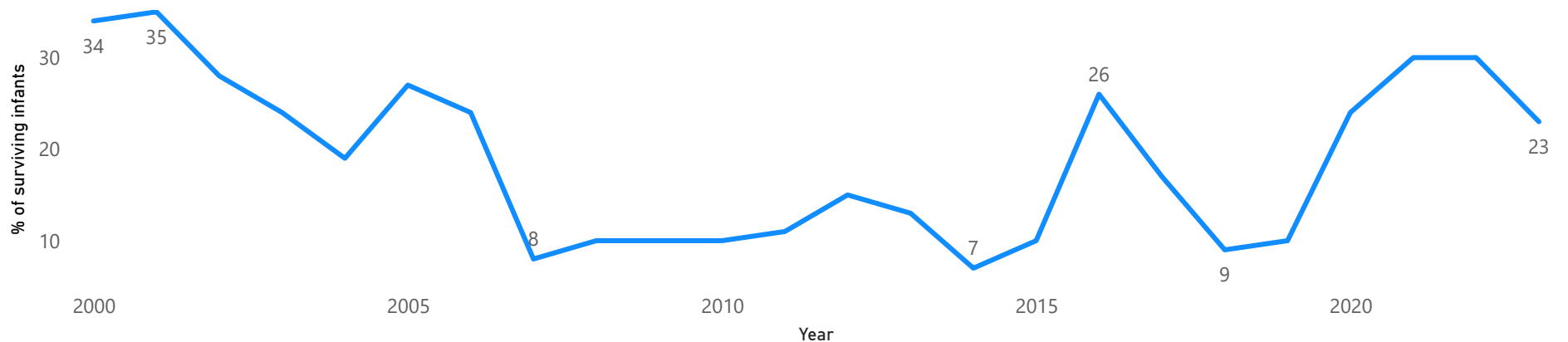
Maternal and Child Health

Health care and services (% of women, 15-49 years, with a live birth in the last 2 years)	2012
Antenatal care 4+ visits	23
Institutional deliveries	87
Skilled birth attendant	87

Immunization (% of children, 0-2 years)	2023
Received 1st dose of DTP	77
Received 2 doses of measles vaccine	64
Received 3 doses of DTP	72



Zero-dose Children (No Vaccination for DTP1)





Right to proper nutrition

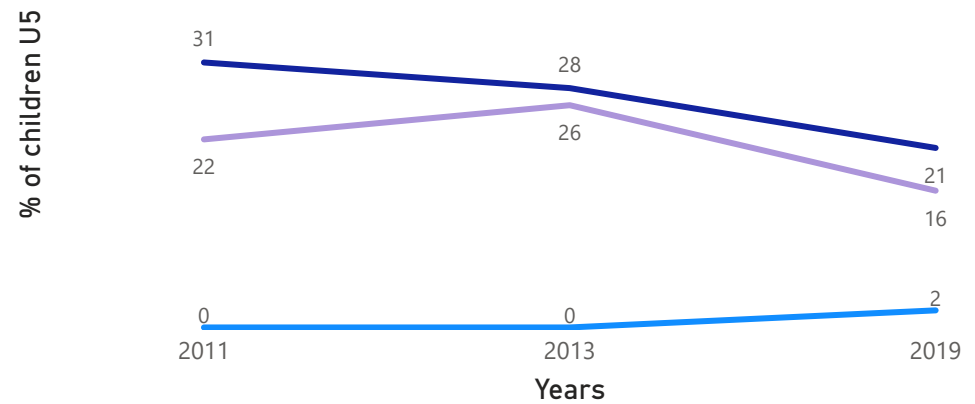
Nutrition

Infant and young child feeding (% of children)	2012
Exclusive breastfeeding (0-5 months)	12

