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

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Prevalence (per 100 000 population)

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Total tetanus

Tuberculosis

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Contraceptive prevalence (%)

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 Hospital beds (per 10 000 population)
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 General government expenditure on health as a percentage of total government expenditure
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 Social security expenditure on health as a percentage of general government expenditure on health
 Out-of-pocket expenditure as a percentage of private expenditure on health
 Private prepaid plans as a percentage of private expenditure on health

Per capita health expenditures

Per capita total expenditure on health at average exchange rate (US\$)
 Per capita total expenditure on health (PPP int. \$)
 Per capita government expenditure on health at average exchange rate (US\$)
 Per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$)

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Abbreviations

AARD	average annual rate of decline	NCD	noncommunicable disease
AFR	WHO African Region	NGO	nongovernmental organization
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	NHA	national health account
AMR	WHO Region of the Americas	NTD	neglected tropical disease
ARI	acute respiratory infection	OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
ART	antiretroviral therapy	ORS	oral rehydration salts
CRS	Creditor Reporting System	ORT	oral rehydration therapy
CRVS	civil registration and vital statistics	PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
DAC	Development Assistance Committee, OECD	RHF	recommended home fluids
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey	SAVVY	Sample Registration with Verbal Autopsy
DTP3	3 doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine	SD	standard deviation
EML	essential medicines list	SEAR	WHO South-East Asia Region
EMR	WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
EUR	WHO European Region	UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
GDP	gross domestic product	UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
GHO	Global Health Observatory	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
HAI	Health Action International	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
HALE	healthy life expectancy	WPR	WHO Western Pacific Region
HepB3	3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine	YLL	years of life lost
Hib3	3 doses of Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine		
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus		
ICD	International Classification of Diseases		
ICPD+5	International Conference on Population and Development, five-year follow-up		
IGME	Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation		
ITU	United Nations International Telecommunication Union		
MCV	measles-containing vaccine		
MDG	Millennium Development Goal		
MDR-TB	multi-drug resistant tuberculosis		
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey		
MSH	Management Sciences for Health		
MTCT	mother-to-child transmission		

Introduction

The World Health Statistics series is WHO's annual compilation of health-related data for its 194 Member States, and includes a summary of the progress made towards achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and associated targets. This year, it also includes highlight summaries on the ongoing commitment to end preventable maternal deaths; on the need to act now to combat rising levels of childhood obesity; on recent trends in both life expectancy and premature deaths; and on the crucial role of civil registration and vital statistics systems in national and global advancement.

The series is produced by the WHO Department of Health Statistics and Information Systems of the Health Systems and Innovation Cluster. As in previous years, World Health Statistics 2014 has been compiled using publications and databases produced and maintained by WHO technical programmes and regional offices. A number of demographic and socioeconomic statistics have also been derived from databases maintained by a range of other organizations. These include the United Nations International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Bank.

Indicators have been included on the basis of their relevance to global public health; the availability and quality of the data; and the reliability and comparability of the resulting estimates. Taken together, these indicators provide a comprehensive summary of the current status of national health and health systems in the following nine areas:

- life expectancy and mortality
- cause-specific mortality and morbidity
- selected infectious diseases
- health service coverage

- risk factors
- health systems
- health expenditure
- health inequities
- demographic and socioeconomic statistics.

The estimates given in this report are derived from multiple sources, depending on each indicator and on the availability and quality of data. In many countries, statistical and health information systems are weak and the underlying empirical data may not be available or may be of poor quality. Every effort has been made to ensure the best use of country-reported data – adjusted where necessary to deal with missing values, to correct for known biases, and to maximize the comparability of the statistics across countries and over time. In addition, statistical modelling and other techniques have been used to fill data gaps.

Because of the weakness of the underlying empirical data in many countries, a number of the indicators presented here are associated with significant uncertainty. It is WHO policy to ensure statistical transparency, and to make available to users the methods of estimation and the margins of uncertainty for relevant indicators. However, to ensure readability while covering such a comprehensive range of health topics, printed versions of the World Health Statistics series do not include the margins of uncertainty which are instead made available through online WHO databases such as the Global Health Observatory.¹

While every effort has been made to maximize the comparability of the statistics across countries and over time, users are advised that country data may differ in terms of the definitions, data-collection methods,

¹ The Global Health Observatory (GHO) is WHO's portal providing access to data and analyses for monitoring the global health situation. See: <http://www.who.int/gho/en/>, accessed 22 March 2014.

population coverage and estimation methods used. More-detailed information on indicator metadata is available in the WHO Indicator and Measurement Registry.¹

WHO presents *World Health Statistics 2014* as an integral part of its ongoing efforts to provide enhanced access to comparable high-quality statistics on core measures of population health and national health systems. Unless otherwise stated, all estimates have been cleared following consultation with Member States and are published here as official WHO figures. However, these best estimates have been derived using standard categories and methods to enhance their cross-national comparability. As a result, they should not be regarded as the nationally endorsed statistics of Member States which may have been derived using alternative methodologies.

¹ See: http://www.who.int/gho/indicator_registry/en/, accessed 22 March 2014.