REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Marked polarization

Complete table at: **www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009**

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) / RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)		Value
→	Afghanistan (47)	52	"	14	"			33
→	Albania (96)	81	"	100	"			91
→	Algeria (96)	79	"	95	"			87
→	Angola (58)			45	"			45
→	Antigua and Barbuda (94)			100	"			100
→	Argentina (98)			99	"			99
→	Armenia (95)	93.2	"	98	"			96
"	Australia (99)			100	"			100
←	Azerbaijan (96)	70	"	97	"	51.1	←	73
"	Bahamas (99)			99	"			99
"	Bahrain (99)			99	"			99
←	Bangladesh (56)	48.7	"	20	"	55.8	←	42
→	Barbados (98)	89	"	100	"			95
→	Belarus (100)			100	"			100
"	Belgium (98)			99	"			99
←	Belize (92)			91	"	34.3	←	63
"	Benin (77)	88	"	74	"	17	←	60
→	Bhutan (79)			51	"	35.4	→	43
→	Bolivia (79)	79.1	"	60.8	"			70
→	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	99	"	100	"			100
→	Botswana (90)	99	"	99	"			99
→	Brazil (90)			97	"			97
"	Brunei Darussalam (99)			100	"			100
→	Bulgaria (97)			99	"			99
→	Burkina Faso (71)	72.8	"	54	"			63
→	Burma/Myanmar (73)			68	"			68
→	Burundi (61)	93	"	34	"			64
→	Cambodia (66)	69.3	"	43.8	"			57
→	Cameroon (77)	83.3	"	63	"			73
"	Canada (99)			100	"			100
→	Cape Verde (93)			89	"			89
→	Central African Republic (65)			54	"			54
→	Chad (44)	42.6	"	15	"			29
←	Chile (99)			100	"	58.4	←	79
←	China (95)			98	"	84.6	←	91
→	Colombia (94)	93.5	"	96	"			95
→	Comoros (79)			62	"			62
→	Congo DR (68)			61	"			61
←	Congo, Rep. (76)	86.8	"	83	"	20.6	←	63
"	Cook Islands (98)			100	"			100
←	Costa Rica (93)			94	"			94

NOTE:

1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks: *Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: regression; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 a 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress.* This rate is obtained from the following operation: *(2009 value − 2008 value)/2008 value) * 100*

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

SOURCES:
Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAtlas); Global Health Atlas. WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAtlas).
Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research. WHO (www.who.int/reproductivehealth). Except for (+) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAT compiler (www.measuredhs.com/accessurveys/).
Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)		Value
→	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	84	=	57	=			71
→	Croatia (100)			100	=			100
→	Cuba (99)			100	=	77.1	→	89
=	Cyprus (100)			100	=			100
→	Czech Republic (99)			100	=			100
→	Djibouti (90)			93	=			93
→	Dominica (96)			99	=			99
→	Dominican Republic (87)	98.3	=	96	=	72.9	→	89
←	Ecuador (86)	56	=	80	=			68
→	Egypt (89)	71.3	=	74	=			73
→	El Salvador (80)			69	=			69
=	Equatorial Guinea (58)			63	=			63
→	Eritrea (60)	70.3	=	28	=			49
=	Estonia (99)			100	=			100
→	Ethiopia (53)	28	=	6	=			17
→	Fiji (93)			99	=			99
=	Finland (100)			100	=			100
→	France (99)			99	=			99
→	Gabon (82)	94	=	86	=			90
→	Gambia (73)	92	=	57	=			75
→	Georgia (96)	91	=	92	=			92
=	Germany (99)			100	=			100
→	Ghana (76)	91.9	=	50	=			71
→	Grenada (92)			100	=			100
→	Guatemala (68)	86	=	41	=			64
→	Guinea (68)	82.2	=	38	=			60
→	Guinea-Bissau (58)	89	=	39	=			64
=	Guyana (84)	88	=	94	=	34.2	←	72
→	Haiti (48)	84.5	=	26	=			55
=	Honduras (82)	91.7	=	67	=	65	=	75
=	Hungary (99)			100	=			100
=	India (68)	65	=	47	=			56
→	Indonesia (85)	91.5	=	66	=	61.4	→	73
→	Iraq (88)			89	=			89
→	Iran (95)			97	=			97
=	Ireland (100)			100	=			100
→	Italy (100)			99	=			99
→	Jamaica (95)			97	=			97
→	Japan (99)			100	=			100
=	Jordan (99)	98.6	=	100	=	57.1	→	85
→	Kazakhstan (99)	82	=	100	=			91
→	Kenya (71)	88.1	=	42	=			65
→	Kiribati (89)			90	=			90
→	Korea, DPR (87)	98	=	97	=			98
→	Korea, Rep. (100)			100	=			100
→	Kuwait (100)			100	=			100
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	88	=	98	=			93
=	Lao PDR (58)	44	=	19	=			32
=	Latvia (99)			100	=			100

