



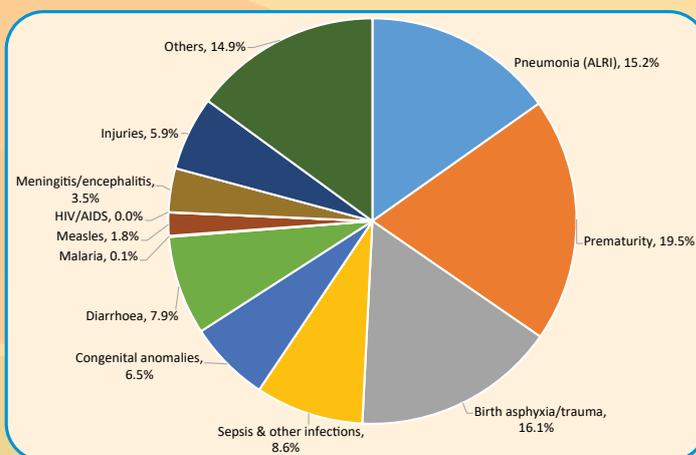
## Universal health coverage

UHC service coverage index (2021)	41.0
Primary health care facilities per 10 000 population (2019)	1.2
Hospital beds per 10 000 population (2019)	4.0
Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%) (2021)	46.5
Antenatal care visits (4+ visits) (2018)	20.9
Measles immunization coverage among 1-year olds (%) (2021)	63.0
Tuberculosis treatment coverage rate (2021)	66.0
DTP3-containing vaccine/pentavalent coverage among 1-year olds (%) (2021)	66.0
Out-of-pocket expenditure as percentage of current health expenditure (2018)	78.0
Domestic general government health expenditure as % of general government expenditure (2018)	2.0

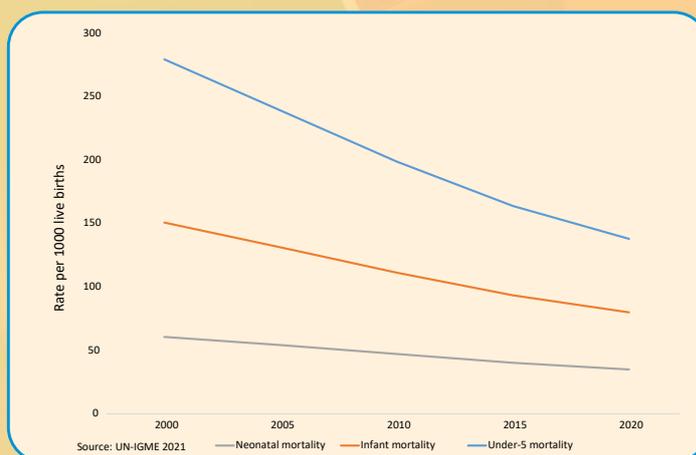
## Selected determinants of health

Population living in urban areas (%) (2020)	25.0
Annual GDP growth (%) (2021)	-20.7
Population growth rate (%) (2020)	2.1
Children aged < 5 years with pneumonia symptoms taken to a health care provider (%) (2018)	68.0

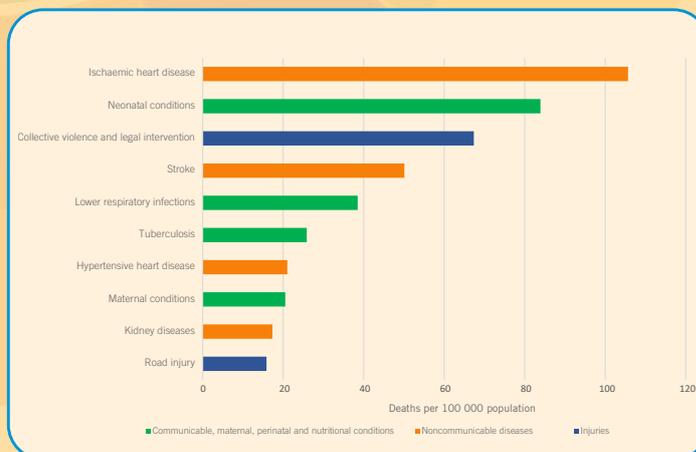
## Distribution of causes of death among children aged < 5 years (%)



## Neonatal, infant and under-5 mortality rates per 1000 live births



## Top 10 causes of death for both sexes and all ages (2019)



# Selected health-related SDG indicators

## 1 NO POVERTY

Population below the international poverty line (%) ...

