



THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN
IN LIBYA

COUNTRY FACTSHEET: DECEMBER 2024

Factsheet on the situation of Children in Libya

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 Libya, 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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(6) Right to an equitable chance in life

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Libya is an **upper-middle income** economy. In 2023, the country's GDP per capita saw a decline of 3%, following a substantial increase of 30% in 2021 as it rebounded from the pandemic.
- Children represented **over one-third** of the population in 2023. Internally displaced persons accounted for about **2%** of the total population in 2023.
- The country has made notable progress in terms of reducing child mortality, achieving **more than 60% reduction** in under-five mortality rates between 2000 and 2022.
- **Almost three-quarters of children** had received 3 doses of the DTP vaccine and 2 doses of measles vaccine in 2023 (**respectively 73% and 72%**).
- The percentage of zero-dose children (those who had not received any doses of the DTP vaccine) **increased significantly from 1% in 2017 to 26% in 2018**, maintaining the same percentage to 2023.
- **More than one-third of the children** under five years were stunted in 2014 and about **one-third** were overweight with higher percentages in the poorest households.
- Almost **two-third** of the Libyan population was covered by at least one social protection benefit in 2021.
- The level of water stress was **critical** and the children's climate risk index was classified as **medium-high** in 2020.

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Demography and Economy

Demography

% of the population 2023

Children (0-4 years)	8.8
Children (0-17 years)	33.5
Adolescents (10-19 years)	18.8

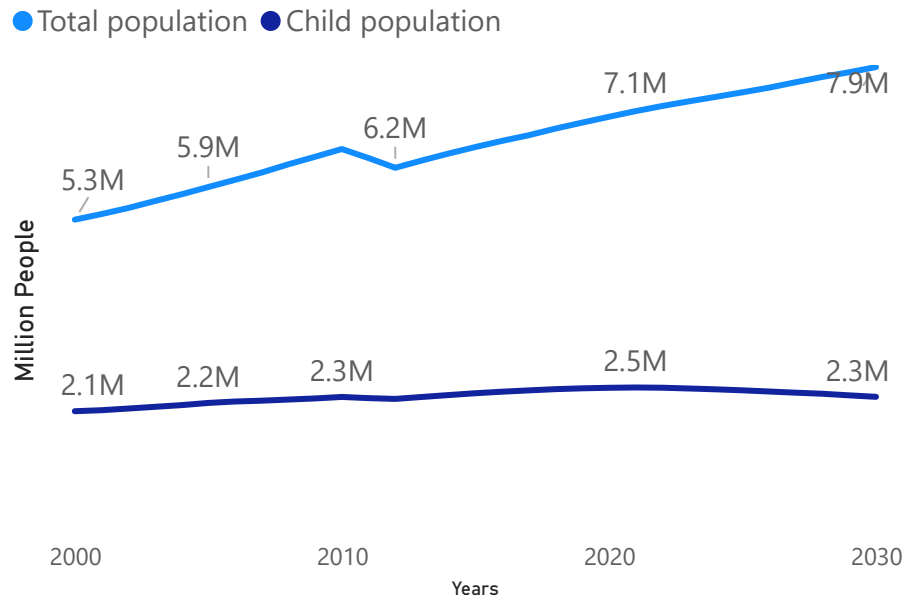
Number of births per year (in thousands) 2023

Number of births	124
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Average number of children per woman over the childbearing years 2023

Total fertility rate	2.4
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Population Trends and Projections (2000-2030)



Total population 2023

2023

7M

Child population 2023

2023

2M

Population growth rate (annual % change)

2023

1.0

Urban population (%)

2023

81.6

Internally displaced population (% of total population)

2023

1.6

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

2023

36.0

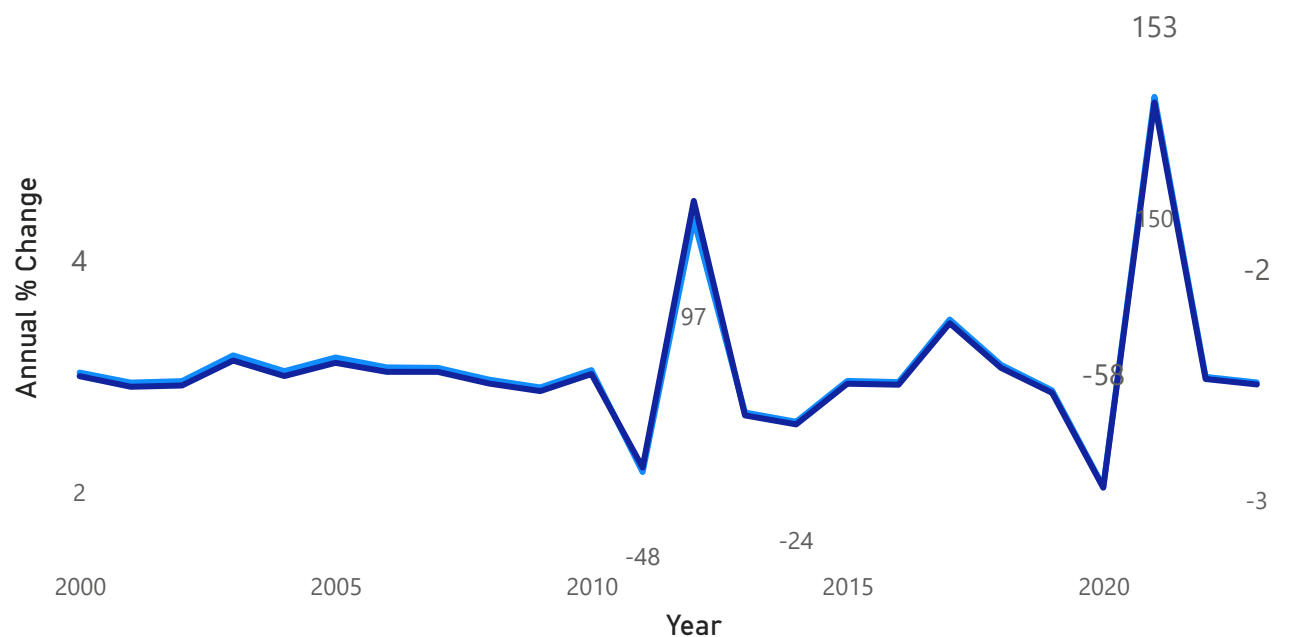
% of children (2-17) years with functional difficulties