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)		Value
→	Lebanon (96)			98	‖			98
→	Lesotho (72)	90.4	‖	55	‖			73
→	Liberia (61)			51	‖	11.4	→	31
‖	Libya (99)			100	‖			100
‖	Lithuania (99)			100	‖			100
‖	Luxembourg (100)			100	‖			100
→	Macedonia (—)			98	‖			98
→	Madagascar (59)	79.9	‖	45	‖			62
→	Malawi (62)	93.1	‖	54	‖			74
‖	Malaysia (97)			100	‖			100
→	Maldives (91)	98	‖	84	‖			91
‖	Mali (67)	53	‖	41	‖	8.2	→	34
‖	Malta (99)			100	‖			100
→	Marshall Islands (93)			95	‖			95
→	Mauritania (68)	63	‖	53	‖			58
→	Mauritius (99)			99	‖			99
→	Mexico (95)			94	‖			94
→	Micronesia (89)			88	‖			88
→	Moldova (—)	98	‖	100	‖			99
→	Mongolia (93)			99	‖			99
‖	Montenegro (94)			99	‖			99
→	Morocco (81)	67.8	‖	63	‖			65
→	Mozambique (66)	84.5	‖	48	‖			66
→	Namibia (89)	85	‖	76	‖	55.1	→	72
‖	Nauru (76)			100	‖			100
←	Nepal (58)	69.7	‖	19	‖			44
→	Netherlands (100)			100	‖			100
‖	New Zealand (98)			95	‖			95
→	Nicaragua (70)	85	‖	67	‖	72.4	→	75
→	Niger (55)	46.1	‖	18	‖			32
→	Nigeria (56)	61	‖	35	‖			48
‖	Niue (98)			100	‖			100
→	Oman (98)			98	‖			98
→	Pakistan (71)			54	‖	29.6	→	42
→	Palau (99)			100	‖			100
‖	Panama (93)			91	‖			91
→	Papua New Guinea (62)			38	‖			38
→	Paraguay (95)			100	‖			100
→	Peru (88)	85	‖	73	‖	71.3	→	76
‖	Philippines (78)	87.6	‖	60	‖	50.6	→	66
‖	Poland (99)			100	‖			100
‖	Portugal (99)			100	‖			100
→	Qatar (95)	62	‖	100	‖			81
→	Romania (96)	89	‖	98	‖			94
→	Russia (99)	96	‖	100	‖			98
→	Rwanda (53)	94.3	‖	28	‖			61
→	Samoa (97)			100	‖			100
→	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	91	‖	81	‖			86
→	Saudi Arabia (95)			93	‖			93

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)	Value
→	Senegal (68)	87.4 II	52 II		70
→	Serbia (98)		99 II		99
→	Sierra Leone (57)	82 II	43 II		63
→	Singapore (92)		100 II		100
II	Slovakia (99)		100 II		100
II	Slovenia (99)		100 II		100
→	Solomon Islands (—)		43 II		43
→	Somalia (48)		33 II		33
→	South Africa (89)	89 II	92 II		91
←	Sri Lanka (96)		97 II	68 ←	83
→	St Kitts and Nevis (95)		100 II		100
II	St Lucia (98)		100 II		100
II	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)		100 II		100
→	Sudan (70)		49 II		49
→	Suriname (82)	91 II	71 II		81
→	Swaziland (80)		74 II	50.6 →	62
II	Switzerland (97)		100 II		100
→	Syria (95)		93 II		93
II	Tajikistan (89)	75 II	83 II	38.3 →	65
→	Tanzania (73)	94.3 II	46 II		70
→	Thailand (96)		97 II		97
→	Timor-Leste (56)		19 II	19.8 →	19
→	Togo (68)	78 II	62 II		70
→	Tonga (96)		99 II		99
→	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	96 II	98 II		97
→	Tunisia (95)		90 II		90
→	Turkey (92)	67 II	83 II		75
→	Turkmenistan (88)	87 II	100 II		94
II	Tuvalu (89)		100 II		100
→	Uganda (59)	94.1 II	42 II		68
II	Ukraine (99)	90 II	100 II	66.7 →	86
II	United Arab Emirates (100)		100 II		100
→	United Kingdom (99)		99 II		99
→	United States of America (98)		100 II		100
→	Uruguay (98)		100 II		100
→	Uzbekistan (93)		100 II		100
→	Vanuatu (87)		92 II		92
→	Venezuela (94)		95 II		95
→	Vietnam (93)	70 II	88 II		79
→	Yemen (59)	34 II	20 II	27.7 →	27
→	Zambia (71)	93.3 II	43 II		68
→	Zimbabwe (77)	94.2 II	69 II		82

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of women aged 15-49 years attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

Births attended by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Contraceptive use among women currently in union aged 15-49 (%): Percentage of women in union aged 15-49 years currently using contraception.