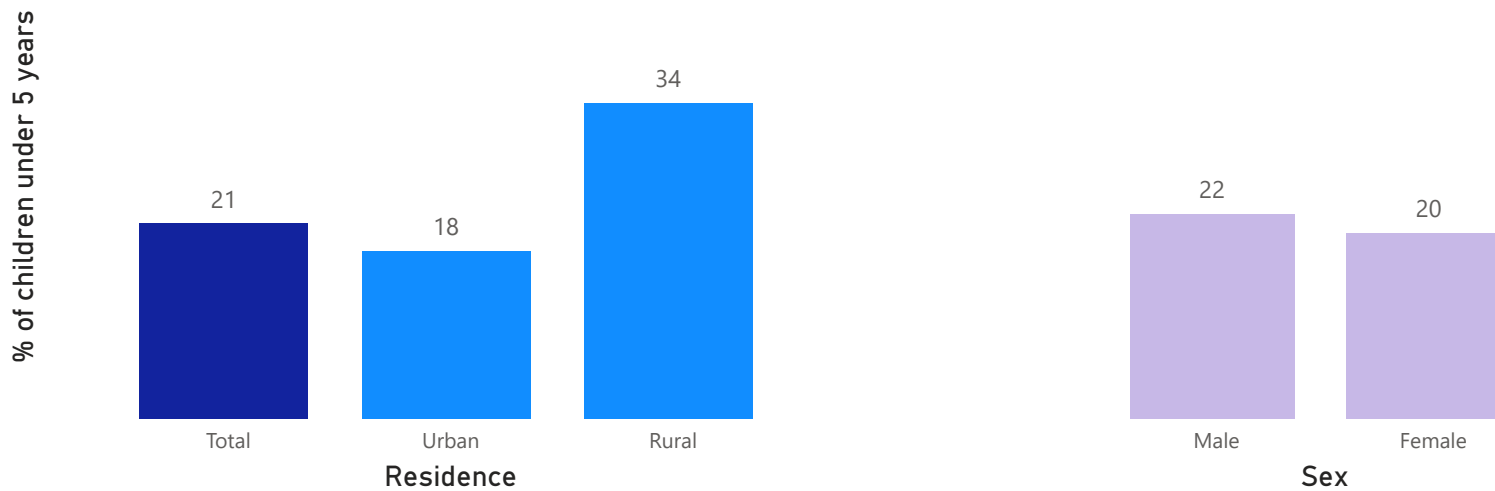
Malnutrition (% of children, under 5 years)	2019
Overweight	2
Stunting	21
Underweight	16
Wasting	11

Malnutrition Trend

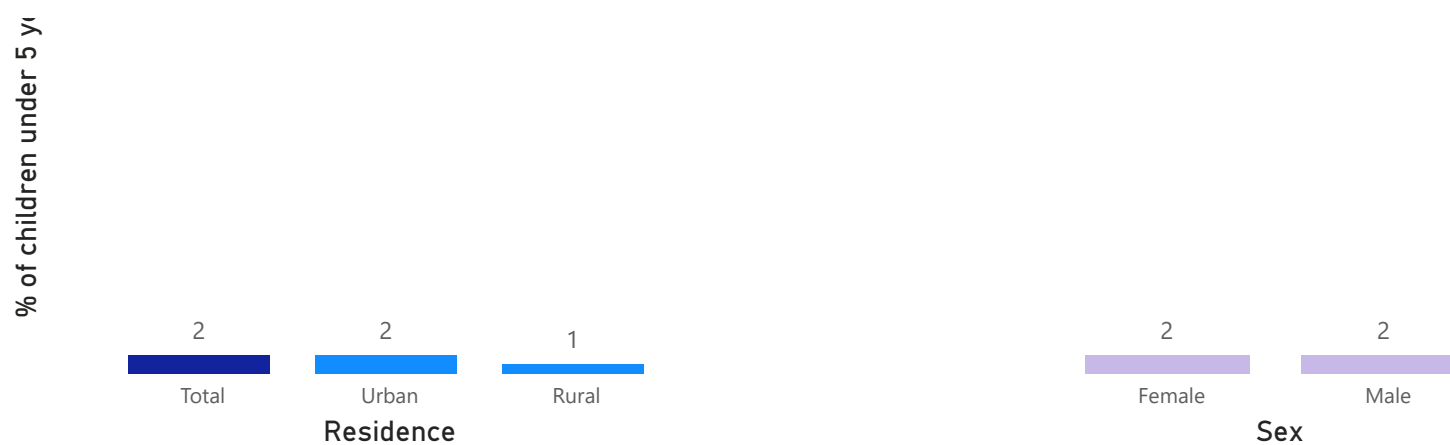
Indicator ● Overweight ● Stunting ● Underweight



Inequalities in Stunting 2019



Overweight Inequalities 2019





Education, Training and Employment

School net attendance by education level (% of children of the relevant age group)	2012
Pre-Primary	No Data
Primary	70
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

