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THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN IN SUDAN

COUNTRY FACTSHEET: DECEMBER 2024



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Factsheet on the situation of

Children in Sudan

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 Sudan, 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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(7) Right to a clean and safe environment

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sudan is **a low-income** economy, experiencing a sharp GDP per capita **decline of 14%** in 2023, following a 4% decrease in 2022.
- Children represented **almost half** of the population in 2023. Internally displaced persons represented **18%** in 2023 with children comprising almost half of them.
- Despite significant progress in reducing child mortality, the rate remains high, with **52 deaths per 1,000 live births** among children under five.
- Immunization coverage dropped considerably in 2023, with **only 50% of children** receiving three doses of the DTP vaccine and 38% receiving two doses of the measles vaccine. Additionally, the percentage of zero-dose children increased to **43%.**
- About **half** of youth aged 15 to 24 were not in employment, education, or training in 2022, with females disproportionally affected **(30% males for 62% females).**
- Violent child discipline is prevalent, with **64% of children** aged 1-14 years experiencing violence in 2014. Female genital mutilation was very high, with 82% of girls aged between 15 and 19 years being affected in 2014.
- **Just one in ten** of the Sudanese population were covered by at east one social protection benefit in 2020.
- The level of water stress was **critical** and the children's climate risk index was classified as **extremely high** in 2020.

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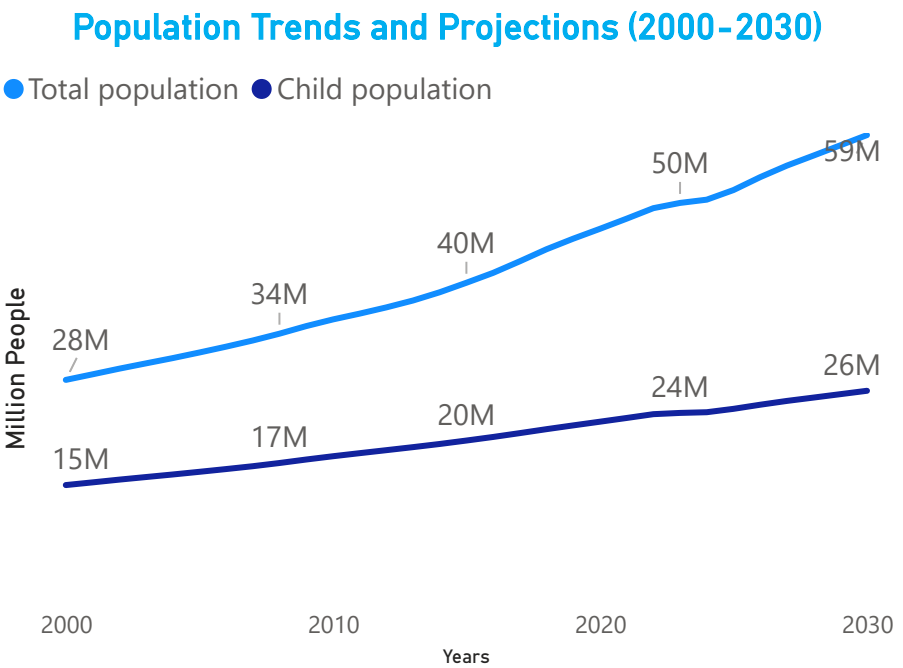
Demography and Economy

Demography

% of the population	2023
Children (0-4 years)	15.3
Children (0-17 years)	47.3
Adolescents (10-19 years)	22.9

Number of births per year (in thousands)	2023
Number of births	1682

Average number of children per woman over the childbearing years	2023
Total fertility rate	4.3



Total population

2023

50M

Child population

2023

24M

Population growth rate (annual % change)

2023

0.0

Urban population (%)

2023

36.3

Internally displaced(% of total population)

