



# Oman

## Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014

### Key Findings



*September, 2015*

## Table of Contents

OMAN MICS AT A GLANCE.....	1
CHILD MORTALITY .....	2
NUTRITION .....	3
CHILD HEALTH .....	5
WATER AND SANITATION .....	6
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH .....	7
CHILD DEVELOPMENT .....	9
LITERACY AND EDUCATION .....	10
CHILD PROTECTION .....	11
HIV/AIDS.....	12
ACCESS TO MASS MEDIA AND ICT .....	13
SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING .....	13
SMOKING .....	13

The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2014 by National Centre for Statistics and Information in collaboration with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), as part of the global MICS programme. Additionally, technical support was provided by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

The global MICS programme was developed by UNICEF in the 1990s as an international household survey programme to collect internationally comparable data on a wide range of indicators on the situation of children and women. MICS surveys measure key indicators that allow countries to generate data for use in policies and programmes, and to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed upon commitments.

The objective of this report is to facilitate the timely dissemination and use of results from the MICS prior to the release of full tables and the final survey report that will contain detailed information on all survey findings by various demographic, social, economic and cultural characteristics. The final survey report is expected to be released in October 2015.

The report does not include results concerning the following topics: Child mortality, Female Genital Mutilation and Child labour. NCSI is confident that child mortality is under estimated in MICS compared to the recent administrative records. Two others subjects are also excluded from the report as the concepts were not clear enough for the respondents. Both of the topics were included in the Oman MICS for the first time and their sensitivity was one of the major obstacles to obtain reliable information. Results presented in this report are not expected to change and are considered final. For more information on indicators and the analysis conducted in the full final report please go to [mics.unicef.org](http://mics.unicef.org) and [childinfo.org](http://childinfo.org).

Suggested citation:

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## OMAN MICS AT A GLANCE

Survey implementation			
<b>Sample frame</b> Updated	Oman census 2010 December 2013	<b>Interviewer training</b>	January 2014
<b>Questionnaires</b>	Household Women (age 15-49) Children under five	<b>Fieldwork</b>	February-March 2014
		<b>Method of Interview</b>	Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) using Tablet PCs
<b>Survey sample</b>			
Households		Children under five	
- Sampled	6356	- Eligible	4717
- Occupied	6016	- Mothers/caretakers interviewed	4616
- Interviewed	5941	- Response rate (Per cent)	97.9
- Response rate (Per cent)	98.8		
Women			
- Eligible for interviews	10977		
- Interviewed	10659		
- Response rate (Per cent)	97.1		

Survey population			
Average household size	6.7	<b>Percentage of population living in</b>	
<b>Percentage of population under:</b>		- Urban areas	75.2
- Age 5	12.0	- Rural areas	24.8
- Age 18	37.8		
Percentage of women age 15-49 years with at least one live birth in the last 2 years			
- Percentage	18.1		

Housing	
<b>Percentage of households with</b>	
- Finished floor	99.0
- Finished roofing	99.1
- Finished walls	99.0
Mean number of persons per room used for sleeping	2.5

