

# Millennium Development Goals Gender Chart



Special edition for the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 10-21 March 2014, New York

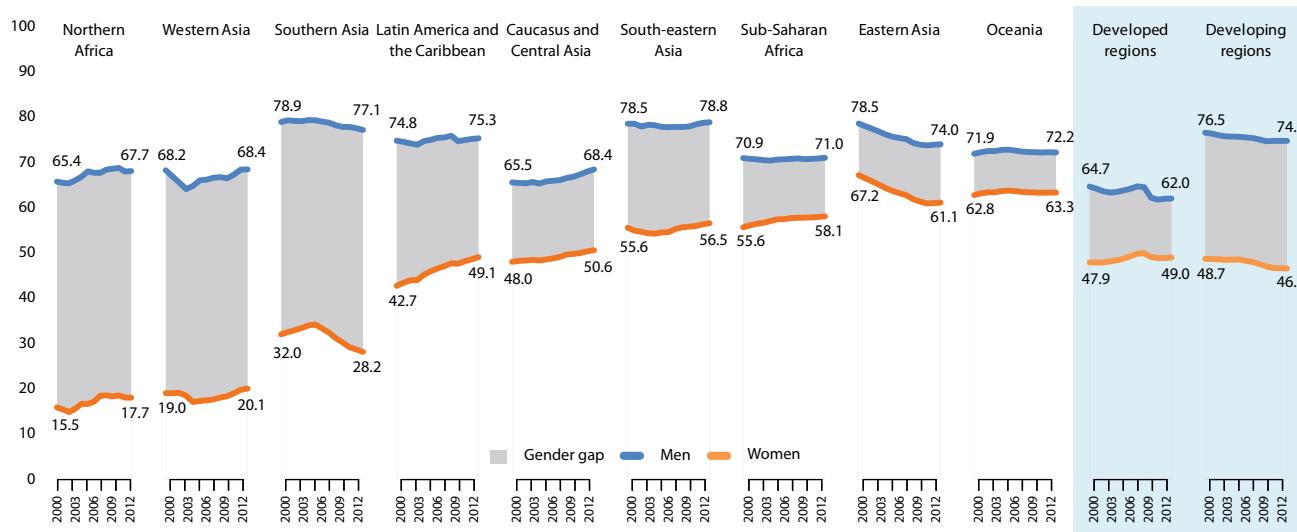
UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION  
UN WOMEN



## GOAL 1 | Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

### Large gender gaps in employment persist and may have been exacerbated by the global financial crisis in some regions

Employment-to-population ratio, women and men, 2000-2012 (Percentage)



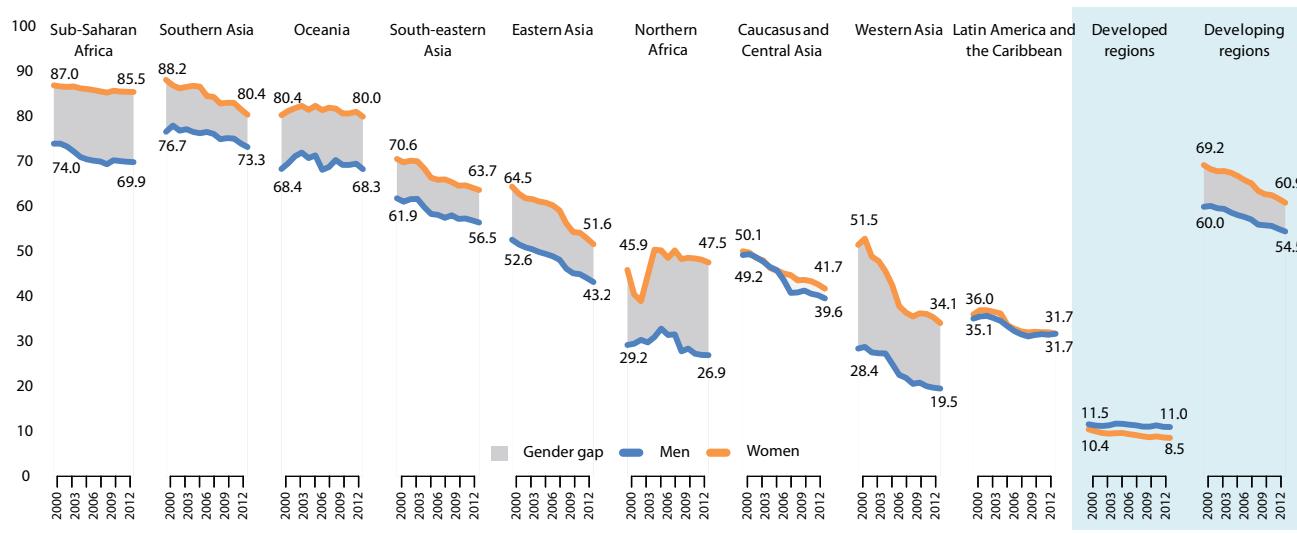
SOURCE: ILO, 2014 (Global Employment Trends)