2023

18.1

% of children (0-17) years amongst internally displaced population

2023

46.9

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

No Data

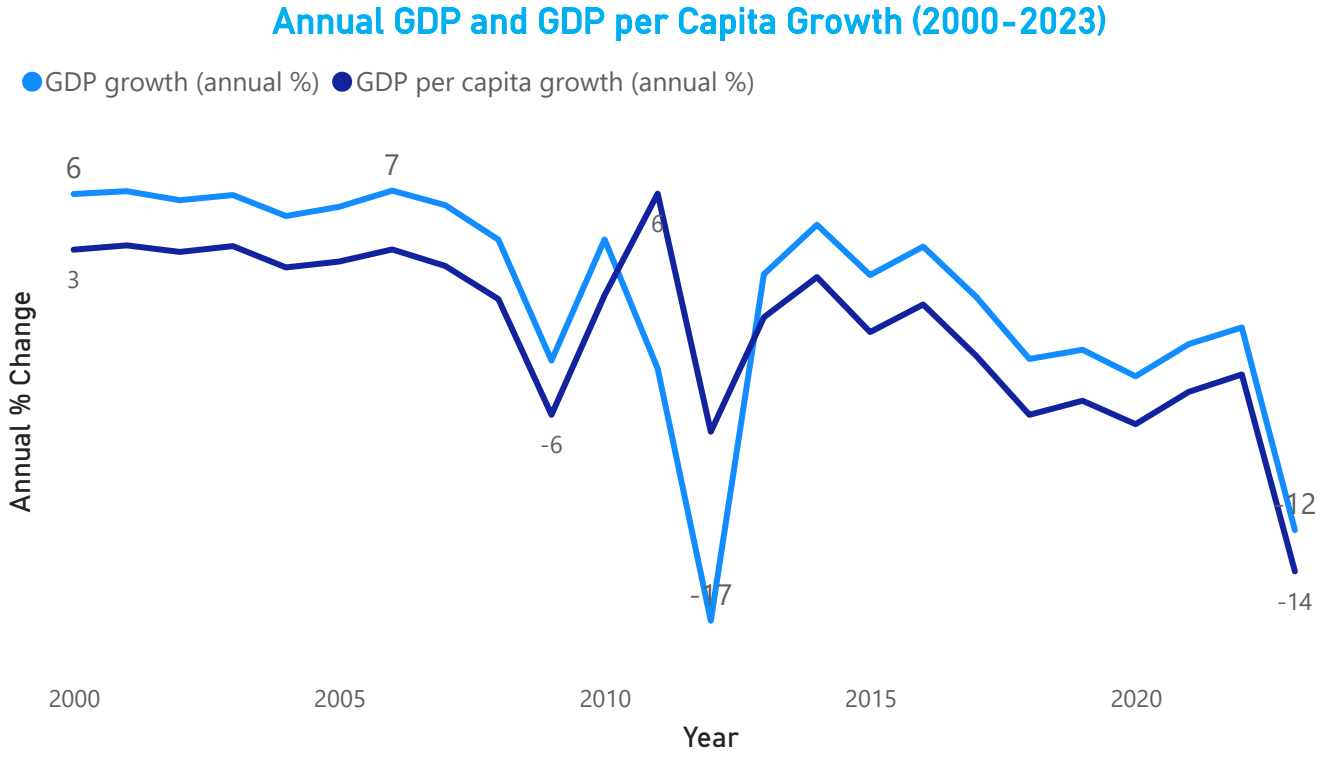
Economy

World Bank 2023/2024 Income classification

Low-income

Indicator	2023
GDP per capita (current US$)	2272.5

Indicator	2022
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	138.8



Right to health and health care

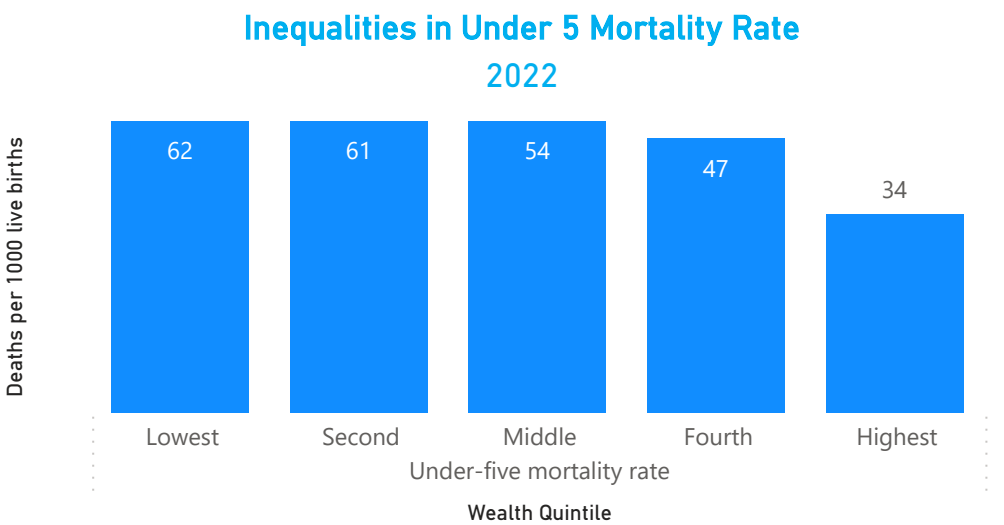
Child Mortality

Mortality rates (deaths per 1,000 live births)	2000	2022
Neonatal mortality rate	37	26
Infant mortality rate	66	37
Under-five mortality rate	103	52

