Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities

Gabon

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Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities in Gabon

Key Facts

Gabon reference table

Demographic indicators	Year	Value
Total population (thousands)[1]	2017	2,025
Total live births (thousands)[1]	2017	58
Total Fertility Rate (number of children per woman)[1]	2017	4
Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women 15-19)[10]	2009	115
Impact indicators		
Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)[4]	2015	291
Average annual rate of MMR reduction between 2000 and 2015 (%)[5,a]	2015	2
Lifetime risk of maternal death: 1 in x[4,b]	2015	85
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 total births)[6]	2015	14
Preterm birth rate (per 100 live births)[7]	2015	16
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)[3]	2016	47
Under-five deaths that are newborn (%)[3]	2016	47
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)[3]	2016	22
Neonatal deaths (thousands)[3]	2016	1
Service Delivery		
Availability of EmONC Services (% of minimum acceptable level)[8]	2001	123
Skilled health professional density (per 10 000 population)[9]	2004	53
Physician density (per 1,000 population)[9]	2004	0.3
Nurse and midwife density (per 1,000 population)[9]	2004	5.0

Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities in Gabon

In 2017, approximately 58,000 babies were born in Gabon, or around 200 every day.[1]

Among young women (aged 20-24), 28 percent gave birth by age 18.[2]

Approximately 3 babies will die each day before reaching their first month[3]; 2 stillbirths occur every day.[6]
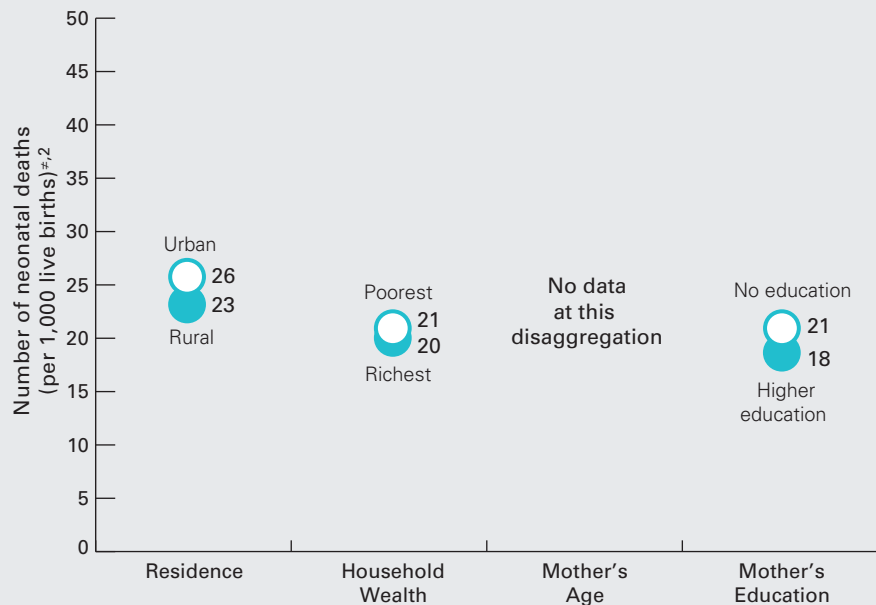
Neonatal mortality rate:

Gabon's neonatal mortality rate (NMR)^ is 22 deaths per 1,000 live births.[3]

NMR* in rural areas is 23 deaths per 1,000 live births and 26 deaths per 1,000 live births in urban areas for an urban-to-rural ratio of 1.1.[2]

NMR* among the poorest households is 21 neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 20 deaths per 1,000 live births among the richest households.[2]

Neonatal mortality rates, by background characteristics, 2012

Number of neonatal deaths (per 1,000 live births)*,[2]

Residence:
- Urban 26
- Rural 23

Household Wealth:
- Poorest 21
- Richest 20

Mother's Age: No data at this disaggregation

Mother's Education:
- No education 21
- Higher education 18

Neonatal mortality rate by wealth quintiles
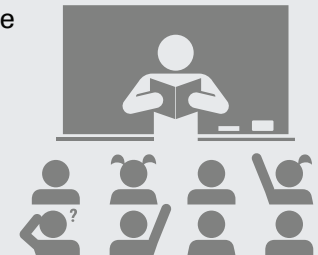
Richest

Poorest

The NMR for those in the **poorest quintile** (21 per 1,000 live births) is 1.1 times higher than for the **richest quintile** (20 per 1,000 live births).[2]

