Child Survival and its Determinants

1. General Profile

2. Under-five mortality (U5M), 1965-2015

2.1 U5M (per 1000 live births)

U5M trends in Elgeyo-Marakwet, relative to the national mean, NOREB mean and progress in meeting global U5M reduction targets set during World Summit for Children (WSC), the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.2.

2.2 Trends in U5M and progress towards achieving global targets

Mean U5M per 1000 live births in Elgeyo-Marakwet and NOREB every 10 years between 1965 and 2013.


3.1 Child Factors


Coverage of breast feeding indicators, and the percentage change between 1993 and 2014. Green indicates an improvement and red a decline. The darker the green the greater the improvement.


Coverage of malnutrition indicators, and the percentage change between 1993 and 2014. Red indicates deterioration in the indicator and green an improvement.
3.2 Maternal factors

- Maternal literacy: 80.6% in 1993 and 92.3% in 2014.
- Birth interval: 75.6% in 1993 and 79.9% in 2014.
- Low parity: 59.1% in 1993 and 68.3% in 2014.
- Maternal education: 43.5% in 1993 and 92.8% in 2014.
- Female-headed household: 24.1% in 1993 and 32.0% in 2014.
- Contraceptive: 8.7% in 1993 and 27.8% in 2014.

Note: Birth interval - the proportion of children with a preceding or succeeding birth interval > 24 months.
Low parity - the proportion of women aged <30 years with less than 3 or aged >29 years with less than 5 children.
Maternal education - the proportion of mothers (15-49 years) who had greater than primary education at the time of the survey.

3.3 Health Care Utilization

- Antenatal care (ANC): 97.2% in 1993 and 96.7% in 2014.
- 73.5% Fever/Cough treatment.
- 97.9% Health facility delivery.
- 98.0% Skilled birth attendance.
- 44.3% Child-ITN treatment.

3.4 Household factors

- Improved & Intermediate Sanitation: 48.2% in 1993 and 60.5% in 2014.
- Improved Sanitation: 34.7% in 1993 and 41.8% in 2014.
- Improved & Intermediate Water: 34.8% in 1993 and 41.8% in 2014.
- Least Poor Households: 60.2% in 1993 and 58.0% in 2014.

Note: Improved sanitation - proportion of households who have access to flush toilet facilities.
Improved and intermediate sanitation have access to any form of a toilet facility.
Improved water is the proportion of households who have access to piped water for drinking.
Improved and intermediate have access to either piped or boreholes/wells water for drinking.
Least poor households - proportion of households considered not poor comprising of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quintiles of the wealth index.

3.6 Infections

3.6.1 Malaria Prevalence
Malaria prevalence in Elgeyo-Marakwet and other NOREB counties.

- 1993: 31.7%
- 2003: 27.0%
- 2014: 20.7%

3.6.2 HIV Prevalence

- 1993: 9.15%
- 2003: 7.09%
- 2014: 2.82%

Key Messages
- As early as the mid-70s and 80s, Elgeyo-Marakwet had achieved U5M reduction rates of up to 30%, increasing further to 35% between 1995 and 2004. As a result, by 2014, Elgeyo-Marakwet had the lowest U5M (32.35 per 1000 live births) in NOREB and the country.
- It was not until after 2003 that a significant reduction in Malaria prevalence was observed. On the other hand, HIV prevalence declined steadily from 1997. The reduction in Malaria prevalence could reflect significant improvements in the usage of treated bed nets, though it was much lower than in most counties in the region.
- Maternal literacy and education significantly improved and were among the region’s highest, which could have positively impacted contraceptive usage alongside prolongation for longer birth intervals and low parity.
- Except for the proportion of children breastfed continually after six months and low birth weight, breastfeeding practices and nutritional status improved.
- Elgeyo-Marakwet had the highest proportion of health facility deliveries and deliveries attended to by skilled birth attendants. However, notably, the proportion of women receiving at least four antenatal care dropped by 2014 and had the least coverage out of all the health care services.
- Vaccination coverage significantly improved between 2003 and 2014 and was among the region’s highest even though slightly lower than the 1993 coverage.
- In addition to an increase in households classified as least poor, access to sanitation and clean water had substantial improvements.

Factors that were either not monitored or had not been rolled out by 1993 (IPTp1, IPTp2, Iron Supplements, Vitamin A-mothers, Vitamin A-children, Antimalarial and Child-ITN).

Note: TT2-Two doses of tetanus toxoid Injection
IPTp-Intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy
ORS - Oral rehydration salts use
DPT3 - 3rd dose of diphtheria-tetanus–pertussis vaccine
Polio3 – 3rd dose of polo vaccine
Child-ITN - Insecticide treated bed nets use by children