EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

**Tonga**

### Demographics
- **Population**: 105,697
- **Annual births**: 2,502
- **Children under 5**: 12,201 (12%) (2005: 14,000)
- **Under-five mortality**: 17/1,000

### Threats to Early Childhood Development

**Maternal mortality**: 52/100,000
**Low birthweight**: no data
**Child poverty**: no data
**Violent discipline**: no data

**Young mothers (births by 18y)**: 2%
**Preterm births**: 8%
**Under-five stunting**: 8%
**Inadequate supervision**: no data

### Young children at risk of poor development

**2005**: no data
**2010**: no data
**2015**: no data

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Not</th>
<th>Slightly</th>
<th>Moderately</th>
<th>Substantially</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>no data</td>
<td>14 – 18</td>
<td>18 – 26</td>
<td>≥26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paid maternity leave (weeks): None

Paid paternity leave (weeks): None

### Security and safety

- **Birth registration**: 93%
- **Positive discipline**: no data
- **Basic drinking water**: 100%
- **Basic sanitation**: 93%

### 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**: 79%
- **Exclusive breastfeeding**: 52%
- **Postnatal visits**: no data
- **Antenatal care**: no data
- **Postnatal visits**: no data

### Early learning

- **Early stimulation at home**: no data
- **Children's books in the home**: no data
- **Playthings at home**: no data
- **Attendance in early childhood education**: no data

### Health

- **Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women**: no data
- **Antenatal care**: no data
- **Careseeking for child pneumonia**: no data
- **Postnatal visits**: no data

### Responsive caregiving

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

Comparative country data urgently needed

### Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

80%

Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

### Children with functional difficulty

Girls, Boys, Rural, Urban

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no data</td>
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### Comparative data

Tonga

<table>
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### Comparative country data

**Comparison of data needed**