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THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN IN OMAN

COUNTRY FACTSHEET: DECEMBER 2024



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Factsheet on the situation of

Children in Oman

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 Oman, 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.

Contents:

(1) Demographic and Economic Overview

(2) Right to health and healthcare

(3) Right to proper nutrition

(4) Right to education

(5) Right to be protected

(6) Right to an equitable chance in life

(7) Right to a clean and safe environment

HIGHLIGHTS

- Oman is a **high-income economy**. In 2023, the country's GDP per capita saw a decline to 0% in 2023, following a 3% increase in 2022.
- Children represented about **one-third** of of the population in 2023.
- The country has **low sustained child mortality rates** and all birth deliveries were done by skilled birth attendant in 2020.
- **Almost all children** had received 3 doses of the DTP vaccine and 2 doses of measles vaccine in 2023 (respectively 99% and 98%).
- **Less than one-fifth** of youth aged 15 to 24 in the labor market were unemployed in 2020, with **one-third** of the unemployed youth being female.
- About **one-quarter** of youth aged 15 to 24 were not in employment, education, or training in 2022, with females disproportionally affected **(21% males for 32% females).**
- **Almost one-fifth** of the population in Oman were covered by at least one social protection benefit in 2022.
- The level of water stress was **critical** while the children's climate risk index was classified as **medium-high** in 2020.

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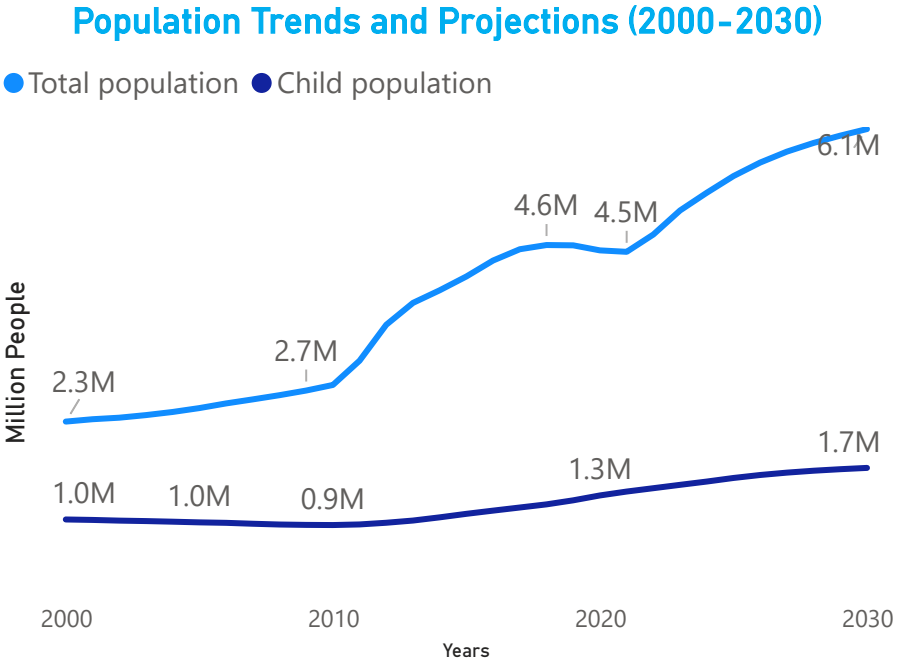
Demography and Economy

Demography

% of the population	2023
Population under age 5	8.5
Population under age 18	28.7
Adolescent population (10-19)	13.0

Number of births per year (in thousands)	2023
Number of births	85

Average number of children per woman over the childbearing years	2023
Total fertility rate	3



Total population

2023

5M

Child population

2023

1M

Population growth rate (annual % change)

2020

1.0

Urban population (%)

2023

88

Refugees & asylum seekers (% of total population)