The lack of data on women's experiences of poverty and hunger limits the analysis of MDG 1 to women's employment outcomes. Between 2000 and 2012, women's employment-to-population ratio declined globally from 48.5 per cent to 47.1 per cent compared to 73.9 and 72.2 per cent for men. In 2012, female employment ratio was still 25.1 percentage points lower than male's. North Africa, Southern Asia and Western Asia stand out as regions where women are particularly disadvantaged with gender gaps in employment of 50.0, 48.9 and 48.3 percentage points, respectively.

The global financial crisis has contributed significantly to the decline in employment ratio in some regions and has had a significant impact on women. Globally, whereas before the crisis (2000-2007) female employment ratio declined only modestly by 0.1 percentage points (compared to a 0.8 decline for men), between 2007 and 2012, they declined by 1.3 percentage points compared to 0.9 percentage points decline for men.

### While the share of people in vulnerable employment is decreasing, large gender gaps persist in most regions

Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment, women and men, 2000-2012 (Percentage)



SOURCE: ILO, 2014 (Global Employment Trends)

Globally the proportion of women in vulnerable employment declined from 55.3 per cent in 2000 to 49.3 in 2012, compared to 50.5 and 47.1 per cent for men. Both the scale of vulnerable employment and the gap between women and men differ widely across regions. Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Asia and Oceania have the highest shares of people in vulnerable employment with values of over 80 per cent for women and around 70 per cent for men. The widest gender gaps can be found in Northern Africa and

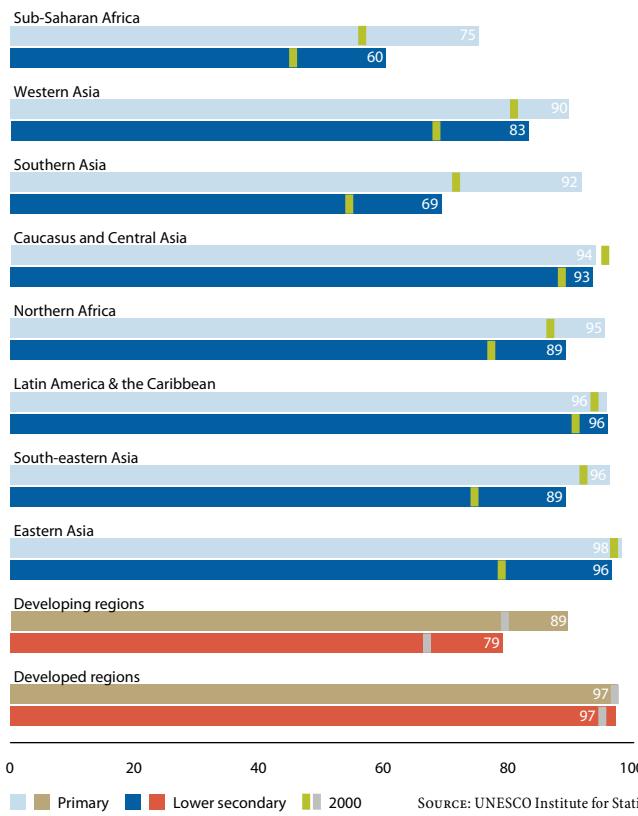
sub-Saharan Africa with 20.6 and 15.6 percentage points, respectively.

Due to pervasive occupational segregation, women are overrepresented in low paid jobs, have less access to social protection, and are paid on average less than men for work of equal value. Women's employment opportunities are further limited by the disproportionate amounts of unpaid care work that they perform.

