



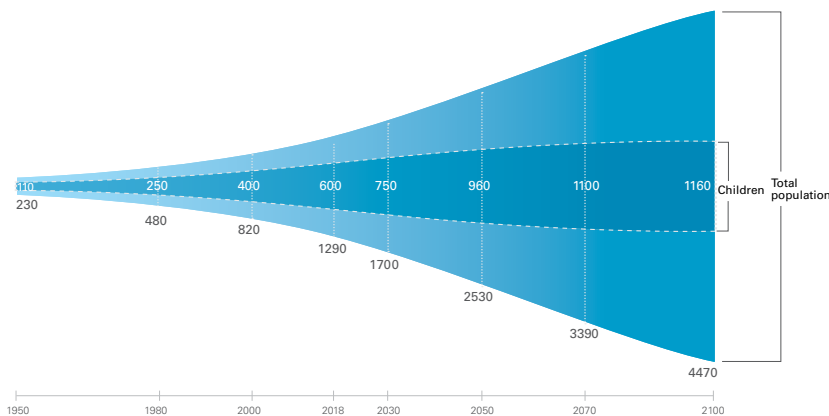
Key Statistics

- Africa's child population will reach 1 billion by 2055, making it the largest child population among all continents.
- From 2017 onwards, sub-Saharan Africa is the region with the highest number of births, and this trend will persist for the rest of the century.
- Based on continuation of current coverage, more than 300 million of Africa's 730 million projected births through 2030 will not be attended by skilled health personnel.
- In Africa, mortality rates among children under age 5 decreased by 58 per cent between 1990 and 2017, still, over half of the world's 5.4 million under-five deaths in 2017 occurred in Africa.
- While mortality rates have declined among all age groups in Africa, child deaths tend to be concentrated at the youngest age groups with 85 per cent of all deaths to children under age 15 occurring among children younger than 5.
- In 2016, pneumonia, malaria and diarrhoea accounted for 36 per cent of all under-five deaths in Africa.
- On current trends, 31 million under-five deaths will occur in Africa between 2018 and 2030—if all countries at risk of missing the SDG target on under-five mortality achieved the target, 8 million lives could be saved on the continent.
- Changing demographics and a growing population in Africa will require an additional 4.2 million health workers above current growth to meet WHO minimum standards and an increase of 1.3 million primary school teachers to meet the best sub-regional performers' pupil-teacher ratio by 2030.

Key Fact: Close to half of current population in Africa is under 18, and steady growth in births and declining mortality rates will bring Africa's child population to 1 billion by 2055

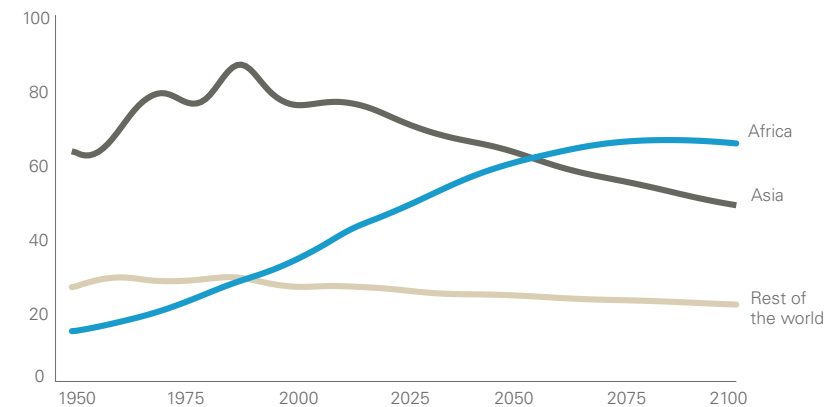
Africa's child population will be the largest among all continents in the latter half of this century, topping 1 billion by 2055

Fig 1. Total population and children under age 18 in Africa, 1950-2100 (in millions)



Since 1950, births in Africa have increased almost fourfold, and Africa is projected to have the largest number of births among all continents after 2050

Fig 2. Total number of births by region, 1950-2100 (in millions)

