

The world is getting better!

What is U5MR?

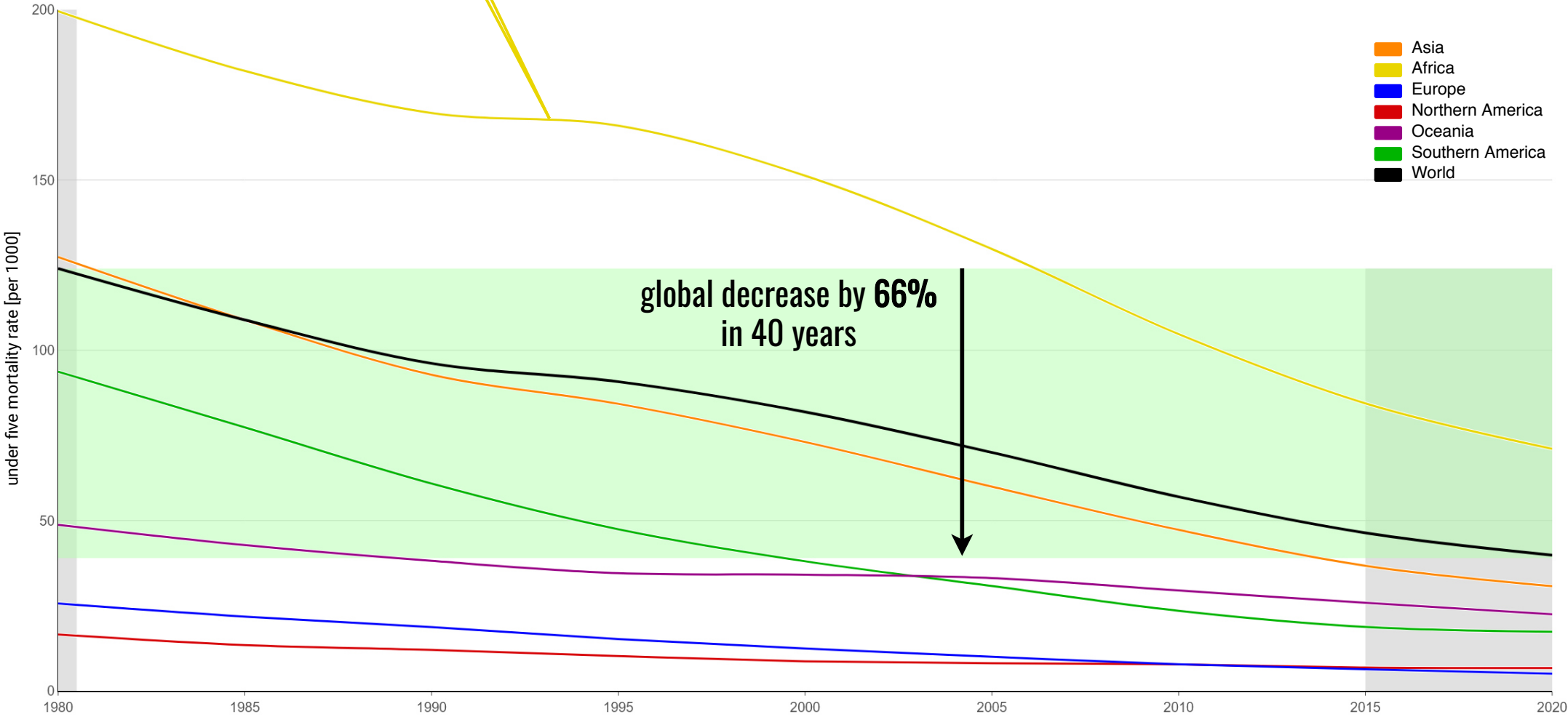
The acronym U5MR stands for under-five-mortality rate and is generally known as child mortality rate. It indicates the probability of dying between birth and the age of exactly five years. The U5MR has the unit per mille and thus indicates the average number of children out of 1000 who die before the age of five. Children, especially at a young age, are the most vulnerable part of a society. Using the mortality rate at an age under five years, the health of a country or a continent can be described. What makes the U5MR special is that the value indicates the output of various factors such as the availability of health services, food and save drinking water or the presence of humanitarian disasters.

