

PREFACE

The Regional Core Health Data Initiative is a collective effort of the States of the Americas and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) through its representative offices, divisions, and technical programs, coordinated by the Special Program for Health Analysis (SHA). It aims to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat and the Member States to collect, validate and systematically analyze health information.

The initiative was launched in 1995 to monitor the progress towards achieving overall goals in health set by the Member States and PAHO. The Regional Core Health Data Base is the source of the Basic Indicators brochure, which has been published annually. The use of basic indicators facilitates various analyses of trends and the health situation in the Region. This aspect of the initiative has been replicated in at least 22 countries of the Americas.

The Regional Core Health Data Initiative consists of five components:

- **Basic Indicators Brochure "Health Situation in the Americas: Basic Indicators"**

An annual publication presenting a set of 58 indicators per country and 38 additional indicators aggregated by 10 subregions.

- **Web-Based Table Generator System**

A Web-based database consisting of 107 indicators in five categories: demographic, socioeconomic, mortality, morbidity and access, resources, and health services coverage. Various indicators are disaggregated by age group, rural/urban, and sex (for gender analysis), forming a total of 209 indicators of 48 countries and territories from 1990 until 2000. <http://www.paho.org/English/SHA/coredata/tabulator/newTabulator.htm>

- **Indicators Glossary**

A document including the definition of all indicators presented in the Table Generator System.

<http://www.paho.org/English/SHA/glossary.htm>

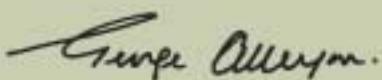
- **Country Health Profiles on the Web**

A health analysis using a set of selected basic indicators and a concise summary of the health situation in each country. <http://www.paho.org/English/SHA/profiles.htm>

- **Geographic Information System (in development)**

Offering information based on geographically referenced information from the Core Health Data Initiative.

The selection of the basic indicators is part of an ongoing consultative process within the institution. The term "basic" refers to their essential nature for characterizing the health situation, which is of strategic importance for health planning at the country level and to assist the Organization in identifying priorities in health, including setting priorities for technical cooperation. The data sources are in the public domain and have been carefully selected, emphasizing the principle of comparability. The information presented has been collected and prepared by the staff of PAHO regional programs and PAHO/WHO country offices, using the information provided directly by the national health authorities to PAHO, as well as that reported by other specialized international agencies.



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Director

TECHNICAL NOTES & SOURCES

Technical notes:

(additional details in quoted data sources)

- demographic indicators: BI 1 values are United Nations estimates; the remaining indicators (BI 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10T, 10M and 10F) consist of mid-year values obtained by linear interpolation of the corresponding fertility medium-variant quinquennial projection.
- total fertility rate (BI 7) shows the average expected number of children born alive to a woman during her reproductive years, according to prevailing fertility rates for each age group.
- dependency ratio (BI 9) shows the average number of theoretically dependent persons (children under 15 years and persons older than 64 years) per 100 theoretically productive persons (between 15 and 64 years of age).
- population with drinking water supply services (BI 13T, 13U, 13R) and with sewerage and excreta disposal services (BI 14T, 14U, 14R) refers to house connection, public network and easy access facilities.
- Gross National Income, GNI, (BI 15A, 15B) is the new system of the National Accounts, which is similar to the formerly published Gross National Product, GNP. GNI is according to the World Bank Atlas method (BI 15A); the ppp value (BI 15B) is the GNI value adjusted by purchasing power parity, which is expressed in international dollars.
- basic indicator of population in poverty (BI 17) refers to the international poverty line method.
- highest 20%/lowest 20% income ratio (BI 18) shows how many times the income of the highest income quintile is with regard to the income of the lowest income quintile. This indicator refers to the income distribution of urban households.
- proportion of under-5 registered deaths due to ADD and to ARI (BI 22 and 23) uses the total number of registered deaths from defined causes in that age group as the denominator.
- estimated mortality rates (BI 29Te, 29Me, 29Fe, 30Te, 30Me, 30Fe, 31Te, 31Me, 31Fe, 32Te, 32Me, 32Fe, 33Te, 33Me and 33Fe) were computed based on registered mortality data, applying a correction algorithm for mortality underregistration and a redistribution algorithm for deaths from ill-defined causes. The methodology used is presented in *Health Statistics from the Americas, 1992 edition* (PAHO/WHO, Scientific Publication N° 542). These rates represent the average quinquennial figure, obtained using mortality data from at least two years within the same quinquennium.
- age-adjusted mortality rates (BI 29Ta, 29Ma, 29Fa, 30Ta, 30Ma, 30Fa, 31Ta, 31Ma, 31Fa, 32Ta, 32Ma, 32Fa, 33Ta, 33Ma and 33Fa) were computed using estimated age-specific mortality rates to remove the effect of age distribution differences and to make them comparable, applying the United Nations standard population (2,400 under 1 year; 9,600

