



**THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN  
IN FIJI**

**COUNTRY FACTSHEET: SEPTEMBER 2025**

# Factsheet on the situation of children in Fiji

## Data Brief: September 2025

This country factsheet provides a snapshot of the situation of children, adolescents and youth in Fiji focusing on UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific regional accelerators.

The factsheet presents 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 and geographic coverage, with priority to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators.

### Highlights

Fiji is an upper-middle income economy. Economic growth grew by 9.4% in 2023 and 3.5% in 2024. Growth is projected at 3.0% for 2025.

Children represent 32% of the projected 933,200 population in 2025. Children between the ages of 0 to 4 years represent 9% of the population.

Under-5 obesity is 7% compared to the global average of 5.6%. Most children received three doses of the DTP vaccine (94%) and two doses of the measles vaccine (75%) in 2024.

School completion declines from 98% in primary to 80% in lower secondary and 55% in upper secondary. Learning outcomes show gaps in foundational skills: in 2021, 48% of Year 4 students met minimum reading standards and 66% met numeracy benchmarks, with improved results by Year 6 (71% reading; 79% numeracy).

17% of youth aged between 15 and 24 were unemployed in 2024, with females being disadvantaged (22% vs. 14%).

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The factsheet contains six sections:

- 1) Demographic and Economic Overview
- 2) Primary Health Care
- 3) Adolescent girls' and boys' skills, learning, and employability
- 4) Violence against children
- 5) National Social Protection Systems
- 6) Water, disaster, and climate vulnerability

Violent child discipline is common, with 81% of children aged 1-14 years experiencing violence in 2021.

Around 17% of children between the ages of 5-11 are involved in child labour with boys more likely than girls.

It is estimated that 28.2% of children in Fiji are multidimensionally poor. While the national poverty rate is 24.1%.

Government sector budget as a percentage of the total budget for Education is 18%, Health 12%, and Social Protection 5%.

About 66% of the population is covered by at least one social protection benefit. However, only 11% of children are covered by social protection.

Schools access to drinking water is 78%, basic sanitation is 91%, and hygiene services is 43%.

# Children in Fiji

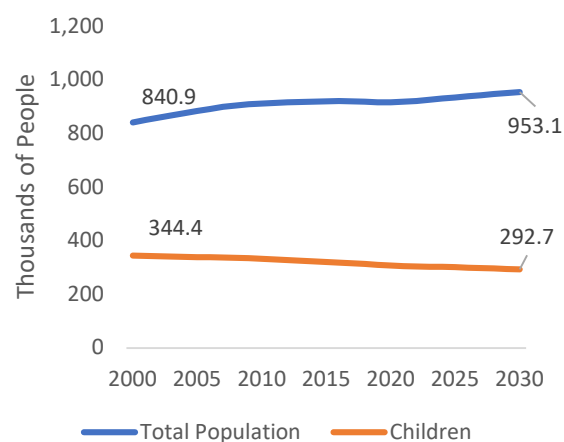


## Demographic and Economic Overview

### Demography<sup>1</sup>

|                                                 | Value | Year |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Total Population</b><br>(in thousands)       | 933.2 | 2025 |
| <b>% of Total population</b>                    |       |      |
| Children 0-4                                    | 9     | 2025 |
| Children 0-17                                   | 32    | 2025 |
| Children and Adolescents 0-19                   | 36    | 2025 |
| <b>Number of births</b><br>(in thousands)       | 16.4  | 2025 |
| <b>Population growth rate</b> (% annual change) | 0.5   | 2025 |
| <b>Urban population</b> (%)                     | 59    | 2024 |
| <b>Rural population</b> (%)                     | 41    | 2024 |

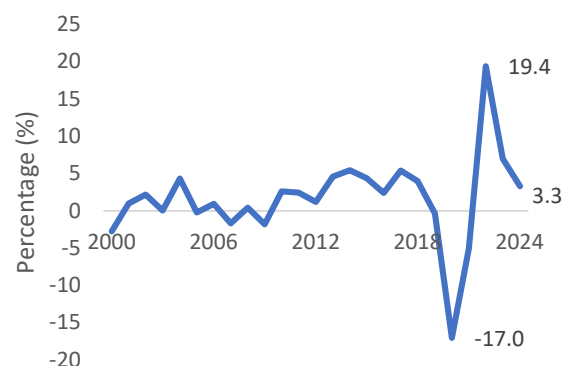
### Population Trends and Projections (2000-2030)



