

# South Africa

Country indicators*	Population (000s)	52,386	Total health expenditure (%GDP)	8.5
	GNI per capita (PPP Int \$)	11,010	ICT Development Index rank	84
	Physician density (per 10 000 population)	0.76	Mobile-cellular subscriptions (% inhabitants)	130.56
	Nurse and midwife density (per 10 000 population)		Internet users (% of individuals)	41.0
	Hospital bed density (per 10 000 population)	28	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births)	300
	Life expectancy at birth (years)	58	Infant mortality rate (per 100 000 live births)	15 [9-26]

## eHealth policy/strategy

Status of eHealth and women's and children's health policy/strategy

National eHealth policy/strategy exists	Yes
Year adopted	2012
Implementation status	No
Refers to the use of eHealth in women's and children's health policy/strategy	Yes
Special funding allocated for implementation	Yes

## Women's and children's health

National policy/strategy for women's and children's health exists	Yes
Policy/strategy refers to the use of eHealth, mHealth or social media	No

## eHealth systems

An overview of the types of eHealth systems in place, their purpose and level

Electronic information system collects and reports births, deaths and causes of death data	Yes – partial coverage
Year introduced	2000
At least one electronic information system exists at the district level to collect and report health data	Yes
Resource tracking system in place to report total health expenditure by financing source, per capita	No
Type of resource tracking system	
Resource tracking system level	
Resource tracking system in place to report total reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) expenditure by financing source, per capita	No
Type of resource tracking system	
Resource tracking system level	

## Monitoring the status of women's and children's health

An overview of the measurement of the 11 CoIA indicators by monitoring frequency and format

Indicator measured	Monitor	Frequency	Format: Paper, Electronic, or Both
Maternal mortality ratio	Yes	Every year	Both
Under 5 child mortality with the proportion of newborn deaths	Yes	Every year	Both
Children under 5 who are stunted	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Met need for contraception	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Antenatal care coverage	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT)	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Skilled attendant at birth	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Postnatal care for mothers and babies	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Exclusive breastfeeding for six months	Yes	Every year	Electronic
3 doses of the combined diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine	Yes	Every year	Electronic
Antibiotic treatment for pneumonia		Every year	Electronic

## eHealth initiatives – national overview

eHealth supports major women's and children's health initiatives	No
Funding sources	

## Possible barriers to implementing eHealth services

The most important barriers hindering the implementation of eHealth services

<b>Leadership, governance and policy</b> - country policy or strategy does not include eHealth as an approach to support women's and children's health	Yes
<b>Standards</b> - lack of nationally adopted standards (e.g. ICD, DICOM, HL7, SNOMED) for the systematic adoption of eHealth services or health information systems	Yes
<b>Human resources</b> - lack of suitably qualified or experienced professionals who can develop and implement eHealth projects and promote their use	Yes
<b>Financial</b> - limited or no reimbursement by insurance companies for services; business models not yet developed for broad and sustainable eHealth delivery	Yes

## ICT training

Tertiary institutions offer ICT training for students of health sciences	No
Continuing education in ICT for health professionals	No

## Internet health information quality

Approaches taken to ensure quality of health-related content on the Internet

<b>Voluntary compliance</b> - by content providers or website owners to quality criteria for health-related sites	Yes
<b>Dedicated website(s)</b> - concerning women's & children's health	No

## Online safety for children

Approaches taken by government to protect children in the online environment

Government provides information and education to citizens on internet safety and literacy	Yes
Some initiatives are aimed specifically to protect children	Yes
Safety tools and security technologies are required by law for schools, libraries and other public places where children have Internet access	No
ISPs are legally mandated to provide online safety tools to protect children	Yes

## Privacy and security of personal and health-related data

Legislation to protect women and children

Privacy laws exist to protect citizens' personal identifiable data irrespective of format (paper or digital)	Yes
Privacy laws exist to protect citizens' health data held in digitized format in an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) or Electronic Health Record (EHR)	No
Parental consent required for the creation of a child's EMR/EHR	No
Parental access to a child's EMR/EHR is possible	Yes
Correction of errors in a child's EMR/EHR is possible	Do not know
Legislation exists enabling the sharing of EMR/EHR between health care entities within the same country	No
Parental consent is required	
Legislation exists enabling the sharing of EMR/EHR between health care entities in other countries	No
Parental consent is required	
Legislation exists which grants a child the right to control over its EMR/EHR	No
From age (years)	

## Social media

Countries are recognizing the benefit of using social media for health

Some health programmes use social media (eg. Facebook, Twitter, YouTube)	Yes
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\* Data source: [www.who.int/goe/publications/cp\\_source2013](http://www.who.int/goe/publications/cp_source2013)

\*\* Inconsistent data