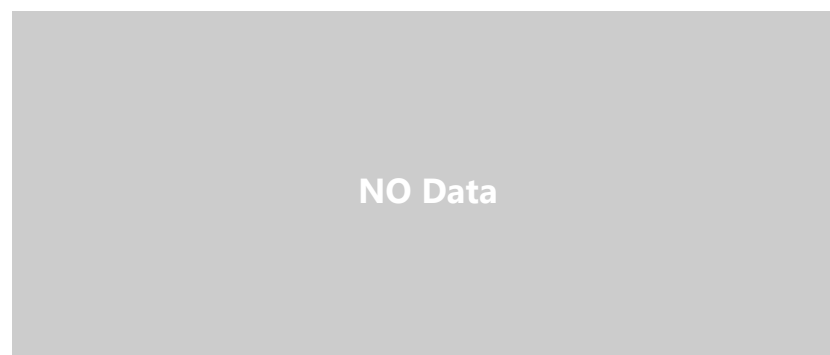
School completion by education level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	Year
Primary	No Data
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

Out-of-school children by educational level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	Year
Primary	No Data
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

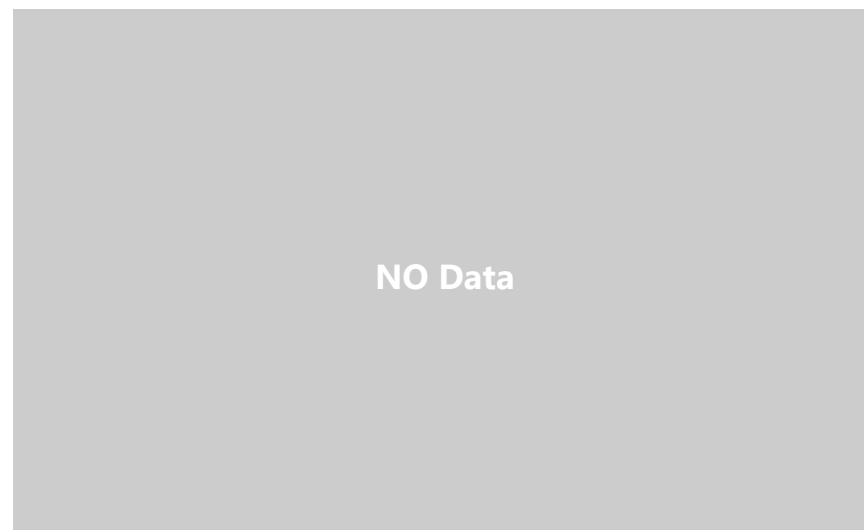
Reading/ Math proficiency	Year
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in mathematics	No Data
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading	No Data

Share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex	2017
Total	23
Male	18
Female	28

School Completion Rates by sex

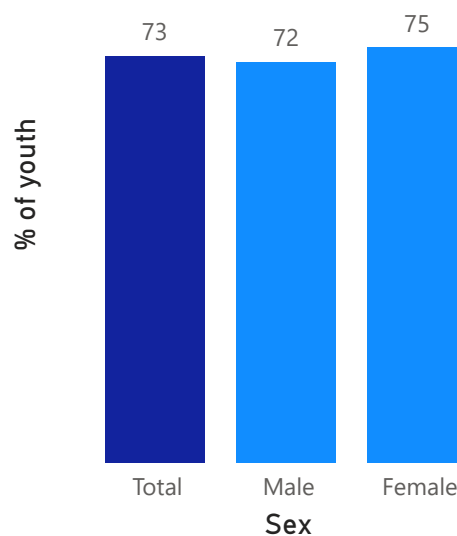


Inequalities in Out of School Children of Upper-Secondary School Aged Children



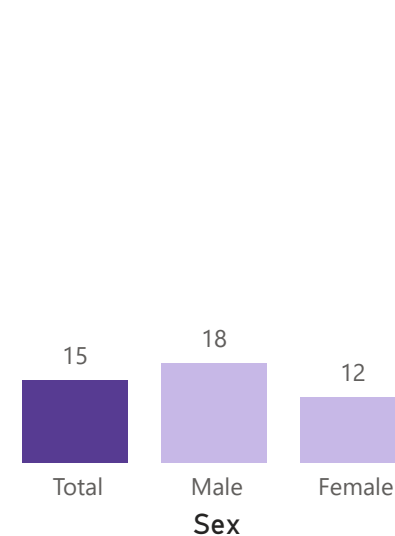
Unemployment rates in Youth (15-24 years)

