

Snapshot of South Sudan around 2009 - How much have things changed?

The following material is reproduced with permission from "Situation Analysis of Nutrition in Southern Sudan: Analysis Based on June 2009 Assessment" by Mija-tesse Ververs for the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance II Project (FANTA-2). See Table 1 page 6 "Selected Population Statistics in Southern Sudan" for full details and references. To download the report, go to http://www.fantaproject.org/downloads/pdfs/SoSu_Situation_Analysis_Dec2010.pdf

Demographics

- About 8.3 million people lived in Southern Sudan in 2008 (48 percent female, 52 percent male).
- 20 percent of household members are children under 5 years.
- 72 percent of the population is under age 30.
- The average household size is about 7.4 people.
- The average household size of returnees is smaller, 4.5 people.

Poverty

- More than 90 percent of the population lives on less than US\$1 per day.
- Food Insecurity
- Between 1.3 million and 1.9 million people, or 16–23 percent of the population, have been food-insecure every year since 2005.

Maternal Health

- The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is 2,054 per 100,000 live births.
- One of seven women who become pregnant will die due to pregnancy-related causes.
- On average, only 10 percent of the women deliver their babies with skilled health staff.
- The case fatality rate of women delivering in health facilities is 11,062 per 100,000 live births.
- The total fertility rate is 6.7 children.
- Less than 2 percent of women use modern contraception.

Child Health

- The infant mortality rate (IMR) is 102 per 1,000 live births.
- The under-5 mortality rate (U5MR) is 135 per 1,000 live births.
- About 20 percent of infants under 6 months are breastfed exclusively.

- About 55 percent of children 6–9 months receive timely complementary feeding.

Immunisation

- 17 percent of children are fully vaccinated.
- 28 percent of children receive measles vaccination before their first birthday.

Malaria

- Malaria is considered hyper-endemic, accounting for more than 40 percent of all health facility visits.

HIV

- In 2007, HIV prevalence was estimated at 3.1 percent, but is increasing.
- Less than 10 percent of women aged 15–49 know about HIV prevention.

Water and Sanitation

- 1 percent of the population has access to improved drinking water.
- 6.4 percent of the population uses improved sanitation facilities.
- About 40 percent of children under 5 had diarrhoea in the 2 weeks before their caregivers were surveyed.

Education

- Less than 50 percent of children receive 5 years of primary school education.
- In 2006, 55 percent of primary school-age children attended school.
- 1.9 percent of the population complete primary school education.
- There is one teacher for every 1,000 primary school students.
- 15 percent of adults are literate.

Gender

- 8 percent of women are literate, and 16 percent of young women (age 15–24) are literate.
- 36% percent of girls age 7–9 attend primary school.
- A 15-year-old girl has a higher chance of dying in childbirth than completing school.
- 18 percent of women 15–49 years were first married or in a union by age 15.