

# **Country Profiles**

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The Country Profiles provide an overview of findings from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD). They are based on over 80,000 different data sources used by researchers to produce the most scientifically rigorous estimates possible. Estimates from the GBD study may differ from national statistics due to differences in data sources and methodology. These profiles are meant to be freely downloaded and distributed. Please send feedback and questions to <a href="mailto:engage@healthdata.org">engage@healthdata.org</a>.

## **TERMS DEFINED**

# Expected value

The expected value is the predicted indicator value based on the country's per capita income, educational attainment, and total fertility rate.

#### Observed value

The observed value is the actual indicator value for the country.

## Life expectancy

Life expectancy is the number of years that the average member of a group can expect to live. Many things can affect a group's life expectancy, including things like death rates in children, income, access to health care, diet, and environment. Life expectancy in a group even changes over time as new life-saving technologies emerge, a civil war occurs, or other things happen. Since 1990 life expectancy at birth has increased in most places around the world.

## Under-5 mortality

Under-5 mortality is the chance that a child will die before his or her fifth birthday. Health policymakers worldwide have used under-5 mortality as a key indicator of progress in global health and have made the reduction of under-5 mortality a primary goal.

## Cause of death

Cause of death estimates show the root causes of deaths within a group, usually expressed as a rate (e.g., deaths per 100,000 population). These are the underlying causes of death, so, for example, if a person dies in a car accident, we attribute their death to the car accident itself and not a particular injury caused by the accident.

#### YLLs

YLLs stands for years of life lost. It is a measure of premature death within a group of people. YLLs are calculated by starting with the highest achievable life expectancy in a given year for a given age group, then subtracting the age at which a person in that age group dies. For example, if achievable life expectancy in a given year for men is 81 years, a man who dies of lung cancer at age 65 will have 16 years of life lost.

### YLDs

YLDs stands for years lived with disability. It measures the amount of time people lose to diseases and injuries that degrade health but do not cause death. It is calculated by multiplying a disability's severity by the time it lasts. This means that a short-term, severe health problem and a long-term, relatively mild health problem could both result in the same number of YLDs. For example, someone who needs two months to recover from a car accident but then regains their full health and someone who experiences relatively mild but lifelong back pain could end up losing the same number of years of their lives to disability. YLDs take into account all disabilities, including lower-visibility ones that result in daily pain, lost work time, or an inability for someone to thrive as they otherwise might.

#### **DALYs**

DALY stands for disability-adjusted life years. It is the sum of YLLs and YLDs, so DALYs take into account both premature death and health-related suffering to portray the total years of healthy life lost from all causes. Ranking the causes of DALYs in a population shows the health problems that cause the most suffering in a society, whether it is by killing people when they are very young, by shortening by a few years the lives of many people, or by causing daily, long-term suffering for many people.

#### Risk factor

A risk factor is any modifiable behavior or condition that increases the likelihood that a person will experience a negative health event. That event could be getting an illness, having an accident that causes injury or death, or dying prematurely for any reason. If, over time, people engage in less risky behavior, or if fewer people live in risky conditions, then the incidence of health problems associated with that risk factor should go down.

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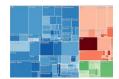
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