Hans Rosling, a professor of international health, asked several thousand people for their opinion on global health and found that the majority think that the world is getting worse and worse. Using the U5MR values, he was able to prove this misjudgement wrong and convince the people that the world is getting better [1]. Since the wealth and well being of the world is of global concern, there are multiple organisations which collect, analyze and provide collections of U5MR datasets. The data used in this infographic was provided by the UN, who collected the values from different local organisations and calculated five-year averages for each country with more than 90k inhabitants [2]. It clearly shows an increase of health in every part of the world. In fact, not in a single country, child mortality has increased over the past years. This infographic is intended to communicate the progress of the various regions of the world in a visual form.

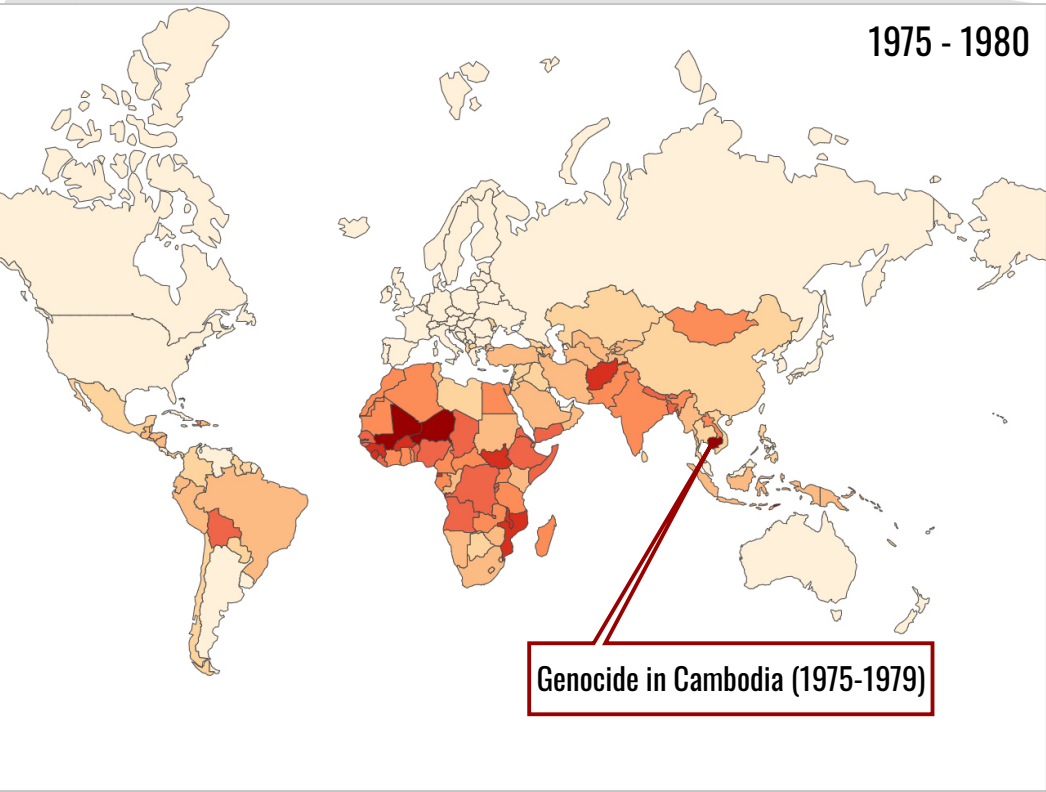
Genocide in Rwanda

In 1994, a genocide happend in Rwanda. Approximately 1 million people died while the three-month genocide [3]. This caused the five-year average in Rwanda to reach a U5MR of 465 and thus influence the continental average significantly.

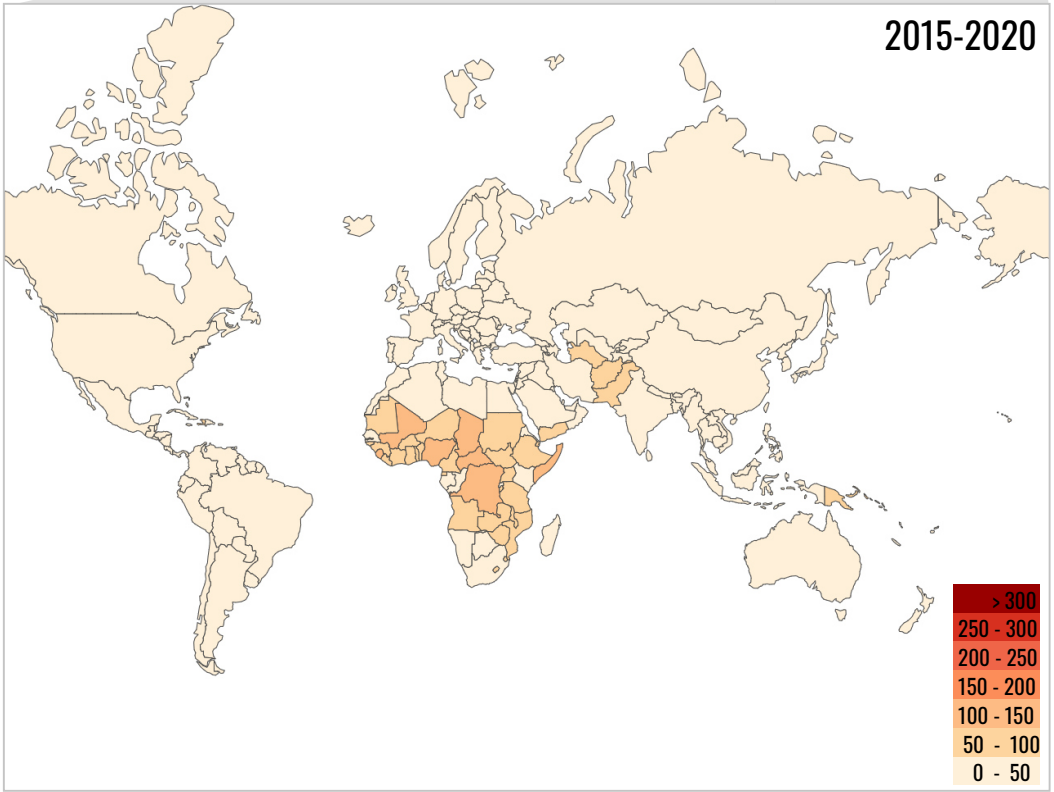
Continental averages



From 1980 to 2020, the global U5MR average has decreased by 66%. Every continents value has at least halved. In Europe, the rate has even decreased by more than 80%.



The U5MR between 1975 and 1980 were especially high in southern continents. The average rate was almost 125 but it was highly undistributed. The highest peak was in Cambodia, caused by the cambodian genocide that happend between 1975 and 1979 [4]. The U5MR in Cambodia was 460.



In the average of the years 2015 to 2020, no country had a U5MR higher than 150. Even if the global rate has decreased, it is still very undistributed.

Sources

- [1] H. Rosling, A. R. Rönnlund, and O. Rosling, *Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World--and Why Things Are Better Than You Think*. New York: Flatiron Books, 2018.
- [2] UNdata, "UNdata | record view | Under-five mortality, for both sexes combined (deaths under age five per 1,000 live births)," Jun. 17, 2019.<http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=under+five+mortality&d=PopDiv&f=variableID%3a80> (accessed Dec. 03, 2020).
- [3] "Rwanda genocide: 100 days of slaughter," *BBC News*, Apr. 04, 2019.
- [4] "Khmer Rouge: Cambodia's years of brutality," *BBC News*, Nov. 16, 2018.

Personal reflection

While working on this task, i was able to apply many parts i've learned in the lessons in a practical way. This includes the choice of the graph type, the colorscales, map projections, annotations, highlighting and even more parts. I really enjoyed working on this task, especially because of the message this infographic communicates. Detailed informations about each graphic is available at github.com/Wullt/InfVis

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