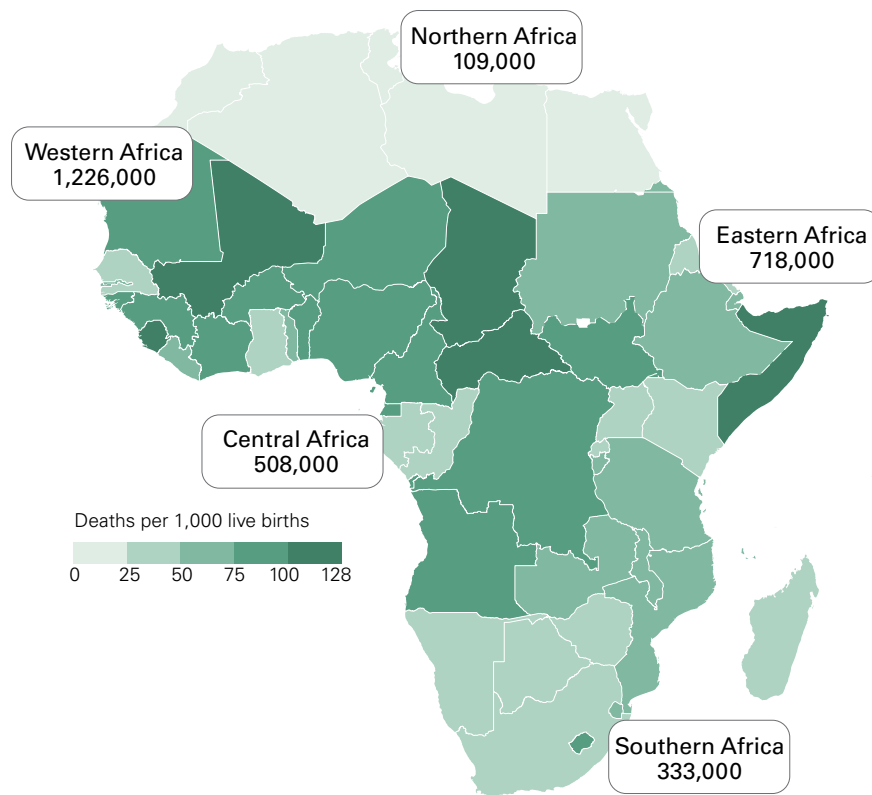


CHILDREN IN AFRICA

Key Fact: The under-five mortality rate for Africa declined by 58 per cent from 1990 to 2017, while mortality among older children and young adolescents (aged 5-14) in Africa declined by 54 per cent over the same period

Countries with the highest child mortality rates are concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa

Map 1. Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) by country and number of under-five deaths by African Union sub-region, 2017



Child mortality declined in all African Union sub-regions between 1990 and 2017 with the largest percentage declines occurring in Northern Africa for under-five mortality and in Eastern Africa for mortality among children aged 5-14

Fig 3a. Under-five mortality rate by African Union sub-region, 1990 and 2017

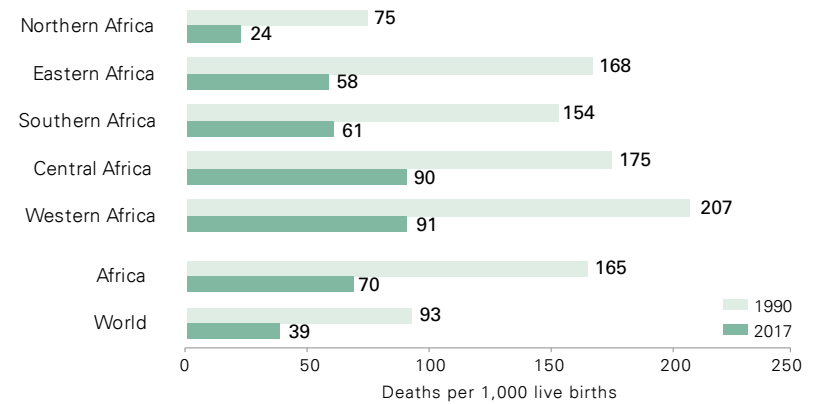
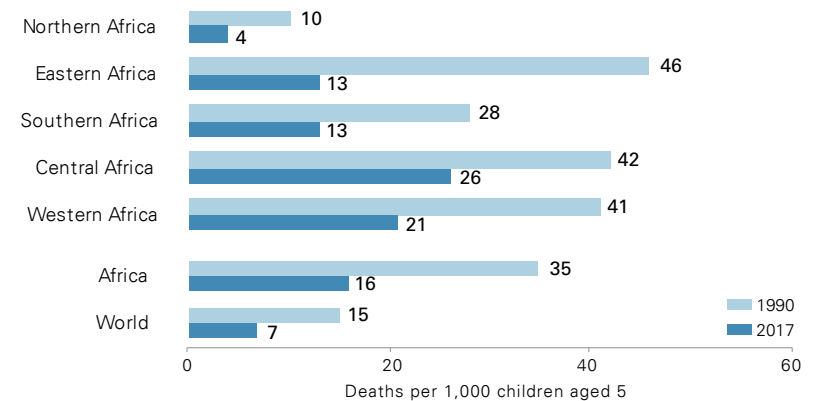