2023

0.01

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

2023

22.0

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

No Data

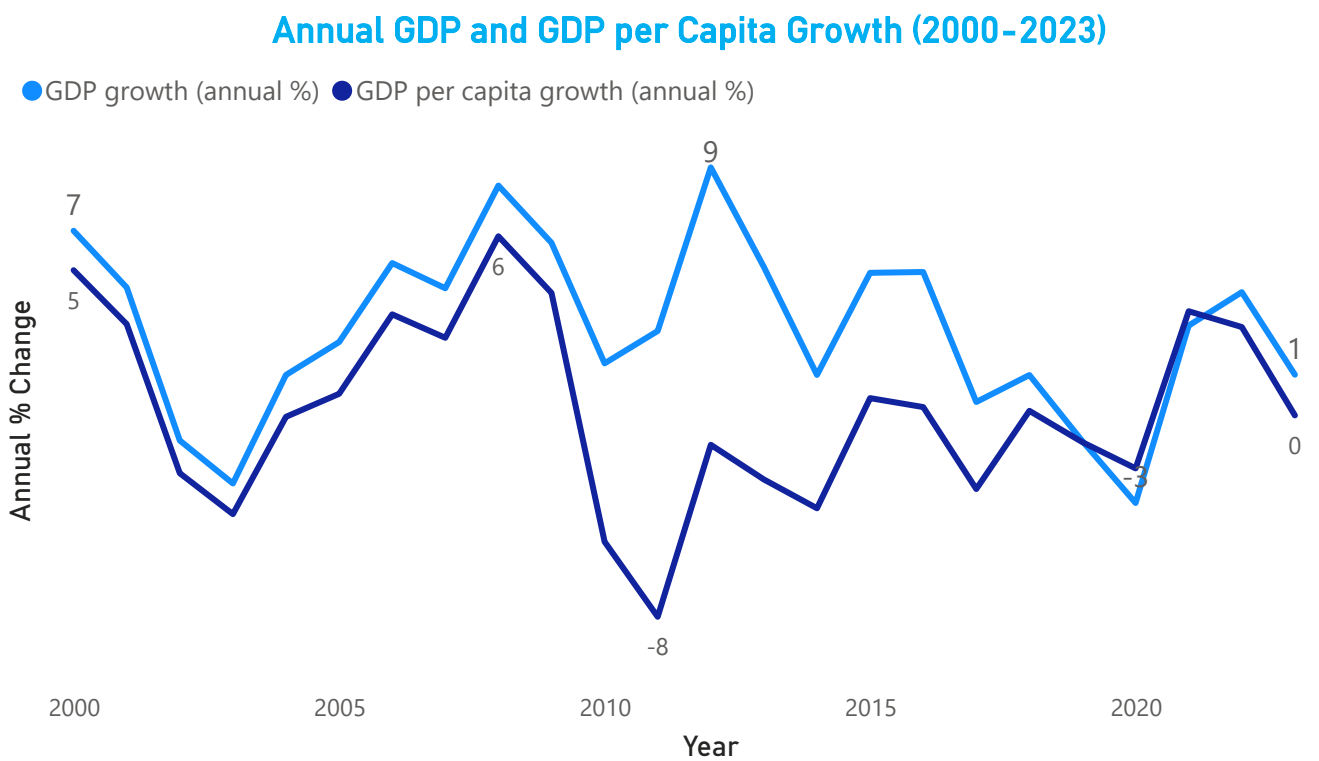
Economy

World Bank 2023/2024 Income classification

High-income

Indicator	2023
GDP per capita (current US$)	23295.3

Indicator	2023
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	0.9



Right to health and health care

Mortality

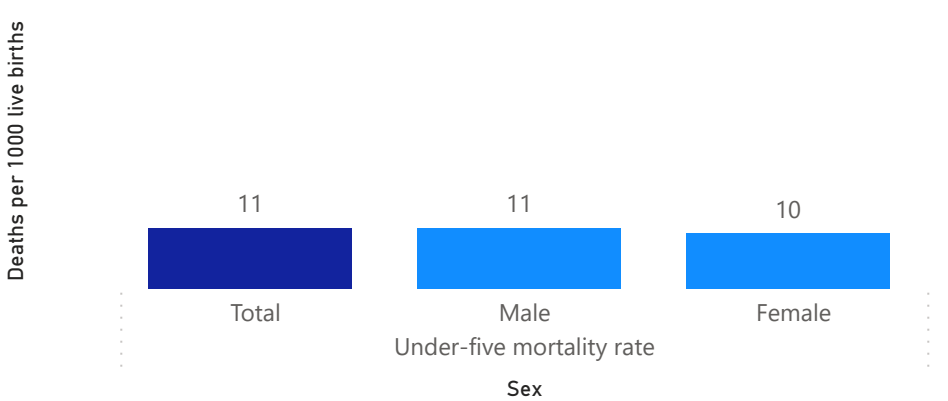
Mortality rates (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	2022
Neonatal mortality rate	7	5
Infant mortality rate	14	9
Under-five mortality rate	16	11