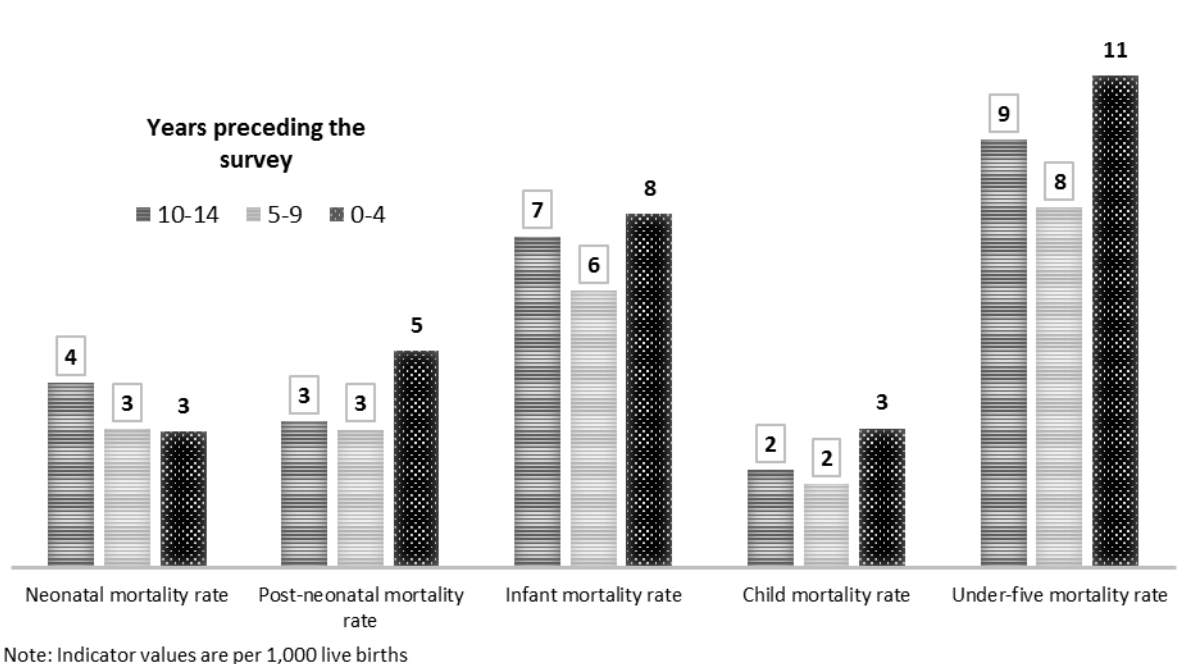
Household	
<b>Percentage of households that own</b>	
- A refrigerator	97.1
- Computer	66.9
- Agricultural land	16.6
- Farm animals/livestock	28.2
<b>Percentage of households where at least a member has or owns a</b>	
- Mobile phone	99.1
- Car or truck	81.9

# CHILD MORTALITY

Nutritional status			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value*
1.1	Neonatal mortality rate	Probability of dying within the first month of life	3
1.2	<b>MDG 4.2</b> Infant mortality rate	Probability of dying between birth and the first birthday	8
1.3	Post-neonatal mortality rate	Difference between infant and neonatal mortality rates	5
1.4	Child mortality rate	Probability of dying between the first and the fifth birthdays	3
1.5	<b>MDG 4.1</b> Under-five mortality rate	Probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday	11

\* Indicator values are per 1,000 live births and refer to the five-year period before the survey