No Data

Economy

Annual GDP and GDP per Capita Growth (2000-2022)

● GDP growth (annual %) ● GDP per capita growth (annual %)



World Bank 2023/2024 Income classification

Upper middle income

Indicator 2023

GDP per capita (current US\$)	7330.0
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Indicator 2023

Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	2.4
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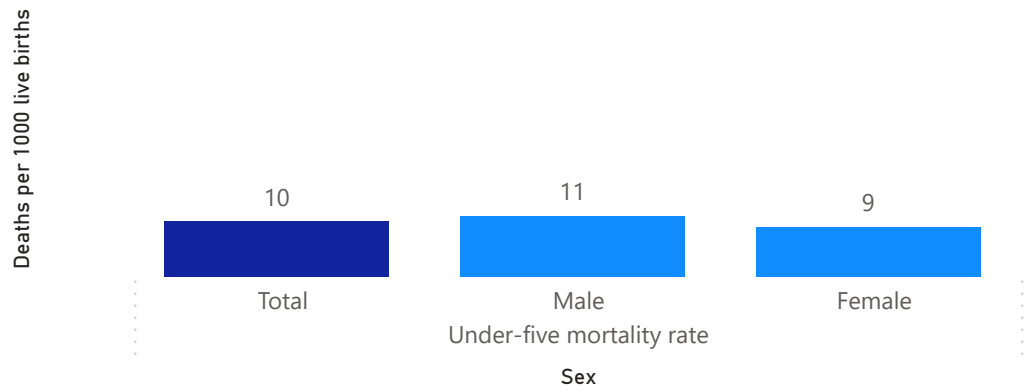
Child Mortality

Mortality rates (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	2022
Neonatal mortality rate	15	5
Infant mortality rate	24	9
Under-five mortality rate	28	10