Under-five deaths

2022

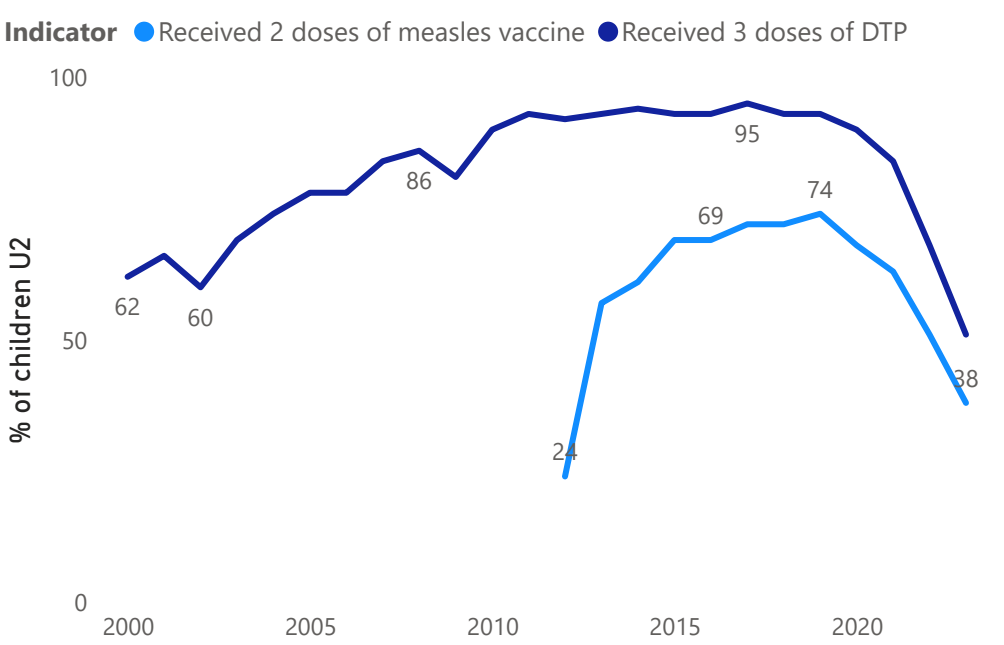
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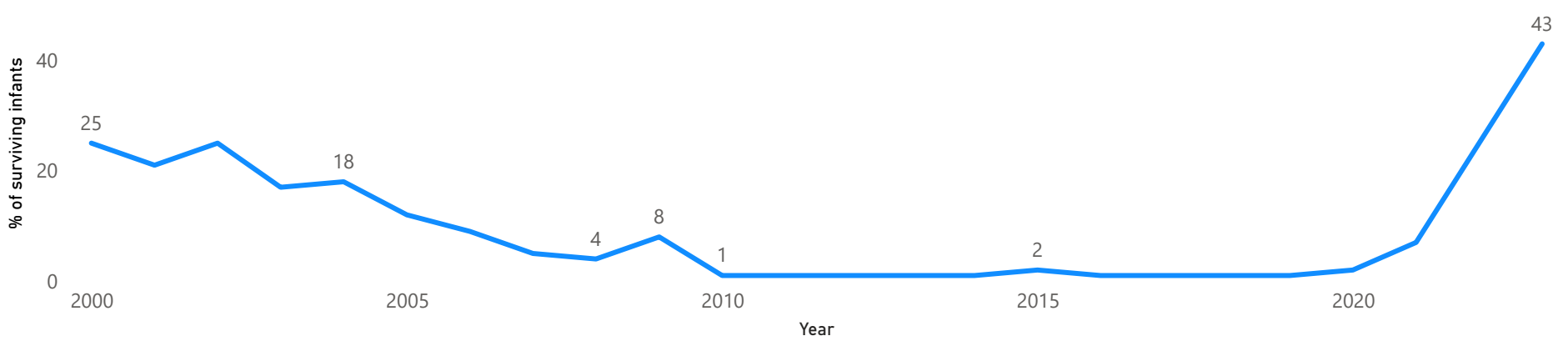


Maternal and Child Health

Health care and services (% of women, 15-49 years, with a live birth in the last 2 years)	2014
Antenatal care 4+ visits	51
Institutional deliveries	28
Skilled birth attendant	78

Immunization (% of children, 0-2 years)	2023
Received 1st dose of DTP	57
Received 2 doses of measles vaccine	38
Received 3 doses of DTP	51