Under-five deaths

Under-five deaths

874

Inequalities in Under 5 Mortality Rate

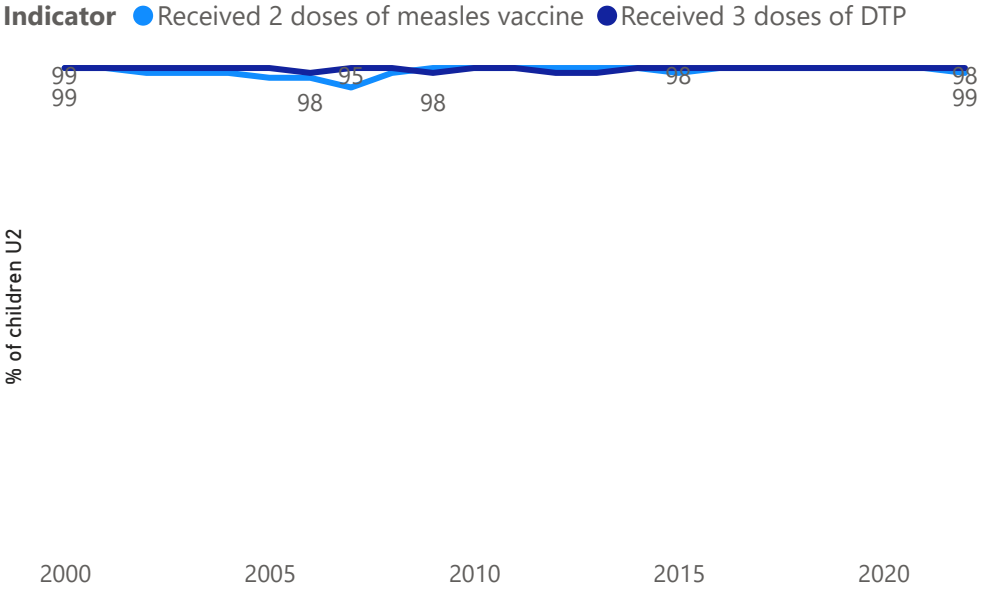


Maternal and Child Health

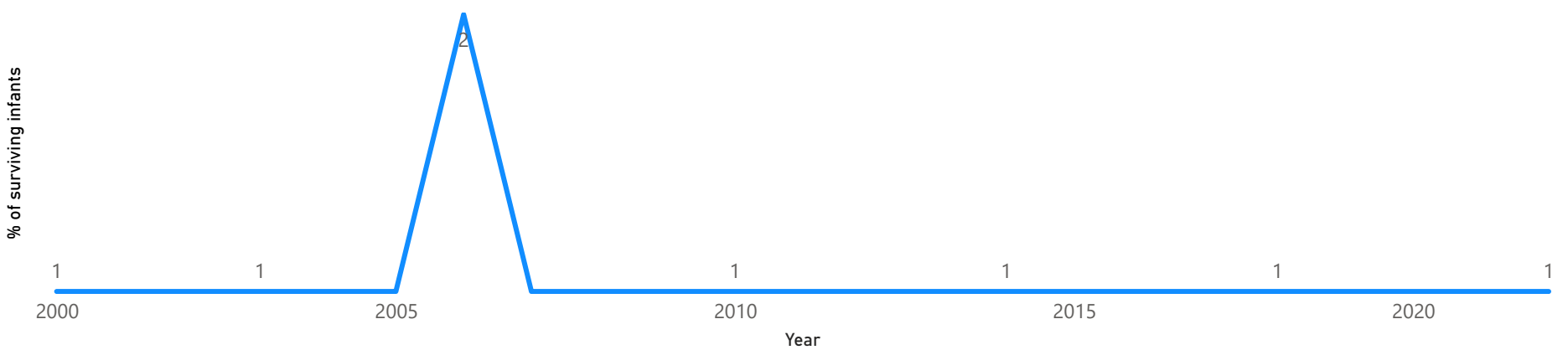
Health care and services (% of women, 15-49 years, with a live birth in the last 2 years)	2020
Skilled birth attendant	100

Immunization (% of children, 0-2 years)	2022
Received 1st dose of DTP	99
Received 2 doses of measles vaccine	98
Received 3 doses of DTP	99

Trend of immunization among children (0-2) years



Zero-dose Children (No Vaccination for DTP1)