**Figure 1: Early childhood mortality rates, Oman MICS, 2014**

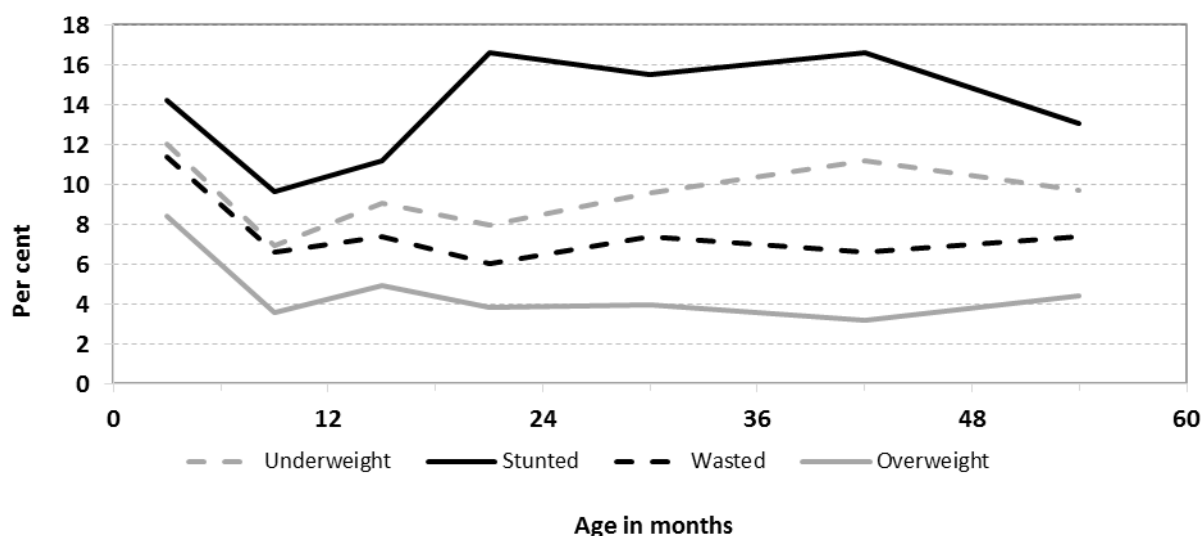


# NUTRITION

## Nutritional status

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.1a	<b>MDG 1.8</b> Underweight prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe)	9.7
2.1b		(b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median weight for age of the WHO standard	2.4
2.2a	Stunting prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe)	14.1
2.2b		(b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median height for age of the WHO standard	4.9
2.3a	Wasting prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe)	7.5
2.3b		(b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median weight for height of the WHO standard	2.4
2.4	Overweight prevalence	Percentage of children under age 5 who are above two standard deviations of the median weight for height of the WHO standard	4.4

**Figure 2: Underweight, stunted, wasted and overweight children under age 5 (moderate and severe), Oman MICS, 2014**



## Breastfeeding and infant feeding

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.5	Children ever breastfed	Percentage of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who breastfed their last live-born child at any time	98.0
2.6	Early initiation of breastfeeding	Percentage of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who put their last newborn to the breast within one hour of birth	71.1
2.7	Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months	Percentage of infants under 6 months of age who are exclusively breastfed <sup>iii</sup>	32.8
2.8	Predominant breastfeeding under 6 months	Percentage of infants under 6 months of age who received breast milk as the predominant source of nourishment <sup>iv</sup> during the previous day	46.0
2.9	Continued breastfeeding at 1 year	Percentage of children age 12-15 months who received breast milk during the previous day	72.2
2.10	Continued breastfeeding at 2 years	Percentage of children age 20-23 months who received breast milk during the previous day	48.4
2.11	Median duration of breastfeeding	The age in months when 50 percent of children age 0-35 months did not receive breast milk during the previous day	20.7
2.12	Age-appropriate breastfeeding	Percentage of children age 0-23 months appropriately fed <sup>v</sup> during the previous day	58.1
2.13	Introduction of solid, semi-solid or soft foods	Percentage of infants age 6-8 months who received solid, semi-solid or soft foods during the previous day	89.5
2.14	Milk feeding frequency for non-breastfed children	Percentage of non-breastfed children age 6-23 months who received at least 2 milk feedings during the previous day	83.0
2.15	Minimum meal frequency	Percentage of children age 6-23 months who received solid, semi-solid and soft foods (plus milk feeds for non-breastfed children) the minimum number of times <sup>vi</sup> or more during the previous day	50.6
2.16	Minimum dietary diversity	Percentage of children age 6-23 months who received foods from 4 or more food groups <sup>vii</sup> during the previous day	67.2
2.17a	Minimum acceptable diet	(a) Percentage of breastfed children age 6-23 months who had at least the minimum dietary diversity and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day	29.1
2.17b		(b) Percentage of non-breastfed children age 6-23 months who received at least 2 milk feedings and had at least the minimum dietary diversity not including milk feeds and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day	50.7
2.18	Bottle feeding	Percentage of children age 0-23 months who were fed with a bottle during the previous day	50.7

## Salt iodization

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.19	Iodized salt consumption	Percentage of households with salt testing 15 parts per million or more of iodide/iodate	72.3

## Low-birth weight

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.20	Low-birth weight infants	Percentage of most recent live births in the last 2 years weighing below 2,500 grams at birth	21.9
2.21	Infants weighed at birth	Percentage of most recent live births in the last 2 years who were weighed at birth	99.5

## CHILD HEALTH

<b>Tetanus toxoid</b>			
<b>MICS Indicator</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
3.9	Neonatal tetanus protection	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were given at least two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine within the appropriate interval prior to the most recent birth	75.3

