

in the number of children under-5 who died globally in 2008 compared with 2007 but no changes in the Eastern further reductions Recent mortality estimates suggest

Mediterranean Region, according to the recently released

million deaths

1.2 . An estimated World Health Statistics Report 2010

occurred in children under-5 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region in 2008, as many as in 2007. The new under-5 mortality estimates suggest a stagnation or low progress in a

number of MDG priority countries with high under-5 mortality rates, such as

Afghanistan

	,
	Pakistan
	,
	Somalia
	and
	Sudan
	, which
contrib	oute to 80%

of all under-5 deaths in the Region. Low progress is also seen in

Djibouti

. A preliminary analysis in a few countries of the Region suggests that trends in reduction-expressed as average annual rates of reduction-may have decreased in recent years.

Although caution should be exercised when comparing these estimates for different, consecutive years,

Morocco

under-5 mortality estimates for 2008 suggest recent stagnation in progress, despite the country having achieved a 59% mortality reduction between the period 1990 to 2008.

Yemen

's progress continues to be encouraging. Overall, a

26% reduction in under-5 mortality

has been estimated for the Region for the period 1990-2008, well below the two-thirds set by MDG 4 for the year 2015. Detailed information on mortality rates and trends by

country, based on the

World Health Statistics, 2010

, is presented in tables and illustrated with graphs in the section on "Data and statistics: Under-5 mortality and its causes".

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