

Maternal Mortality Afghanistan 2000-2020

Internationally comparable MMR estimates by the Maternal Mortality Inter-Agency Group (MMEIG): WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division

Table 1: Estimates

Year	MMR ^{a*†}	PM ^{b*†}	HIV-related indirect deaths [†]	Live births ^c (Thousands)	Maternal deaths [†]
2000	1346 [888, 1800]	0.63 [0.42, 0.85]	0	996	13408
2005	1103 [812, 1422]	0.56 [0.41, 0.72]	1	1099	12120
2010	899 [702, 1156]	0.49 [0.38, 0.63]	1	1148	10317
2015	776 [557, 1115]	0.44 [0.32, 0.64]	1	1316	10208
2020	620 [406, 1050]	0.37 [0.24, 0.62]	2	1402	8698

^a Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) defined as maternal deaths per 100,000 live births for women of reproductive age (15-49 years).

^b Proportion maternal (PM) defined as the proportion of all-cause deaths for women of reproductive age (15-49 years) that are due to maternal causes.

^c UN Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. World Population Prospects. New York; 2022.

* The uncertainty intervals (UI) for all estimates refer to the 80% uncertainty intervals (10th and 90th percentiles of the posterior distributions). This was chosen as opposed to the more standard 95% intervals because of the substantial uncertainty inherent in maternal mortality outcomes.

† Figures presented in the table are estimates based on national data, such as surveys or administrative records, or other sources, produced by the international agency when country data for some year(s) is not available, when multiple sources exist, or when there are data quality issues.

Table 2: Estimates

Period	Annual rate reduction*	Percent change in MMR*
2000, 2020	3.76 [0.37, 6.39]	52.86 [7.18, 72.13]
2010, 2020	3.85 [-0.97, 7.16]	31.94 [-10.23, 51.12]

* Figures presented in the table are estimates based on national data, such as surveys or administrative records, or other sources, produced by the international agency when country data for some year(s) is not available, when multiple sources exist, or when there are data quality issues.

Data from civil registration vital statistics system (CRVS)

No data available

Excluded data from CRVS

No data excluded

Data from other sources

Table 3: Data from other sources

Study period [*]	Source	Source type	Maternal deaths ^a	Preganancy-related deaths ^b	Female deaths, 15-49	Maternal PM ^c	Pregnancy-related PM ^{d†}	MMR per 100,000 lb ^e	Adjusted MMR per 100,000 lb	F+ ^{f†}	F- ^{g†}	U+ ^{h†}
[2003.65, 2010.65)	AMS 2010	Survey	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.3946949	759.5142	703.0915	NA	NA	NA
[2009.15, 2016.15)	DHS 2015	Survey	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.6705922	1198.3679	1109.3848	NA	NA	NA

^a Maternal deaths defined according to the ICD-10.

^b Pregnancy-related deaths defined according to ICD-10.

^c Maternal PM is calculated when deaths are defined as maternal.

^d Pregnancy-related PM is calculated when reported deaths are defined as pregnancy related deaths.

^e The MMR in this column is calculated from the PM.

^f False positive: true non-maternal death which may be incorrectly labeled as a maternal death.

^g False negative: maternal death which may be incorrectly classified as a non-maternal death.

^h Maternal deaths not registered in the CRVS.

^{*} Kindly note the interpretation of notation: for a period [a,b) the observation starts on date a and ends before date b; thus a period covering 1st January 2000 through 31st December 2000 is denoted [2000,2001).

[†] Calculated from studies which undertake specialized analyses of routine reporting of maternal deaths.

[‡] Survey data has been adjusted by 1.1 for underreporting and standardized by age when obtained using the direct sisterhood method.

Data from studies excluded in regression

Table 4: Data from studies excluded in regression

Study period*	Source	Source type	Reason for exclusion
[1999, 2002)	RAMOS 2002	Miscellaneous	Study not nationally representative

* Kindly note the interpretation of notation: for a period $[a,b)$ the observation starts on date a and ends before date b ; thus a period covering 1st January 2000 through 31st December 2000 is denoted $[2000,2001)$.

Predictor variables used in the model

Table 5: Predictor variables used in the model

Year	GDP ^{a*} (Per capita, PPP)	GFR ^b (Per 1000 women ages 15-49)	SBA ^c (%)
2000	1007	240	14
2005	1300	220	28
2010	1836	190	43
2015	2081	170	55
2020	2023	150	70

^a WHO, MMEIG. Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita measured in purchasing power parity (PPP) equivalent dollars using 2017 as the baseline year were taken from World Bank's World Development Indicators (WDI) database, and in instances supplemented by unofficial estimates derived by MMEIG using growth rates in United Nations GDP data and/or previous MMEIG GDP estimates. Geneva; 2021.

^b General fertility rate (GFR) from UN Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. World Population Prospects. New York; 2022.

^c Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA) from WHO, UNICEF joint SBA database. Geneva; 2022. In some instances, supplemented with unofficial estimates derived by MMEIG. Annual series were estimated by fitting a multilevel time series (AR1) model with region- and country-specific intercepts and slopes.

* A 5-year moving average was calculated.

Estimates

(Input data) The following adjustments were applied to maternal deaths depending on the source type:

1. An age-standardization was applied to population based surveys that obtained data from the direct sisterhood method.
2. An upward adjustment of 10% was applied to all input data that were not obtained from CRVS or specialized studies, to account for underreporting.

(Model adjusted data) The following model adjustments were applied to maternal deaths depending on the source type and the definition of reported deaths

1. A model adjustment derived from BMIs was applied to maternal deaths obtained from CRVS.
2. A model adjustment was applied to observations of pregnancy-related deaths to remove accidental/incidental (non-maternal) deaths from the count.