Fig 3b. Probability of dying at age 5-14 by African Union sub-region, 1990 and 2017

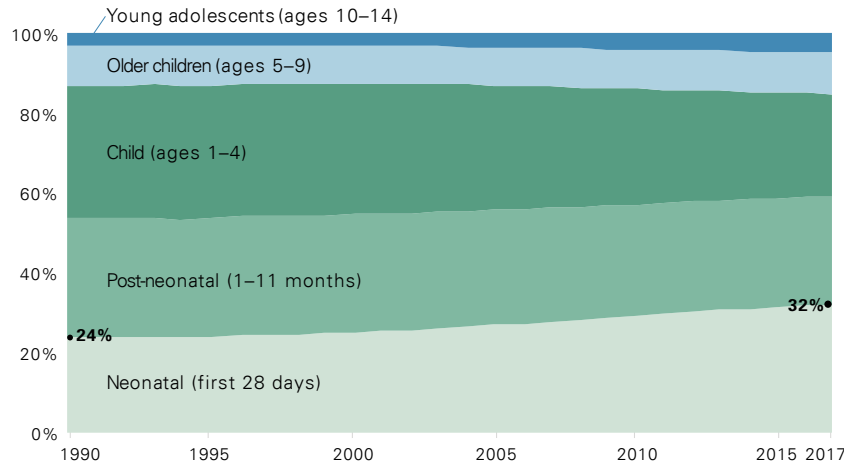


Source for all figures on this page: United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) 2018.

Key Fact: The youngest age groups face the highest burden of child deaths: roughly 85 per cent of all deaths under age 15 occurred to children under age 5 and about 38 per cent of all deaths to children under age 5 occurred in the first month of life

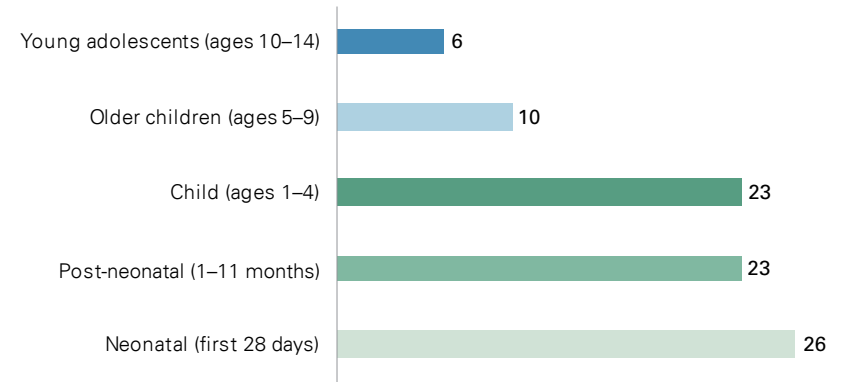
An increasing share of under-five deaths are concentrated among newborns

