

Yemen : Health Systems Profile

Key health system indicators

Health status

Life expectancy at birth in years	total	62
Adult mortality rate (probability of dying between 15 and 60 years) per 1000 population	males	234
	females	185
	total	209

Communicable diseases

Tuberculosis notification rate per 100 000	42
Incidence rate of malaria per 1000 population	6.5
Estimated number of people living with HIV	22000

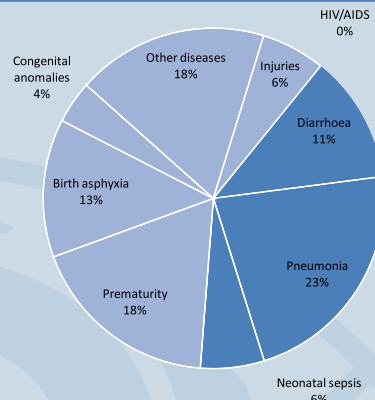
Behavioural risk factors

2008 estimated prevalence (%)	males	females	total
Current daily tobacco smoking	35	11	23
Physical inactivity

Metabolic risk factors

2008 estimated prevalence (%)	males	females	total
Raised blood pressure	32.2 [19.1-46.4]	29.3 [16.8-42.9]	30.8 [21.6-40.7]
Raised blood glucose	11.1 [5.0-19.8]	11.0 [5.0-19.6]	11.1 [6.5-17.0]
Overweight	40.2 [18.7-62.7]	51.0 [27.0-72.5]	45.7 [29.8-61.1]
Obesity	10.5 [3.0-22.6]	22.7 [7.8-41.1]	16.7 [7.9-27.1]
Raised cholesterol	30.7 [13.2-53.0]	33.6 [13.2-58.5]	32.3 [17.6-48.4]

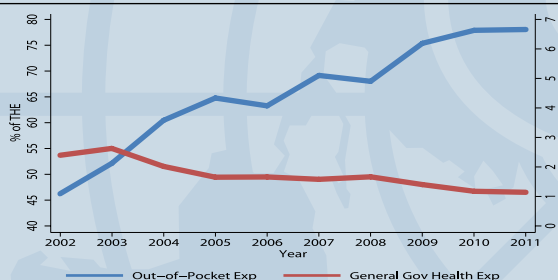
Distribution of causes of death among children aged <5 years (%)



Communicable diseases are estimated to account for 41% of all deaths among children aged <5 years

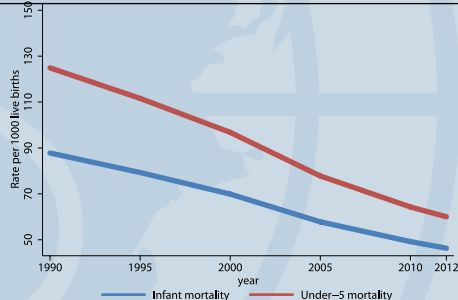
Expenditure and mortality trends

Health finance



The general government expenditure on health as % of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
The out-of-pocket expenditure as % of Total Health Expenditure (THE)

Infant and under 5 mortality rates per 1000 live births



Health system: governance

Existence of a national health strategy/strategic plan and time frame	Yes (2011-2015)
Annual publication/dissemination of ministry of performance report	Yes
High level multisectoral advisory council for health available	Yes

Health system: information

Functioning civil registration and vital statistics

Percentage of births registered	22
Percentage of causes of death recorded	...
Year most recent use of ICD in mortality classification reported	...
Year most recent annual health statistics report published	...

Health system: health workforce

Health workforce per 10 000 population (2011)

Physicians	3
Nurses/midwives	7.2
Dentists	1
Pharmacists	1.1

Health professions education institutions

Medical	...
Nursing	...

Percentage of doctors working in rural settings

Percentage of doctors working in rural settings	...
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Health system: service provision

Infrastructure

Primary health care facilities per 10 000 population	1.6
Hospital beds per 10 000 population	7.2

Service delivery

Access to local health services (%)	68
Contraceptive prevalence (%)	...
Antenatal care visits (4+ visits) (%)	...
Measles immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%)	71
Smear-positive tuberculosis treatment success (%)	87
Number of tobacco (m)POWER measures implemented at the highest level of achievement	...

Health system: finance

National health accounts conducted (number of rounds; last reference year(s))	(3 ; 2007)
General government expenditure on health as % of GDP (2011)	1.1
Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of total health expenditure (2011)	78.1
General government expenditure on health as % of total government expenditure (2011)	4.3

Health system: technology

Existence and year of last update of published essential medicines list (EML)	Yes (2009)
Existence of a functional national regulatory authority (NRA)	Yes (medicines)
Number of MRI/CT scanners (in public facilities) per million population	0.7 / 2.1

Health System Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges, and Priorities

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of political commitment to health by the Ministry of Public Health and Population and by other government entities • Current strategic health plan of the Ministry of Public Health and Population 2011–2025 includes health system strengthening as a priority • Well established immunization programmes and disease prevention and control programmes for malaria, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases • Recent enactment of a health insurance law by the parliament • Presence of widely distributed nongovernmental organizations playing a considerable role in health and facilitating the involvement of the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient allocation of funds to health and high share of out-of-pocket spending (over 68%) with high risk of catastrophic expenditure and impoverishment • More than 40% of population does not have access to basic health services due to poor health infrastructure and low availability of health medical products in public health facilities • Poor quality and safety of health care services with high prevalence of adverse events in hospitals • Almost US\$ 130 million spent on consumption of health care abroad due to limited capacity for secondary and tertiary care • Problem of workforce crisis due to inadequate density, misdistribution and lack of incentives of health workforce including physicians, nurses, midwives and other cadres (<2.3 per 1000 population) • Insufficient capacity for regulation of the expanding private health sector • Weak and fragmented health information system with poorly functioning civil registration and vital statistics and cause-of-death reporting
Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued national political support and commitment • Potential for establishing multi-sectoral mechanisms for health among different government ministries and agencies • Institutionalize health related surveys and establish an electronic system for disease surveillance • High level of development partner commitment to establish a social health insurance programme • Prospect for additional funds for health system strengthening from GAVI and other development partners • Continued commitment of UN agencies including WHO in providing technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Public Health and Population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued political instability does not support long-term vision for universal health coverage • Need to expand health care infrastructure to improve access to essential health services • Lack of transparency and accountability and limited use of information in allocating resources • Inadequate coordination among development partners and the need for better alignment to the national strategic health plan • High level of double burden of disease with incapacity of the health system to respond to this challenge • Insufficient preparedness and inadequate capacity of the health system to respond to public health emergencies
Priorities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for increased allocation of resources to create more fiscal space for health and to implement the health insurance law as a basis for extending financial risk protection and reducing out-of-pocket spending • Rapidly expand primary health care services to cover the uncovered population with support of allied health workers • Improve the quality and safety of care in order to increase the trust of the population in public sector services • Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Public Health and Population to demonstrate the required leadership for greater multisectoral engagement and better harmonization and alignment of development partners • Develop human resources for health strategy that has a short- and a medium-term perspective in order to support rapid expansion of health services • Devise a clear policy and programme for reducing health expenditure due to consumption abroad by improving secondary and tertiary care • Strengthen capacity of the Ministry of Public Health and Population to effectively regulate the expanding private health sector • Finalize the plan for the post-crisis/recovery phase that is being prepared by most governorates and begin implementation 	

Jointly developed by:

Department of Health Systems Development (HSD) and
Department of Information, Evidence and Research (IER)