**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**Zambia**

### Demographics

- **Population**: 18,383,956
- **Annual births**: 653,578
- **Children under 5**: 2,946,454 (16%)
- **Under-five mortality**: 62/1,000

### Threats to Early Childhood Development

- **Maternal mortality**: 213/100,000
- **Low birthweight**: 12%
- **Child poverty**: 66%
- **Violent discipline**: no data

### Young children at risk of poor development

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

### Risk by sex and residence

### Lifetime cost of growth deficit in early childhood

223% - Estimate in terms of % loss of annual adult wage

### Children with functional difficulty

no data

### Children developmentally on-track

no data

---

**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

- **None**
- **14 – 18 weeks**
- **18 – 26 weeks**
- **≥26 weeks**

Paid maternity leave (weeks)

Paid paternity leave (weeks)

### Health

- **Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women**: 86%
- **Careseeking for child pneumonia**: 76%
- **Antenatal care (4 or more visits)**: 70%
- **Postnatal visits**: 64%

### Nutrition

- **Early initiation of breastfeeding**: 75%
- **Exclusive breastfeeding**: 70%
- **Minimum acceptable diet**: 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

### Responsive caregiving

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

### Security and safety

- **Birth registration**: 14%
- **Positive discipline**: no data
- **Basic drinking water**: 26%
- **Basic sanitation**: 66%

### 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