

Countdown indicators and definitions

Definitions of Countdown indicators

Intervention	Indicator definition	Numerator	Denominator
Maternal and newborn health			
Skilled attendant at birth*	Percentage of live births attended by skilled health personnel	Number of live births to women ages 15–49 years in the X years prior to the survey attended during delivery by skilled health personnel (doctor, nurse, midwife or auxiliary midwife)	Total number of live births to women ages 15–49 in the X years prior to the survey
Treatment of HIV*	Percentage of HIV-positive pregnant women who received antiretroviral therapy for their own health	Number of HIV-positive pregnant women attending services for prevention of mother-to-child transmission in the past 12 months who are on lifelong antiretroviral therapy	Estimated number of HIV-positive pregnant women in the past 12 months who were eligible for antiretroviral therapy ³
Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV*	Percentage of HIV-positive pregnant women who received antiretrovirals to reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission	Number of HIV-infected pregnant women who received antiretrovirals in the last 12 months to reduce mother-to-child transmission	Estimated unrounded number of HIV-positive pregnant women ³
Antenatal care (at least one visit)	Percentage of women attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel for reasons related to the pregnancy	Number of women attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (doctor, nurse, midwife or auxiliary midwife) for reasons related to the pregnancy in the X years prior to the survey	Total number of women who had a live birth occurring in the same period
Antenatal care (four or more visits)*	Percentage of women attended at least four times during pregnancy by any provider (skilled or unskilled) for reasons related to the pregnancy	Number of women attended at least four times during pregnancy by any provider (skilled or unskilled) for reasons related to the pregnancy in the X years prior to the survey	Total number of women who had a live birth occurring in the same period
Demand for family planning satisfied*	Percentage of women ages 15–49, either married or in union, who have their need for family planning satisfied	Women who are married or in union and currently using any method of contraception	Women who are married and in union and who are currently using any method of contraception or who are fecund, not using any method of contraception but report wanting to space their next birth or stop childbearing altogether
Intermittent preventive treatment for malaria during pregnancy	Percentage of women who received intermittent preventive treatment for malaria during their last pregnancy	Number of women at risk for malaria who received two or more doses of a sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (Fansidar TM) to prevent malaria during their last pregnancy that led to a live birth	Total number of women surveyed who delivered a live newborn within the last two years
Caesarean section rate	Percentage of live births delivered by caesarean section	Number of live births to women ages 15–49 in the X years prior to the survey delivered by caesarean section	Total number of live births to women ages 15–49 in the X years prior to the survey
Neonatal tetanus protection	Percentage of newborns protected against tetanus	Number of mothers with a live birth in the year prior to the survey who received two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine within the appropriate interval prior to the infant's birth	Total number of women ages 15–49 with a live birth in the year prior to the survey
Postnatal care for mothers*^b	Percentage of mothers who received postnatal care within two days of childbirth	Number of women who received postnatal care within two days of childbirth (regardless of place of delivery)	Total number of women ages 15–49 with a last live birth in the X years prior to the survey (regardless of place of delivery)
Postnatal care for babies*	Percentage of babies who received postnatal care within two days of childbirth	Number of babies who received postnatal care within two days of birth (regardless of place of delivery)	Total number of last-born babies in the X years prior to the survey (regardless of place of delivery)
Low body mass index	Percentage of women ages 15–49 with a body mass index of less than 18.5 kg/m ²	Number of women ages 15–49 with a body mass index of less than 18.5 kg/m ²	Total number of women ages 15–49
Child health			
Measles immunization coverage	Percentage of infants immunized with measles containing vaccine	Number of children ages 12–23 months who are immunized against measles	Total number of children ages 12–23 months surveyed
Three doses of combined diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis vaccine immunization coverage (DTP3)*	Percentage of infants who received three doses of diphtheria/tetanus/ pertussis vaccine (DTP3)	Number of children ages 12–23 months receiving three doses of diphtheria/ tetanus /pertussis vaccine (DTP3)	Total number of children ages 12–23 months surveyed
Three doses of <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib3) immunization coverage	Percentage of infants who received three doses of <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib3) vaccine	Number of children ages 12–23 months receiving three doses of <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B (Hib3) vaccine	Total number of children ages 12–23 months surveyed
Careseeking for pneumonia	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia taken to an appropriate health provider	Number of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia in the two weeks prior to the survey who were taken to an appropriate health provider	Total number of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia in the two weeks prior to the survey
Antibiotic treatment for pneumonia*	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia receiving antibiotics	Number of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia in the two weeks prior to the survey receiving antibiotics	Total number of children ages 0–59 months with suspected pneumonia in the two weeks prior to the survey

Intervention	Indicator definition	Numerator	Denominator
Oral rehydration therapy and continued feeding	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea receiving oral rehydration therapy and continued feeding	Number of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the survey receiving oral rehydration therapy (oral rehydration solution or recommended homemade fluids or increased fluids) and continued feeding	Total number of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the survey
Oral rehydration salts	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea receiving oral rehydration salts	Number of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the survey receiving oral rehydration salts	Total number of children ages 0–59 months with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the survey
Antimalarial treatment	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months receiving first line antimalarial treatment	Number of children ages 0–59 months who had a fever in the previous two weeks who received first-line treatment according to national policy	Total number of children ages 0–59 months who had a fever in the previous two weeks who received any antimalarial drugs
Insecticide-treated net use	Percentage of children ages 0–59 months sleeping under an insecticide-treated mosquito net	Number of children ages 0–59 months sleeping under an insecticide-treated net the night before the survey	Total number of children ages 0–59 months surveyed
Nutrition			
Early initiation of breastfeeding	Percentage of newborns put to the breast within one hour of birth	Number of women with a live birth in the X years prior to the survey who put the newborn infant to the breast within one hour of birth	Total number of women with a live birth in the X years prior to the surveyed
Exclusive breastfeeding (for first six months of life)*	Percentage of infants ages 0–5 months who are exclusively breastfed	Number of infants ages 0–5 months who are exclusively breastfed	Total number of infants ages 0–5 months surveyed
Introduction of solid, semisolid or soft foods	Percentage of infants ages 6–8 months who receive solid, semisolid or soft foods	Number of infants ages 6–8 months who received solid, semisolid or soft foods during the previous day	Total number of infants ages 6–8 months surveyed
Vitamin A supplementation (two doses)	Percentage of children ages 6–59 months who received two doses of vitamin A during the calendar year	Number of children ages 6–59 months who received two doses of vitamin A during the calendar year	Total number of children ages 6–59 months
Water and sanitation			
Use of an improved drinking water source	Percentage of the population using an improved drinking water source (piped on premises or other improved drinking water source)	Number of household members using improved and drinking water source (including piped on premises, public standpipe, borehole, protected dug well, protected spring and rainwater collection)	Total number of household members
Use of improved sanitation facilities	Percentage of the population using improved sanitation facilities	Number of household members using improved sanitation facilities (including connection to a public sewer, connection to a septic system, pour-flush latrine, simple pit latrine or a ventilated improved pit latrine)	Total number of household members

* Indicators in bold are those recommended by the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health.

a. More details on the HIV estimates methodology can be found at www.unaids.org.

b. As used for postnatal care in the graph on coverage along the continuum of care on page 1 of each country profile.

Source: [Countdown Report 2012](#), Annex