Under-five deaths
2022

1234

Inequalities in Under 5 Mortality Rate 2022

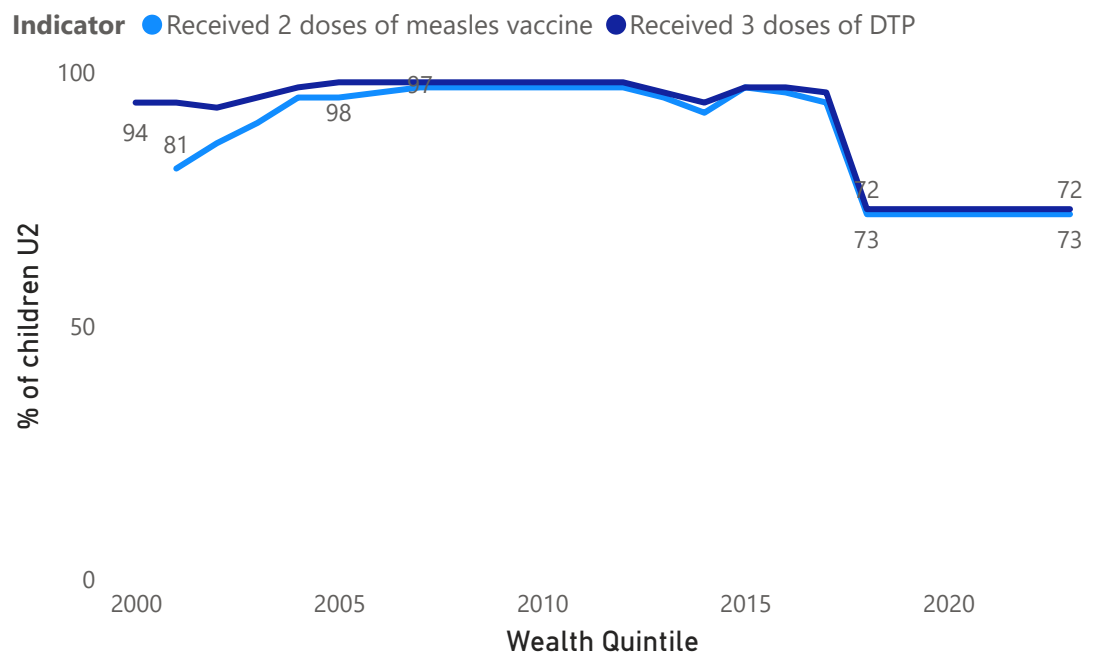


Maternal and Child Health

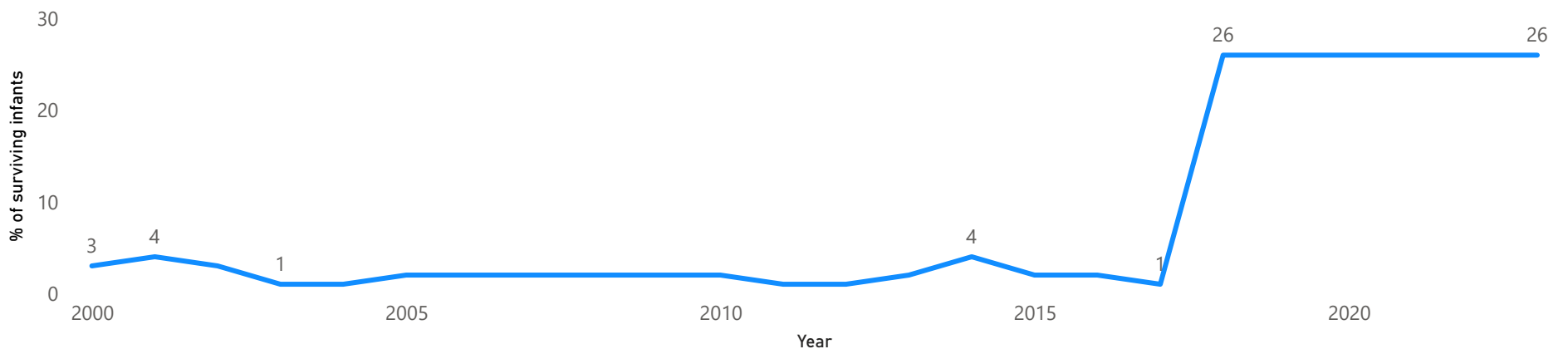
Health care and services (% of women, 15-49 years, with a live birth in the last 2 years)	2013
Institutional deliveries	100
Skilled birth attendant	100

Immunization (% of children, 0-2 years)	2023
Received 1st dose of DTP	74
Received 2 doses of measles vaccine	72
Received 3 doses of DTP	73

Trend of children's immunization rates



Zero-dose Children (No Vaccination for DTP1)



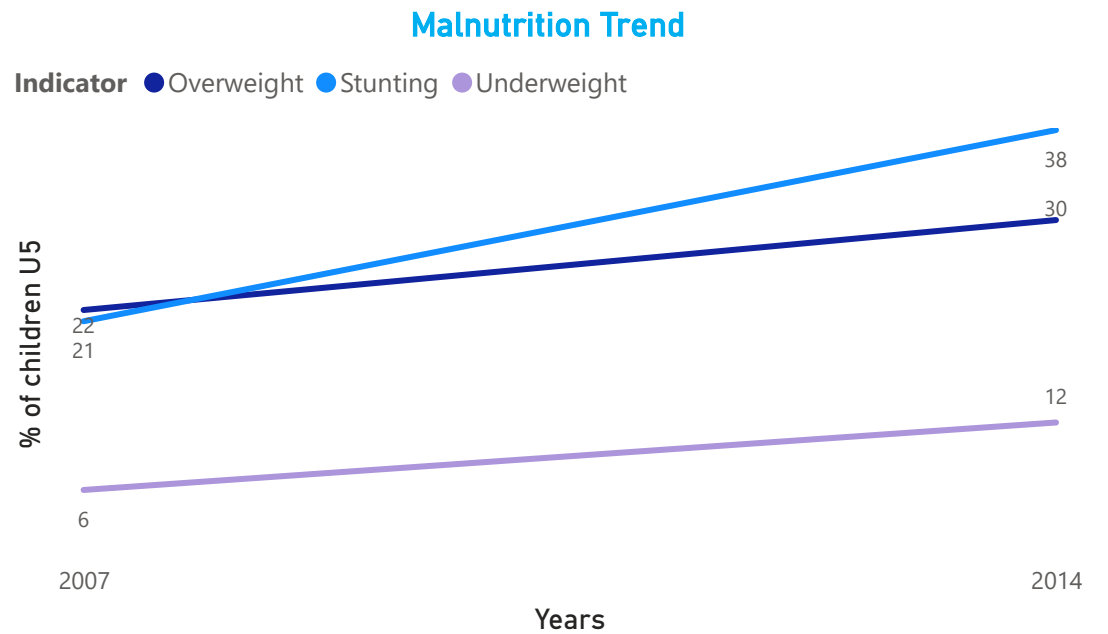


Right to proper nutrition

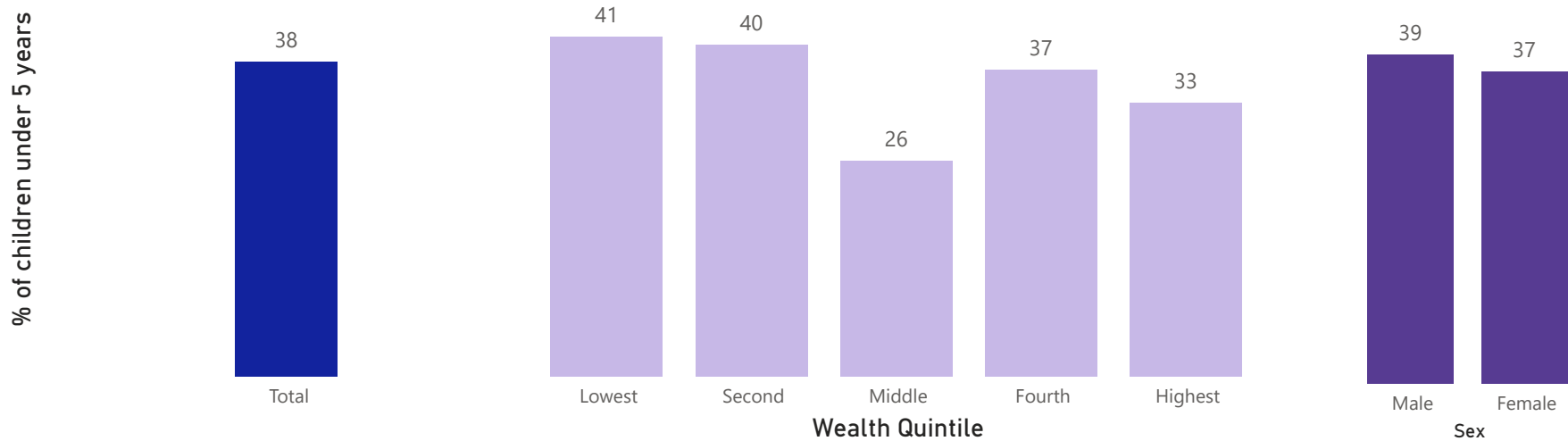
Nutrition

% of Children	Year
Minimum diet diversity (6 to 23 months)	No Data
Exclusive breastfeeding (0-5 months)	No Data

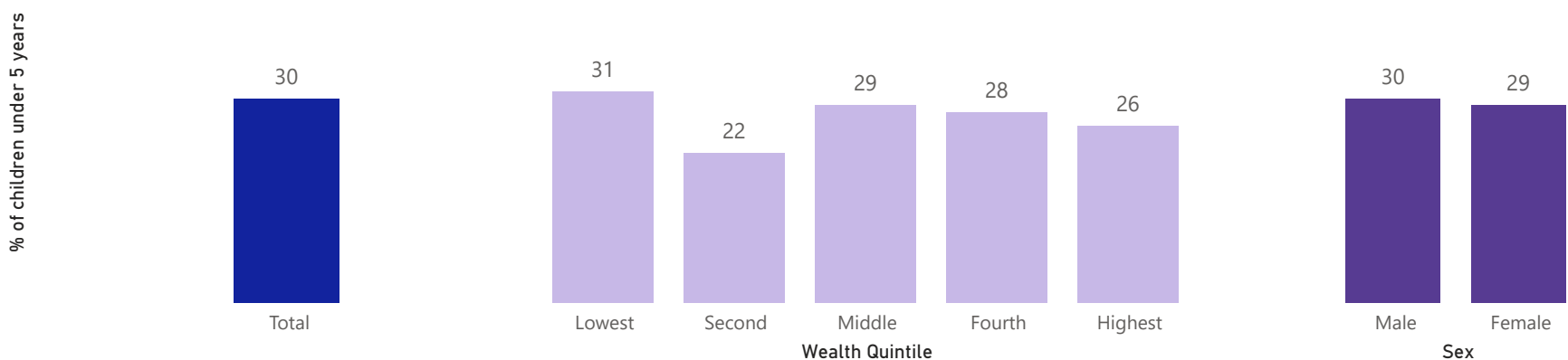
Malnutrition (% of children, under 5 years)	2014
Overweight	30
Stunting	38
Underweight	12
Wasting	10



Inequalities in Stunting 2014



Overweight Inequalities 2014





Education, Training and Employment

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

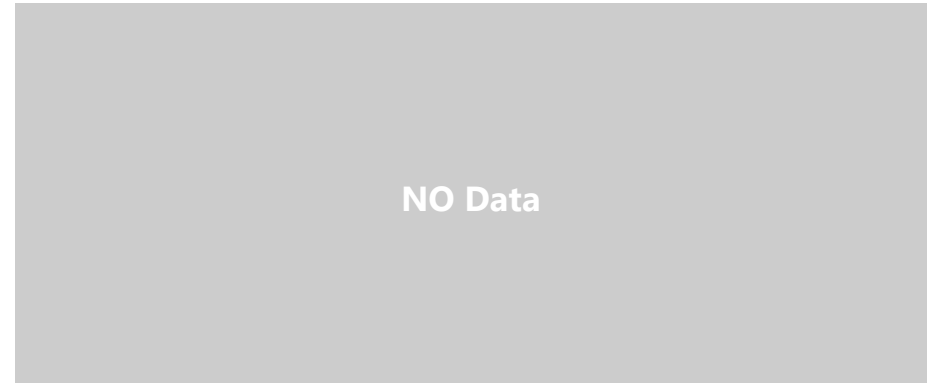
School completion by education level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	Year
Primary	No Data
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