<b>Diarrhea</b>			
<b>MICS Indicator</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
-	Children with diarrhoea	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks	11.9
3.10	Care-seeking for diarrhoea	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	56.6
3.51	Diarrhoea treatment with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who received ORS	58.7
3.12	Diarrhoea treatment with oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and continued feeding	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who received ORT (ORS packet, pre-packaged ORS fluid, recommended homemade fluid or increased fluids) and continued feeding during the episode of diarrhoea	45.7

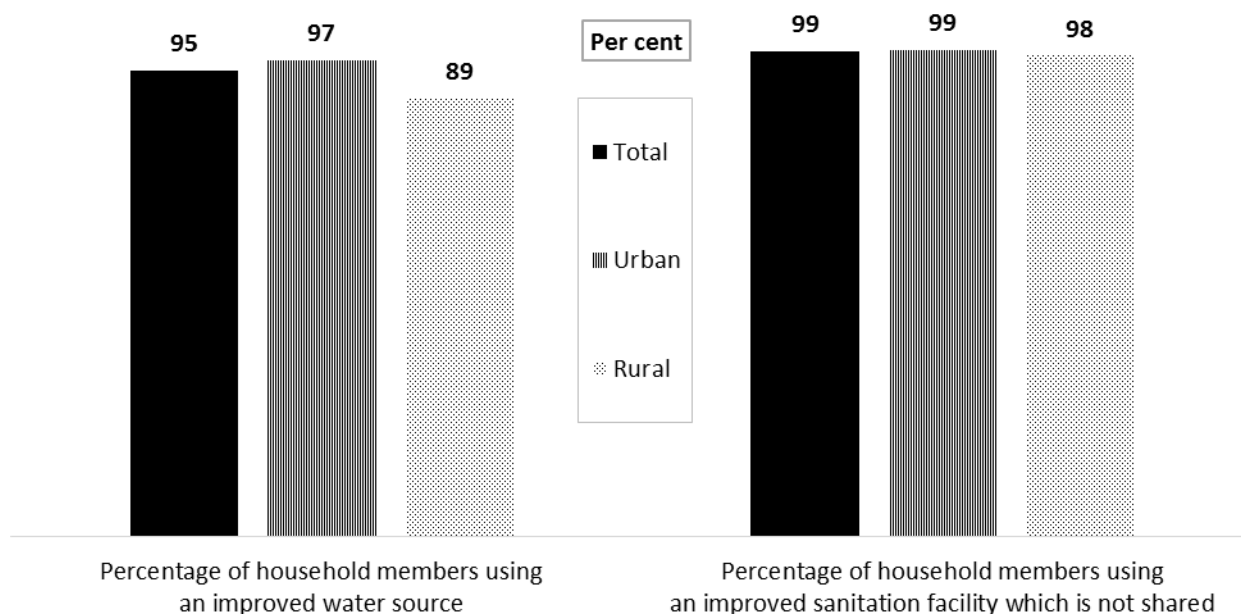
<b>Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) symptoms</b>			
<b>MICS Indicator</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
-	Children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks	5.3
3.13	Care-seeking for children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	56.3
3.14	Antibiotic treatment for children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks who received antibiotics	45.5

<b>Solid fuel use</b>			
<b>MICS Indicator</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
3.15	Use of solid fuels for cooking	Percentage of household members in households that use solid fuels as the primary source of domestic energy to cook	0.0

# WATER AND SANITATION

Water and sanitation				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description		Value
4.1	<b>MDG 7.8</b>	Use of improved drinking water sources	Percentage of household members using improved sources of drinking water	94.9
4.2		Water treatment	Percentage of household members in households using unimproved drinking water who use an appropriate treatment method	7.8
4.3	<b>MDG 7.9</b>	Use of improved sanitation	Percentage of household members using improved sanitation facilities which are not shared	99.0
4.4		Safe disposal of child's faeces	Percentage of children age 0-2 years whose last stools were disposed of safely	11.6