2017



Labor Force Participation in Youth (15-24 years)

2017





Violence

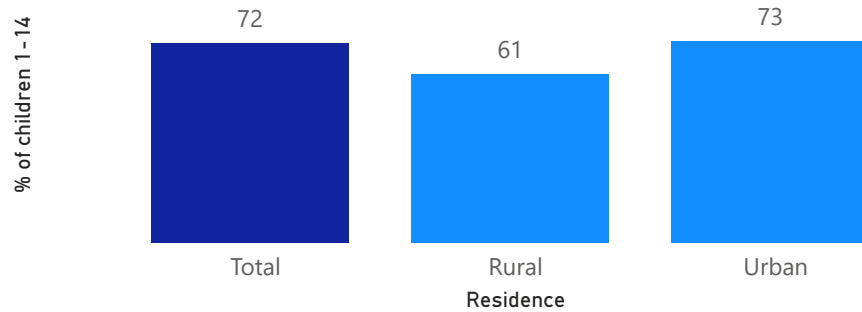
Inequalities in Violent Child Discipline

2019

Violent child discipline (% of children aged 1-14 years) 2006

Violent Child Discipline

Total	72
Male	73
Female	71

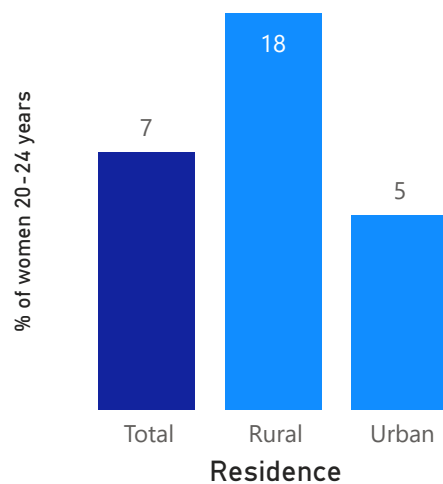


Child marriage (% of women aged 20-24 years) 2019

Married before 15	1
Married before 18	7

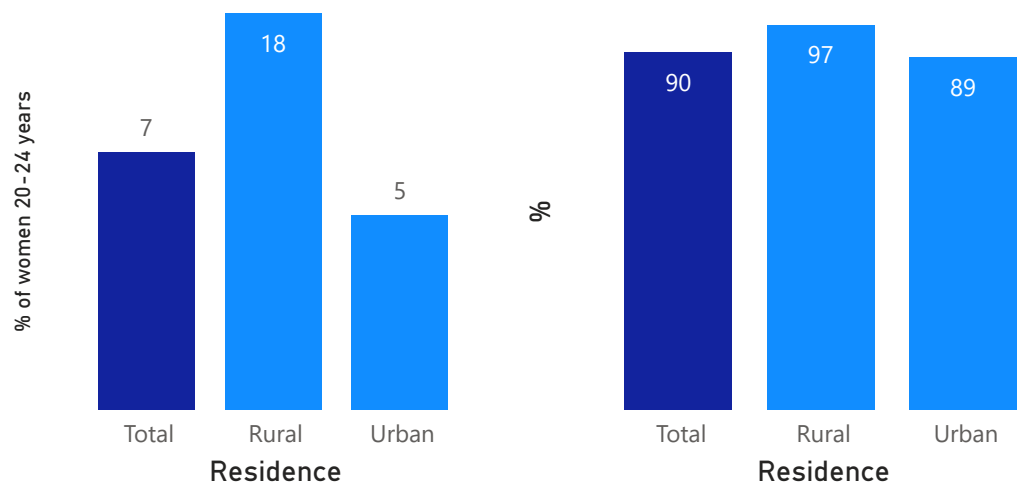
Inequalities in Child Marriage before 18

2019



Inequalities in female genital mutilation 15-49

2019



Female genital mutilation (% of Girls and women) 2019

15-49 years

15 to 19 years old	78
15 to 49 years old	90

Child labour (% of children aged 5-17 years) Year

Child labour	No Data
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Birth Registration