### Economy<sup>2</sup>

|                                                | Value                       | Year |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| <b>Classification of the economy by income</b> | Upper-Middle-Income Economy | 2025 |
| <b>GDP per capita nominal</b><br>(in USD)      | 6,288.4                     | 2024 |
| <b>Inflation</b> (%)                           | 4.5                         | 2024 |

### GDP Per Capita Growth (2000-2024)



# Children in Fiji

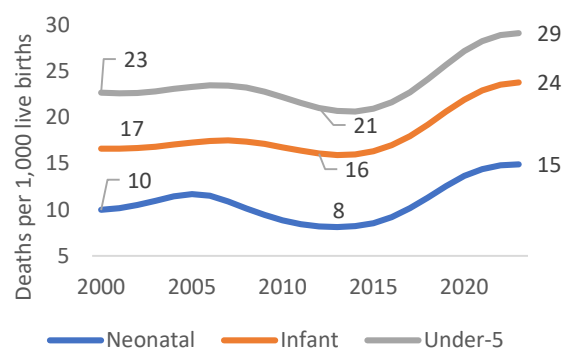


## Primary Health Care and Nutrition

### Mortality<sup>3</sup>

|                                                                                 | Value | Year |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Mortality rates</b> (per 1,000 live births)                                  |       |      |
| Neonatal                                                                        | 15    | 2023 |
| Infant                                                                          | 24    | 2023 |
| Under-5                                                                         | 29    | 2023 |
| <b>Under-5 deaths</b>                                                           |       |      |
|                                                                                 | 488   | 2023 |
| <b>Crude suicide rate</b> per 100,000 population, among adolescents 15-19 years |       |      |
| Total                                                                           | 14    | 2019 |
| Female                                                                          | 14    | 2019 |
| Male                                                                            | 14    | 2019 |

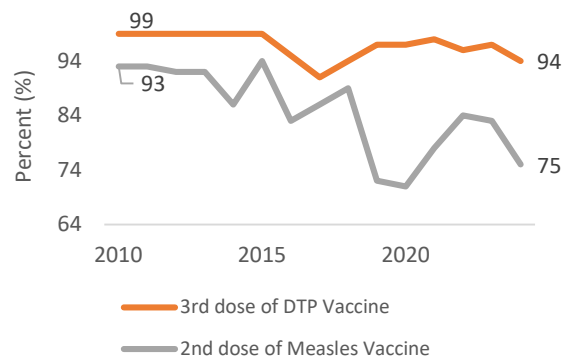
### Trends in Mortality Rates



### Maternal and Child Health<sup>4</sup>

|                                                                       | Value | Year |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>% of Women</b> (15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years) |       |      |
| (4+) Antenatal care visits                                            | 89    | 2021 |
| Skilled attendant at birth                                            | 100   | 2021 |
| Deliveries in health facilities                                       | 100   | 2021 |
| <b>% of Children (0-2 years)</b>                                      |       |      |
| received 3 doses of DTP vaccine                                       | 94    | 2024 |
| Received 2 doses of measles vaccine                                   | 75    | 2024 |

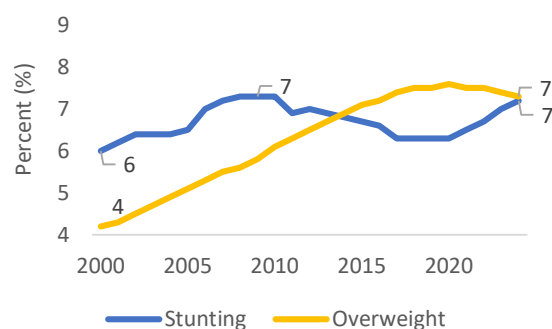
### Trends in Immunization, by Vaccine



### Nutrition<sup>4</sup>

|                                                 | Value | Year |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>% of Children</b> (under 5 years)            |       |      |
| Stunting                                        | 7     | 2024 |
| Wasting                                         | 5     | 2021 |
| Underweight                                     | 5     | 2021 |
| Overweight                                      | 7     | 2024 |
| <b>Minimum dietary diversity</b> (6-23 months)  |       |      |
|                                                 | 59    | 2021 |
| <b>Exclusive Breastfeeding</b> (first 6 months) |       |      |
|                                                 | 43    | 2021 |

