

Infant and Child mortality

Data analysis and Report writing workshop for Civil registration and vital statistics data.



Adapted from Pacific Community's Data analysis and report writing Workshop for the North Pacific

Important indicators for development

- NNMR and U5M are key indicators under SDG Goal 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Many of the causes of death in this age-group are amenable to interventions

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Measures of infant and child mortality



Neonatal mortality

Neonatal mortality rate

- = <u>Number of deaths in children < 28 days old in calendar year</u> x 1000 Number of live births during calendar year
 - May be subdivided into:
 - early neonatal deaths, occurring during the first seven days of life (0-7 days),
 - late neonatal deaths, occurring 8-27 days of life.
 - Considered to be a useful indicator of maternal and newborn neonatal health and care.
 - As IMR falls and fewer deaths are attributed to infectious diseases and environmental influences, a greater proportion of infant deaths would be expected to occur in the neonatal period. - The neonatal mortality rate should not increase as this occurs.

Infant mortality

Infant mortality rate

= <u>Number of deaths in children < 1 year</u> x 1000 Number of live births

A very widely used indicator to compare between countries and over time.

Major causes of infant mortality

Neonatal Period

- Birth complications
- Prematurity and other developmental conditions
- Congenital conditions
- (Malnutrition)
- (Infectious diseases)

Post -neonatal Period

- Malnutrition
- Infectious Diseases
- (External causesaccidents and injuries)

Under 5 mortality rate

= <u>Number of deaths in children < 5 years</u> x 1000 Number of live births

- Also a very widely used indicator to compare between countries and over time.
- Used to reflect the economic, social, and health conditions in countries
- Although called a rate this is actually a probability of dying (as are IMR and NNMR)
- An important summary measure of development as it looks at the overall impact of mortality on early childhood.



Assessing your data for plausibility

- Infant and child deaths may be underreported
 - Why would this be?
 - Is this possible in the local context
- Need to compare to other sources
 - Census/ DHS etc
- Are the proportions plausible?
 - What proportion of the infant deaths are neonatal?
 - Is this consistent with what you know of your health system?

Exercises

- Calculate the neonatal, infant, and under 5 mortality rate of your test data.
 - Should you use adjusted or unadjusted number for deaths?
 - Should you use adjusted or unadjusted numbers for births?
- Perform this exercise with your own country data.
- If possible, graph how this indicator has changed over time.