Health and SDGs brief **2019**

United Arab Emirates



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Universal health coverage

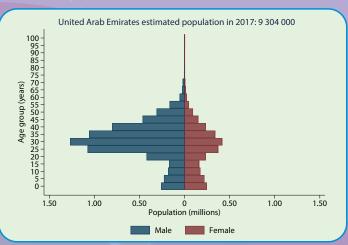
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UHC service coverage index (2017)	76
Primary health care facilities per 10 000 population (2017)	3.8
Hospital beds per 10 000 population (2017)	14.4
Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%) (2017)	60.9
Antenatal care visits (4+ visits) (%) (2017)	97.3
Measles immunization coverage among 1-year olds (%) (2018)	99
Tuberculosis treatment success rate and relapse TB cases notified (%) (2017)	74
DTP3-containing vaccine / Pentavalent coverage among 1-year olds (%) (2018)	99
Out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPS) as percentage of current health expenditure (CHE) (2016)	18.6
Domestic General Government Health Expenditure (GGHE-D) as % of General Government Expenditure	7.9

Selected determinants of health

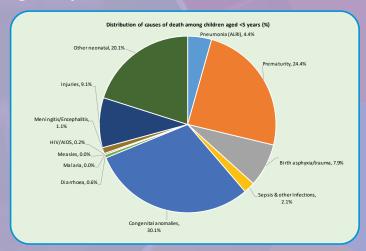
(GGE) (2016)

Population living in urban areas (%) (2018)	84
Annual GDP growth (%) (2018)	1.4
Population growth rate (%) (2016)	2.0
Children aged < 5 years with pneumonia symptoms taken to a healthcare provider (%)	

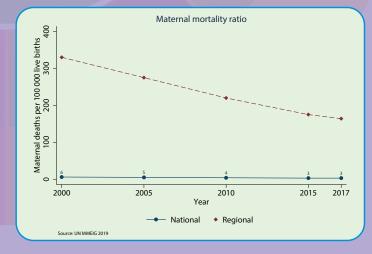
Estimated population in 2017



Distribution of causes of death among children aged <5 years (%)



Trends in estimates of maternal mortality ratio



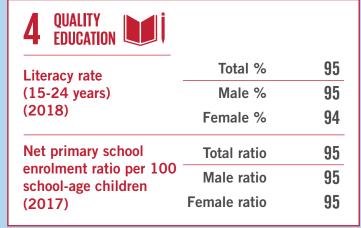


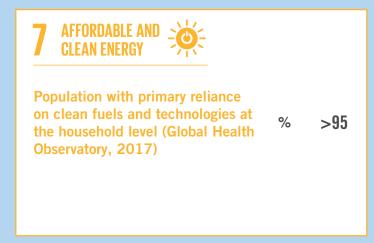


Selected SDGs health-related indicators*

1 NO POVERTY NATIONAL		
Population below the international poverty line (2018)	%	0.01
Proportion of employed population below the	Male %	0.0
international poverty line (ILO estimate, 2019)	Female %	0.0

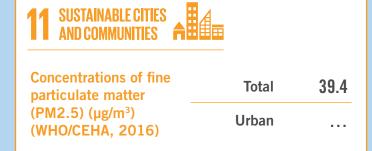
2 ZERO SSS HUNGER		
Children under 5 who are		
stunted	%	
wasted	%	
overweight	%	











PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	
Estimated direct deaths from major conflicts (per 100 000 population) (WHO Global Health Observatory, 2012-2016)	0

^{*}Because of the scarcity of data, the above presentation is limited. Where available, information is obtained from the Regional Core Indicators Programme

Key health indicators

Indicator	Male	Female	Total
Life expectancy at birth in years (2017)	78.1	81.5	79.7
Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100 000 live births) (UN-MMEIG 2017 estimate)	_	_	3
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2017 estimate)			5
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2017 estimate)			8
Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2017 estimate)			9
Tobacco use among persons 15+ years (%) (2018)	15.7	2.4	9.1
Overweight (18+ years) (%) (2016)			67.9
Obesity (18+ years) (%) (2016)			27.8
Raised blood pressure among persons 18+ years (%) (2017)			28.8
Raised blood glucose among persons 18+ years (%) (2017)			11.8
Raised cholesterol among persons 18+ years (%) (year)			
Probability of dying between age 30 and exact age 70 from any of cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, (%) 2017			11.1
Cancer incidence per 100 000 (2018)			112.5

Universal health coverage (UHC) means provision of quality services to everybody without discrimination of any kind and without exposing people to financial hardship. UHC is one of the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 3, and attaining UHC will also contribute directly or indirectly to achieving the other SDGs. Achieving UHC means ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages with explicit affirmative action for vulnerable populations including refugees and migrants. Thus, disaggregated data will be necessary to assess and address inequities in health. UHC requires inter-sectoral action. All countries can and must advance towards UHC by year 2030, if not earlier.