1 in 4 young women (aged 20-24) have given birth by age 18.[2]

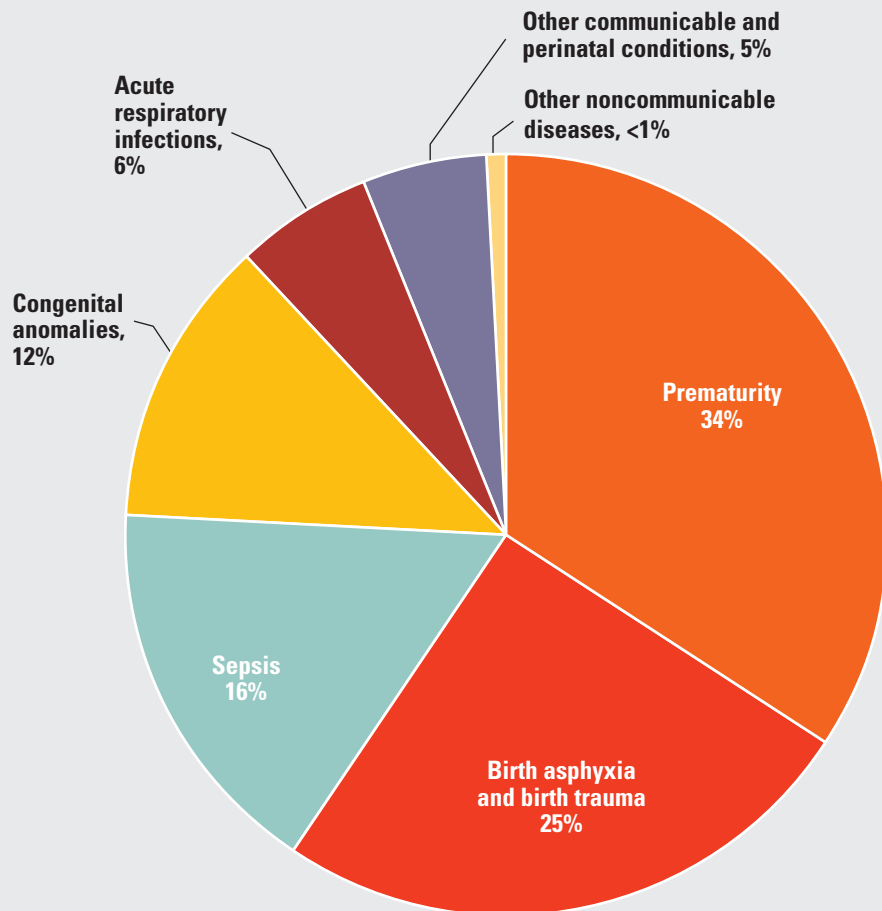**Newborns** with less educated mothers are **1.2x** more likely to die during the first month compared to those born to mothers with higher education.[2]

Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities in Gabon

Gabon — Causes of Neonatal Mortality, 2016

In Gabon, the main causes of neonatal deaths in 2016 were prematurity (34 per cent), birth asphyxia and birth trauma (25 per cent) and sepsis (16 per cent).[11]

Prematurity 34%

Birth asphyxia and birth trauma 25%

Sepsis 16%

Congenital anomalies, 12%

Acute respiratory infections, 6%

Other communicable and perinatal conditions, 5%

Other noncommunicable diseases, <1%

Source: WHO-MCEE, 2017

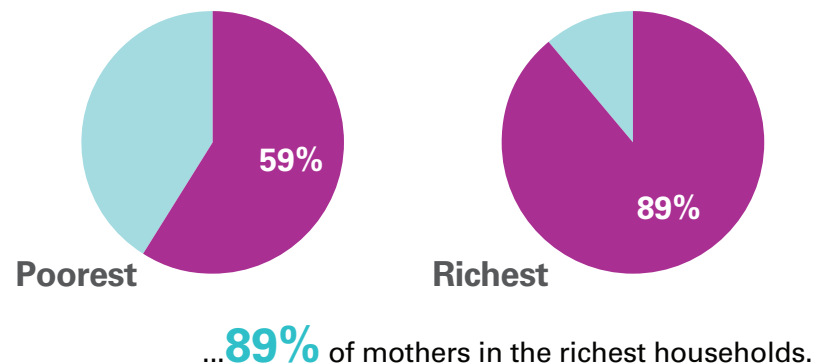## Maternal and newborn health coverage indicators

By residence:[2]

- In rural areas, 58 per cent of women made at least 4 antenatal care visits, compared to 81 per cent in urban areas.