Fig 4. Distribution of all under-15 deaths, Africa, 1990-2017



The risk of dying is highest in the first month of life

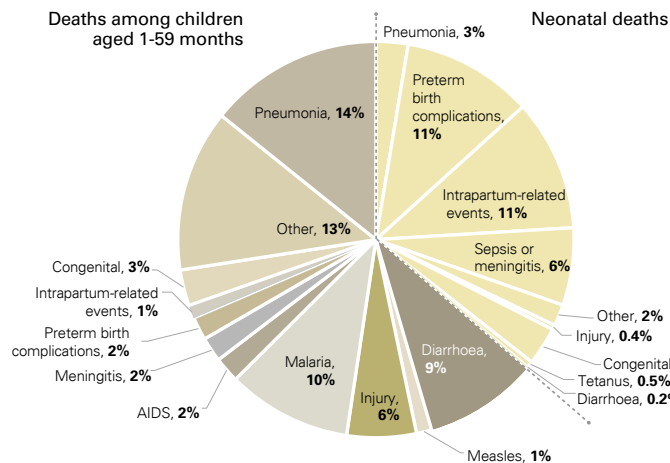
Fig 5. Age-specific mortality rates (deaths per 1,000), Africa, 2017



Source for figures 4 and 5: United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) 2018.

Infectious diseases and neonatal complications are among the leading causes of death among children under age 5

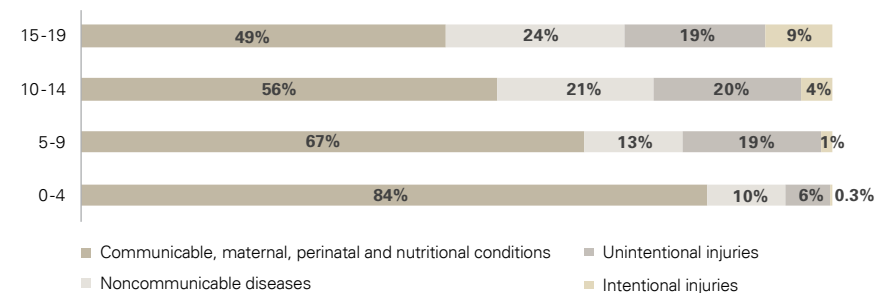
Fig 6. Distribution of causes of all under-five deaths, Africa, 2016



Source: World Health Organization and Maternal and Child Epidemiology Estimation Group (MCEE), Child causes of death, by Country and by Region, 2000-2016, WHO, Geneva, 2018.

As mortality levels decline with age, injuries become a more prominent cause of death among older children and adolescents

Fig 7. Distribution of deaths among children and adolescents, by age group and cause, 2016



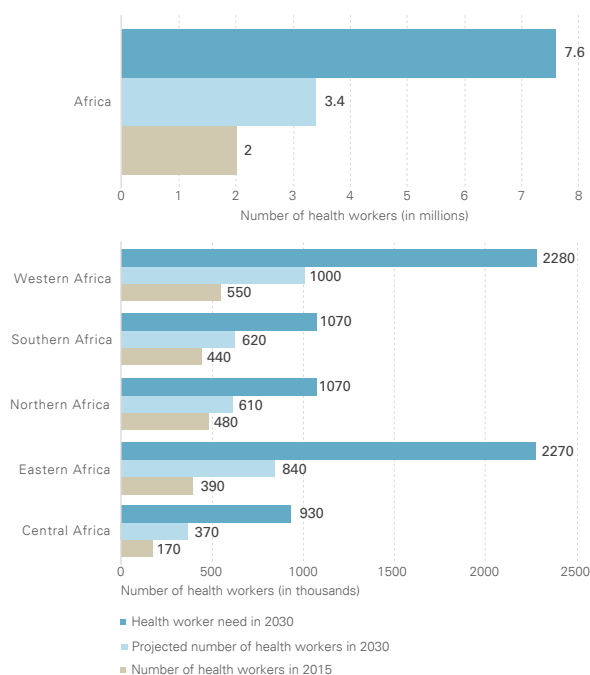
Source: World Health Organization, Global Health Estimates 2016: Deaths by cause, age, sex, by country and by region, 2000-2016, WHO, Geneva, 2018.

