



<b>Abbreviated name</b>	Births attended by skilled health personnel
<b>Indicator name</b>	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)
<b>Domain</b>	Service coverage
<b>Subdomain</b>	Reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health
<b>Associated terms</b>	Reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent
<b>Definition</b>	Percentage of live births attended by skilled health personnel during a specified time period.
<b>Numerator</b>	Number of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives) trained in providing life-saving obstetric care, including giving the necessary supervision, care and advice to women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own, and to care for newborns.
<b>Denominator</b>	The total number of live births in the same period.
<b>Disaggregation/ additional dimension</b>	Age, parity, place of residence, socioeconomic status, type of provider <i>Also: Institutional delivery coverage (women giving birth in a health institution) among all births in the population</i>
<b>Method of measurement</b>	<p>Definition of skilled birth attendant varies between countries. The percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel is calculated as the number of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives) expressed as a percentage of the total number of births in the same period.</p> <p>Births attended by skilled health personnel = (number of births attended by skilled health personnel)/(total number of live births) x 100.</p> <p>In household surveys, such as DHS, MICS and RHS, the respondent is asked about each live birth and who helped during delivery for a period up to five years before the interview.</p> <p>Service/facility records could be used where a high proportion of births occur in health facilities and are therefore recorded.</p>
<b>Method of estimation</b>	<p>Data for global monitoring are reported by UNICEF and WHO. These agencies obtain the data – both survey and registry data – from national sources. Before data can be included in the global databases, UNICEF and WHO undertake a process of data verification that includes correspondence with field offices to clarify any questions.</p> <p>In terms of survey data, some survey reports may present a total percentage of births attended by a type of provider that does not conform to the MDG definition (e.g. total includes providers who are not considered skilled, such as community health workers). In this case, the percentage delivered by a physician, nurse or midwife are totalled and entered into the global database as the MDG estimate.</p> <p>Predominant type of statistics: adjusted.</p>
<b>Measurement frequency</b>	Biennial
<b>Monitoring and evaluation framework</b>	Outcome
<b>Preferred data sources</b>	Household surveys
<b>Other possible data sources</b>	Routine facility information systems
<b>Further information and related links</b>	<p>Countdown to 2015 decade report (2000–2010): taking stock of maternal, newborn and child survival. Geneva and New York (NY): World Health Organization/United Nations Children's Fund; 2010 (<a href="http://www.countdown2015mnch.org/reports-and-articles/previous-reports/2010-decade-report">http://www.countdown2015mnch.org/reports-and-articles/previous-reports/2010-decade-report</a>, accessed 29 March 2014).</p> <p>Countdown to 2015. Monitoring maternal, newborn and child health: understanding key progress indicators. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2011 (<a href="http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44770/1/9789241502818_eng.pdf">http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44770/1/9789241502818_eng.pdf</a>, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Every newborn: an action plan to end preventable deaths. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2014 (<a href="http://www.everynewborn.org/Documents/Full-action-plan-EN.pdf">http://www.everynewborn.org/Documents/Full-action-plan-EN.pdf</a>, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Framework of actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014. Report of the Secretary-General. New York (NY): United Nations; 2014 (<a href="https://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/ICPD/Framework%20of%20action%20for%20the%20follow-up%20to%20the%20PoA%20of%20the%20ICPD.pdf">https://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/ICPD/Framework%20of%20action%20for%20the%20follow-up%20to%20the%20PoA%20of%20the%20ICPD.pdf</a>, accessed 19 August 2014).</p> <p>Indicators for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals: definitions, rationale, concepts and sources. New York (NY): United Nations; 2012 (<a href="http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mi/wiki/MainPage.aspx">http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mi/wiki/MainPage.aspx</a>, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Keeping promises, measuring results. Commission on information and accountability for Women's and Children's Health. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2011 (<a href="http://www.who.int/topics/millennium_development_goals/accountability_commission/Commission_Report_advance_copy.pdf">http://www.who.int/topics/millennium_development_goals/accountability_commission/Commission_Report_advance_copy.pdf</a>, accessed 29 March 2015).</p>