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

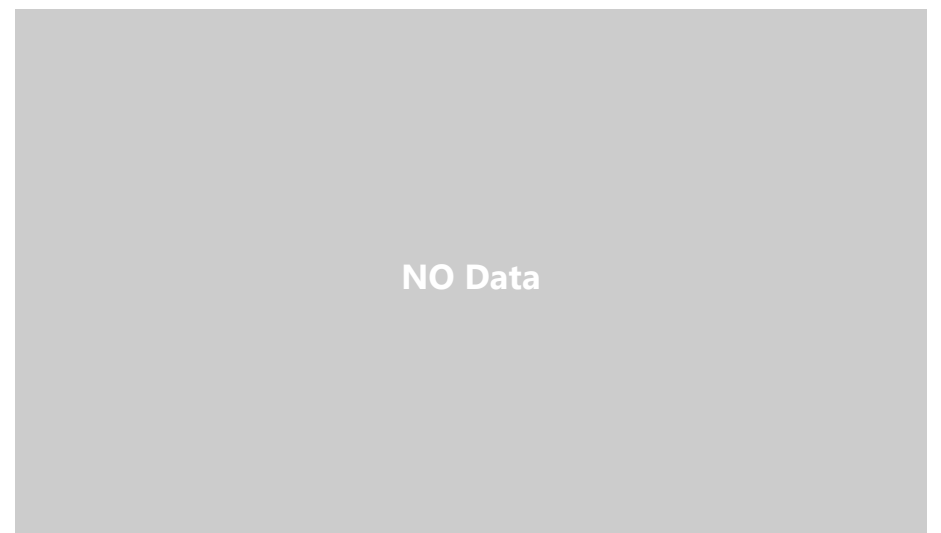
Reading/ Math proficiency	Year
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in mathematics	No Data
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading	No Data

Share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex	Year
Total	No Data
Male	No Data
Female	No Data

School Completion Rates by sex

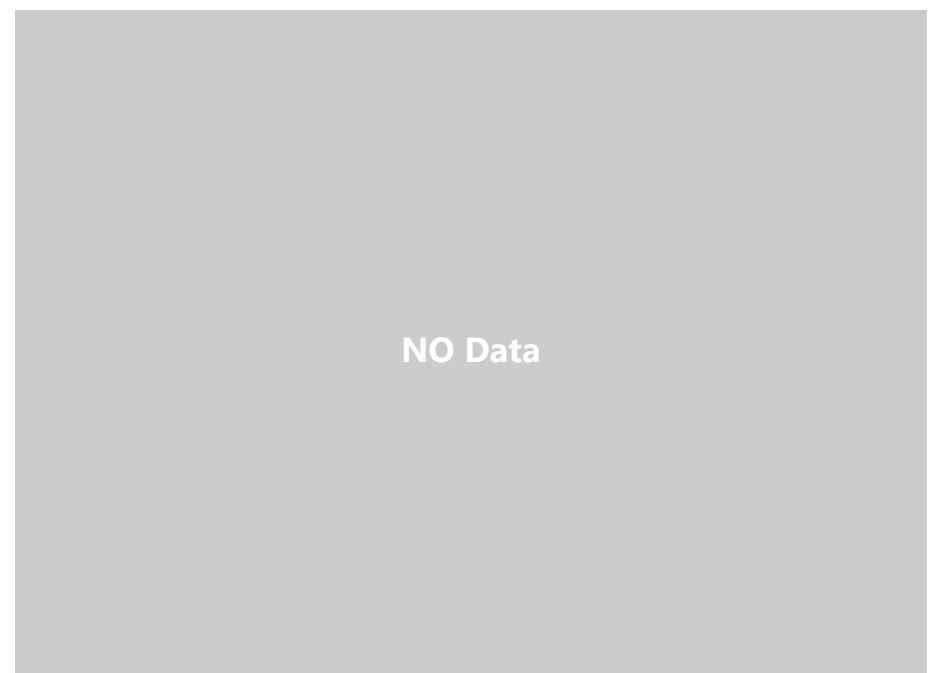


Inequalities in Out of School Children of Upper-Secondary School Aged Children



Unemployment rates in Youth (15-24 years)