**Figure 3: Use of improved water and sanitation in urban and rural areas, Oman MICS, 2014**





## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

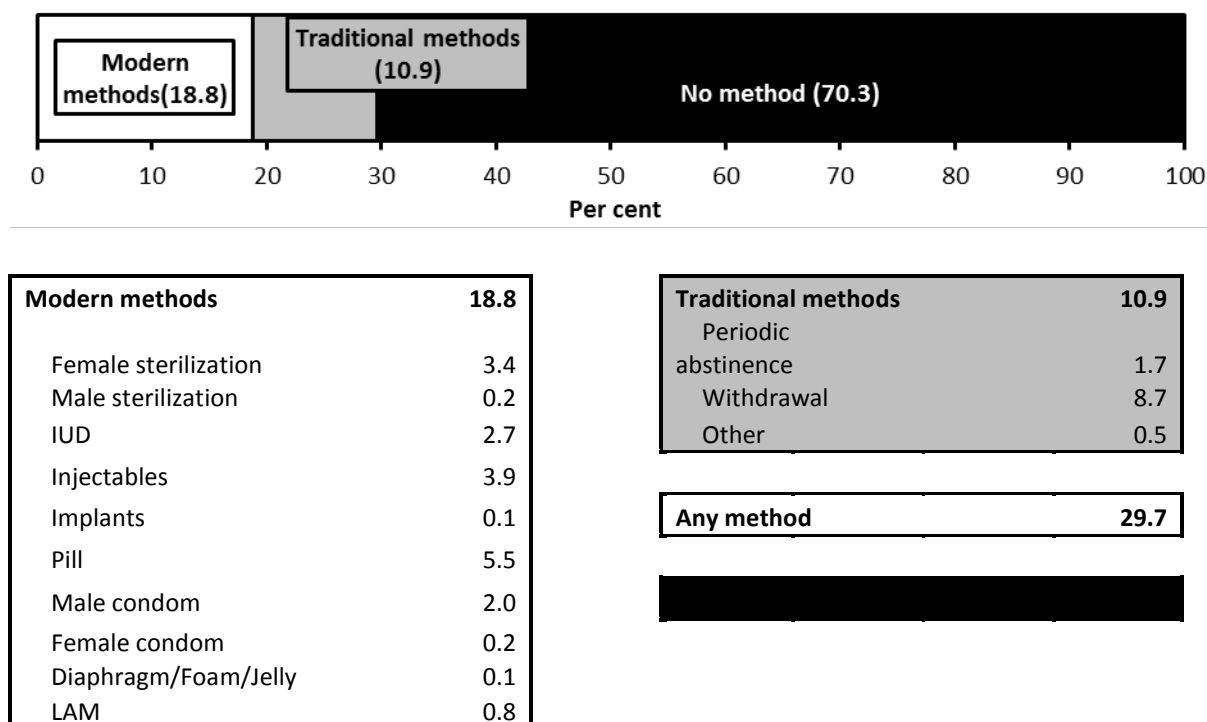
### Contraception and unmet need

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
-	Total fertility rate	Total fertility rate <sup>A</sup> for women age 15-49 years	2.9
5.1	<b>MDG 5.4</b> Adolescent birth rate	Age-specific fertility rate <sup>A</sup> for women age 15-19 years	11
5.2	Early childbearing	Percentage of women age 20-24 years who had at least one live birth before age 18	2.0
5.3	<b>MDG 5.3</b> Contraceptive prevalence rate	Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married who are using a (modern or traditional) contraceptive method	29.7
5.4	<b>MDG 5.6</b> Unmet need	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who are currently married who are fecund and want to space their births or limit the number of children they have and who are not currently using contraception	17.8

<sup>A</sup>The age-specific fertility rate is defined as the number of live births to women in a specific age group during a specified period, divided by the average number of women in that age group during the same period, expressed per 1,000 women. The age-specific fertility rate for women age 15-19 years is also termed as the adolescent birth rate.

The total fertility rate (TFR) is calculated by summing the age-specific fertility rates calculated for each of the 5-year age groups of women, from age 15 through to age 49. The TFR denotes the average number of children to which a woman will have given birth by the end of her reproductive years (by age 50) if current fertility rates prevailed.