- Coverage of skilled attendance at birth is 94 per cent in rural areas, compared to 70 per cent in urban areas.

- 15 per cent of newborns in rural areas receive postnatal care (PNC) within 2 days of birth, compared to 27 per cent in urban areas.

By household wealth:[2]

- Most mothers among richest households (89 per cent) made at least 4 antenatal care visits, compared to 59 per cent of mothers from the poorest households.

- Only 76 per cent of mothers in the poorest households had a skilled attendant at birth, compared to 95 per cent of mothers in the richest households.

- 39 per cent of newborns in the richest households receive PNC within 2 days of birth, compared to 18 per cent among the poorest households.
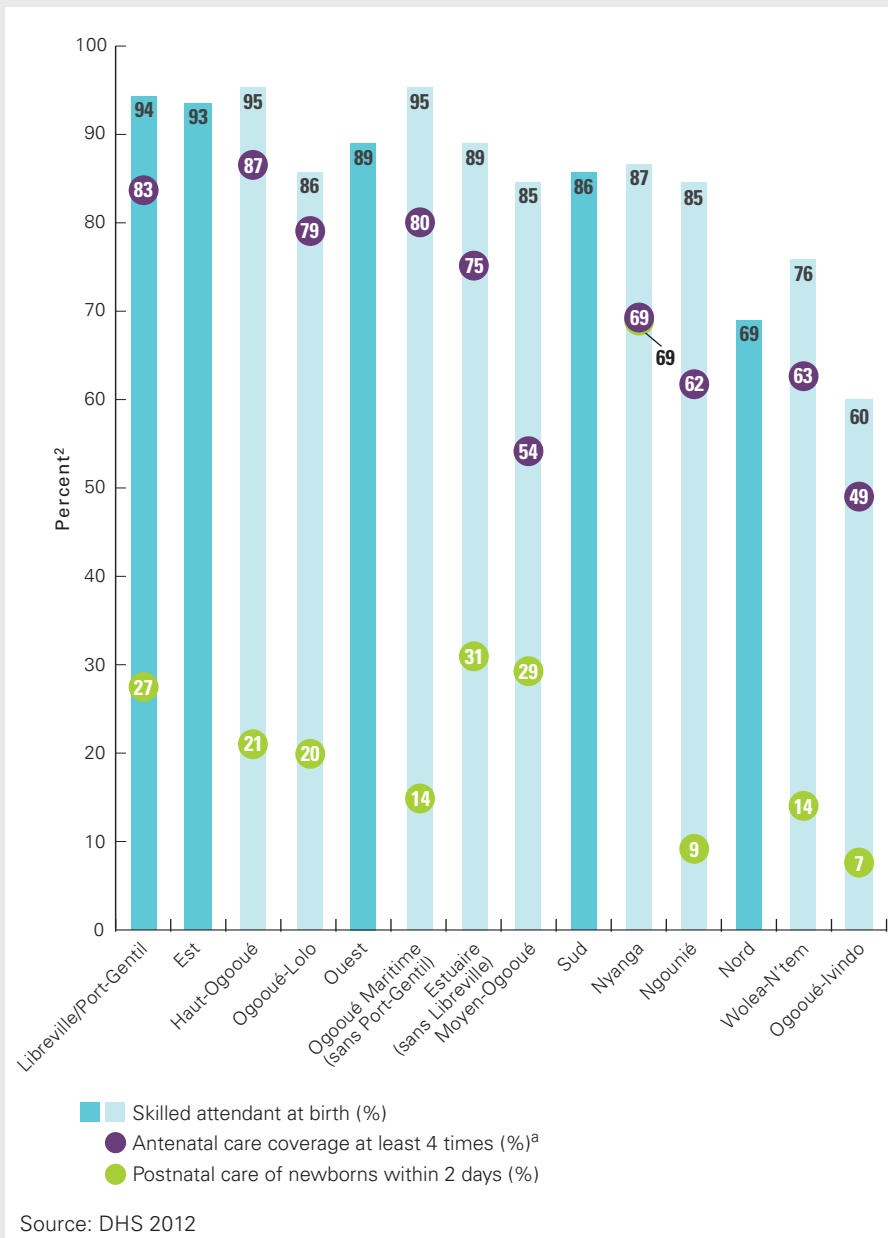
Only **59%** of mothers in the poorest households have **4 antenatal care visits** compared to...