- from 1 to 4 years; 19,000 from 5 to 14 years; 43,000 from 15 to 44 years; 19,000 from 45 to 64 years; and 7,000 older than 64 years) (WHO. *World Health Statistics Annual*; Geneva, 1994). Total rates are both age- and sex-adjusted.
- malaria risk areas population (BI 39) shows the proportion of the total population in a country living in high and moderate malaria transmission risk areas.
- Annual Parasite Index, API, (BI 40) expresses the number of confirmed malaria cases per 1,000 people living in high and moderate malaria transmission risk areas.
- male:female ratio of AIDS cases (BI 44) gives the number of male cases for each female case.
- subregional aggregated indicators express average values weighted by population size, using the available national figures.

Main data sources:

1. Technical reports from PAHO/WHO Country Representatives; Region of the Americas; 2002 (BI 13-14, 19-20, 24-27, 45-49, 52-53).
2. Technical reports from PAHO/WHO Regional Programs; 2002 (BI 13-14, 34-51, 54-58).
3. United Nations. *World Population Prospects: The 2000 Revision*. New York; 2001 (BI 1-7, 9, 10T, 10M, 10F, 20, 21).
4. United Nations. *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2001 Revision*. New York; 2001 (BI 6, 8).
5. U.S. Bureau of the Census. *International Data Base, 2002* (BI 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10T, 10M, 10F for countries with a population of under 150,000). Accessed May 2002 at:
<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbacc.html>
6. United Nations. UNESCO-Institute for Statistics (UIS). *Literacy and Non Formal Education Sector, 2002* (BI 11T, 11M, 11F). Accessed June 2002 at:
<http://www UIS.unesco.org/en/stats/stats0.htm>
7. United Nations. *FAO's Food Balance Sheet*. FAOSTAT Statistical Database. Rome; 2002 (BI 12). Accessed July 2002 at: <http://apps.fao.org>
8. WHO/PAHO. *Global Assessment of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Services 2000* (BI 13-14). United Nations.
9. The World Bank. *2002 World Development Indicators*. Washington DC; 2002 (BI 15A, 15B, 16, 18).
10. The World Bank. *2001 World Development Indicators*. Washington DC; 2001 (BI 15A, 15B).
11. The World Bank. *2000 World Development Indicators*. Washington DC; 2000 (BI 15A).
12. Inter American Development Bank. *Economic and Social Progress in Latin America; 1998-1999 Report*. Washington DC; 1999 (BI 18).
13. United Nations. *UNDP Human Development Report 2001*. New York; 2001 (BI 17, 58). Accessed May 2002 at: <http://www.undp.org/hdr2001>

14. United Nations. *UNDP Human Development Report 1999*. New York; 1999 (BI 18, 58).
15. PAHO. Technical Information System: Regional Mortality Database. SHA; Washington DC; 2002 (BI 22-33).
16. U.S. Bureau of the Census. *Statistical Abstract of the United States 1998* (118th ed). Washington DC; 1998 (BI 54-57 for the U.S.).

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Symbols and Abbreviations:

-	magnitude zero
0	magnitude lesser than half the measurement unit
...	data not available
c	circa
pop	population
lb	live births
lay	latest available year
ppp	purchasing power parity
GDP	gross domestic product
GNI	gross national income
ADD	acute diarrheal diseases (ICD-9 cod. 007-009)
ARI	acute respiratory infections (ICD-9 cod. 460-466; 480-487)
BK+	bacillus Koch positive (tuberculosis)
API	annual parasite index
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
DPT3	diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, third dose
OPV3	oral polio vaccine, third dose
BCG	anti-tuberculosis vaccine (bacille Calmette-Guerin)
BI	Basic Indicator

All the information presented in this publication supersedes that of previous editions and is under ongoing review. Users are advised not to compare data series between different editions.