**Figure 4: Use of contraception, Oman MICS, 2014**



## Maternal and newborn health

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
5.5a 5.5b	<b>MDG 5.5</b> <b>MDG 5.5</b>	Antenatal care coverage	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were attended during their last pregnancy that led to a live birth (a) at least once by skilled health personnel (b) at least four times by any provider	98.6 93.8
5.6	Content of antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who had their blood pressure measured and gave urine and blood samples during the last pregnancy that led to a live birth	97.6	
5.7	<b>MDG 5.2</b>	Skilled attendant at delivery	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were attended by skilled health personnel during their most recent live birth	99.1
5.8	Institutional deliveries	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years whose most recent live birth was delivered in a health facility	99.2	
5.9	Caesarean section	Percentage of women age 15-49 years whose most recent live birth in the last 2 years was delivered by caesarean section	19.4	

## Post-natal health checks

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
5.10	Post-partum stay in health facility	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who stayed in the health facility for 12 hours or more after the delivery of their most recent live birth in the last 2 years	96.4
5.11	Post-natal health check for the newborn	Percentage of last live births in the last 2 years who received a health check while in facility or at home following delivery, or a post-natal care visit within 2 days after delivery	98.3
5.12	Post-natal health check for the mother	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who received a health check while in facility or at home following delivery, or a post-natal care visit within 2 days after delivery of their most recent live birth in the last 2 years	94.9