59% Poorest

89% Richest

...**89%** of mothers in the richest households.

Source: DHS 2012

Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities in Gabon

Selected maternal and newborn health indicators, by region, 2012

Source: DHS 2012

Legend:
- Skilled attendant at birth (%)
- Antenatal care coverage at least 4 times (%)[a]
- Postnatal care of newborns within 2 days (%)

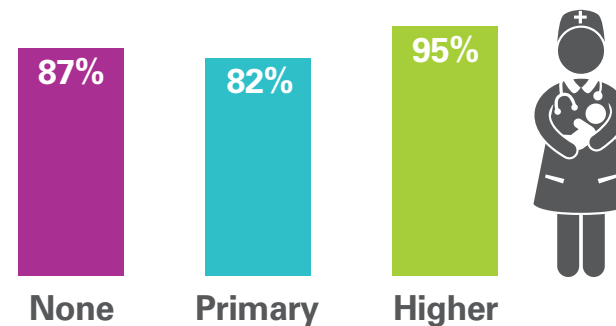## Maternal and newborn health coverage indicators

By mother's age:[2]

- 78 per cent of mothers aged 20-34 made at least four ANC visits, compared to 78 per cent among younger mothers (aged less than 20).

- Mothers aged 20-34 and younger mothers have similar levels of skilled attendance at birth (91 per cent and 90 per cent, respectively).

- Their newborns receive low levels of postnatal care: 26 per cent and 22 per cent, respectively.

By mother's education:[2]

- 93 per cent of mothers with higher education made at least four ANC visits, compared to 68 per cent of mothers with no education.

- 87 per cent of mothers with no education had a skilled attendant at birth, compared to 82 per cent with primary education and 95 per cent for mothers with higher education.

- 27 per cent of newborns are checked within 2 days of birth if their mothers have no education, compared to 21 per cent of mothers with a primary education and 26 per cent of mothers who received higher education.

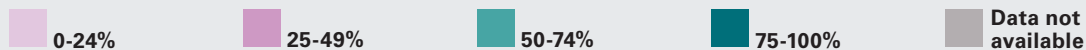The better educated the mother is, the more likely she will receive critical **maternal health services**

None	Primary	Higher
87%	82%	95%

Percentage of women having a skilled birth attendant relative to their education level

Maternal and Newborn Health Disparities in Gabon

Disparities in key maternal and newborn health interventions

	Coverage – care for mothers						Coverage – care for newborns								Other
	Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (%)	Antenatal care coverage at least 4 times (%)[a]	Skilled attendant at birth (%)	Institutional delivery (%)	Delivered by caesarean section (%)	Postnatal care of mothers within 2 days (%)	Postnatal care of newborns within 2 days (%)	Newborn weighed at birth (%)	Early initiation of breast-feeding (%)	Exclusive breast-feeding (<6 months) (%)	BCG vaccine for newborn (%)	DPT 1 vaccination received (%)**	Tetanus protection for newborns (%)	Birth registration (%)	Births by age 18 (%)[#,a]
National estimate	19	78	90	90	10	59	25	91	32	5	92	75	78	90	29
LIBREVILLE/ PORT-GENTIL	23	83	94	95	14	63	27	95	33	5	92	73	79	89	18
EST	17		93	93	5				32						28
Ogooué-Lolo	13	79	86	87	7	58	20	89	42	2	91	78	86	89	27
Haut-Ogooué	18	87	95	95	5	38	21	97	29	4	98	85	80	95	28
OUEST	17		89	88	8				36						21
Estuaire (sans Libreville)	16	75	89	89	10	63	31	90	28	4	91	79	81	80	19
Moyen-Ogooué	18	54	85	85	4	69	29	87	58	10	92	61	78	87	23
Ogooué Maritime (sans Port-Gentil)	22	80	95	94	5	70	14	97	45	26	92	62	84	94	29
SUD	13		86	85	5				19						34
Ngounié	11	62	85	84	5	72	9	85	17	2	95	88	68	96	34
Nyanga	16	69	87	86	4	74	69	87	24	3	95	86	82	92	35
NORD	13		69	68	4				38						36
Ogooué-Ivindo	11	49	60	60	5	40	7	59	50	3	81	69	70	93	34
Woleu-N'tem	13	63	76	75	4	35	14	74	28	10	80	64	76	92	37