### Trends in Children's Nutrition



# Children in Fiji

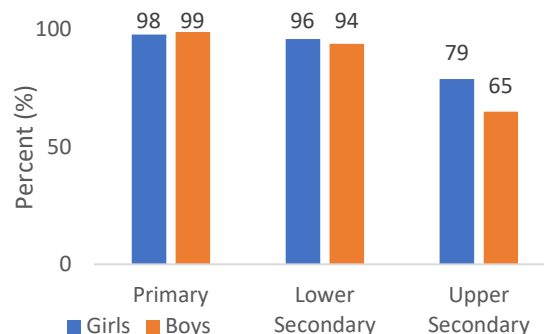


## Learning, Skills, and Employability

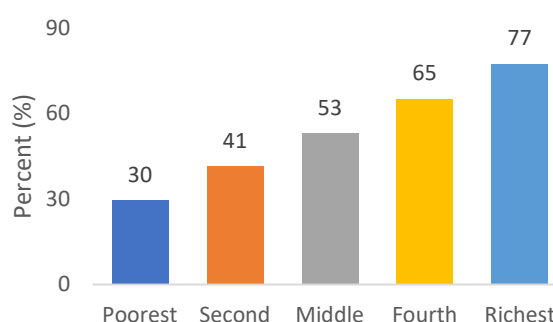
### Learning<sup>5</sup>

|                                                                                                  | Value | Year |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>School net attendance</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level)  |       |      |
| Pre-Primary                                                                                      | 92    | 2021 |
| Primary                                                                                          | 98    | 2021 |
| Lower Secondary                                                                                  | 95    | 2021 |
| Upper Secondary                                                                                  | 71    | 2021 |
| <b>School completion</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level)      |       |      |
| Primary                                                                                          | 98    | 2021 |
| Lower Secondary                                                                                  | 80    | 2021 |
| Upper Secondary                                                                                  | 55    | 2021 |
| <b>Out-of-school children</b> (% of children of the relevant age groups for the education level) |       |      |
| Primary                                                                                          | 1     | 2021 |
| Lower Secondary                                                                                  | 4     | 2021 |
| Upper Secondary                                                                                  | 28    | 2021 |
| <b>Educational Attainment</b> (% of students who are meeting the minimum expected standard)      |       |      |
| Year 4 Numeracy                                                                                  | 66    | 2021 |
| Year 4 Reading                                                                                   | 48    | 2021 |
| Year 6 Numeracy                                                                                  | 79    | 2021 |
| Year 6 Reading                                                                                   | 71    | 2021 |

School Attendance by Gender



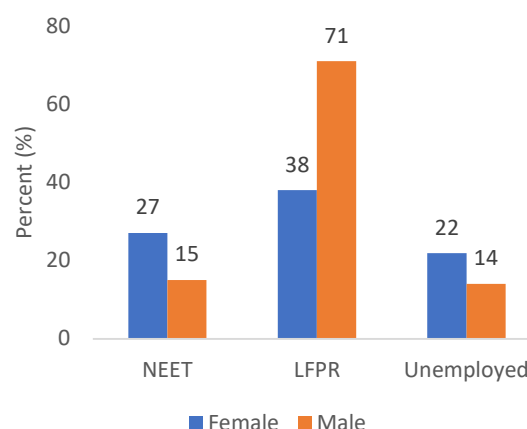
Income Inequalities in Upper Secondary School Completion Rates



### Employment, Education and Training<sup>6</sup>

|                                                                       | Value | Year |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Not in education, employment, or training (NEET)</b> (15-19 years) |       |      |
|                                                                       | 21    | 2024 |
| Female                                                                | 27    | 2024 |
| Male                                                                  | 15    | 2024 |
| <b>Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)</b> (15+)                   |       |      |
|                                                                       | 55    | 2024 |
| Female                                                                | 38    | 2024 |
| Male                                                                  | 71    | 2024 |
| <b>Youth Unemployment rate</b> (15-24 years)                          |       |      |
|                                                                       | 17    | 2024 |
| Female                                                                | 22    | 2024 |
| Male                                                                  | 14    | 2024 |

NEET, LFPR, and Youth Unemployment



# Children in Fiji



## Violence Against Children

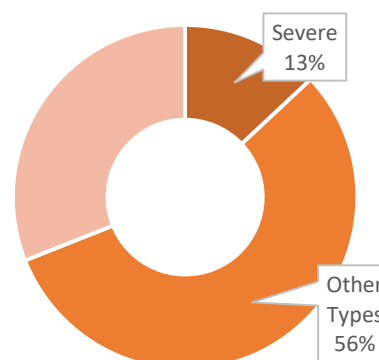
### Violence<sup>7</sup>

|                                                           | Value | Year |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Violent child discipline</b> (% of Children aged 1-14) |       |      |
| Any form of violent discipline                            | 81    | 2021 |
| Female                                                    | 79    | 2021 |
| Male                                                      | 82    | 2021 |