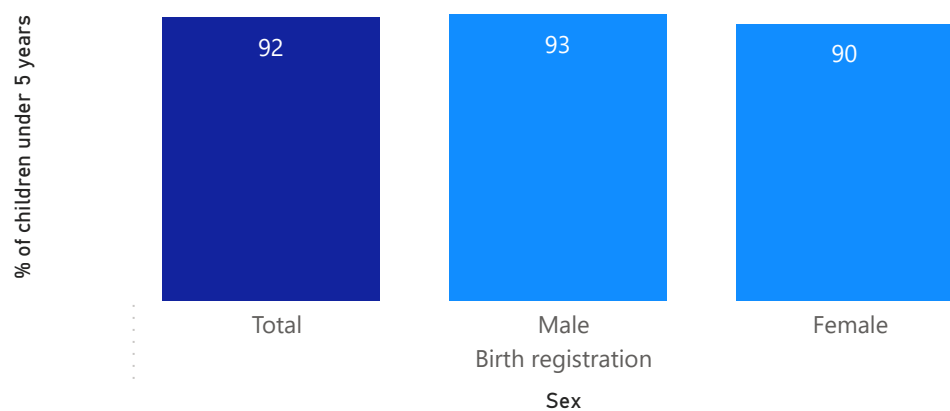
Inequalities in Birth Registration

2006

Birth registration (% of children under 5 years) 2006

Birth registration

Total	92
Rural	84
Urban	92





Right to equitable chance in life

Poverty

Monetary poverty 2020

Children (0-17) living in households with income below the national poverty line (% of all children) 22.3

Children (0-17) living below \$2.15 poverty line (extreme poverty) (% of all children)	Children (0-17) living below \$3.65 poverty line (% of all children)	Children (0-17) living below \$6.85 poverty line (% of all children)
18.80	42.90	78.80

Child multidimensional poverty headcount ratio

No Data

Dimensions of Multidimensional Poverty

Water	Household does not have piped water into dwelling or yard
Sanitation	Unimproved toilet facility Shared toilet
Housing	Primitive floor/Type of Household Overcrowding (more than 3 people per room)
Health	Unskilled birth assistance (0-23 months) Not fully immunized (12-59 months) No antenatal care (0-23 months)
Nutrition	Infant and Young Child Feeding (0-23 months) Wasting (0-4 years) Stunting (24 <months) Obesity (24 <months)
Education	Not enrolled in school Two or more grades behind school/did not
Information	No access to any information or communication device

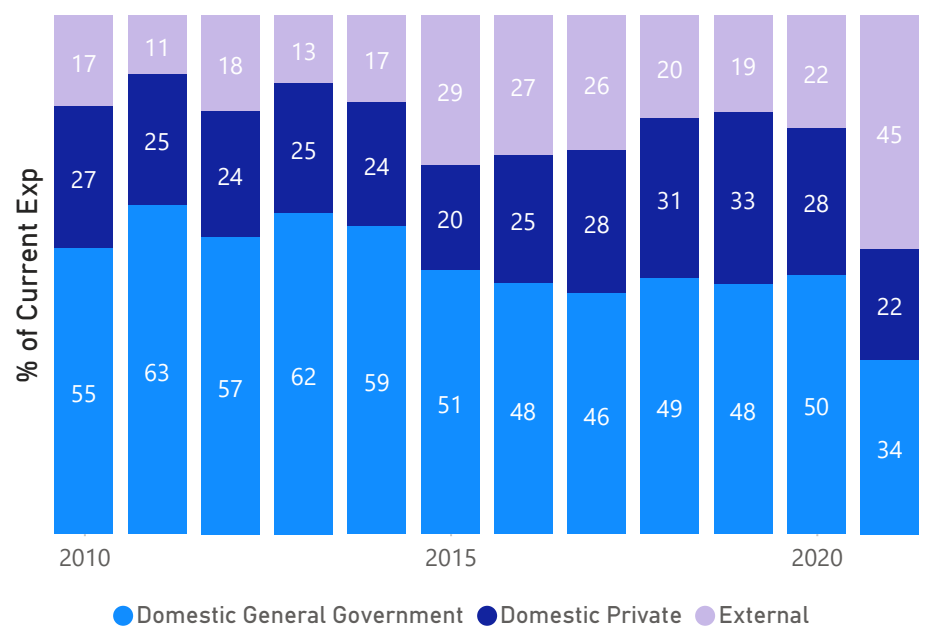
Public Expenditure on Essential services