Subnational

Key for tables: 0-24% | 25-49% | 50-74% | 75-100% | Data not available

Source: DHS 2012

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Disparities in key maternal and newborn health interventions

		Coverage – care for mothers						Coverage – care for newborns							Other
		Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (%)	Antenatal care coverage at least 4 times (%)[a]	Skilled attendant at birth (%)	Institutional delivery (%)	Delivered by caesarean section (%)	Postnatal care of mothers within 2 days (%)	Postnatal care of newborns within 2 days (%)	Newborn weighed at birth (%)	Early initiation of breast-feeding (%)	Exclusive breastfeeding (<6 months) (%)	BCG vaccine for newborn (%)	DPT 1 vaccination received (%)**	Tetanus protection for newborns (%)	Birth registration (%)	Births by age 18 (%)[#,a]
National estimate		19	78	90	90	10	59	25	91	32	5	92	75	78	90	29
Residence	Urban	33	81	94	94	11	62	27	94	32	5	93	76	79	89	18
	Rural	21	58	70	70	6	44	15	73	32	5	87	74	73	91	37
Residence ratio (urban to rural)		1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.5
Household Wealth	Richest	22	89	95	96	20	61	39	98	26	1	96	75	78	86	9
	Poorest	12	59	76	76	4	47	18	77	33	6	88	73	71	92	41
Household wealth ratio (richest to poorest)		1.8	1.5	1.3	1.3	5.2	1.3	2.2	1.3	0.8	0.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.2
Mother's age	Less than 20	24	78	90	89	8	56	22	90					68		
	20-34		78	91	91	11	59	26	91					82		
	35-49		74	87	89	10	61	25	91					78		
Mother's education	No education	10	68	87	85	12	51	27	82	34	6	90	72	80		
	Primary	13	67	82	82	8	52	21	83	33	8	87	73	72		36
	Secondary	21	93	93	93	9	63	27	93	34	4	93	72	81		20
	Higher	27	93	95	96	15	61	26	98	27	4	95	74	81		16
Mother's education ratio (highest to lowest)		2.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.0		

Key for tables: 0-24% · 25-49% · 50-74% · 75-100% · Data not available

Source: DHS 2012

Sources:

1 United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision.

2 Gabon Enquête Démographique et de Santé 2012

3 United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UNICEF, WHO, United Nations Population Division and the World Bank).

4 United Nations Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-agency Group (WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, United Nations Population Division and the World Bank).

5 Trends in maternal mortality: 1990 to 2015: estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division.

6 Trends in maternal mortality: 1990 to 2015: estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division. Lawn JE, Blencowe H, Waiswa P, et al, for The Lancet Ending Preventable Stillbirths Series study group with The Lancet Stillbirth Epidemiology investigator group. Stillbirths: rates, risk factors, and acceleration towards 2030. Lancet 2016; published online Jan 18. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00837-5.

7 Blencowe H, Cousens S, Oestergaard M, Chou D, Moller AB, Narwal R, Adler A, Garcia CV, Rohde S, Say L, Lawn JE. National, regional and worldwide estimates of preterm birth rates in the year 2015 with time trends since 1990 for selected countries: a systematic analysis and implications.

8 Averting Maternal Death and Disability, United Nations Children's Fund, and United Nations Population Fund special data compilation, 2015.

9 Global Health Workforce Statistics database, World Health Organization, Geneva. (http://www.who.int/hrh/statistics/hwfstats/).

10 United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2015). 2015 Update for the MDG Database.

11 WHO-MCEE estimates for child causes of death, 2000-2016.

Notes:

a MMR estimates have been rounded according to the following scheme: < 100 rounded to nearest 1; 100–999 rounded to nearest 1; and ≥ 1000 rounded to nearest 10.

b Life time risk has been rounded according to the following scheme: < 100 rounded to nearest 1; 100–999 rounded to nearest 10; and ≥ 1000 rounded to nearest 100.

^ Reference period: five years preceding the survey.

≠ Reference period: ten years preceding the survey.

Births by age 18 among 20-24 year olds.

( ) Based on small denominators (typically 25-49 unweighted cases). No data based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases are displayed.

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