### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

#### Serbia

**Demographics**
- Population (2019): 8,772,000
- Annual births: 82,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 422,000 (5%)
- Under-five mortality: 6/1,000

**Threats to Early Childhood Development**
- Maternal mortality: 12/100,000
- Preterm births: 1%
- Low birthweight: 5%
- Under-five stunting: 7%
- Child poverty: no data
- Under-five mortality: 6%
- Violent discipline: 48%
- Inadequate supervision: 1%

#### 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

**Nutrition**
- Early initiation of breastfeeding: 51%
- Comprehensive breastfeeding: 13%
- Minimum acceptable diet: 70%

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

**Security and safety**
- Birth registration: 99%
- Basic drinking water: 86%
- Basic sanitation: 98%

**Early learning**
- Early stimulation at home: 96%
- Playthings at home: 75%

**Health**
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits): 94%
- Postnatal visits: no data
- Careseeking for child pneumonia: no data
- Early stimulation at home: 72%
- Children’s books in the home: 72%
- Attendance in early childhood education: 50%

**Risk by sex and residence**

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

- Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage: 95%

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**Note:**

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

**Details:**

- Young mothers (births by 18y)
- Preterm births
- Low birthweight
- Nutritional deficits in early childhood

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