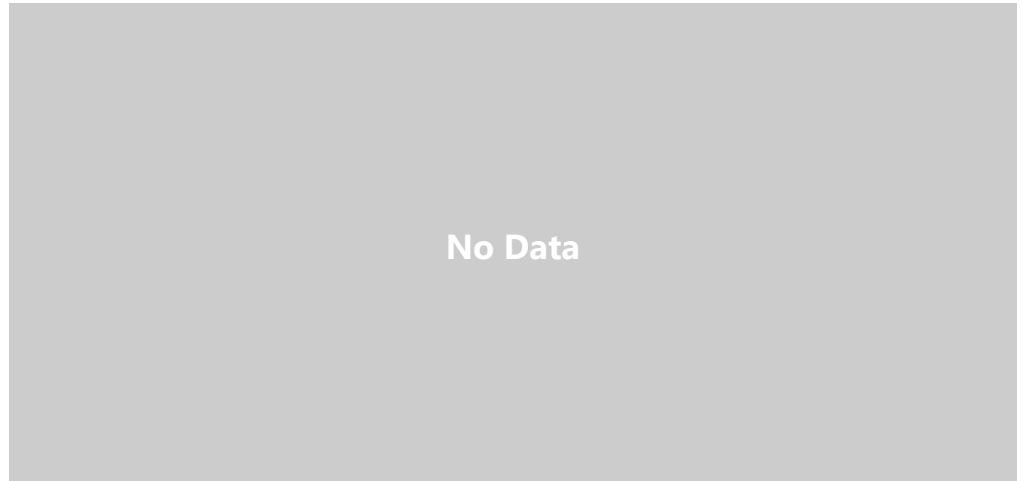
Labor Force Participation in Youth (15-24 years)





Violence

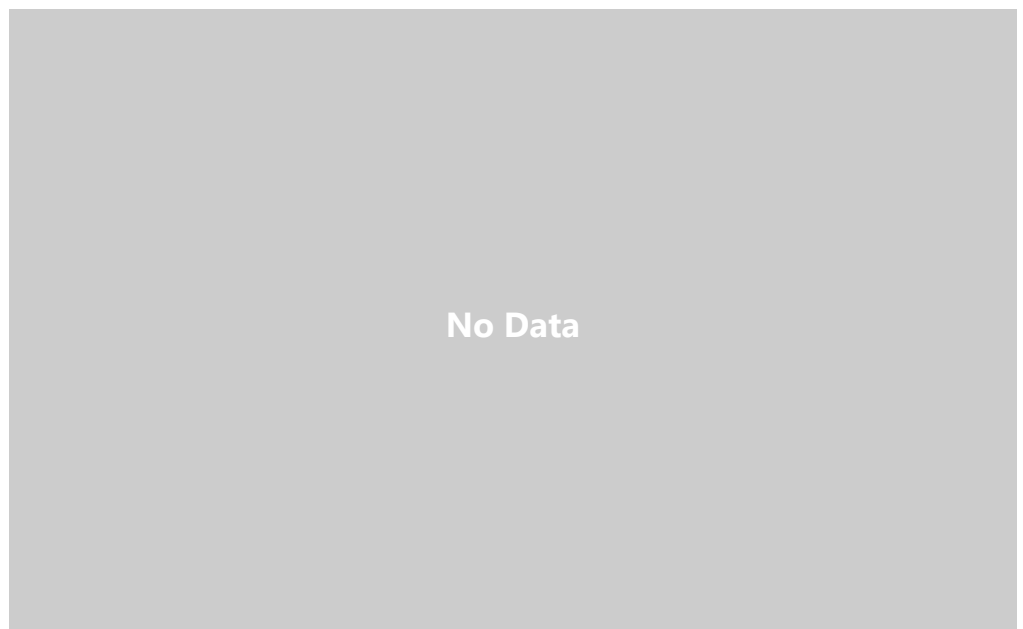
Inequalities in Violent Child Discipline



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

Violent Child Discipline	
Total	No Data
Male	No Data
Female	No Data

Inequalities in Child Marriage before 18



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

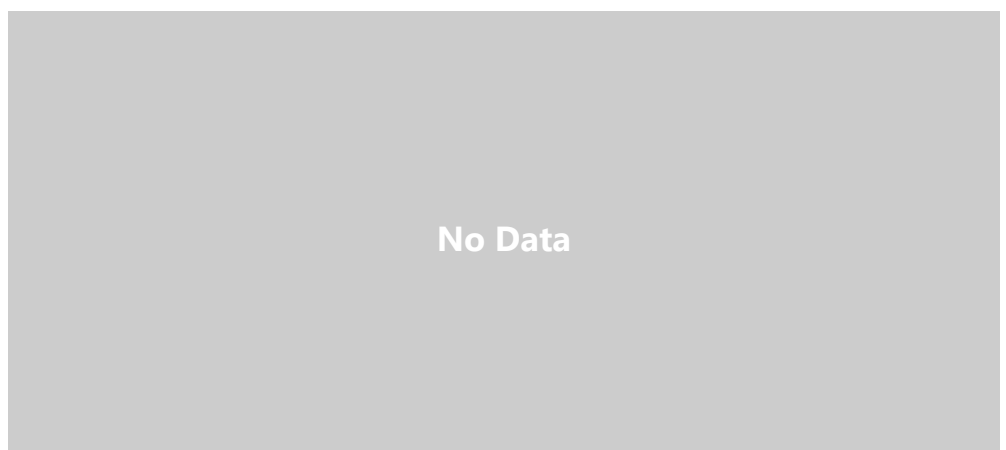
Married before 15	No Data
Married before 18	No Data

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

Child labour	No Data
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Birth Registration