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
Marked polarization

The term "reproductive health" was used for the first time at the United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994. It refers to a situation of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all the functions and processes connected with reproduction.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), every minute, somewhere in the world, one woman dies from avoidable causes during childbirth, and for every woman who dies under these circumstances there are 20 or more whose health is permanently damaged through delivery-related complications. This adds up to more than half a million women a year who lose their lives and more than ten million whose chances of leading a full and healthy life are seriously impaired. The situation is extremely worrying in the poor countries, which have the highest rates of involuntary pregnancy, abortions under bad conditions, HIV / AIDS infection, and maternal death and permanent injury.

Prevention is geared to avoiding teenage pregnancy, the start of sexual relations and the use of contraception. Attention, on the other hand, deals with sexually transmitted diseases, particularly HIV / AIDS, skilled health care during pregnancy and delivery, and follow-up on birth complications among women and newborn babies.

Global evolution

In the reproductive health dimension in 2008, more than a fifth of countries (23.8%) remained stagnant and some 70.7% made progress. In the latter group 6.6% made slight progress and the majority (64.1%) made significant progress. On the other hand, 8 countries regressed slightly (4.4%), and in two more (1.1%) this was severe, so in total only 5.5% of countries regressed (Table 1). All in all the overall balance is positive, but we should put this into perspective by examining the average levels in the countries at the two ends of the spectrum (Table 2).[1]

The indicator for "Women aged 15 to 49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)" did not register changes but evolution in reproductive health was still favourable. This is because the proportion of women (with partners) in this age bracket who use contraception and the proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel did increase (in 2008 the rates were
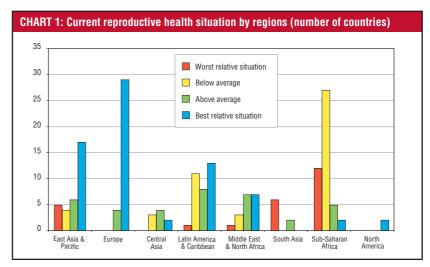
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1   As regards methodology, countries are classified using two different procedures, and in this case the two are combined. Regression or progress refer to differences in the relative growth rate, but relative position is established by standardisation based on the quotient between the differences with the measures and the standard deviation of the distribution. For this, progress or regression in growth rate can correspond to different relative positions. Therefore a country that is very well positioned but from one year to the next registers a fall in the values of its indicators could figure among the countries in the better relative situation and at the same time be in the severe regression group.

80.7%, 44.9% and 79.1%, respectively, and in 2009 80.7%, 47.9% and 79.6%, respectively).

However, this overall progress obscures the significant polarization that took place. In the countries in the worse relative situation all the average values of the indicators fell (from 67.2%, 17.1% and 37.9% in 2008 to 48%, 15.4% and 32.4% in 2009, respectively). On the other hand, the opposite occurred in the countries in the better relative situation; all the average values of these indicators increased (93.9%, 64.5% and 98.9% in 2008 and 94.3%, 72.3% and 99.6%, respectively).

The situation by regions

No country in Europe or North America is below the average; the overwhelming majority are in the better relative situation (87.9% and 100%, respectively).

In Central Asia most of the countries are positioned around the average (33.3% are below and 44.4% are above). There are no countries in the worse relative situation and two are in the better relative situation (22.2%).

In East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa region, most of the countries are above the average (18.8%, 24.4% and 38.9%, respectively) or in the better relative situation group (53.1%, 39.4% and 38.9%, respectively). However, there are also some countries below the average (12.5%, 33.3% and 16.7%, respectively) and some in a worse relative situation (15.6%, 3% and 5.6%, respectively).

South Asia is the most polarised region. Three quarters of the countries (75%) are in a worse relative situation and a quarter (25%) are above the average. There are no countries in the better relative situation, and nor are there any slightly below average.

Lastly, the most disadvantaged region is sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly nine tenths (84.8%) of these countries is in the worse relative situation or below the average (26.1% and 58.7%, respectively), one in ten are above the average (10.9%) and only 4.3% are in the better relative situation group. ■

CHART 1: Current reproductive health situation by regions (number of countries)

Legend:
- Worst relative situation
- Below average
- Above average
- Best relative situation

Regions: East Asia & Pacific, Europe, Central Asia, Latin America & Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, North America

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TABLE 1. Current situation according to evolution in reprodcutive health

	←	⇐	II	⇒	→	Total
Worse relative situation		2	3	3	17	25
Below average	2	3	6	7	30	48
Above average		3	4	2	27	36
Better relative situation			30		42	72
Total	2	8	43	12	116	181

TABLE 2. Reproductive health: averages by indicator of countries in worse and better situations

		Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)	Use of contraception by women (with partners) aged 15 to 49 (%)	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)
Worse relative situation	Average	48.0	15.4	32.4
	Number of countries	11	5	30
Better relative situation	Average	94.3	72.3	99.6
	Number of countries	27	8	80
Total	Average	80.7	47.9	79.6
	Number of countries	79	27	181