Boost child survival by looking locally

A new study from IHME and its collaborators worldwide looks at how a child’s chance of dying before age 5 depends on where they live.

To access the related mapping tool, visit: HTTPS://VIZHUB.HEALTHDATA.ORG/LBD/UNDER5

SOURCES
3. Maintaining progress for the most beautiful chart in the world. International Health. doi: https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihz046

When it comes to saving children’s lives, there is a lot of evidence about what works. Building on that strong foundation, these district-level maps are a necessary addition to a policymaker’s toolkit, as they highlight places that have been left behind and require more attention, as well as places that have demonstrated improvement.

In Nigeria, a child in the highest-achieving local government area is nearly four times more likely to survive than a child in the lowest-achieving district.

Peru has made tremendous progress in saving children’s lives, even achieving the United Nations target for child survival at the national level. However, 15 provinces within the country did not achieve this goal.
SUCCESS STORIES

Multiple countries have succeeded in ensuring that all children have a better chance of surviving, no matter where they live.

**RWANDA**

“Tremendous progress in improving child survival across the country has been due to a comprehensive, government-led strategy to provide high-quality care to all. Rwanda’s success can be attributed to evidence-based strategies; participatory processes; focused investments for the poorest populations; expansion of health insurance; growing numbers of community health workers, health professionals, and health facilities; and a continued focus on high-quality health care.”

Professor Agnes Binagwaho, MD, M(Ped), PhD
Vice Chancellor of the University of Global Health Equity, Rwanda

**COLOMBIA**

The country has seen gains in child survival in part due to the creation of a national health system in 1993 that guaranteed coverage for select health services. Colombia’s guarantee of free basic vaccines for all children has also played a role in improving child survival. Additional improvement in child survival may be likely given the passage of a statutory law in 2015 by Congress that recognizes health as a constitutional right.