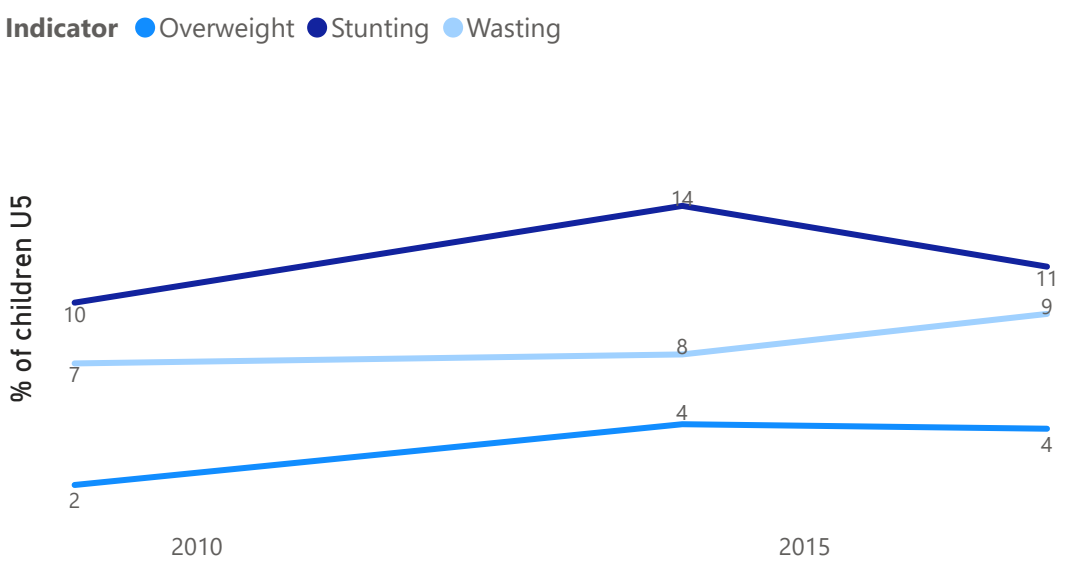
Right to proper nutrition

Nutrition

% of Children	2017
Exclusive breastfeeding (0-5 months)	23

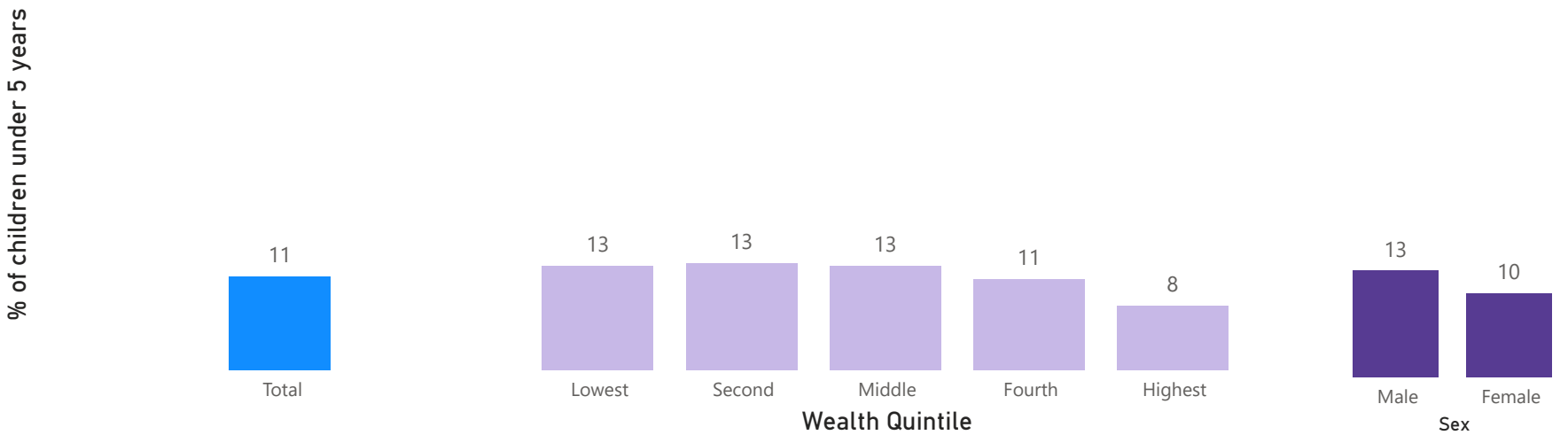
Malnutrition (% of children, under 5 years)	2017
Overweight	4
Stunting	11
Underweight	11
Wasting	9