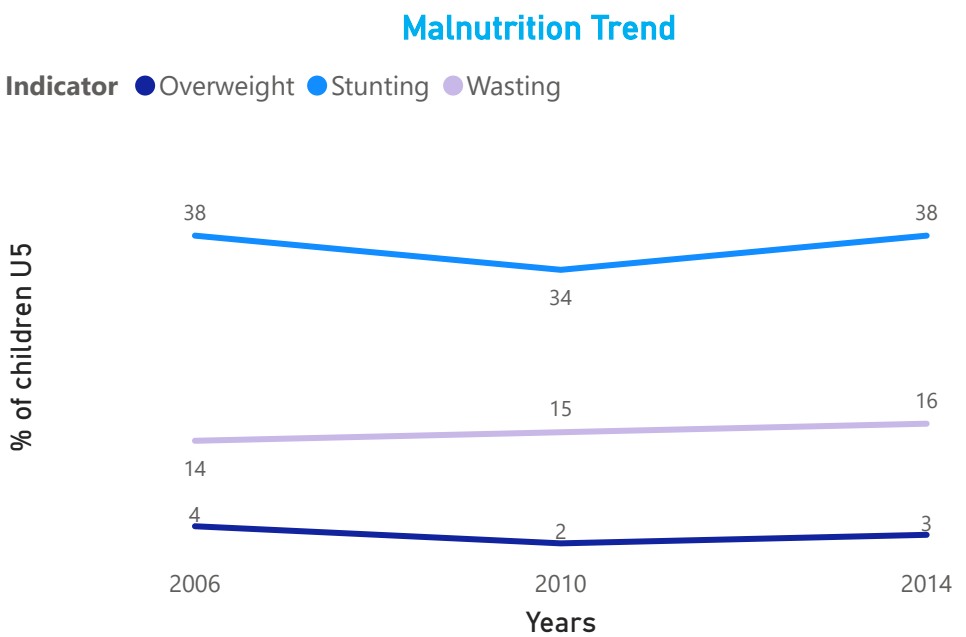


Right to proper nutrition

Nutrition

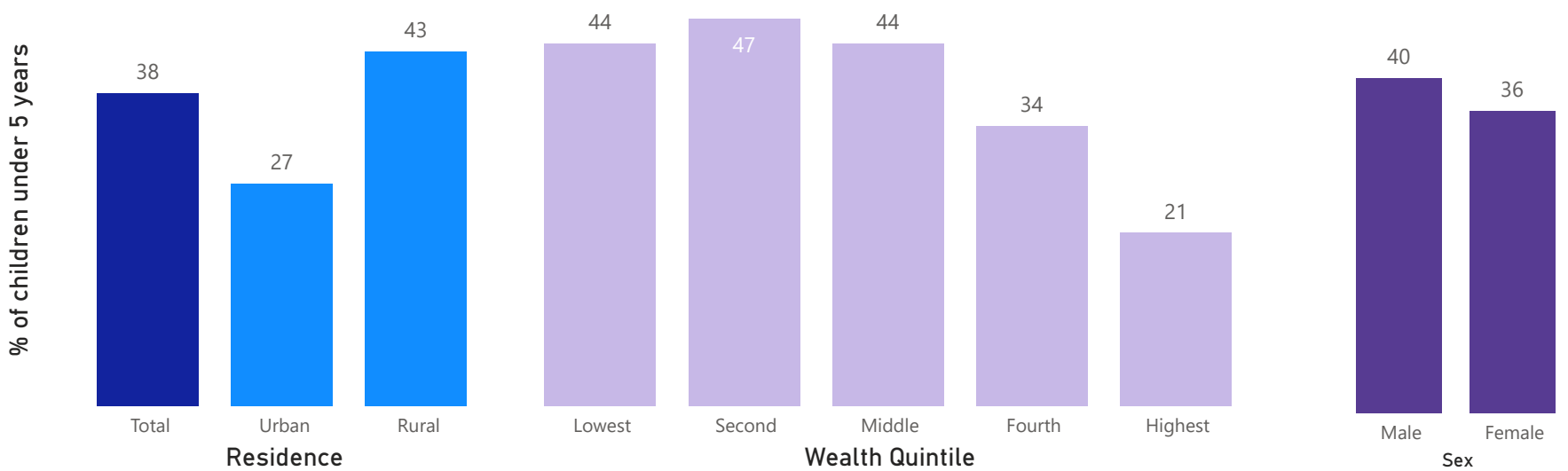
Infant and young child feeding (% of children)	2014
Exclusive breastfeeding (0-5 months)	55
Minimum diet diversity (6 to 23 months)	24

Malnutrition (% of children, under 5 years)	2014
Overweight	3
Stunting	38
Underweight	33
Wasting	16