Proportion of employed population below the international poverty line 15+ (ILO modelled estimate, 2019)	Male	38.0
	Female	46.6

## 2 ZERO HUNGER

Children under 5 (%) who are:	
stunted	36.6
wasted	5.0
overweight (2018)	4.0

## 4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Literacy rate (15–24 years) (2017) (%)	Total	54
	Male	68
	Female	39

Net primary school enrolment ratio per 100 school-age children (2017)	Total ratio	56
	Male ratio	66
	Female ratio	46

## 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies at the household level (%) (WHO Global Health Observatory, 2020)	33.2
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## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%) (World Health Statistics, 2020) 28

Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%) (World Health Statistics, 2020) ...

## 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Unemployment rate (15+ years) (%) (ILO estimate, 2021)	Total	5.6
	Male	5.6
	Female	5.5

## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) (µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) (WHO Global Health Observatory, 2019)	Total	62.5
	Urban	75.1

## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

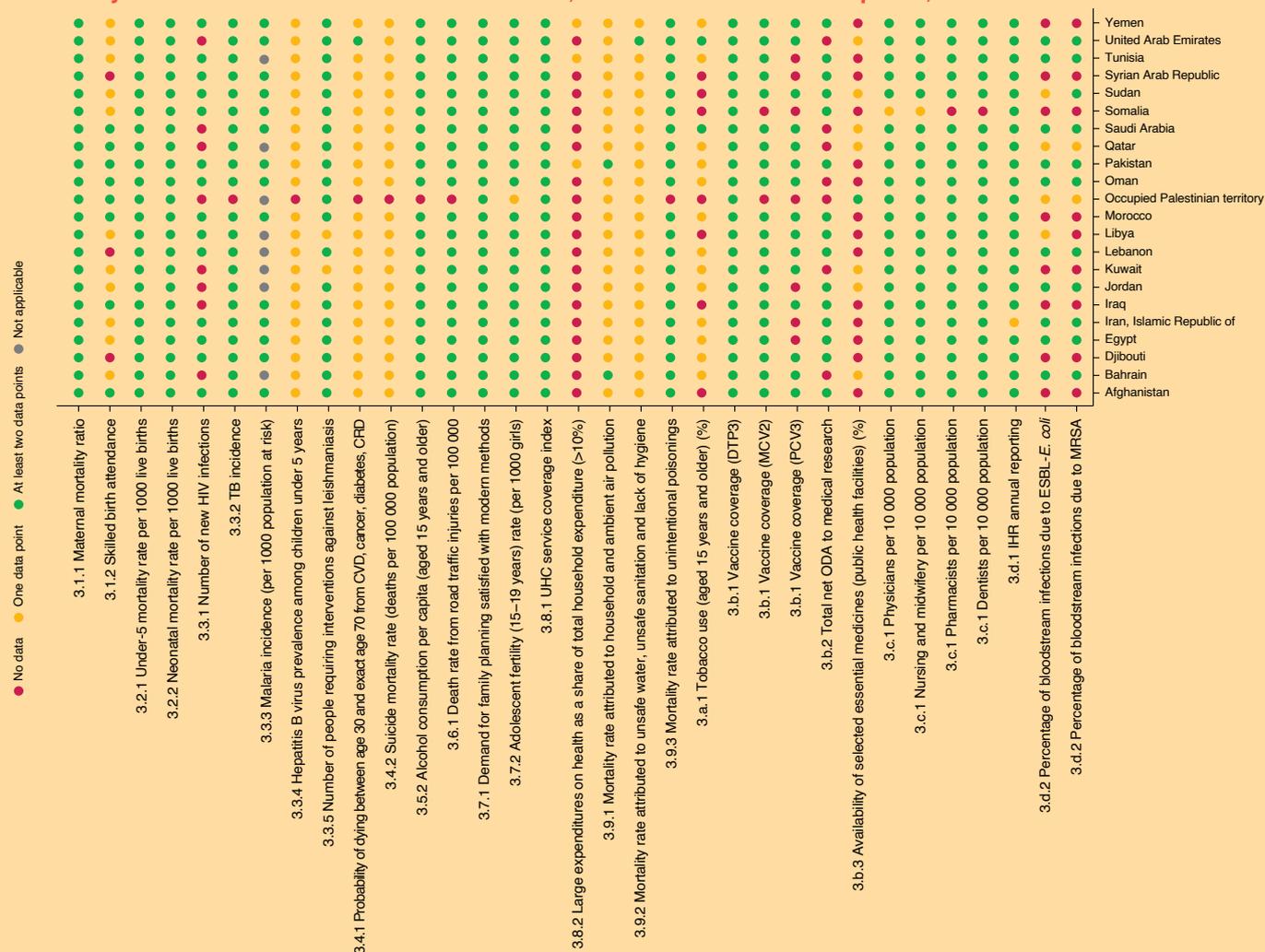
Estimates of rate of homicides (per 100 000 population) (WHO Global Health Observatory, 2019)	8.5
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# Key health indicators

Indicator	Male	Female	Total
Life expectancy at birth in years (2019)	63.3	63.2	63.2
Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at birth (years) (2019)	54.7	53.2	54.0
Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at 60 (years) (2019)	11.2	10.6	10.8
Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100 000 live births) (UN-MMEIG 2020 estimate)	—	—	620.0
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2021 estimate)	...	...	34.0
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2021 estimate)	46.5	40.1	43.4
Under-5 mortality rate (deaths per 1000 live births) (UN-IGME 2021 estimate)	59.1	52.1	55.6
Tobacco use among persons 15+ years (%) (2019)	40.7	7.7	24.2
Overweight (18+ years) (%) (2018)	...	...	25.8
Obesity (18+ years) (%) (2018)	...	...	17.0
Raised blood pressure among persons 18+ years (%) (2018)	...	...	17.7
Raised blood glucose among persons 18+ years (%) (2018)	...	...	9.2
Raised cholesterol among persons 18+ years (%) (2018)	12.0	24.7	18.1
Mortality between exact ages 30 and 70 from cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (%) (2019)	34.4	36.2	35.3
Cancer incidence per 100 000 (2021)	107.7	111.9	108.2

**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 SDG 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 intersectoral action. All countries can and must advance towards UHC by 2030, if not earlier.

## Availability of data for each SDG 3 indicator: no data, one and at least two data points, 2014–2019





## Voluntary National Review

Completed in 2021:

<https://hlpf.un.org/countries/afghanistan>

## National Focal Point for 2030 Agenda at WHO country office

Dr Abdul Ghani Ibrahim,   
Acting Programme Manager, Health System   
WHO country office

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

Dr Mirwais Ahmadzai,   
Director-General, Policy and Planning, Ministry of Public Health

### 1. Summarize efforts at the national level in setting targets for health-related SDGs.

- Adaptation of SDG targets and indicators, including for SDG 3, taking into account the country's specific context and circumstances, through a consultative process involving governmental agencies, civil society, the private sector, academia, international development partners, Kabul-based United Nations (UN) agencies, women and youth.
- Prioritization of A-SDGs' goals and targets based on evidence-based analysis and data modeling.
- Establishment of a technical working group on SDG 3 in the Ministry of Public Health with membership from different stakeholders, including WHO.
- Review of the health sector indicators by related departments of the Ministry of Public Health and revision of baselines and indicators.
- Identification of strategic interventions and projects for implementation under each indicator.
- Identification of the programmes and projects available for implementation under each indicator.
- Identification of areas of vulnerability and priority areas for the SDGs.
- Development of the baseline and targets for SDG 3 until 2030.

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

The national health policy 2021–2030, recently developed with the support of WHO, builds on the SDGs. The policy aims to improve the health of all Afghans in line with SDG 3 by responding to health needs in a timely and effective manner.

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

Since the 2021 political changes in the country, a new framework called the Transitional Engagement Framework 2022 has replaced the UN-level Cooperation Framework. UN agencies and their partners in the country are currently developing the Health Sector Transitional Strategy 2023–2025 to minimize avoidable morbidity and mortality by expanding the coverage of quality health and nutrition services and strengthen health system resilience.

### 4. Describe a success story or an opportunity for strengthening the health system for COVID-19 that supports efforts towards achieving one or more of the SDG health-related targets.

Despite increased support for different areas during the COVID-19 pandemic, including maintaining essential services, surveillance and capacity-building of the health workforce, the pandemic and the recent political changes have negatively affected progress toward achieving the health-related SDGs, which was already lagging behind. The UN agencies and their partners in the country are developing the Health Sector Transitional Strategy 2023–2025. The strategy aims to: 1) strengthen and expand essential service coverage/utilization and quality of care and improve financial risk protection for the most vulnerable groups; 2) sustain and strengthen essential foundations of the health system necessary for meeting basic human health needs; 3) strengthen capacities to prevent, detect and respond to disease outbreaks and other health emergencies; and 4) strengthen harmonization and alignment of financing toward national health priorities to increase predictability, adaptability and efficiency of funding.