Inequalities in Birth Registration



Birth registration (% of children under 5 years) Year

Birth registration	
Total	No Data
Rural	No Data
Urban	No Data



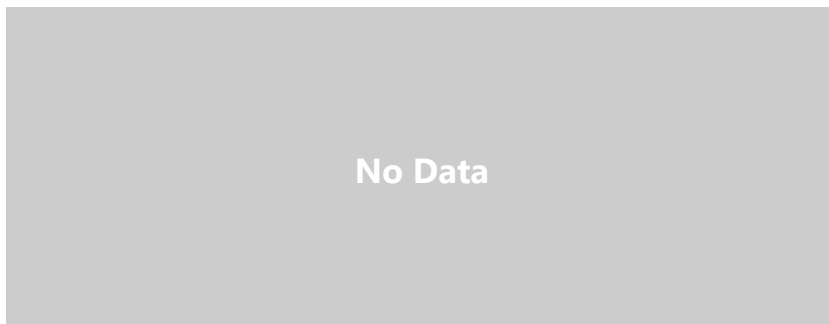
Right to equitable chance in life

Poverty

Monetary poverty	Year
Children (0-17) living in households with income below the national poverty line (% of all children)	No Data

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)
No Data	No Data	No Data

Child multidimensional poverty headcount ratio

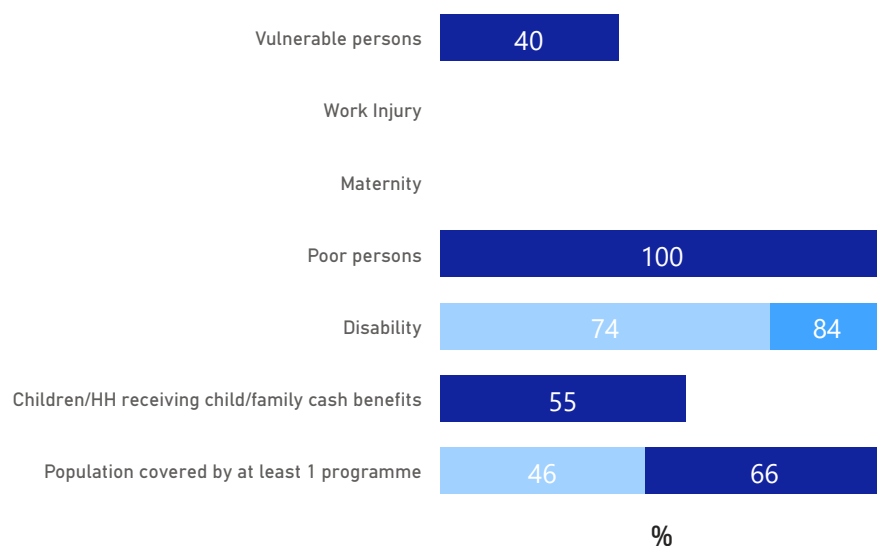


Dimensions of Multidimensional Poverty	Water	Household does not have piped water into dwelling or yard
	Sanitation	Unimproved toilet facility Shared toilet
	Housing	Primitive floor/Type of Household Overcrowding (more than 3 people per room)
	Health	Unskilled birth assistance (0-23 months) Not fully 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

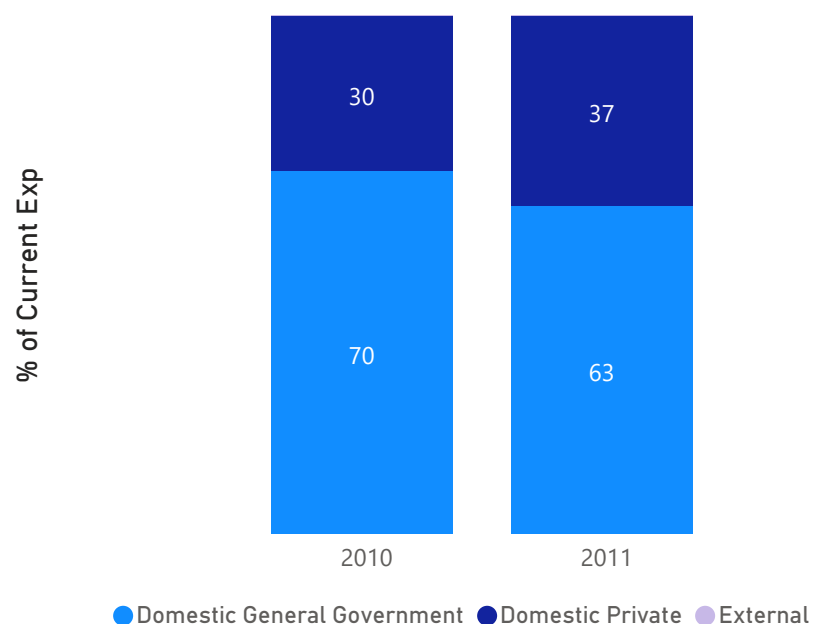
Public Expenditure on Essential services