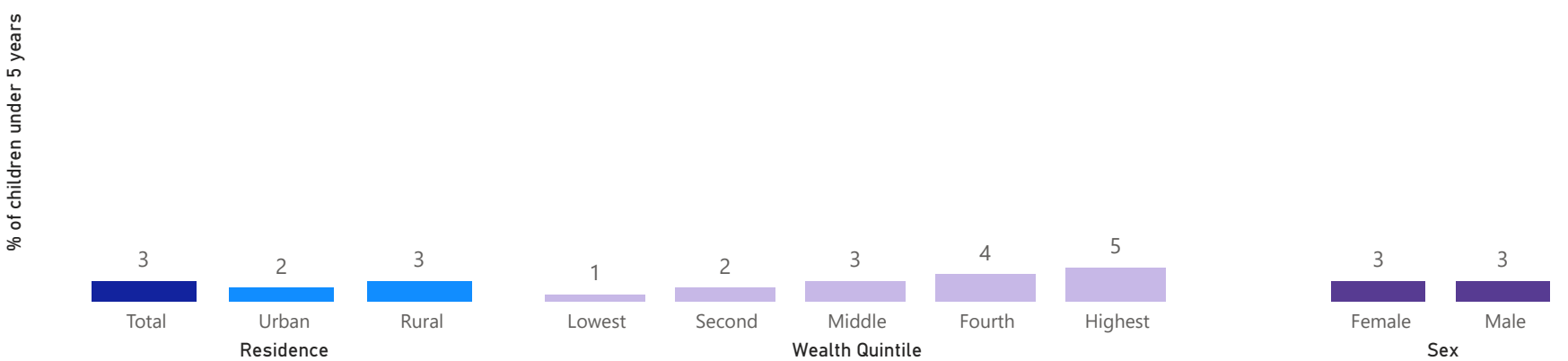
Inequalities in Stunting

2014



Overweight Inequalities

2014



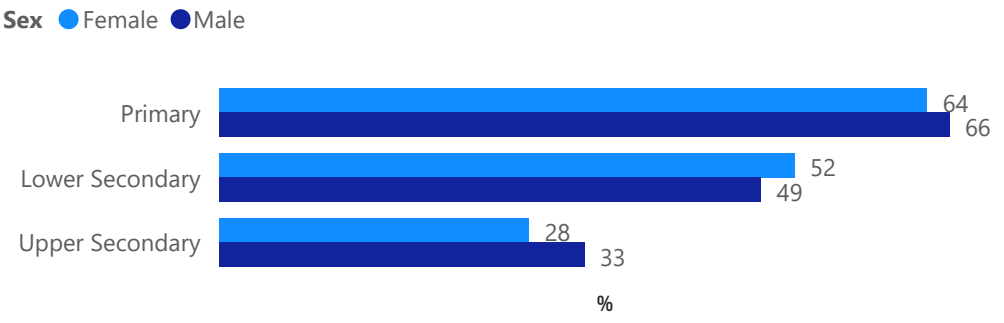
Right to education

Education, Training and Employment

School net attendance by education level (% of children of the relevant age group)	2014
Pre-Primary	41
Primary	68
Lower Secondary	31
Upper Secondary	29

School Completion Rates by sex

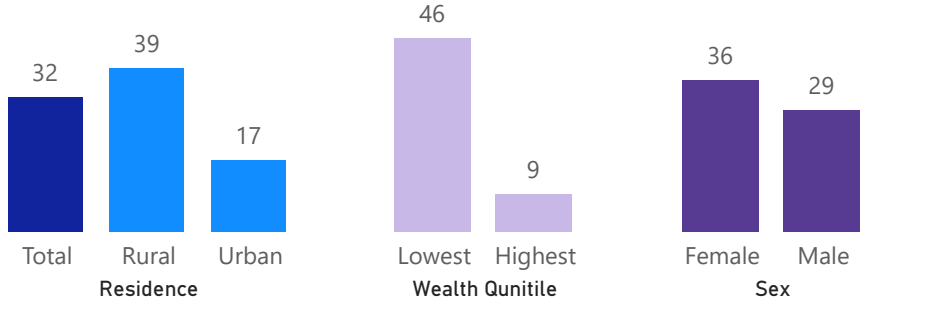
2014



School completion by education level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	2014
Primary	65
Lower Secondary	50
Upper Secondary	31

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

2014

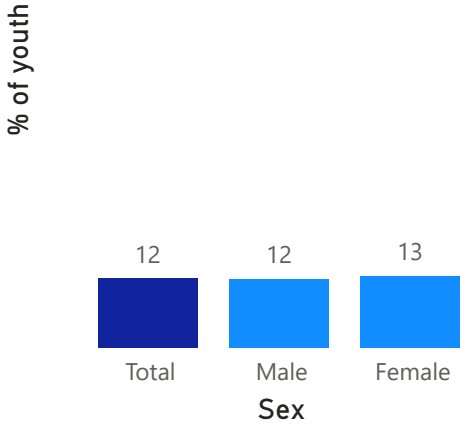


Out-of-school children by educational level (% of children of the relevant age groups)	2014
Lower Secondary	21
Primary	21
Upper Secondary	32

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

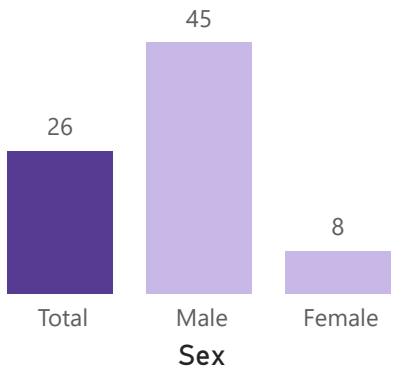
Unemployment rates in Youth (15-24 years)

2022



Labor Force Participation in Youth (15-24 years)

2022



Share of youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex	2022
Total	47
Male	30
Female	62