Core Health Data and Country Profiles information are also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.paho.org>

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SELECTED BASIC INDICATORS BY S

Population

	total population (thousands)		annual population growth rate (%)		urban population (%)		crude birth rate (1,000 pop)		annual births average (thousands)		crude death rate (1,000 pop)		annual deaths average (thousands)		total fertility rate (child/woman)		infant mortality rate (1,000 lb)		life expectancy at birth (years)	
	1980	2000	1980-85	1995-00	1980	2000	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00	1980-85	1995-00
The Americas	616,250	832,765	1.6	1.4	68.6	76.0	24.1	19.8	15,602	15,889	8.1	7.2	5,214	5,805	3.0	2.5	37.8	25.0	68.8	72.1
North America ^a	254,983	314,057	1.0	1.0	73.9	77.2	15.6	14.2	4,088	4,354	8.5	8.4	2,214	2,570	1.8	2.0	11.2	7.4	74.6	76.1
Latin America & the Caribbean	361,267	518,708	2.1	1.6	64.9	75.3	30.0	23.1	11,514	11,535	7.8	6.4	3,000	3,235	3.8	2.7	56.6	35.7	64.8	69.1
Latin America	354,952	511,154	2.1	1.6	65.1	75.6	30.2	23.2	11,342	11,390	7.9	6.4	2,953	3,187	3.9	2.7	57.2	35.9	65.1	69.1
Mexico	67,562	98,872	2.2	1.6	66.3	74.4	31.9	24.6	2,283	2,338	6.4	5.1	457	481	4.2	2.8	47.0	31.0	67.5	72.1
Central American Isthmus ^b	22,271	36,257	2.4	2.5	41.7	48.3	38.7	31.7	917	1,082	9.3	6.2	221	211	5.3	3.9	68.1	36.9	60.9	68.1
Latin Caribbean ^c	24,056	31,629	1.6	1.1	53.8	63.4	27.2	21.3	682	654	9.0	8.5	225	263	3.4	2.6	70.1	41.0	64.3	66.1
Brazil	121,616	170,406	2.1	1.3	66.2	81.3	29.5	20.3	3,789	3,348	8.3	7.1	1,072	1,163	3.6	2.3	65.3	42.1	63.1	67.1
Andean Area ^d	74,178	112,911	2.3	1.9	64.1	75.0	32.3	25.4	2,546	2,742	7.6	6.0	601	643	4.2	3.0	61.0	36.6	64.5	69.1
Southern Cone ^e	45,269	61,079	1.6	1.4	79.8	85.3	23.9	20.8	1,125	1,226	8.0	7.2	377	426	3.1	2.7	32.2	21.7	70.1	73.1
Non-Latin Caribbean ^f	6,315	7,554	1.2	0.8	49.0	58.9	26.3	19.5	172	145	7.2	6.5	47	48	3.2	2.3	36.9	25.3	68.1	71.1

Mortality

cause of death -main group- specific, estimated mortality (age- and sex-adjusted rates per 100,000 pop)

	all causes				communicable diseases				malignant neoplasms				diseases of the circulatory system				external causes			
	male		female		male		female		male		female		male		female		male		female	
	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95	1980-85	1990-95
The Americas	941	845	655	596	112	67	89	51	150	142	113	109	349	284	260	220	119	110	34	30
North America ^a	783	692	498	475	29	31	20	25	176	169	119	120	352	260	234	193	87	74	30	26
Latin America & The Caribbean	1,058	939	771	670	181	94	146	70	130	122	108	101	347	301	282	240	145	136	37	33
Latin America	1,065	940	776	670	182	94	146	70	130	123	108	101	347	301	281	240	145	136	37	33
Mexico	1,006	818	730	596	179	93	146	75	79	82	87	79	205	178	189	160	187	131	41	30
Central American Isthmus ^b	1,273	963	950	732	325	104	291	85	86	82	101	95	214	209	191	197	260	160	45	38
Latin Caribbean ^c	794	955	613	767	89	56	72	42	121	128	93	89	286	255	244	206	90	99	36	44
Brazil	1,253	1,050	904	697	181	110	139	77	155	143	117	106	473	388	380	299	137	142	36	32
Andean Area ^d	1,036	912	808	703	274	85	232	70	117	111	115	112	256	275	218	240	124	168	34	39
Southern Cone ^e	948	856	612	569	73	66	52	47	174	159	118	111	383	326	264	225	95	88	30	28
Non-Latin Caribbean ^f	432	819	321	666	77	57	54	46	113	109	99	98	388	306	313	280	94	78	29	27

(a) Bermuda, Canada, United States of America; (b) Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama; (c) Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Puerto Rico; (d) Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela; (e) Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay; (f) Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, The Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines.

HEALTH SITUATION IN THE AMERICAS

BASIC INDICATORS 2002

Special Program for Health Analysis



Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization