

Components of nurturing care: Health			
Indicator	Rationale	Definition	Data source
Antenatal care (4 or more visits)	Antenatal care safeguards women's health during pregnancy and helps to prevent and prepare for complications during pregnancy and delivery	Percentage of women aged 15-49 years attended to at least four times during pregnancy by any provider (2003-2023)	UNICEF global databases, based on DHS, MICS and other nationally representative surveys
Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women	Treatment of pregnant women living with HIV safeguards their health and prevents the transmission of the virus to their babies	Percentage of estimated number of pregnant women living with HIV receiving effective regimens (excludes single-dose nevirapine) of antiretroviral medicines for preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (2024)	Global AIDS Monitoring and UNAIDS 2025 estimates
Postnatal visits	Postnatal visits help to detect and prevent post-delivery complications for women and newborns to ensure that they receive prompt treatment	Percentage of women aged 15-49 years who received postnatal care within 2 days after birth. The indicator refers to women who had a live birth in a recent time period, generally two years for MICS and five years for DHS (2010-2023)	UNICEF global databases, based on DHS, MICS and other nationally representative surveys
Care-seeking for child pneumonia	Care-seeking for pneumonia indicates caregivers' ability to detect and act on their young child's health condition	Percentage of children under age 5 with symptoms of acute respiratory infection in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider (2000-2023)	UNICEF global databases, based on DHS, MICS and other nationally representative surveys

Components of nurturing care: Nutrition			
Indicator	Rationale	Definition	Data source
Early initiation of breastfeeding	Sucking at the breast within an hour of delivery ensures the baby receives the colostrum, the first milk that is rich in protective factors. Immediate sucking is instinctive for the baby and responds to the baby's attachment needs; it also helps establish exclusive breastfeeding	Percentage of infants born in the last 2 years who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth (2004-2024)	UNICEF, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2024). UNICEF global databases: Infant and young child feeding, New York, December 2024
Exclusive breastfeeding	Receiving only breastmilk for the first 6 months of life provides babies with all the nutrients they need and protects the baby against common childhood illness such as diarrhoea and pneumonia. Breastfeeding also has longer-term benefits on children's future intelligence and health	Percentage of children aged 0-5 months who are fed exclusively with breastmilk in the 24 hours prior to the survey (2004-2024)	UNICEF, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2024). UNICEF global databases: Infant and young child feeding, New York, December 2024
Minimum acceptable diet	Young children need sufficient diverse food to satisfy their rapid growth	Percentage of breastfed children aged 6-23 months who had at least the minimum dietary diversity and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day AND the percentage of non-breastfed children aged 6-23 months who received at least 2 milk feedings and had at least the minimum dietary diversity, not including milk feeds, and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day (2010-2022)	UNICEF, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2023). UNICEF global databases: Infant and young child feeding, New York, December 2023