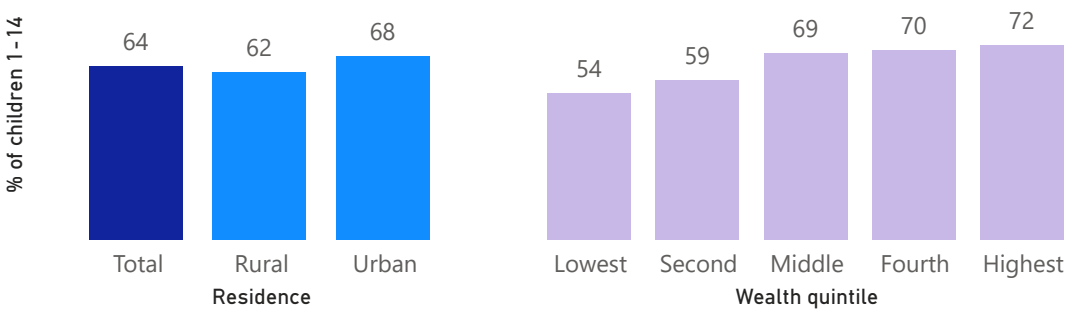
Right to be protected

Violence

Violent child discipline (% of children aged 1-14 years)	2014
Violent Child Discipline	
Total	64
Male	64
Female	63

Inequalities in Violent Child Discipline

2014

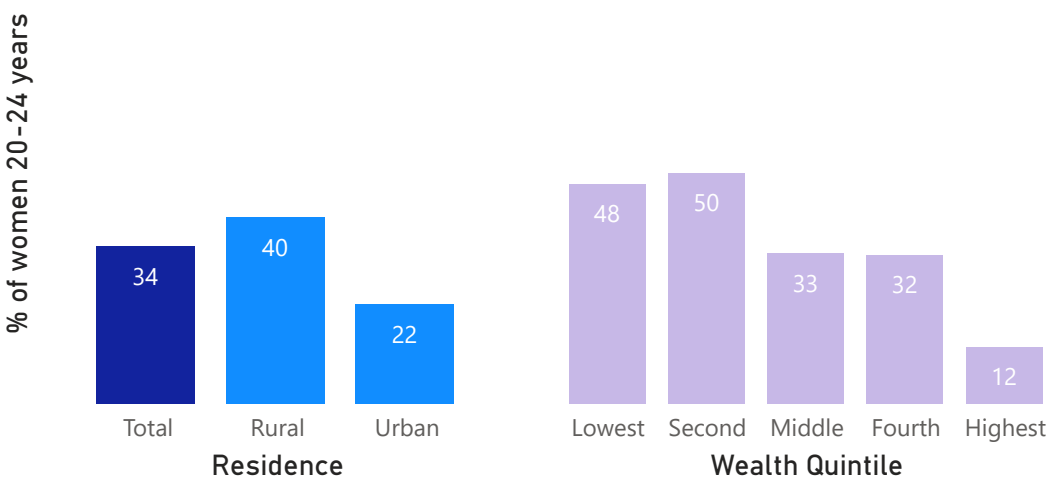


Child marriage (% of women aged 20-24 years)	2014
Married before 15	12
Married before 18	34

Child labour (% of children aged 5-17 years)	2014
Child labour	
Female	16
Male	20
Total	18

Inequalities in Child Marriage before 18

2014

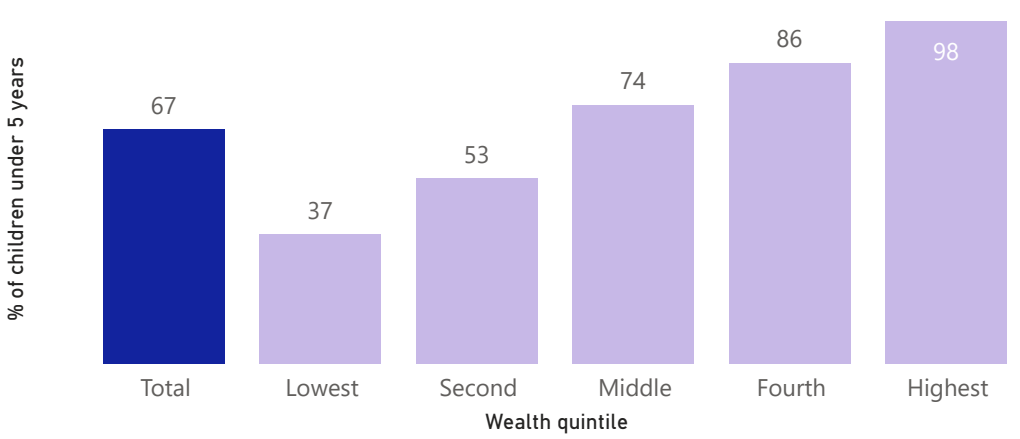


Birth Registration

Birth registration (% of children under 5 years)	2014
Birth registration	
Total	67
Rural	59
Urban	89