## GOAL 2 | Achieve universal primary education

### Girls have made significant progress in primary and lower secondary enrolment, but with regional variations

Girls' adjusted net enrolment rates in primary and lower secondary education, 2000 and 2011 (Percentage)



SOURCE: UNESCO Institute for Statistics database, 2014

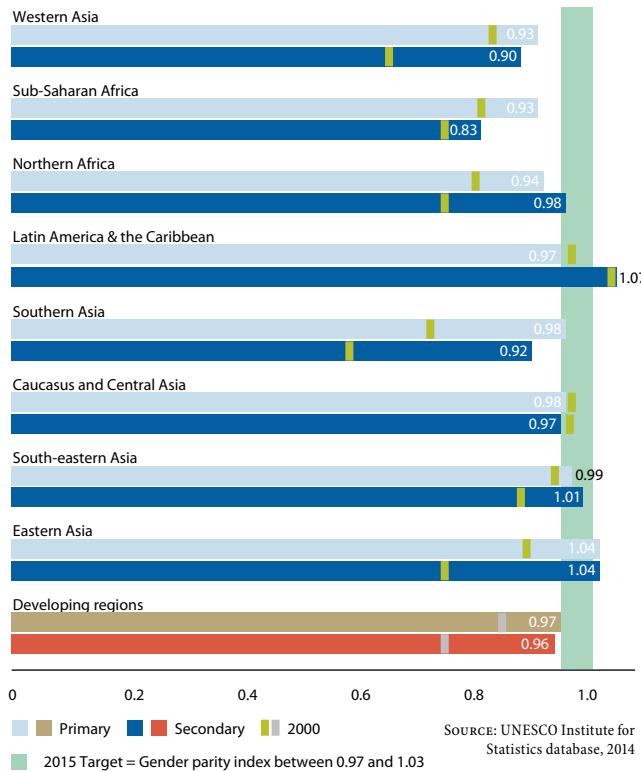
### Gender parity in primary education has been reached and parity in secondary education is close to being achieved

Gender parity index for gross enrolment ratios in primary and secondary education, 2000 and 2011

Globally, gender parity in primary education has been reached. Developing countries as a whole achieved gender parity in gross enrolment in primary education in 2011, from 0.92 in 2000. Southern Asia has made significant progress, increasing the gender parity index (GPI) for gross enrolment from 0.84 in 2000 to 0.98 in 2011. In Western Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Northern Africa, progress has been less remarkable but all three regions are moving towards parity.

In developing regions, the gender parity index for gross secondary enrolment has increased between 2000 and 2011 from 0.89 to 0.96. However, there are wide disparities across regions with the GPI ranging from a high of 1.07 in Latin America and the Caribbean (denoting an advantage for girls), to a low of 0.83 in sub-Saharan Africa.

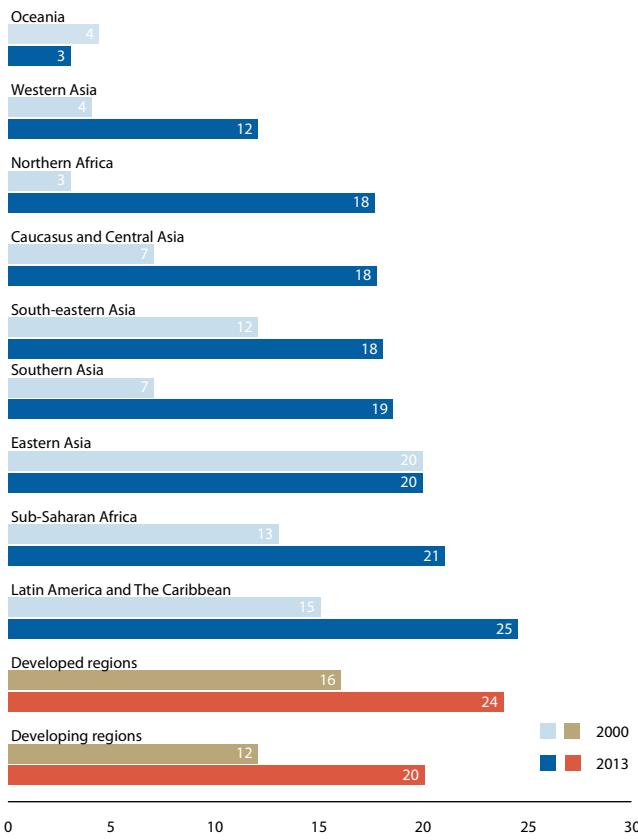
While the progress on enrolment rates is welcome, improving learning outcomes and tackling barriers to girls' education, such as child marriage and violence against girls in the learning environment, are important challenges that need to be addressed.



## GOAL 3 | Promote gender equality and empower women

### Despite significant progress since 2000, only 1 in 5 parliamentarians was a woman in 2013

Proportion of seats held by women in single or lower houses of national parliaments, 2000 and 2013 (Percentage)



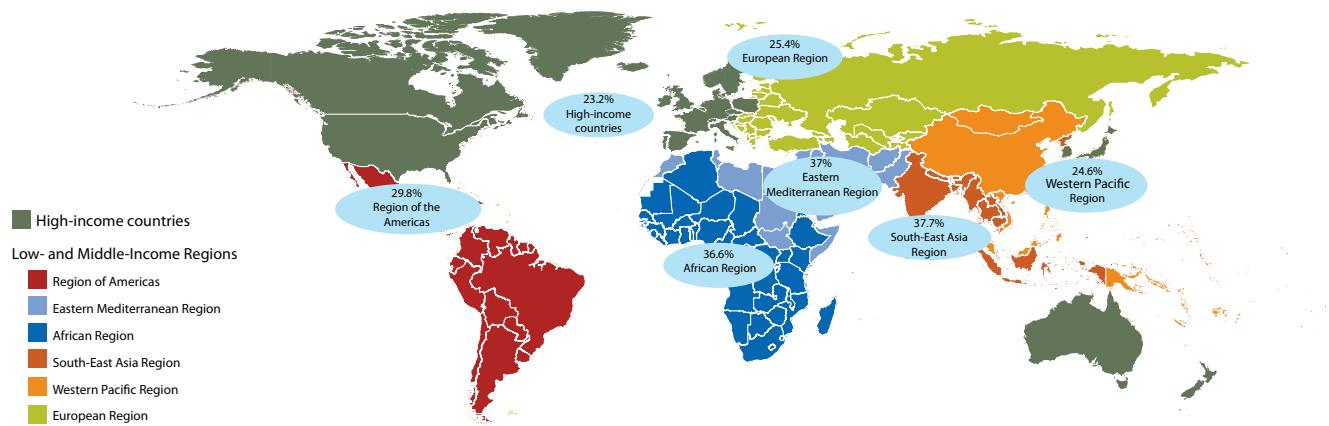
SOURCE: United Nations, 2013 (The Millennium Development Goals Report)

Between 2000 and 2013, progress in women's representation in national parliaments was impressive in some regions, including Northern Africa (from 3 to 18 per cent) and Western Asia and Southern Asia (from 4 to 12 per cent and from 7 to 19 per cent, respectively). However, globally women continue to be underrepresented in decision-making. In 2013, only 21 per cent of parliamentarians in single or lower houses were women, up from 14 per cent in 2000. Gender gaps also persist in areas of decision-making not monitored by the MDGs: as of June 2013, 8 women served as Heads of State and 13 women served as Heads of Government. As of January 2012, only 17 per cent of government ministers were women.

Increasing women's decision-making power is not limited to their role in parliaments or governments. Whether it is in the public or private sphere, women continue to be denied opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their lives. Increasing women's bargaining power within the household contributes to improvements in children's nutrition, survival rates and literacy. Yet survey data shows that women's decision-making power at home remains significantly lower than that of men when it comes to large household purchases, visiting family, relatives and friends, and their own health.

### Violence against women is a pervasive violation of women's human rights across all regions

Lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence against women, by WHO regions (Percentage)



While the three indicators under Goal 3 reflect important dimensions of gender inequality, MDG 3 does not cover several critical issues such as women's disproportionate share of unpaid care work, women's unequal access to assets, violations of women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights, their unequal participation in private and public decision-making beyond national parliaments and violence against women and girls.

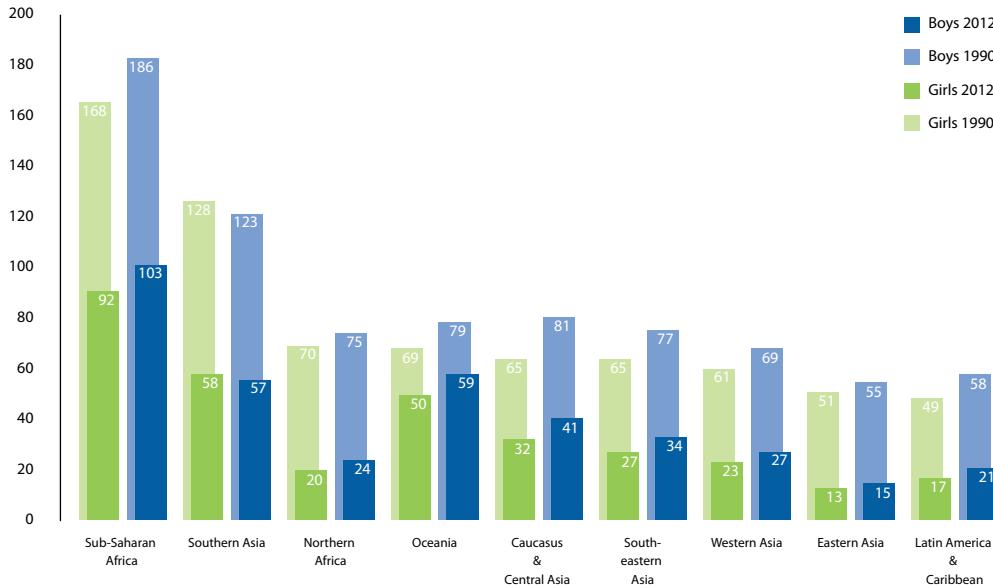
According to the data available, 30 per cent of women worldwide have experienced intimate partner violence. Although the prevalence differs among the regions, a large number of women in all regions suffer from physical and/or sexual violence, usually at the hands of their intimate partners.

SOURCE: WHO, 2013 (Global and regional estimates of violence against women)

## GOAL 4 | Reduce child mortality

### Significant progress in reducing child mortality, but son preference continues to threaten girls' survival in Southern Asia

Under-five mortality rates by sex, 1990 and 2011 (Deaths per 1,000 live births)



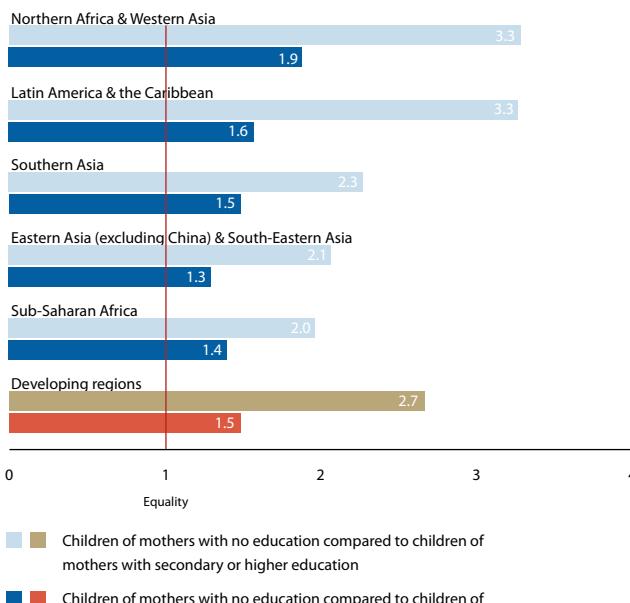
SOURCE: UNICEF, 2013 (Levels & Trends in Child Mortality Report)

Global progress on reducing child mortality has been significant since 1990. According to the latest estimates, the under-five mortality rate has declined from 90 to 48 deaths per 1,000 live births. There has been progress in all regions but this progress has been uneven. In 2012, sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia together accounted for 82 per cent of the total number of under-five deaths globally, up from 67 per cent in 1990.

Due to their physiological advantage over boys in terms of child survival, in the majority of countries where data are available, girls enjoy a better survival over boys. However, there are important exceptions. Southern Asia, for example, has a slightly higher under-five mortality rate for girls than for boys, implying the existence of discriminatory practices related to son preference.

### Educating women and girls can significantly reduce child mortality

Ratio of under-five mortality rate of children of mothers with no education to that of children of mothers with secondary or higher education, and of children of mothers with no education to children of mothers with primary education, most recent survey 2000-2010



Mothers' education remains a powerful determinant of child survival. Children of educated mothers are more likely to survive than children of mothers with no education. In the Northern African and Western Asian regions, for example, children of mothers with no education are almost twice as likely to die as children of mothers with primary education. For children whose mothers have secondary education the chances of survival more than triple compared to children of mothers without education. Income is another important determinant of inequality. Poorest households show higher child mortality in all regions compared to richest households, though the gap is narrowing in most regions.

