To aid in cause-of-death and burden-of-disease analyses, the 192 Member States of the World Health Organization have been divided into five mortality strata on the basis of their levels of mortality in children under five years of age (5q0) and in males 15–59 years old (45q15). This classification was carried out using population estimates for 1999 using United Nations Population Division data and estimates of 5q0 and 45q15 based on WHO analyses of mortality rates for 1999.

Quintiles of the distribution of child mortality for both sexes combined (5q0) were used to define some countries as very low child mortality (1st quintile), some as low child mortality (2nd and 3rd quintiles) and others as high child mortality (4th and 5th quintiles). Adult mortality (the risk of death between ages 15 and 60 years, i.e., 45q15) was regressed on 5q0 and the regression line used to divide countries with high child mortality into high adult mortality (stratum D) and very high adult mortality (stratum E). Stratum E includes the countries in sub-Saharan Africa where HIV/AIDS has had a very substantial impact.

The adjacent table summarizes the five mortality strata. When these mortality strata are applied to the six WHO regions, they produce 14 subregions, which are used in the Annex Tables to present results. The WHO Member States in each region are grouped by subregion as listed opposite. This classification has no official status and is for analytical purposes only.

The total number of WHO Member States is 192, the latest addition being Timor-Leste, which is classified in the high-mortality developing region of Sear-D. In 2003, the Fifty-sixth World Health Assembly endorsed the reassignment of Cyprus to the European Region from the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

### Definitions of mortality strata used to define subregions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mortality stratum</th>
<th>Child mortality</th>
<th>Adult mortality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Very low</td>
<td>Very low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Very high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List of Member States by WHO region and mortality stratum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region and mortality stratum</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Broad grouping</th>
<th>Member States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Africa with high child and high adult mortality</td>
<td>Developing</td>
<td>Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Togo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Africa with very high child and very high adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Europe with low child and low adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Europe with very high child and low adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Europe with very high child and high adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Western Pacific with very low child and very low adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low-mortality developing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Western Pacific with very high child and high adult mortality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Detailed list of Member States

**Africa**
- **Amr-D**: Africa with high child and high adult mortality
  - Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Togo
  - High-mortality developing
- **Amr-E**: Africa with very high child and very high adult mortality
  - High-mortality developing
- **Europe-A**: Europe with very low child and very low adult mortality
  - Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom
  - Developing
- **Europe-B**: Europe with very high child and very high adult mortality
  - Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
  - High-mortality developing
- **Europe-C**: Europe with low child and high adult mortality
  - Belarus, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Ukraine
  - Developing
- **Eastern Mediterranean**: Eastern Mediterranean with high child and low adult mortality
  - Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates
  - Low-mortality developing
- **Eastern Mediterranean**: Eastern Mediterranean with high child and high adult mortality
  - Afghanistan, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Russian Federation, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
  - High-mortality developing
- **Western Pacific**: Western Pacific with very low child and very low adult mortality
  - Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore
  - Developing
- **Western Pacific**: Western Pacific with very high child and high adult mortality
  - Cambodia, People’s Republic of China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Laos People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Viet Nam
  - Low-mortality developing

**Americas**
- **Ame-A**: Americas with very low child and very low adult mortality
  - Developed
  - Canada, Cuba, United States of America
- **Ame-B**: Americas with very low child and very low adult mortality
  - Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
  - Developing
- **Ame-D**: Americas with very high child and very high adult mortality
  - Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Peru
  - High-mortality developing
- **South-East Asia**: South-East Asia with low child and low adult mortality
  - Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand
  - Low-mortality developing
- **Sear-D**: South-East Asia with high child and high adult mortality
  - Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Timor-Leste
  - Low-mortality developing
- **Sear-E**: South-East Asia with very high child and very high adult mortality
  - Brunei, Cambodia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Timor-Leste
  - Very high adult mortality
- **South-East Asia**: South-East Asia with low adult mortality
  - Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand
  - Low-mortality developing
- **South-East Asia**: South-East Asia with high adult mortality
  - Brunei, Cambodia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand
  - High-mortality developing
- **South-East Asia**: South-East Asia with very high adult mortality
  - Brunei, Cambodia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand
  - Very high adult mortality

**Asia-Pacific Region**
- **Asia-Pac-A**: Asia-Pacific with very low child and very low adult mortality
  - Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore
  - Developing
- **Asia-Pac-B**: Asia-Pacific with very high child and high adult mortality
  - Cambodia, People’s Republic of China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Laos People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Viet Nam
  - Low-mortality developing

4. Following improvements in child mortality over recent years, Egypt meets criteria for inclusion in subregion Emr-B with low child and low adult mortality. Egypt has been included in Emr-B for the presentation of subregional totals for mortality and burden to ensure comparability with previous editions of The World Health Report and other WHO publications.

5. Although Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and Papua New Guinea meet criteria for high child mortality, they have been included in the Wpr-B subregion with other developing countries of the Western Pacific Region for reporting purposes.