**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Jamaica**

**Demographics**
- Population (2019): 2,948,000
- Annual births: 47,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 233,000 (8%)
- Under-five mortality: 14/1,000

**Young children at risk of poor development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**

- Maternal mortality: 80/100,000
- Low birthweight: 15%
- Child poverty: no data
- Violent discipline: 85%

**Risk by sex and residence**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Girls</td>
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</table>

**Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood**

- Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage: 89%

**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

**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

**Countdown to 2030**

Women’s, Children’s & Adolescents’ Health

**Nutrition**

- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 65%
- Exclusive breastfeeding: 24%
- Minimum acceptable diet: no data

**Early learning**

- Early stimulation at home: 88%
- Playthings at home: 61%
- Children’s books in the home: 55%

**Security and safety**

- Birth registration: 98%
- Positive discipline: 91%
- Basic drinking water: 87%
- Basic sanitation: 87%

**Responsiveness caregiving**

- Public information about ECD
- Parental mental health
- Parent support (groups, home visits)
- Quality child day care
- Comparative country data urgently needed

**DETAILED COUNTRY DATA SOURCES AND FOOTNOTES CAN BE FOUND IN THE MASTER DATABASE AT NURTURING-CARE.ORG**