Social Protection Coverage by Function

Time period ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021



Changes in the Composition of Domestic Health Expenditure



Government expenditure on health % of GDP
2011

3.8

Government expenditure on education % of GDP

No Data

Government expenditure on social protection % of GDP
2010

4.4



Right to a clean and safe environment

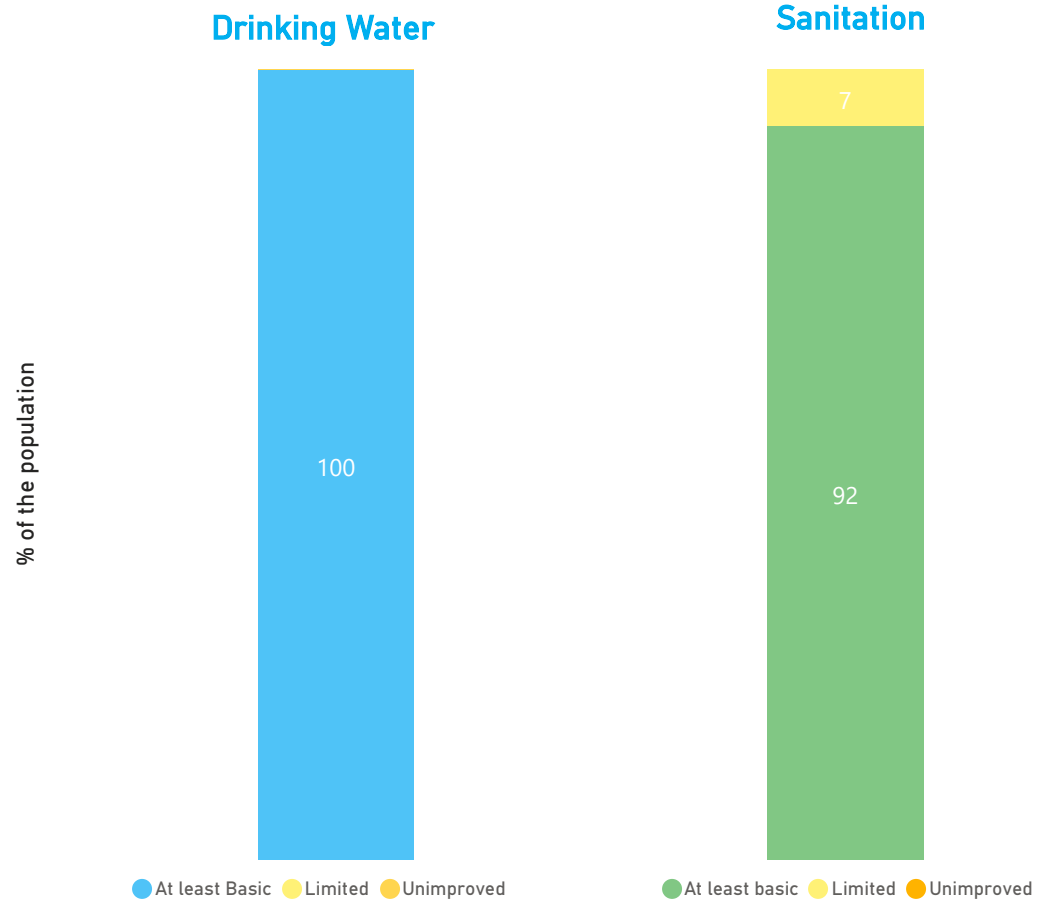
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene

2022

Household coverage (%)	2022
At least basic drinking water	100
At least basic sanitation	92

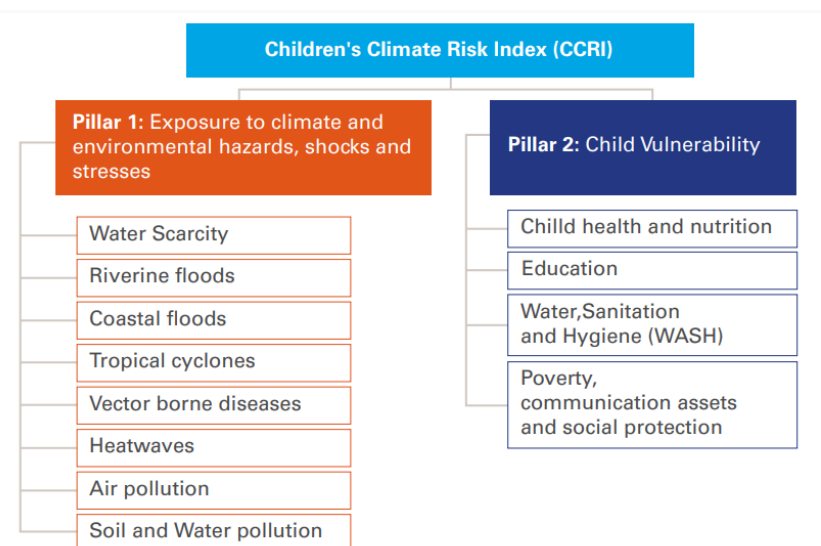
School coverage (%)	2021
Basic drinking water	17
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	13
Basic sanitation	61



Water Vulnerability and Climate

Indicator	2020
Water Stress	Critical

Indicator	2020
Children's Climate and Environment Risk Index	Medium-High
Child vulnerability	Low-Medium
Climate and environmental shocks	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: Libya has data on 15 of the 48 child related SDGs (31% 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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