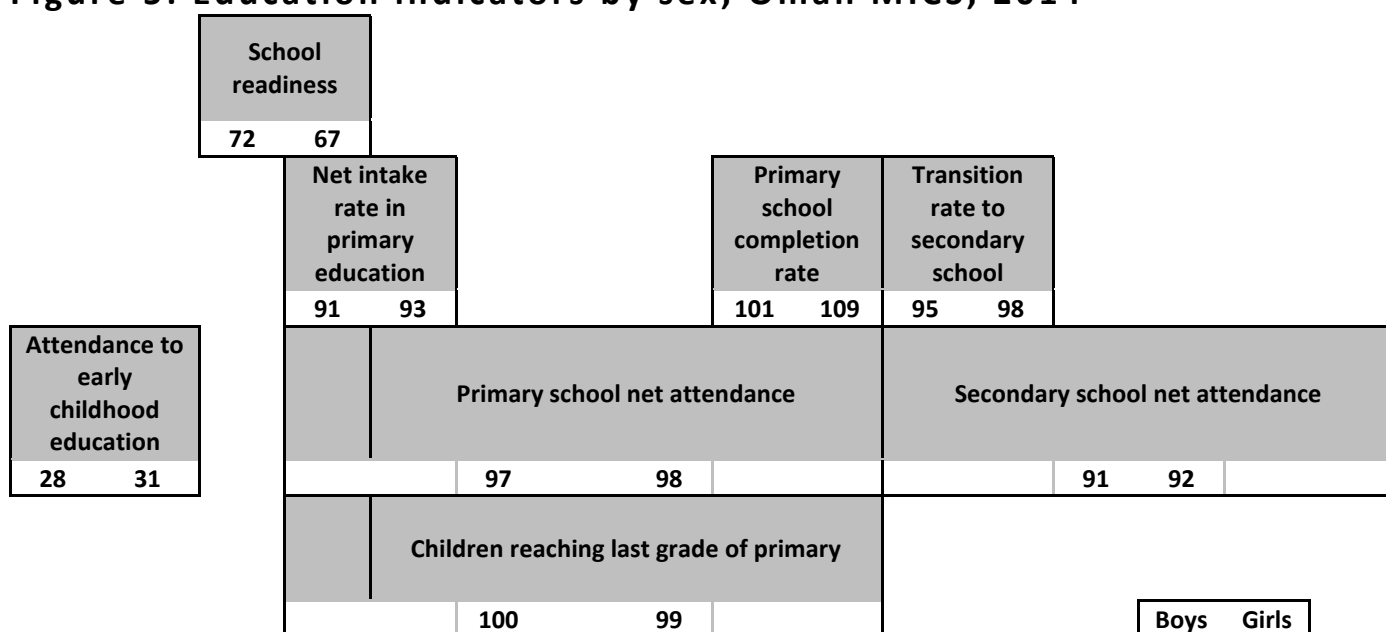
## CHILD DEVELOPMENT

<b>Child development</b>			
<b>MICS Indicator</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>
6.1	Attendance to early childhood education	Percentage of children age 36-59 months who are attending an early childhood education program	29.2
6.2	Support for learning	Percentage of children age 36-59 months with whom an adult has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days	80.7
6.3	Father's support for learning	Percentage of children age 36-59 months whose biological father has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days	22.3
6.4	Mother's support for learning	Percentage of children age 36-59 months whose biological mother has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days	54.6
6.5	Availability of children's books	Percentage of children under age 5 who have three or more children's books	24.9
6.6	Availability of playthings	Percentage of children under age 5 who play with two or more types of playthings	74.7
6.7	Inadequate care	Percentage of children under age 5 left alone or in the care of another child younger than 10 years of age for more than one hour at least once in the last week	44.7
6.8	Early child development index	Percentage of children age 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional, and learning	68.3

# LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Literacy and education <sup>viii</sup>				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
7.1	<b>MDG 2.3</b>	Literacy rate among young women	Percentage of young women age 15-24 years who are able to read a short simple statement about everyday life or who attended secondary or higher education	95.5
7.2		School readiness	Percentage of children in first grade of primary school who attended pre-school during the previous school year	69.5
7.3		Net intake rate in primary education	Percentage of children of school-entry age who enter the first grade of primary school	92.2
7.4	<b>MDG 2.1</b>	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	Percentage of children of primary school age currently attending primary or secondary school	97.5
7.5		Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	Percentage of children of secondary school age currently attending secondary school or higher	91.8
7.6	<b>MDG 2.2</b>	Children reaching last grade of primary	Percentage of children entering the first grade of primary school who eventually reach last grade	99.4
7.7		Primary completion rate	Number of children attending the last grade of primary school (excluding repeaters) divided by number of children of primary school completion age (age appropriate to final grade of primary school)	104.9
7.8		Transition rate to secondary school	Number of children attending the last grade of primary school during the previous school year who are in the first grade of secondary school during the current school year divided by number of children attending the last grade of primary school during the previous school year	96.5
7.9	<b>MDG 3.1</b>	Gender parity index (primary school)	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls divided by primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	1.01
7.10	<b>MDG 3.1</b>	Gender parity index (secondary school)	Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls divided by secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	0.99

Figure 5: Education indicators by sex, Oman MICS, 2014



Note: All indicator values are in per cent

## CHILD PROTECTION

### Early marriage and polygamy

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.4	Marriage before age 15	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who were first married before age 15	6.1
8.5	Marriage before age 18	Percentage of Women age 20-49 years who were first married before age 18	18.1
8.6	Young Women age 15-19 years currently married	Percentage of young Women age 15-19 years who are married	3.3
8.7	Polygyny	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who are in a polygynous marriage	4.5
8.8a 8.8b	Spousal age difference	Percentage of young women who are married and whose spouse is 10 or more years older, (a) among women age 15-19 years, (b) among women age 20-24 years	19.2 9.4

### Attitudes towards domestic violence

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.12	Attitudes towards domestic violence	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife in at least one of the following circumstances: (1) she goes out without telling him, (2) she neglects the children, (3) she argues with him, (4) she refuses sex with him, (5) she burns the food	7.9

### Children's living arrangements

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.13	Children's living arrangements	Percentage of children age 0-17 years living with neither biological parent	0.6
8.14	Prevalence of children with one or both parents dead	Percentage of children age 0-17 years with one or both biological parents dead	3.5
8.15	Children with at least one parent living abroad	Percentage of children 0-17 years with at least one biological parent living abroad	0.3

## HIV/AIDS

### HIV/AIDS knowledge and attitudes

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
-	Have heard of AIDS	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who have heard of AIDS	87.0
9.1 MDG 6.3	Knowledge about HIV prevention among young Women	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years who correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV <sup>ix</sup> , and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission <sup>x</sup>	7.9
9.2	Knowledge of mother-to-child transmission of HIV	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who correctly identify all three means <sup>xi</sup> of mother-to-child transmission of HIV	43.1
9.3	Accepting attitudes towards people living with HIV	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years expressing accepting attitudes on all four questions <sup>xii</sup> toward people living with HIV	7.0