Inequalities in Birth Registration

2014



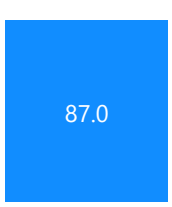
Right to equitable chance in life

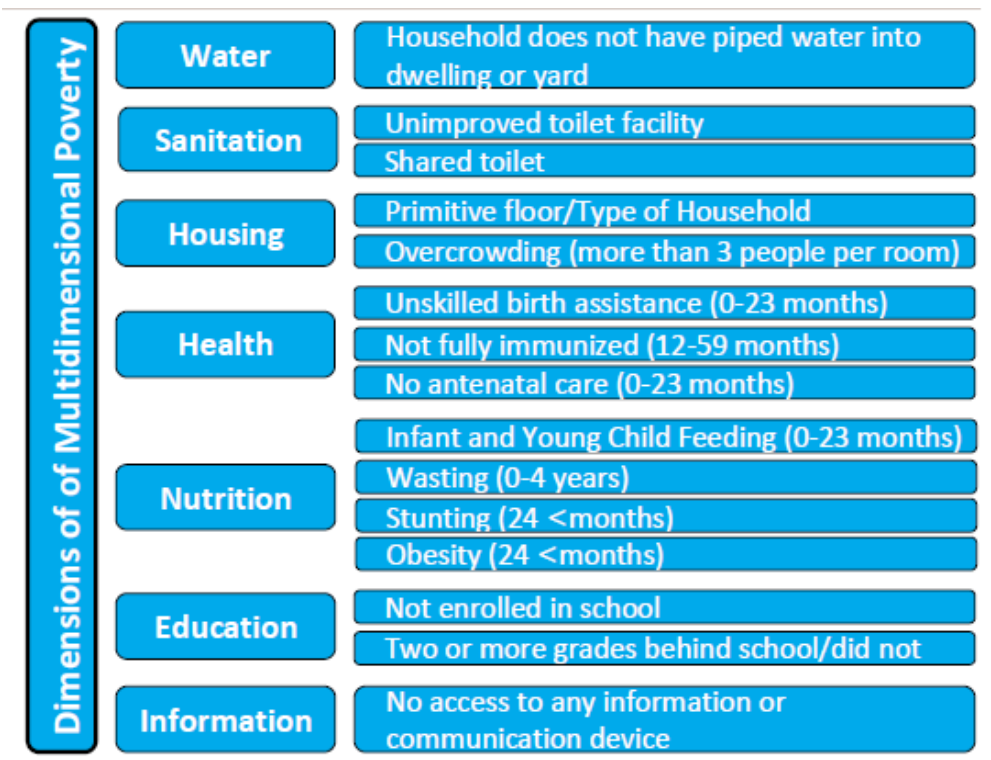
Poverty

Monetary poverty	2020
Children (0-17) living in households with income below the national poverty line (% of all children)	49.0

