WHO-EM/PHC/174/E

World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Eastern Mediterranean

Bahrain: Health Systems Profile

Health status (2016)

Life expectancy at birth in years	*total*	77.2
	males	76.5
	females	78.1
Maternal mortality ratio per 100 000 live births	*total*	15

Communicable diseases (2016)

Tuberculosis notification rate per 100 000 (2014)	10.0
Incidence rate of malaria per 1 000 population	...
Number of newly reported HIV cases	57.0

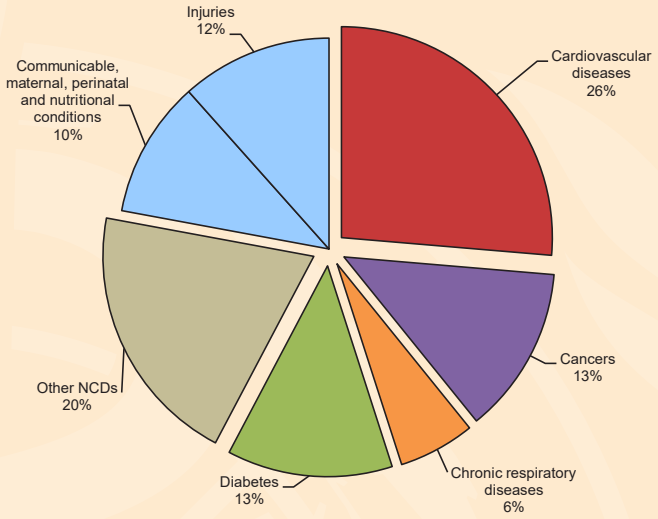
Behavioural risk factors

Estimated prevalence (%)	*males*	*females*	*total*
Current tobacco smoking (2015)*	31.5	4.2	21.9
Insufficient physical activity (2016)	...	...	...

Metabolic risk factors

Estimated prevalence (%)	*males*	*females*	*total*
Raised blood pressure (2015)	...	...	21.4
Raised blood glucose (2014)	...	...	11.5
Overweight (2016)	...	...	65.8
Obesity (2016)	...	...	29.8

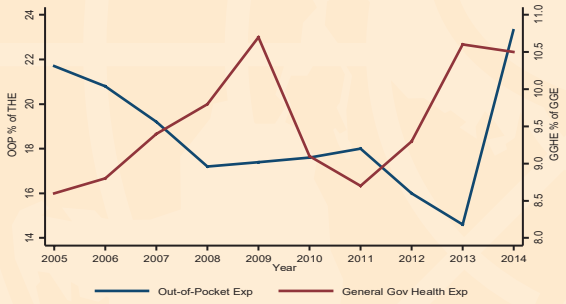
Proportional mortality (% of total deaths, all ages, both sexes)



Total deaths: 2,800
NCDs are estimated to account for 78% of total deaths.

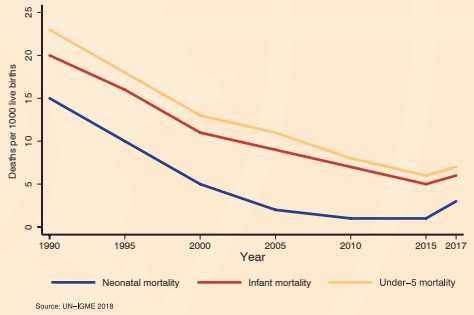
Expenditure and mortality trends

Health finance



*GGHE % GGE is the general government health expenditure as % of general government expenditure
**OOP % THE is the out-of-pocket expenditure as % of total health expenditure

Neonatal, infant and under 5 mortality rates per 1000 live births



Health system: selected coverage interventions

Antenatal care visits (4+ visits) (2013)	56.5
Measles immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (2016)	100.0
Treatment success rate of new bacteriologically confirmed TB cases (2017)	68.0
DTP3-containing vaccine / Pentavalent coverage group among children under 1 year of age group (2016)	97.0

Health system: finance (2014)

General government expenditure on health as % of general government expenditure	10.4
Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of total health expenditure	23.3
Per capita total health expenditure at exchange rate (US$)	1081

Health system: workforce (2017)

Health workforce per 10 000 population	
Physicians	22.6
Nurses/midwives	45.4
Dentists	3.7
Pharmacists	5.4

Health system: information (2007-2016)

Percentage of births registered	...
Percentage of deaths registered	96.0

Universal Health Coverage

UHC index (2017)	72.0

Health system: medicines and medical devices (2013)

Availability of selected essential medicines and medical products in health facilities (%)	public	100
	private	...
Number of scanners (in public facilities) per million population[a]	CT	2.3
	MRI	2.3

Health system: service delivery (infrastructure) (2017)

Primary health care facilities per 10 000 population	0.2
Hospital beds per 10 000 population	17.2

... No data available
[a] Computed tomography (CT) and Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
* Age-standradized estimated
Please note the data sources are in the attachment

Health System Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges, and Priorities - Bahrain 2018

Strengths

- Supportive leadership and a functioning supreme council of Health that stewards the health system.
- Documented accessibility and coverage for health at almost 100% of population
- Structured legal framework.
- Good infrastructure in terms of advanced technologies and facilities
- Comprehensive and well established primary and secondary healthcare services.
- Highly qualified national health professionals in Public Health Sector.
- Presence of long term Strategic human resources plan.

Weaknesses

- Limitation in integration, communication and coordination between Primary and Secondary Health Care.
- Limitation in clinical and health research capabilities.
- Limitation in medical privileges.
- Limitation in availability and implementation of standard guidelines for treatment.
- Health information system including civil registration and vital statistics is inadequately analyzed or used for informed decision making.
- Limitation in specialized medical facilities.
- Limitation in implementing training plans.

Opportunities

- Transparent political environment that encourages dialogue discussion and change.
- Partnership with national, regional and international organizations (e.g. private health facilities, educational institutes, the Health Minister's Council for GCC States, EMRO-WHO, World Bank, etc.).
- Increased awareness towards investment in health within the presence of regulatory framework.
- Government direction towards improving the current health system and financial allocation by the Supreme Council.
- Developing a new system for performance evaluation and linking it to incentives.
- High investment in health information system and technologies for improving efficiency (I-Seha).
- The presence of a national body (National Health Regulatory Authority) to regulate the professions and health services.

Challenges

- Demographic and epidemiological transitions with dramatic rise in Non-Communicable Diseases, and associated risk factors (e.g. obesity, and tobacco consumption among men and women, etc.).
- Global shortage of health professionals.
- Fast technological advancement accompanied by high cost of medicines and medical devices.
- Increases demand on health services more than the rate of supply.

Priorities

- Enhancing Ministry of Health role in policy making and governance health service sustainability
- Integrating services in the health system throughout Ministry of Health and with other governmental and private institutes
- Focusing on improving accountability and transparency, leadership and governance, resource development, health service delivery and financing
- Strengthening the role of the public sector and improve public–private partnership
- Reconfiguring the health system to be able to address new epidemiological realities, by focusing on healthy lifestyle promotion in order to address noncommunicable diseases and mental health disorders
- Putting Quality first
- Ensuring Access for all to healthcare services

Jointly developed by:

Department of Health Systems Development (HSD) and
Department of Information, Evidence and Research (IER)

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