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DAILY CHART

Lower child mortality

Something to cheer

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MORE children are surviving beyond their fifth birthday, according to a new report from the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef). The child mortality rate—the number of under-fives dying per thousand live births—dropped by almost a quarter worldwide between 1990 and 2006. The rate fell by around a half in Latin America, central Europe and the former Soviet Union, and East Asia. Progress in sub-Saharan Africa, where the death rate is highest, has been slower. Around one in six children in the region still die before the age of five and the rate is rising in some countries. Pneumonia, diarrhoeal diseases and malaria together account for more than two-fifths of child deaths.

EPA Deaths of under-fives per 1,000 live births 1990 2006 Sub-Saharan Africa: West and Central Africa Eastern and Southern Africa South Asia Middle East and North Africa East Asia and Pacific Latin America and Caribbear Central Europe and former Soviet Union Least developed Developing Industrialised World Source: Unicef

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