Note: Analysis is based on 78 developing countries with data on under five mortality rates by mother's education, accounting for 75 per cent of total births in developing countries in 2010.

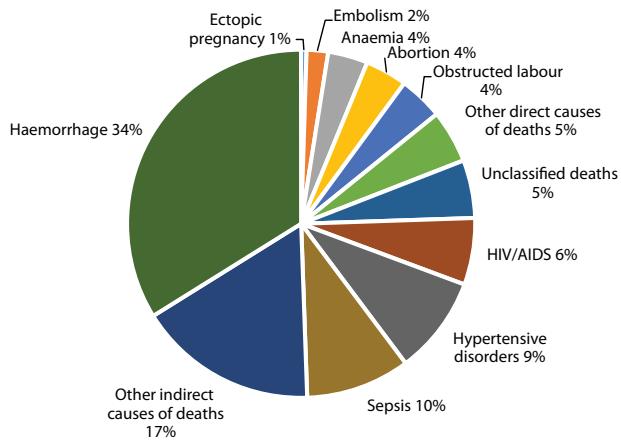
SOURCE: United Nations, 2012 (The Millennium Development Goals Report)

## GOAL 5 | Improve maternal health

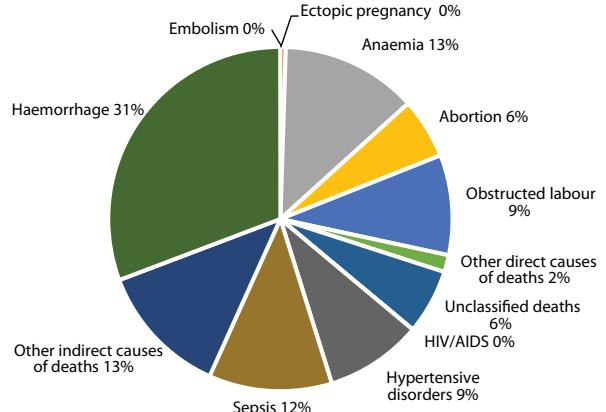
Most maternal deaths are preventable

Causes of Maternal Deaths

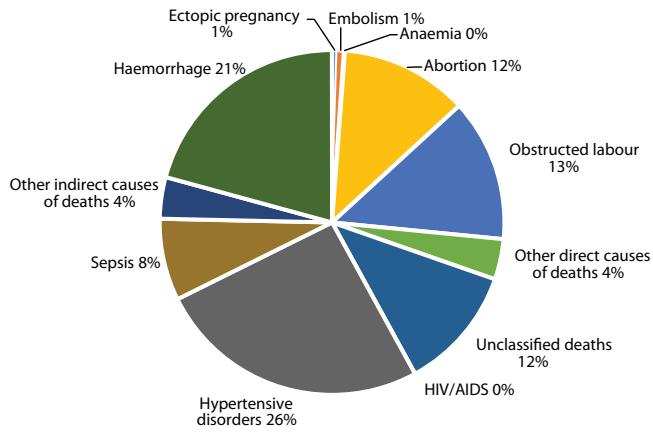
### Africa



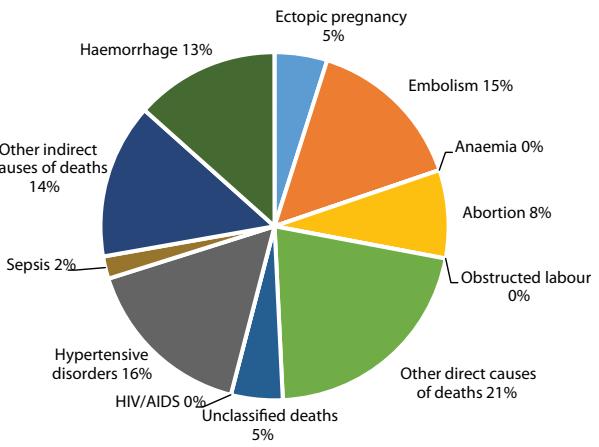
### Asia



### Latin America



### Developed regions



SOURCE: WHO, 2014; Khan KS et al., 2006 (Lancet, 367:1066–1074)

Globally, there were an estimated 287,000 maternal deaths in 2010, a decline of 47 per cent from the level in 1990, but well below the MDG target to reduce the maternal mortality ratio by three quarters by 2015. High

place, mostly in developing countries, resulting in 47,000 deaths. In Latin America, abortions alone are responsible for 12 per cent of all maternal deaths.

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