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)
31.0	69.3	94.4

Child multidimensional poverty headcount ratio



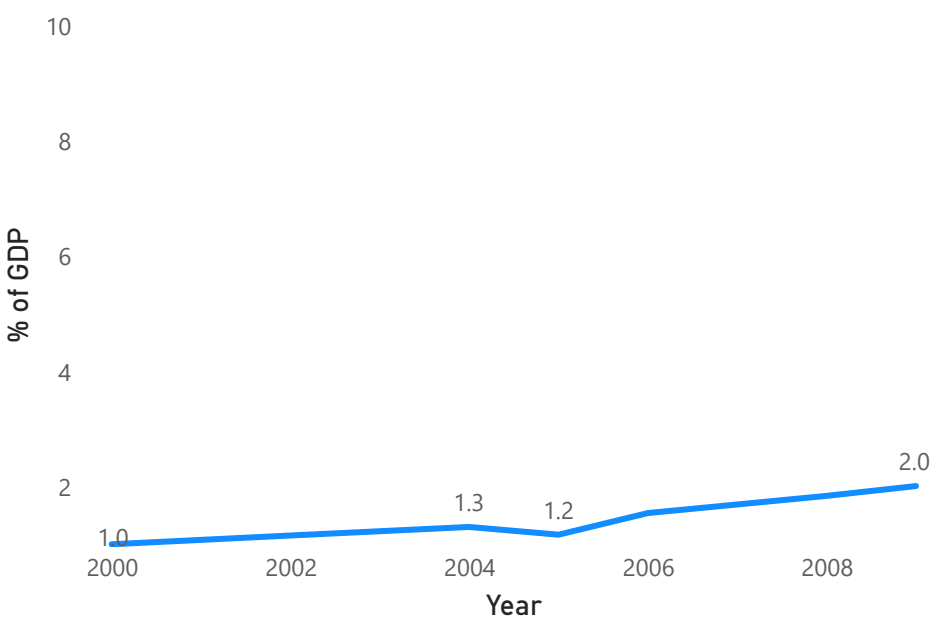


Public Expenditure on Essential services

Social Protection Coverage by Function



Government Expenditure on Education Trend



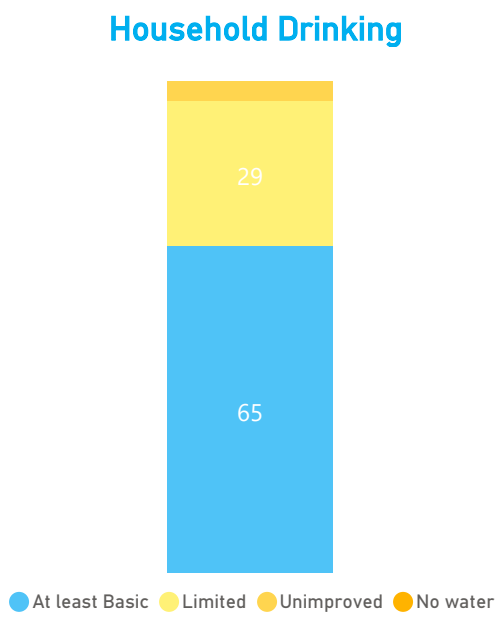
Government expenditure on health % of GDP	Government expenditure on education % of GDP	Government expenditure on social protection % of GDP
2024		2016
1.7	No Data	0.7

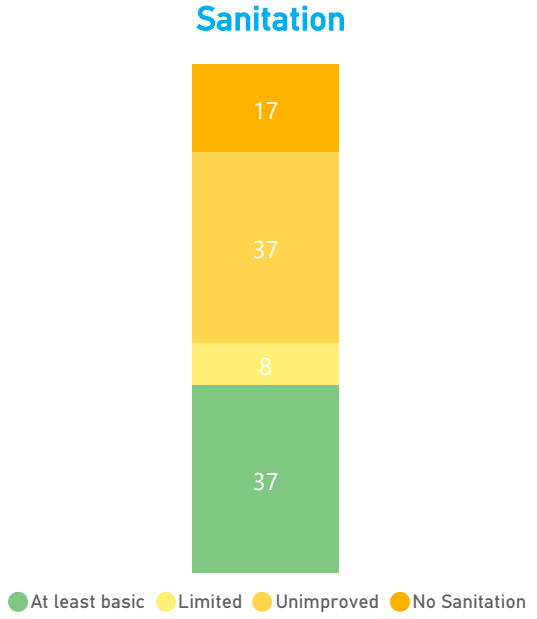
Right to a clean and safe environment

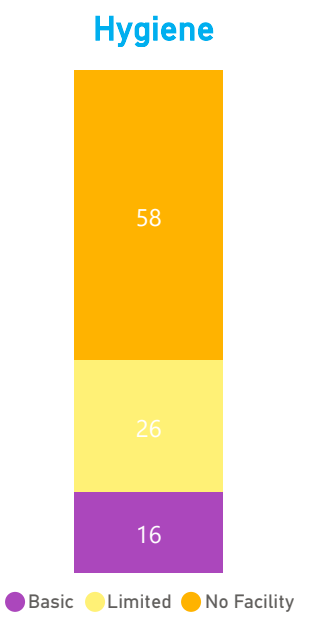
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene

2022







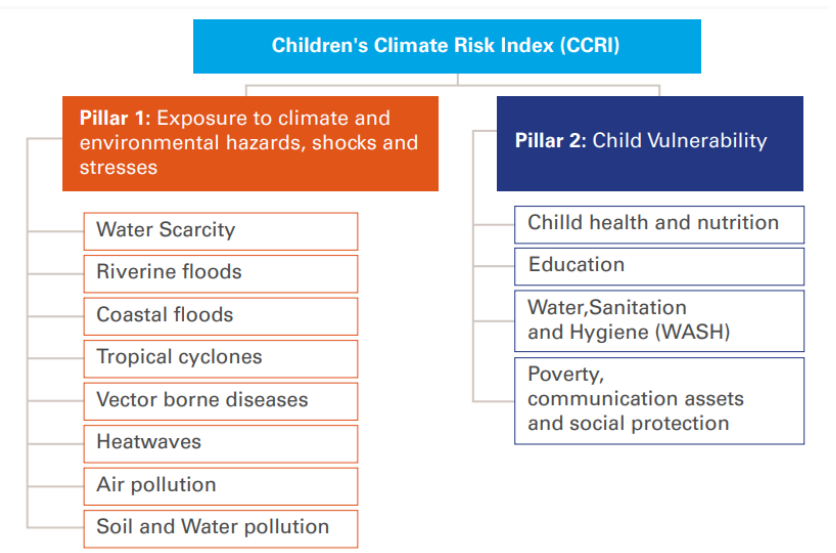
Household coverage (%)	2020	2022
At least basic drinking water	63	65
At least basic sanitation	37	
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	13	11

School coverage (%)	2023
Basic drinking water	43
Basic hygiene (availability of water and soap)	8
Basic sanitation	No Data

Water Vulnerability and Climate

Indicator	2020
Water Stress	Critical

Indicator	2020
Climate and environmental shocks	High
Child vulnerability	Extremely High
Children's Climate and Environment Risk Index	Extremely 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: Sudan has data on 35 of the 48 child related SDGs **(73% 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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