Nutrition indicators trend



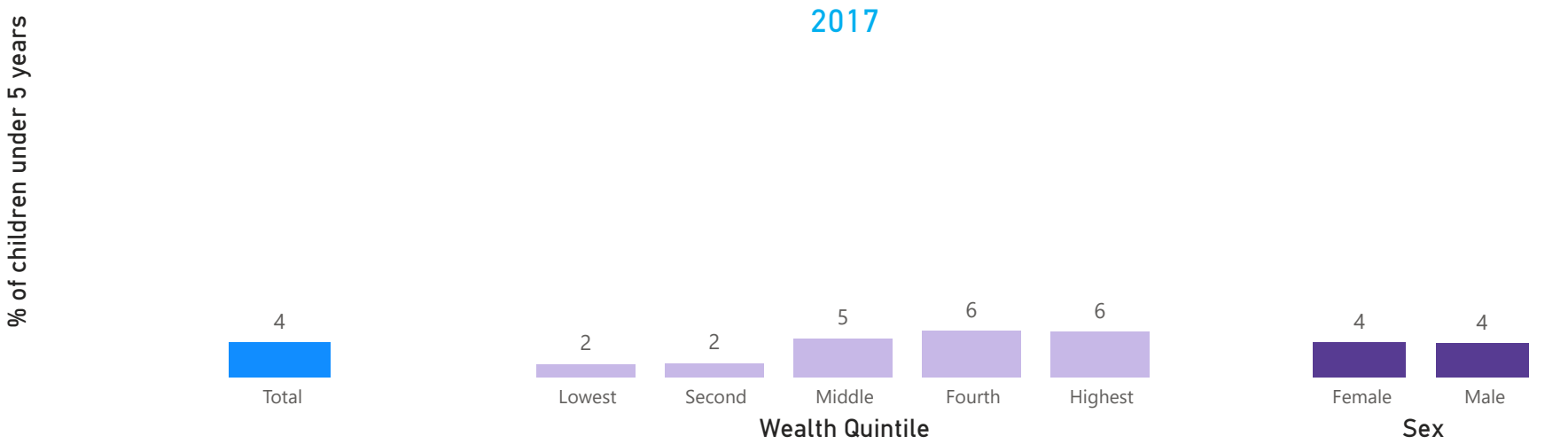
Inequalities in Stunting

2017



Overweight Inequalities

2017



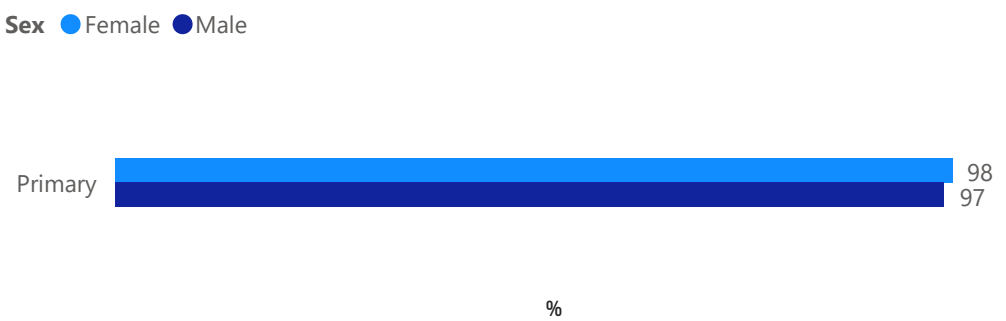
Right to education

Education, Training and Employment

School net attendance by education level (% of children of the relevant age group)	2014
Pre-Primary	No Data
Primary	98
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

Net Attendance Rate by Gender

2014

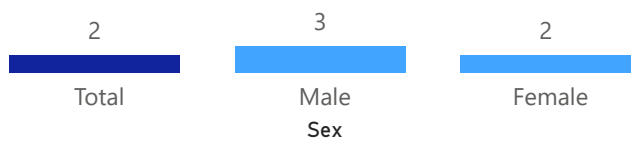


School completion by education level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	Year
Primary	No Data
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

Out-of-school children by educational level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	2014
Primary	2
Lower Secondary	No Data
Upper Secondary	No Data

Inequalities in Out of School Children of primary School Aged Children

2014



Reading/ Math proficiency	2019
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in mathematics	33
Proportion of students at the end of primary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading	No Data