### HIV testing

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
9.4	Women who know where to be tested for HIV	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who state knowledge of a place to be tested for HIV	41.6
9.5	Women who have been tested for HIV and know the results	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who have been tested for HIV in the last 12 months and who know their results	8.9
9.7	HIV counseling during antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last 2 years and received antenatal care during the pregnancy of their most recent birth, reporting that they received counseling on HIV during antenatal care	8.7
9.8	HIV testing during antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last 2 years and received antenatal care during the pregnancy of their most recent birth, reporting that they were offered and accepted an HIV test during antenatal care and received their results	14.8

### Orphans

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
9.16 MDG 6.4	Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans	Proportion attending school among children age 10-14 years who have lost both parents divided by proportion attending school among children age 10-14 years whose parents are alive and who are living with one or both parents	*

(\*) This value has been suppressed due to the number of unweighted cases being less than 25 for non-orphans.

## ACCESS TO MASS MEDIA AND ICT

### Access to mass media

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
10.1	Exposure to mass media	Percentage of Women age 15-49 years who, at least once a week, read a newspaper or magazine, listen to the radio, and watch television	21.6

### Use of information/communication technology

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
10.2	Use of computers	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years who used a computer during the last 12 months	73.2
10.3	Use of internet	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years who used the internet during the last 12 months	71.7

## SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING

### Subjective well-being

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
11.1	Life satisfaction	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years who are very or somewhat satisfied with their life, overall	97.7
11.2	Happiness	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years who are very or somewhat happy	98.1
11.3	Perception of a better life	Percentage of young Women age 15-24 years whose life improved during the last one year, and who expect that their life will be better after one year	89.1

## SMOKING

### Smoking

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
12.1	Prevalence of cigarette smoking	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who smoked cigarettes, or used smoked or smokeless tobacco products at any time during the last one month	0.3
12.2	Cigarette smoking before the age of 15 years	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who smoked a whole cigarette before age 15	0.3

## NOTES

<sup>i</sup> Weight and height/length measurements were successfully completed for 98.5 and 97.4 per cent of children under age 5, respectively

<sup>ii</sup> Weight and height/length measurements were successfully completed for 98.5 and 97.4 per cent of children under age 5, respectively

<sup>iii</sup> Infants receiving breast milk, and not receiving any other fluids or foods, with the exception of oral rehydration solution, vitamins, mineral supplements and medicines

<sup>iv</sup> Infants receiving breast milk and certain fluids (water and water-based drinks, fruit juice, ritual fluids, oral rehydration solution, drops, vitamins, minerals, and medicines), but do not receive anything else (in particular, non-human milk and food-based fluids)

<sup>v</sup> Infants age 0-5 months who are exclusively breastfed, and children age 6-23 months who are breastfed and ate solid, semi-solid or soft foods

<sup>vi</sup> Breastfeeding children: Solid, semi-solid, or soft foods, two times for infants age 6-8 months, and three times for children 9-23 months; Non-breastfeeding children: Solid, semi-solid, or soft foods, or milk feeds, four times for children age 6-23 months

<sup>vii</sup> The indicator is based on consumption of any amount of food from at least 4 out of the 7 following food groups: 1) grains, roots and tubers, 2) legumes and nuts, 3) dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese), 4) flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry and liver/organ meats), 5) eggs, 6) vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables, and 7) other fruits and vegetables

<sup>viii</sup> Education indicators, wherever applicable, are based on information on reported school attendance (at any time during the school year), as a proxy for enrolment.

<sup>ix</sup> Using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner

<sup>x</sup> The two most common misconceptions about HIV transmission are included in the indicator calculation: i) mosquito bites and ii) sharing food with someone with HIV

<sup>xi</sup> Transmission during pregnancy, during delivery, and by breastfeeding

<sup>xii</sup> People (1) who think that a female teacher who is HIV-positive and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching, (2) who would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who is HIV-positive, (3) who would not want to keep secret that a family member is HIV-positive, and (4) who would be willing to care for a family member with AIDS in own home