Social Protection Coverage by Function

Time period ● 2019 ● 2020

Vulnerable persons	55
Work Injury	15
Maternity	
Poor persons	19
Disability	
Children/HH receiving child/family cash benefits	4
Population covered by at least 1 programme	12

Changes in the Composition of Domestic Health Expenditure



Government expenditure on health % of GDP
2018

1.2

Government expenditure on education % of GDP
2018

3.6

Government expenditure on social protection % of GDP
2007

2.0



Right to a clean and safe environment

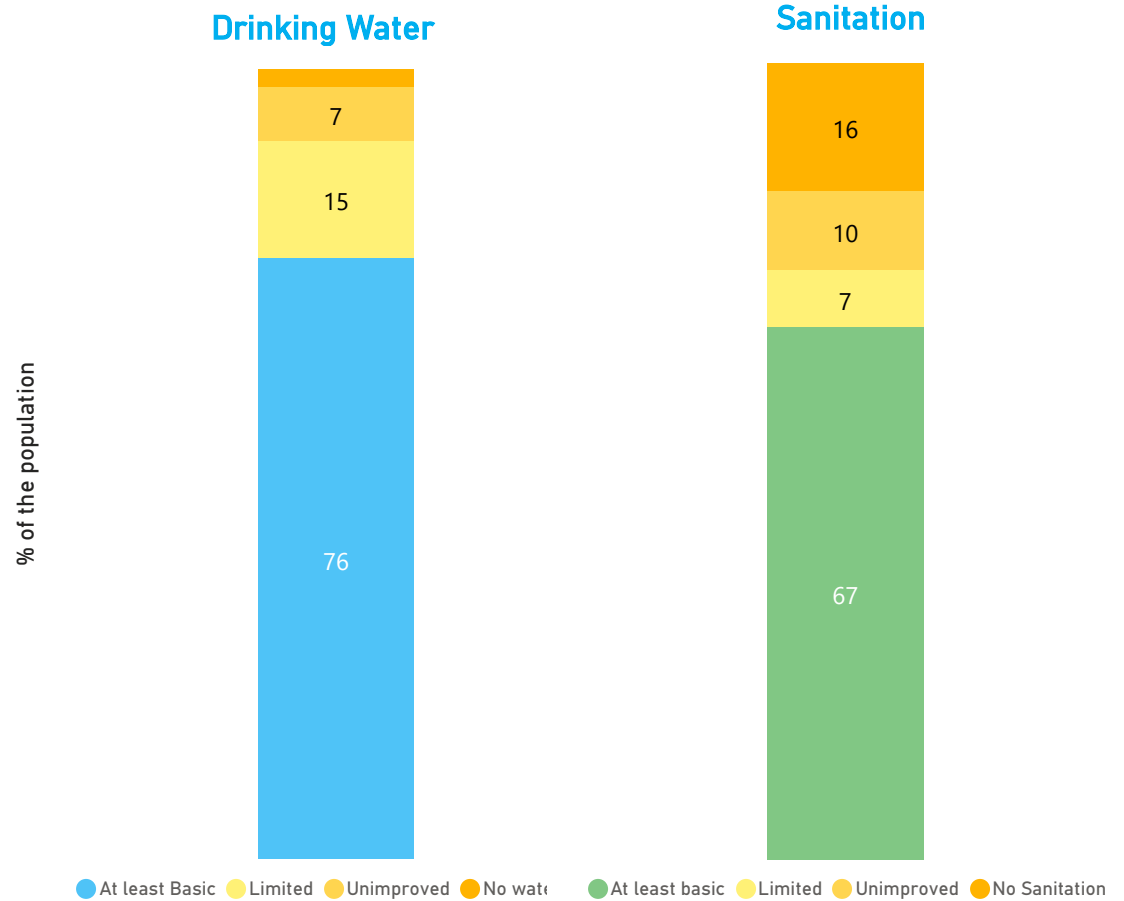
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene

2022

Household coverage (%)	2022
At least basic drinking water	76
At least basic sanitation	67

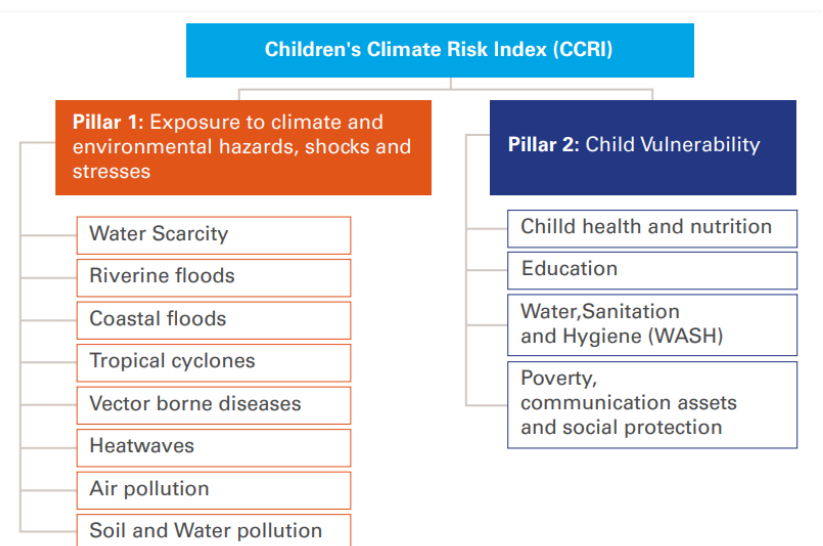
School coverage (%)	2023
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	95
No drinking water service	6
No sanitation service	7



Water Vulnerability and Climate

Indicator	2020
Water Stress	No Stress

CCRI	2020
Children's Climate and Environment Risk Index	High
Climate and environmental shocks	Medium-High
Child vulnerability	High



*The CCRI is a composite index which brings together geographical data by analyzing: 1) exposure to climate and environmental hazards, shocks and stresses; and 2) child vulnerability.

Child-related SDG indicators

The 2030 Agenda includes 17 Global Goals addressing the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. To chart and track how ambitious and how realistic country targets are, UNICEF created quantifiable country-level brief benchmarks for child-related indicators for which data are available to measure and monitor child rights on a common scale.

These country briefs leverage UNICEF's extensive analysis of 48 child-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators, structured around five fundamental domains of child well-being: Survive and Thrive, Learning, Protection from Harm, Safe and Clean Environment, and Life Free from Poverty. The analysis offers a detailed, multifaceted perspective on the state of children's rights and experiences across the globe.

Availability of data on child wellbeing monitoring: Djibouti has data on 30 of the 48 child related SDGs (62% availability).

For further information on the countries' benchmarking briefs, please visit [Progress on Children's Well-being: Country Briefs - UNICEF DATA](#)

Data Sources

Demography

- UN Population Division, [World Population Prospects 2024](#).
- UNHCR [Refugee Population Statistics database](#)
- Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), [Global Internal Displacement Database \(GIDD\)](#)

Economy: The World Bank Data Portal, [World Development Indicators](#).

Mortality: UN Inter-agency group for child mortality estimations ([UN IGME](#)).

Maternal and Child Health: WHO/UNICEF [estimates of national immunization coverage](#).

Nutrition: UNICEF/WHO/The World Bank [Joint Malnutrition Estimates \(JME\)](#). Country survey estimates.

Education, Training and Employment :

- National Household Surveys estimates for education data. [UNICEF MENA data warehouse](#)
- International Labor Organization (ILO). [ILOSTAT](#)
- UNESCO Institute for Statistics ([UIS](#)) and National Household Surveys estimates.

Violence: [UNICEF data warehouse](#), based on household surveys.

Poverty

- The World Bank & UNICEF (2023). [Global Trends in Child Monetary Poverty According to International Poverty Lines](#).
- ESCWA, UNICEF, UNDP and OPHI. (2023). [Second Arab Multidimensional Poverty Report](#).

Public expenditure on essential services

- [ILOSTAT](#) for social protection data
- [WHO Global Health Expenditure Database](#)
- The UNESCO Institute for Statistics ([UIS](#)) for education expenditure data

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- WHO/UNICEF [Joint Monitoring Programme for Water, Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene \(2000-2022\)](#).
- Water Stress Data: [AQUASTAT](#)
- UNICEF [Children's Climate Risk Index](#)

Most of the indicators are available at [UNICEF MENA data warehouse](#)

For more information please visit
UNICEF data (data.unicef.org) or contact:

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