

Components of nurturing care: Security and safety

Indicator	Rationale	Definition	Data source
Birth registration	Through birth registration, a child acquires his or her identity as a citizen and a rights holder in a country. Registration is often a condition for the receipt of state services such as health care, education and social protection	Percentage of children under age 5 who were reported to be registered with civil authorities. The numerator of this indicator includes children reported to have a birth certificate, regardless of whether or not it was seen by the interviewer, and those without a birth certificate whose mother or caregiver says the birth has been registered (2006-2024)	UNICEF global databases, based on DHS, MICS, other nationally representative surveys, censuses and vital registration systems
Basic drinking water	Safe drinking water is especially important for young children to prevent infectious diseases that inhibit their physical growth and diminish their active exploration of the environment through which they learn	Percentage of the population using an improved drinking water source, where collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a round trip including queuing (improved sources include: piped water; boreholes or tube wells; protected dug wells; protected springs; rainwater; and packaged or delivered water) (2024)	WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene, August 2025
Basic sanitation	Basic sanitation is also especially important for young children, to prevent infectious diseases that inhibit their physical growth and diminish their active exploration of the environment through which they learn	Percentage of the population using an improved sanitation facility that is not shared with other households (improved facilities include: flush/pour flush to piped sewerage systems, septic tanks or pit latrines; ventilated improved pit latrines; composting toilets or pit latrines with slabs) (2024)	WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene, August 2025
Positive discipline	Positive discipline by parents and caregivers helps to socialize young children to understand how to avoid danger and what they may and may not do in their social context	Percentage of children aged 1-4 years who experienced only non-violent discipline in the past month, including a) explaining why a behaviour is wrong, b) taking away privileges or not allowing the child to leave the house, and c) giving the child something else to do (2006-2024)	UNICEF global databases, based on DHS, MICS and other nationally representative surveys