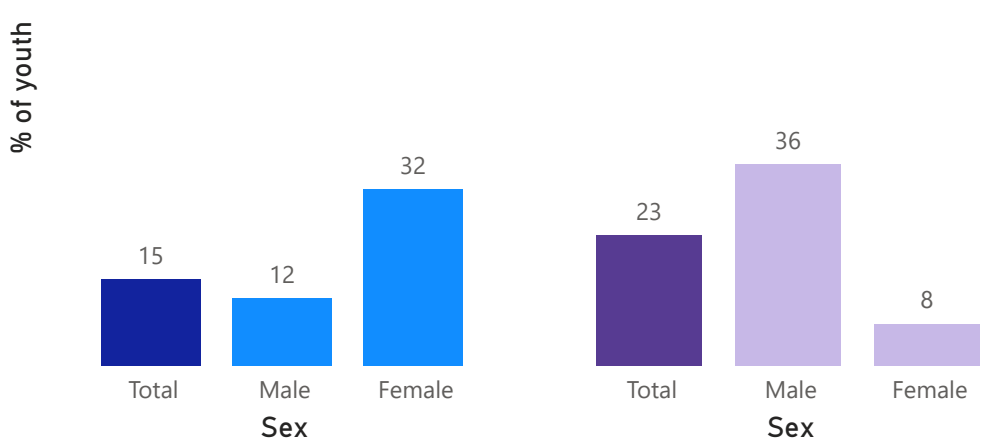
Unemployment rates in Youth (15-24 years)

2020

Labor Force Participation in Youth (15-24 years)

2020

Share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex	2022
Total	26
Male	21
Female	32



Right to be protected

Violence

Violent child discipline (% of children aged 1-14 years)	Year
Violent Child Discipline	
Total	No Data
Male	No Data
Female	No Data

Inequalities in Violent Child Discipline (Latest)

Child marriage (% of women aged 20-24 years)	2014
Married before 15	1.2
Married before 18	4.0

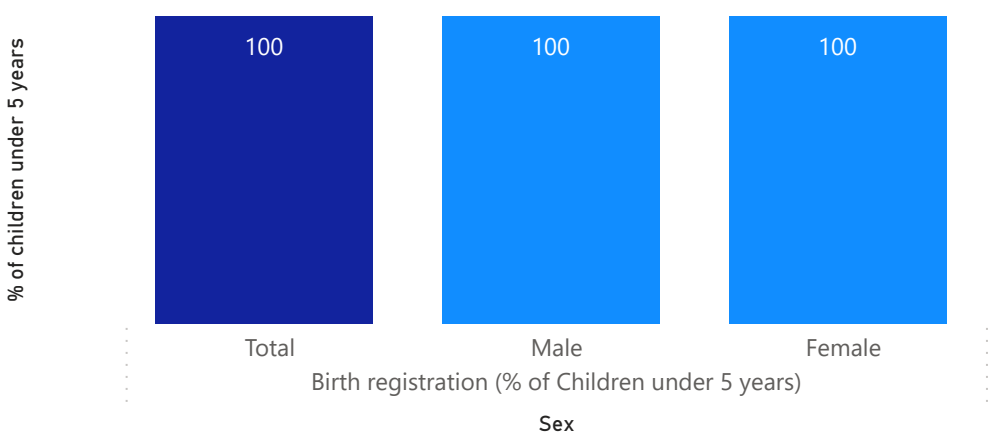
Inequalities in Child Marriage before 18

Child labour (% of children aged 5-17 years)	Year
Child labour	No Data

Birth Registration

Birth registration (% of children under 5 years)	2018
Birth registration (% of Children under 5 years)	
Total	100
Male	100
Female	100