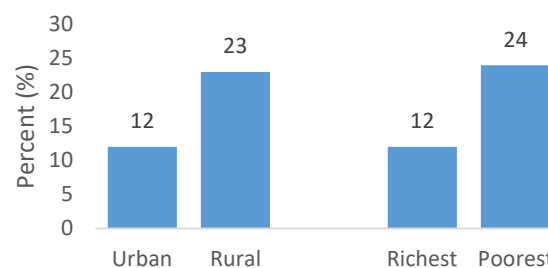
|                                                       |     |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|
| <b>Child marriage</b> (% of women and men aged 20-24) |     |      |
| Women –                                               |     |      |
| Married before 18                                     | 4   | 2021 |
| Married before 15                                     | 0.2 | 2021 |
| Men –                                                 |     |      |
| Married before 18                                     | 2   | 2021 |

|                                               |    |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|------|
| <b>Child labour</b> (% of Children aged 5-14) |    |      |
| Total                                         | 17 | 2021 |
| Female                                        | 13 | 2021 |
| Male                                          | 20 | 2021 |

### Physical Punishment



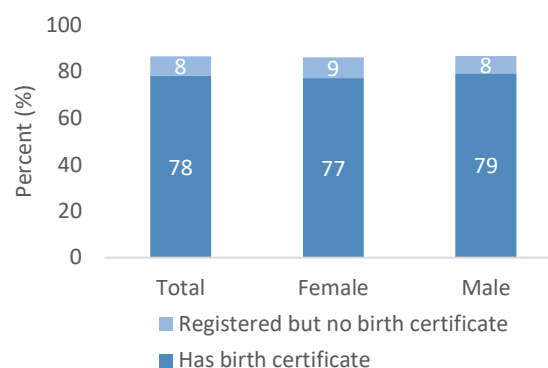
### Disaggregated Child Labour



### Birth Registration<sup>7</sup>

|                                                         | Value | Year |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Birth registration</b> (% of Children under 5 years) |       |      |
| Total                                                   | 87    | 2021 |
| Female                                                  | 86    | 2021 |
| Male                                                    | 87    | 2021 |

### Birth Registration by Gender



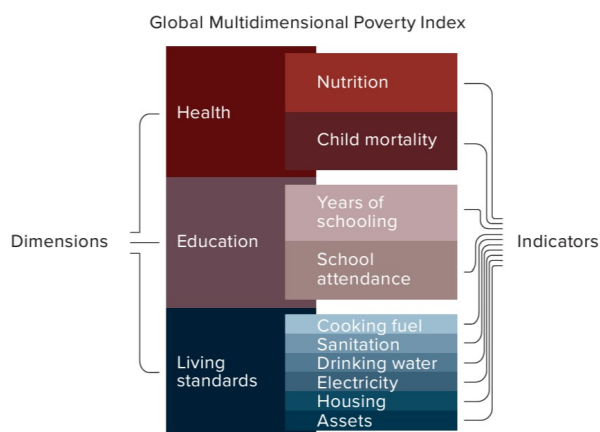
# Children in Fiji



## Social Protection Systems

### Poverty<sup>8</sup>

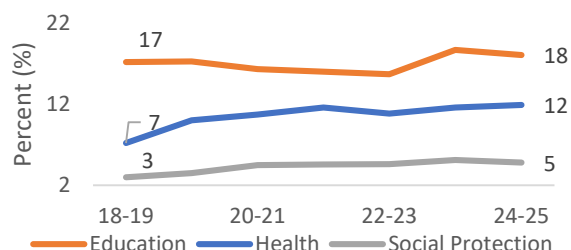
|                                               | Value | Year |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Monetary Poverty</b>                       |       |      |
| International extreme poverty line \$3.00/day | 4.7   | 2019 |
| <b>National Poverty Rate</b>                  |       |      |
|                                               | 24.1  | 2021 |
| <b>Global Multidimensional Poverty Index</b>  |       |      |
| Population in multidimensional poverty (%)    | 1.5   | 2021 |
| <b>Multidimensional Child Poverty (MODA)</b>  |       |      |
|                                               | 28.2  | 2025 |



### Public Expenditure on Essential Services<sup>9</sup>

|                                       | Value | Year    |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| <b>Public Expenditure as % of GDP</b> |       |         |
| Education                             | 6     | 2024-25 |
| Health                                | 4     | 2024-25 |
| Social Protection                     | 2     | 2024-25 |

