Early Childhood Development

Cameroon

Demographics
Population (2019) 25,876,000
Annual births 904,000
Children under 5 (2019) 4,059,000 (16%)
Under-five mortality 76,100

Young children at risk of poor development

At risk in 2005, 2010 and 2015, using a composite indicator of under-five stunting or poverty

Support and services for early childhood development:
Nurturing care

Parents and caregivers need a facilitating environment of laws, policies, services and community support to assist them in providing their young children with nurturing care.

Facilitating environments

Policies
☑ Paid maternity leave
☒ Paid paternity leave
☑ National minimum wage
☒ Child and family social protection
☑ International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

Threats to Early Childhood Development
Maternal mortality 529/100,000
Low birthweight 12%
Child poverty 34%
Violent discipline 81%

Risk by sex and residence

Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

84% Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

Early Childhood Development Index 61%

Nutrition

Early initiation of breastfeeding
Exclusive breastfeeding
Minimum acceptable diet

Responsive caregiving
Public information about ECD
Parental mental health
Parent support (groups, home visits)
Quality child day care

Comparative country data urgently needed

Security and safety
Birth registration
Positive discipline
Basic drinking water
Basic sanitation

International conventions
☑ Convention on the Rights of the Child
☑ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
☒ Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

Detailed country data sources and footnotes can be found in the master database at NURTURING-CARE.ORG