



Goals of the survey

It is a vital issue to have health and environmental indicators on primary school students to improve their health and the schools' environments. Ministry of Health (MoH) implemented a field survey for primary school students in cooperation with MoE, MoPDC/COSIT, MoHK, MoEK and WHO/Iraq office for detection of visual, hearing problems and musculo-skeletal abnormalities within Health Promoting Schools Project.

The survey covered 150 primary schools in 8 governorates (Baghdad, Karch and Rusafa, Muthana, Najaf, Basra, Missan, Wassit, Thi-Qar and Suliemaniah) to provide information on student's health status and schools environment at governorate and Urban/Rural levels.

Sample size

The schools were considered the primary sample unit according to the aims of the survey. 150 schools were chosen from 8 selected governorates. 45 students ages (6-15) years from each school were considered as observational unit for this survey. The schools sample distributed as 109 schools at urban areas and 41 schools at rural areas.



Health promoting school is an investment in health and education together.

Health promoting Schools is an approach that was initiated by World Health Organizations/ European region in early 1990s and was implemented in Iraq in 1995. In 2007, revitalization of the programme was initiated by Ministry of Health and 46 primary schools were selected in all governorates for the implementation of the project.

This project is implemented by joint cooperation of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education in close coordination with World Health Organization and financial support by Iraq Trust fund United Nation Development Group (UNDG ITF) and European Commission (EC)

Health Promoting Schools Project

Student's Health Status and Environmental Assessment at Primary Schools

2007-2008



Selected Health Status Indicators

Ear Examination

Ear Examination

Indicators	Rate /1000 student
Ear wax	55
External ear infection	17
Middle ear infection	19
Middle ear infection with discharge	4
Ear drum perforation	5
Mild poor hearing	7
Moderate poor hearing	1
Very poor hearing	0

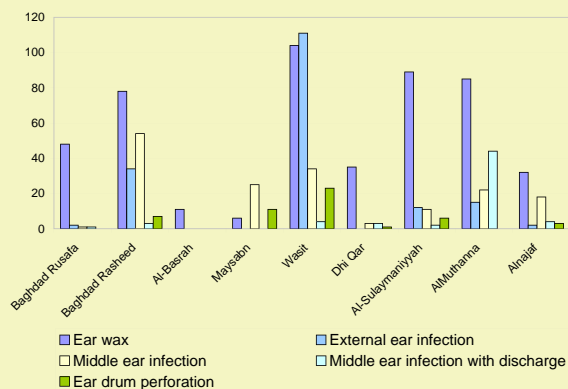


Figure 1: The prevalence rate of ear problems by governorates



Eye Examination

Musculo- Skeletal Abnormalities

Eye Examination

Indicators	Rate /1000 student
Poor vision	29
Shortsighted vision	10
Stigmatism	10
Far vision	6
Cataract	1
Corneal opacity	1
Optic nerve atrophy	1
Squint	9

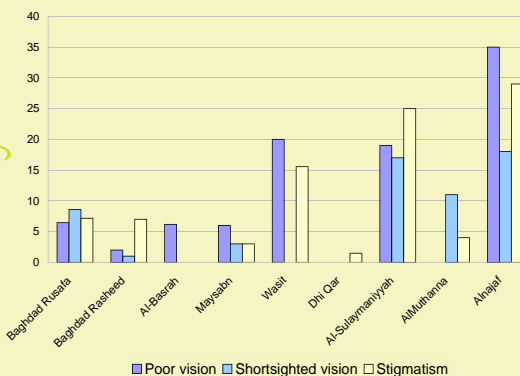


Figure 2: The prevalence rate of Poor vision, Short sighted vision and Stigmatism by governorates

Musculo- Skeletal Abnormalities

Indicators	Rate /1000 student
Scoliosis	1
Congenital hip dislocation	1
Foot congenital deformity	8
Leg bowing	13

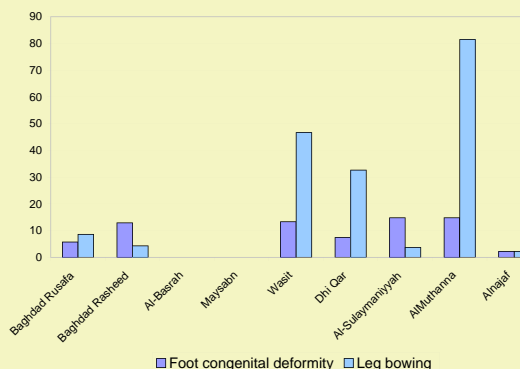


Figure 3: The prevalence rate of Musculo- Skeletal Abnormalities by governorates



Selected indicators for schools environment

Selected indicators for schools environment

- 54 Source of pollution near the school
- 54 Proper school yard
- 48 Unclean schools
- 18 Organized garbage containers
- 46 Daily disposal of garbage
- 65 Public water network
- 63 No water chlorination at schools
- 54 chlore level adequate
- 37 Enough water tabs per number of students
- 11 Proper water tabs
- 24 Number of toilets is enough
- 28 Availability of health conditions at toilets
- 81 Availability of sewage system
- 14 Control of rodents at schools
- 65 Availability of first aid box
- 71 Essential materials for first aid box
- 20 Maintained school gardens
- 58 Proper classroom
- 61 Proper lightening at classrooms
- 48 Good ventilation at classrooms
- 54 Enough No. of desks
- 41 Suitability of desks by students age
- 56 Proper Blackboard
- 74 Oily chalk used
- 69 Unavailability of canteen
- 18 Availability of other sources for selling of food items
- 28 Health certificate card available for canteen workers