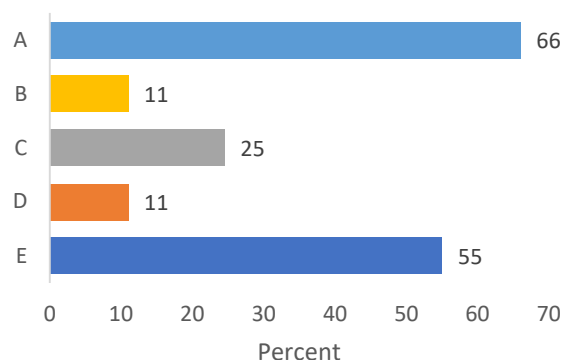
### Sector as Percent of National Budget



### Social Protection Coverage<sup>9</sup>

|                                                                            | Value              | Year |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------|
| <b>% Coverage</b>                                                          |                    |      |
| Population covered by at least one benefit (A)                             | 66                 | 2022 |
| Proportion of children covered by social protection (B)                    | 11                 | 2023 |
| Mothers with newborns receiving cash benefit (C)                           | 25                 | 2023 |
| Children/HHs receiving Child/Family cash benefits (D)                      | 11                 | 2022 |
| Proportion of Poor Population receiving Social Assistance Cash Benefit (E) | 55                 | 2022 |
| Persons with severe disabilities receiving benefits (F)                    | Data Not Available |      |

### Social Protection Coverage



# Children in Fiji

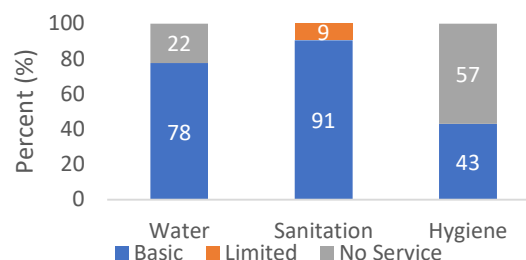


## Water Security and Climate

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene<sup>10</sup>

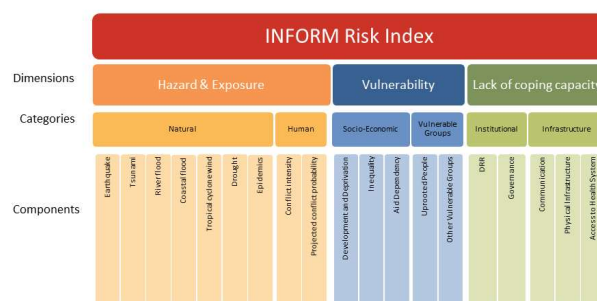
|                               | Value | Year |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Household Coverage (%)</b> |       |      |
| Basic drinking water          | 96    | 2024 |
| Basic sanitation              | 99    | 2024 |
| Basic hygiene                 | 87    | 2022 |
| <b>School Coverage (%)</b>    |       |      |
| Basic drinking water          | 78    | 2023 |
| Basic sanitation              | 91    | 2023 |
| Basic hygiene                 | 43    | 2023 |

### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene School Coverage



### Disaster and Climate Vulnerability<sup>11</sup>

|                                               | Value              | Year |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|------|
| <b>INFORM Risk Index*</b>                     | 3.1                | 2025 |
| Risk Class                                    | Low                | 2025 |
| Country Rank                                  | 103 <sup>rd</sup>  | 2025 |
| <b>Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI)**</b> | Data Not Available |      |



### Child-sensitive climate policies

- 1) National Climate Change Policy 2018-2030
- 2) Fiji National Adaptation Plan
- 3) Fijian Sustainability Bond Framework 2022
- 4) National Ocean Policy 2020-2030

*\*The INFORM Risk Index identifies countries that are at a high risk of humanitarian crisis and therefore more likely to require international assistance. Released in 2024. \*\*The CCRI ranks countries based on children's exposure to climate and environmental shocks.*

### Data Sources

- 1 Demography Data: UN Population Div, World Bank Data 2025
- 2 Economic Data: ADB Outlook September 2025, World Bank Data, and Brief 2025
- 3 Mortality Data: UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, and WHO Data 2025
- 4 Maternal, Child Health, & Nutrition Data: UNICEF Data 2025
- 5 Learning/ Education Data: UNICEF Data 2025
- 6 Employment Data: UNICEF Data, World Bank Data 2025
- 7 VAC Data: Fiji MICS 2019-2020
- 8 Poverty Data: UNDP Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, World Bank Data, and ADB Data 2025
- 9 Essential Services and Social Protection Coverage Data: ADB Key Indicators, and UNICEF Data 2025
- 10 Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene Data: WHO/UNICEF JMP Data 2025
- 11 Climate Vulnerability: Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC), UNICEF Data, and National Sources 2025

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