Health and SDGs at a glance in **United Arab Emirates**



Voluntary National Review, include year(s) and link(s)

Completed in 2017: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20161UAE_SDGs_Report_Full_English.pdf

National Focal Point for 2030 Agenda

Mr Majid Al-Suwaidi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate of Energy and Climate Change

National Focal Point in Ministry of Health for health-related SDGs

Dr. Hussain Abdul Rahman Al Rand, Assistant Undersecretary of Health Centers and Clinics Sector, Ministry of Health and Prevention, United Arab Emirates

1. What efforts have been made to agree on national targets for SDG3+?

UAE established a national committee for all SDGs and the Ministry of Health and Prevention is a member. The UAE National Agenda (https://www.vision2021.ae/en/national-agenda-2021), which was developed by over 300 officials from 90 federal and local government entities, includes a set of national indicators aligned to the SDGs. They are periodically monitored by Government leadership to ensure their targets are achieved by 2021. These targets and indicators were integrated within the national health strategies and action plans by the Ministry of Health and Prevention, health authorities and national stakeholders. The targets for each indicator SDGs was adopted and are monitored on regular basis. Appropriate interventions are put in place according to progress and identified areas of improvements.

2. How is UAE incorporating SDG 3 targets in health policy, strategy, and planning?

A National Health Taskforce that includes all concerned parties and authorities, have agreed on a framework and a mechanism to integrate health related SDG targets and indicators within all health plans, policies and strategies such as: Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD) National Action Plan; MNCH National Action Pan; Nutrition National Action Plan; National Adolescent Action Plan; and Childhood obesity framework.

Each Plan has a National Technical Committee which is responsible for implementation and monitoring. In addition, the SDGs targets and indicators were included within the World Health Survey/UAE National Health Survey conducted in 2017 and are among the National core list of indicators, to facilitate monitoring and surveillance. A log of all activities and initiatives to achieve each goal were aggregated to identify challenges, gaps and way forward. Polices, laws, and decrees have been issued/amended to support the implementation of the SDG 3, such as:

- Executive decree for control of communicable diseases (3.3)
- Amending certain provisions of the cabinet decree number 7 for the year 2008 on medical examination screening for expatriates coming for work or residence to the country (3.3)
- Community protection of HIV and protection of rights of people living with it (3.3)
- Amendment of some tables attached to "Federal law No. 14 for the year 1995 on combating narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" (3.5) (3.6)
- Regarding narcotics, controlled and semi controlled medicines classification, prescribing, and dispense (3.5) (3.8)

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Developed jointly by

Department of Science, Information and Dissemination, Office of the Regional Director, and Department of UHC/Health Systems

- Executive Decree of the "Federal law no. 15 for the year 2009 on Tobacco Control" (3.5) (3.9)
- Concerning the licensing of fertilization centers in the country (3.9)
- Strategic medical stockpile (3.b.3)
- Medical Liability (3.c)
- Establishing the national authority for emergency, crisis and disaster management (3.d.1)
- The establishment of the national committee for the implementation of the International Health Regulations and the control of pandemics (3.d.1)

3. Are there any major partnerships for advancing the 2030 Agenda?

A National Committee for SDGs was established by a Cabinet decree in January 2017 and is chaired by H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Chairwoman of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics authority (FCSA). Various government entities are represented in the committee. Separate Committees/taskforces were established to address each goal.

4. Are there any major partnerships for advancing the health-related SDGs?

The Ministry of Health and Prevention established a National Health Taskforce from all concerned parties and authorities to agree on a framework and mechanism to integrate health-related SDG targets and indicators within all health plans. Other partnerships also ensure alignment and prevent duplication such as the Higher Counsel for Motherhood and Childhood, FCSA, Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, National Media Counsel, Academia, and others.

5. Describe a success story or an example of efforts to accelerate action on the health-related SDGs.

The Burden of NCDs and associated risk factors in UAE is high. Different initiatives were launched to combat NCDs and related risk factors such as:

- Targeting obesity, a national Multi-sectoral framework to combat childhood obesity (5-17 years) and mass media campaigns targeting adult obesity (18+) has been developed by the Ministry of Health and Prevention in collaboration with all stakeholder;
- Smart applications were developed to promote physical activity and combat obesity in children and adults (Health Heroes and Fitfind)
- Implementing excise taxes on sugary drinks (50%) started October 2017
- Implementing excise taxes on all tobacco products (100%) started October 2017
- Conducting awareness campaigns on smoking, sugary drinks, salt intake, physical inactivity, hypertension
- Development of a National cancer registry introduction and implementation of HPV for schoolgirls. Integration of NCDs into primary health care (PHC) centers.
- Cardiovascular risk assessment implemented in all PHC.