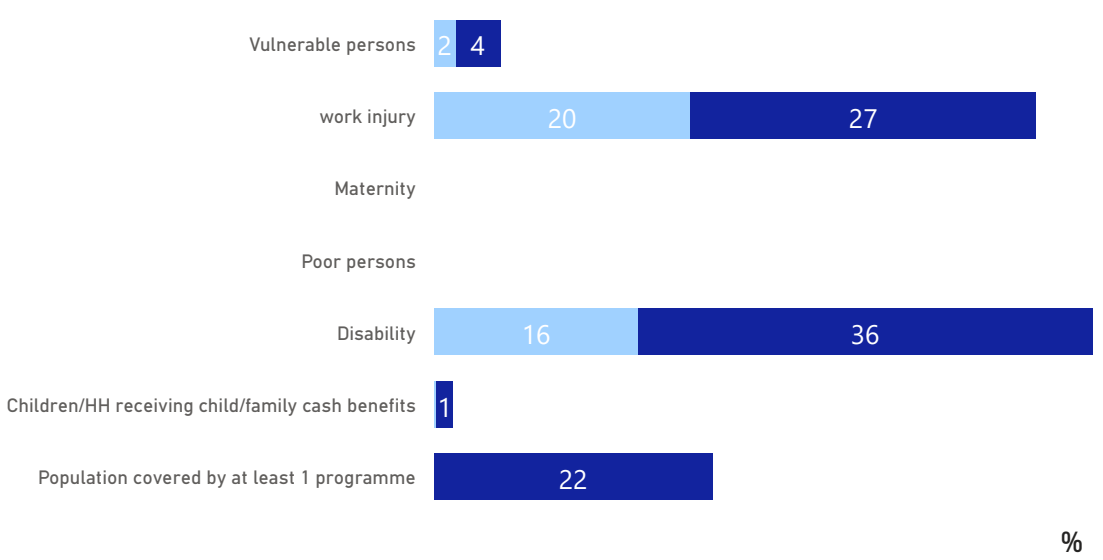
Inequalities in Birth Registration 2018



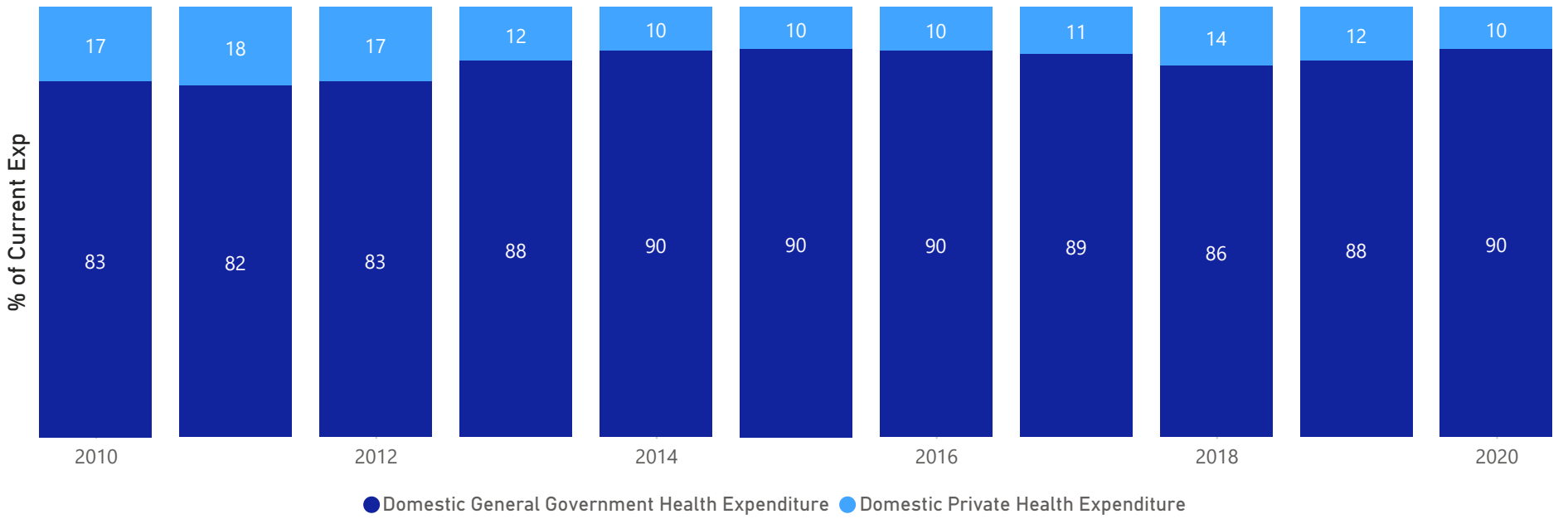
Right to equitable chance in life

Public Expenditure on Essential services

Social Protection Coverage by Function



Changes in the Composition of Domestic Health Expenditure



Government expenditure on health % of GDP

2018

3.6

Government expenditure on education % of GDP

2019

11.8

Government expenditure on social protection % of GDP

2013

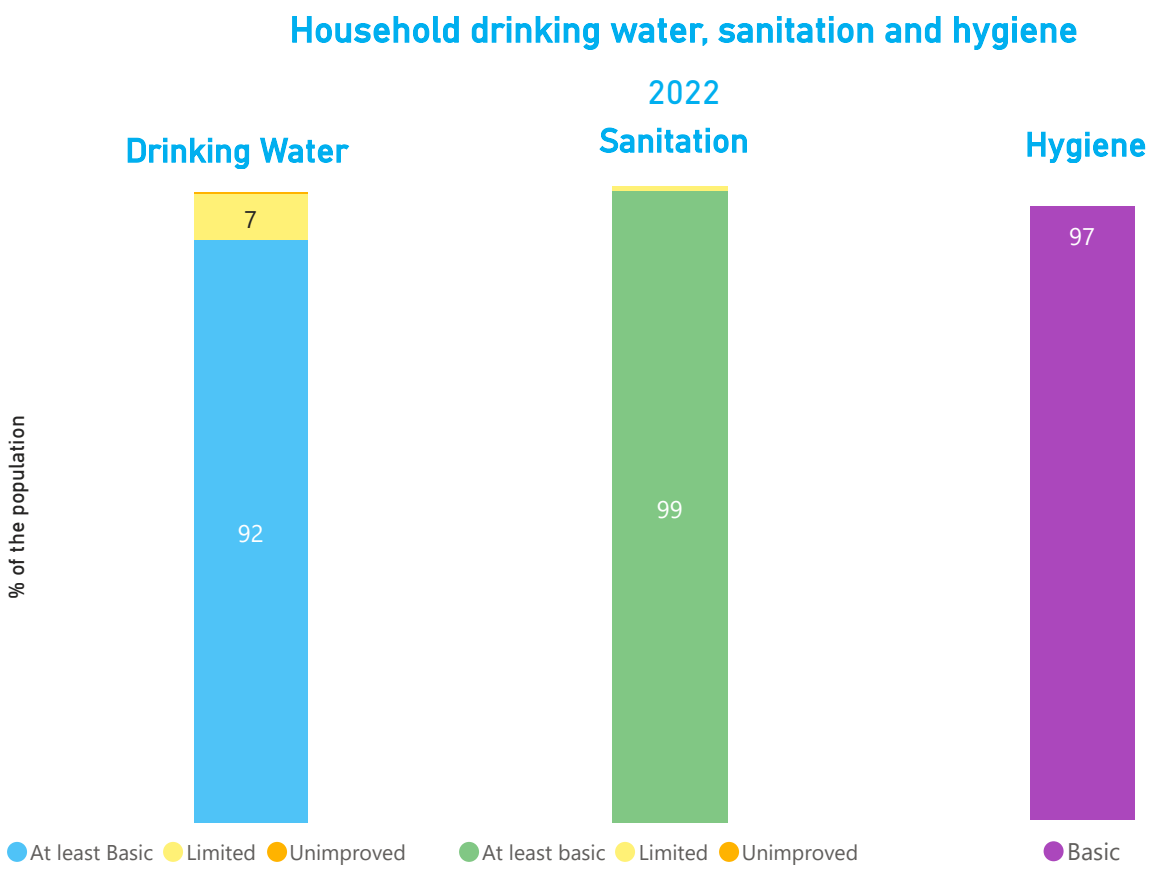
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Right to a clean and safe environment

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Household coverage (%)	2021	2022
