**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Timor-Leste**

### Demographics
- Population (2019): 1,293,000
- Annual births: 38,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 174,000 (13%)
- Under-five mortality: 46/1,000

### Threats to Early Childhood Development
- Maternal mortality: 142/100,000
- Low birthweight: no data
- Child poverty: 44%
- Violent discipline: no data

### Young children at risk of poor development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

#### Health
- **Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women:** no data
- **Careseeking for child pneumonia:** 71%
- **Antenatal care (4 or more visits):** 35%
- **Postnatal visits:** 77%

#### Early learning
- **Early stimulation at home:** 81%
- **Children’s books in the home:** 4%
- **Playthings at home:** 40%
- **Attendance in early childhood education:** 14%

#### Security and safety
- **Birth registration:** no data
- **Positive discipline:** 60
- **Basic drinking water:** 78
- **Basic sanitation:** 54

### Nutrition
- **Early initiation of breastfeeding:** 75
- **Exclusive breastfeeding:** 50
- **Minimum acceptable diet:** 13

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

### Facilitating environments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid maternity leave</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National minimum wage</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child and family social protection</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT Index**

53%

**Life-time cost of growth deficit in early childhood**

19%

Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

**Risk by sex and residence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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