

## FACT SHEET

### Best and worst performing countries - progress in reducing maternal and child deaths

The charts below highlights countries' progress in reducing child and maternal mortality, according to the 2008 Countdown to 2015 report.

**Reducing child mortality:** The left hand chart lists the 10 best and worst performing countries' progress towards achieving Millennium Development Goal 4, to reduce the under 5 mortality rate by two-thirds by 2015.

**Reducing maternal mortality:** The right hand chart lists the 10 Countdown countries with the lowest and highest maternal mortality rates, used as a proxy to measure progress towards Millennium Development Goal 5 on improving maternal health. Many countries with the highest mortality rates have a recent history of armed conflict and limited funding for health services.

	Rank	Mortality in children younger than 5 years (1990)	Mortality in children younger than 5 years (2006)	Change (1990–2006)
<b>Ten with most progress</b>				
Peru	1	78	25	68%
Brazil	2	57	20	65%
Indonesia	3	91	34	63%
Egypt	4	91	35	62%
Nepal	5	142	59	58%
Morocco	6	89	37	58%
Laos	7	163	75	54%
Bangladesh	8	149	69	54%
Bolivia	9	125	61	51%
Guatemala	10	82	41	50%
<b>Ten with least progress</b>				
Chad	59	201	209	-4%
Cameroon	60	139	149	-7%
South Africa	61	60	69	-15%
Equatorial Guinea	62	170	206	-21%
Congo	63	103	126	-22%
Kenya	64	97	121	-25%
Lesotho	65	101	132	-31%
Zimbabwe	66	76	105	-38%
Swaziland	67	110	164	-49%
Botswana	68	58	124	-114%

Data are rank or deaths per 1000 livebirths, unless otherwise specified.  
MDG=millennium development goal.

**Table 3: Ten best and ten worst performing countries on progress towards MDG 4 since 1990**

	Rank	Maternal mortality
<b>Ten with lowest mortality</b>		
China	1	45
Mexico	2	60
Azerbaijan	3	82
Brazil	4	110
Egypt	5	130
Turkmenistan	6	130
Tajikistan	7	170
Philippines	8	230
Peru	9	240
Morocco	10	240
<b>13 with highest mortality</b>		
Congo, Democratic Republic	56=	1100
Malawi	56=	1100
Nigeria	56=	1100
Guinea-Bissau	56=	1100
Burundi	56=	1100
Liberia	61	1200
Rwanda	62	1300
Somalia	63=	1400
Angola	63=	1400
Chad	65	1500
Niger	66=	1800
Afghanistan	66=	1800
Sierra Leone	68	2100

Data are rank or deaths per 100 000 livebirths. MDG=millennium development goal.

**Table 4: Ranking of selected countries for maternal mortality as a proxy for progress towards MDG 5**

Source: The Lancet Countdown Issue, April 2008