At least basic drinking water	92	92
At least basic sanitation	99	99
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	97	

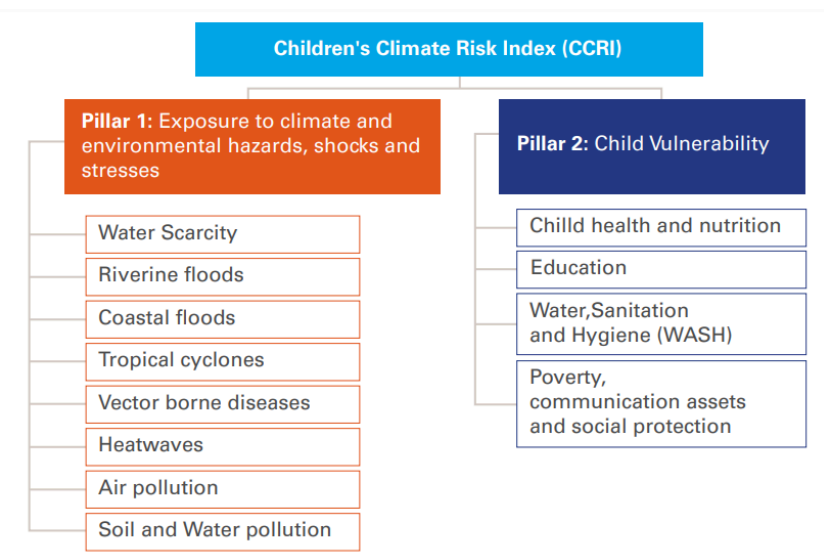
School coverage (%)	2023
Basic drinking water	100
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	100
Basic sanitation	99



Water Vulnerability and Climate

Indicator	2020
SDG 6.4.2. Water Stress	Critical

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



*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: Oman has data on 28 of the 48 child related SDGs **(58% 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
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