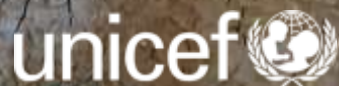


The Situation of Children and Women in Iraq

Highlights from the
Multiple Indicator Cluster
Survey 4 (MICS 4)

2011





Demographics

- Population of Iraq:
33.4 million
- Children and Adolescents (0-18):
16.6 million (+/- 50% of Iraqis)
- Children under 5:
5.6 million (1 in every 5 Iraqis)
- Adolescents and Youth:
6.7 million
- Poverty
23% of Iraq's population live on less than US \$2.2/day



MICS 4 in Iraq

- Household survey developed by UNICEF to assist developing countries improve the situation of children and women.
- This is the 4th MICS in Iraq. Previous MICS rounds were in 2006, 2000 and 1996.
- **Largest ever** survey in Iraq with **36,000** households interviewed.
- Only **second** survey in Iraq to collect data at a District level .
- All MICS fieldworkers were Government of Iraq and Kurdistan Region staff. **817** surveyors and supervisors collected data in Iraq's **118** districts
- Over 55,000 women in their reproductive age (15-49 years) were interviewed
- Data was collected in 2011



Comparison & Trends

MICS 2006 – MICS 2011

Progress

- **Good Progress in:**
 - Birth Registration (99%)
 - Gender parity in Primary School (0.94)
 - Registration and Attendance at Primary School (90%)
- **Slight Progress in:**
 - Under 5 Child Mortality (very high mortality in 1st month and year of life)
 - Immunization coverage (measles insufficient)
 - Child labour



Comparison & Trends

MICS 2006 – MICS 2011

Stalling and Regress:

Stalling in:

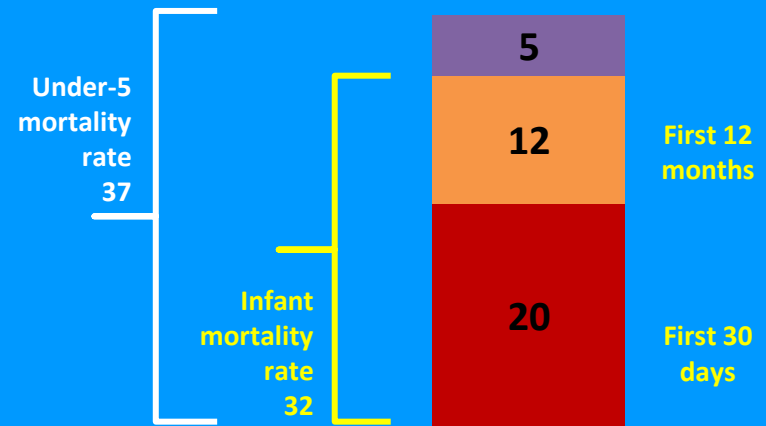
- Under-nutrition
- Low weight rate at birth
- Primary School completion on time
- Iodized salt consumption
- Attitude towards domestic violence and violent discipline

Regression in:

- Breastfeeding
- Treatment of Diarrhoea
- Treatment of Pneumonia
- Early Marriage



Child Mortality



37 Under-5 children die out of every 1000 live births

32 of those die before reaching her/his 1st birthday

Around 35.000 infants die every year

(based on the estimate of 1.1million births/year. MoP)



Breastfeeding

Only **3 in 10** children are exclusively breastfed in the first month of life

But

Only **1 in 10** children are exclusively breastfed after three months of life



Nutrition

1 in 4 children experience stunted growth

(the irreversible outcome of chronic under-nutrition in the first years of life)

7% of children under 5 experience severe malnutrition (wasting)





Immunization

Only **5 out of 10** children aged 18-29 months receive all recommended immunizations at the correct time



Child Health

Acute Respiratory Infections and Diarrhoea remain the two biggest killer diseases of children in Iraq

3 out of 4 children with diarrhoea are not treated correctly

(Oral Rehydration Treatment with continued feeding)

1 in 3 children with suspected Pneumonia is not treated correctly

(antibiotics)



Primary Education

Around **9 out of 10** children enrol in and attend primary school

But

Only 4 of them complete primary school on time

(net primary completion rate)

Every year **450,000** primary school age children either do not complete primary school on time or drop out of school



Secondary Education

Out of every **10** secondary school age children:

5 are in secondary school

1 is in primary school

4 have dropped out of school

The majority of children who drop out before reaching secondary school are girls

3 out of 10 young women aged 15-24 are illiterate

Safe Water

4 in 5 Iraqis have access to the drinking water network

But

2 in 5 households do not have chlorinated drinking water

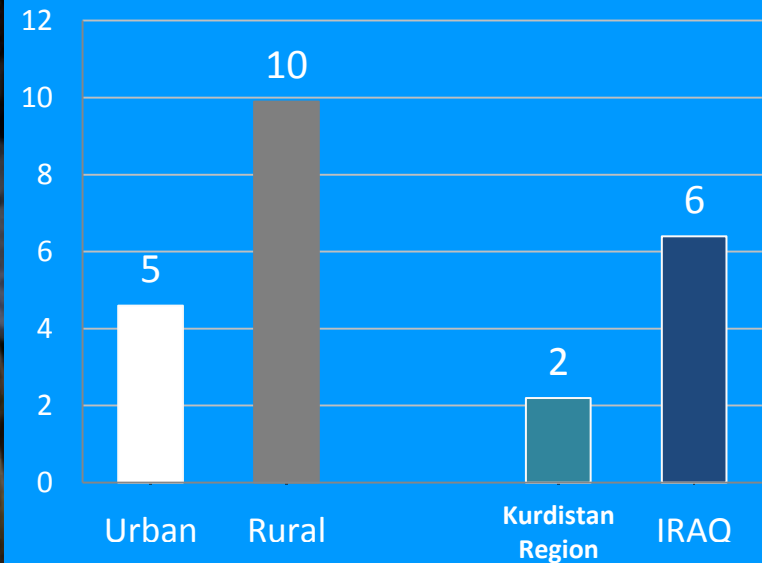




Child Protection

Child Labour

500,000 children between the ages 5-14 are involved in child labour, most of them are in rural areas





Child Protection

Violence against Children

80% of (9.6 million) children aged 2-14 experience violent discipline methods (i.e. slapping, hitting, etc.)

1 in 3 of them **(3.3 million)** are subjected to severe violent discipline methods (i.e. burning, biting, etc.)



Child Protection

Early Marriage

1 in 5 young women
(21%) between 15-19
is currently married



Child Protection

Orphans

Around **800.000** children in Iraq have lost one or both parents



Child Protection

Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C)

(Female Circumcision)

**1 in 2 young girls
(15-24) has
experienced FGM/C
when they were
younger in Erbil and
Sulaymaniyah
governorates
(Kurdistan Region)**



Unite for an Iraq Fit for Children