CHILDREN IN AFRICA | Key statistics on child survival and population

Key Fact: Africa will need to add millions more health workers and primary school teachers by 2030 to meet the demands of shifting demographics

Africa will need an additional 4.2 million health workers above its current rate of growth to meet the WHO minimum standards for frontline skilled health personnel by 2030

Fig 8. Number of health service providers (doctors, nurses, midwives) for each scenario for Africa total (in millions) and by African Union sub-region (in thousands)

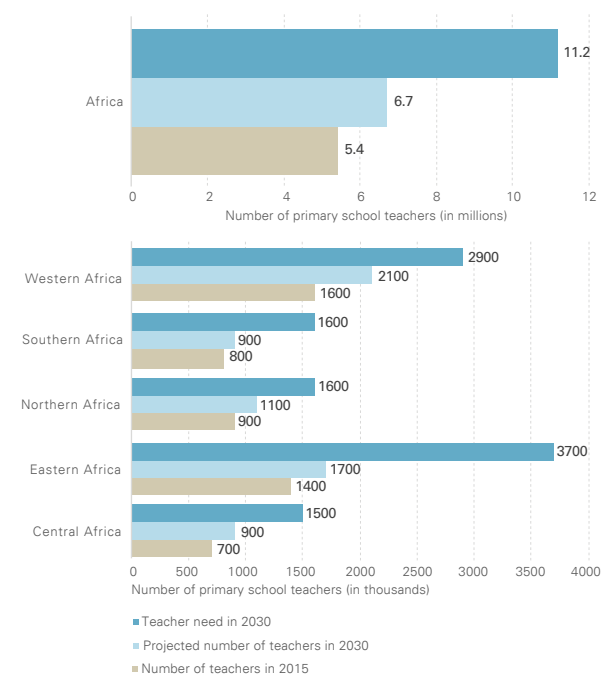


Note: For countries who already have a density of 4.45 the current value is maintained. Data from 2000 to 2015 was used for estimation. No health workforce data were available for South Sudan, hence the sub-region's average density was assumed.

Source: UNICEF analysis based on the World Health Organization, The 2017 update, The Global Health Workforce Statistics, WHO, Geneva, 2017 and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, United Nations, New York, 2017.

More than 11 million primary school teachers will be needed in 2030 to meet the best sub-regional performers' pupil-teacher ratio

Fig 9. Primary school teachers for each scenario for Africa total (in millions) and by African Union sub-region (in thousands)

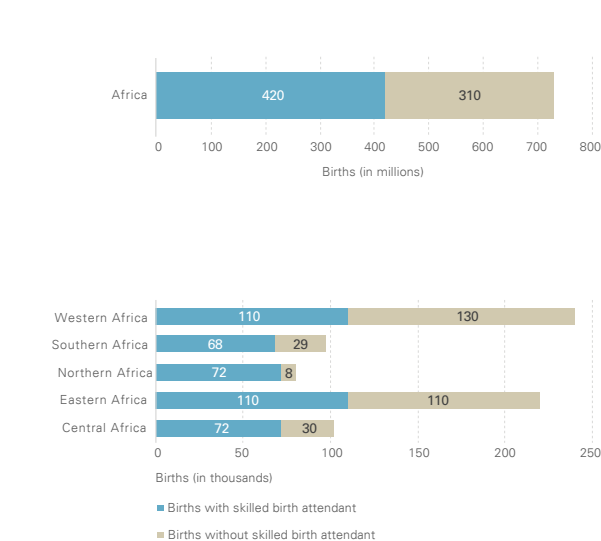


Note: For missing values of pupil/teacher ratios in Libya, Sudan and Somalia the sub-regional average was used. Best sub-regional performers' pupil/teacher ratio: Central Africa: 23; Eastern Africa: 19; Northern Africa: 17; Southern Africa: 23; Western Africa: 22.

Source: UNICEF analysis based UNESCO Institute for Statistics global databases, 2016, based on administrative data for the most recent year available during 2009-2016, and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, United Nations, New York, 2017.

Based on the continuation of current coverage, more than 300 million of Africa's 730 million projected births through 2030 will not be attended by skilled health personnel

Fig 10. Cumulative births from 2015-2030 by skilled birth attendants for Africa total (in millions) and by African Union sub-region (in thousands)



Note: Most recent skilled birth attendance country values available for the period 2010-2016.

Source: UNICEF analysis based on UNICEF global databases, 2016, based on DHS, MICS, and other nationally representative surveys and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, United Nations, New York, 2017.