Supplementary information

Early-childhood linear growth faltering in low- and middle-income countries

In the format provided by the authors and unedited

Supplementary Information for:

Early childhood linear growth faltering in low- and middle-income countries

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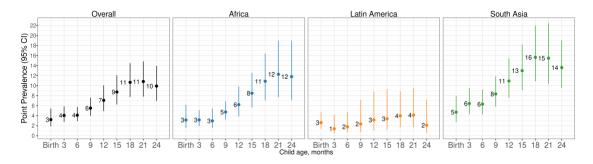
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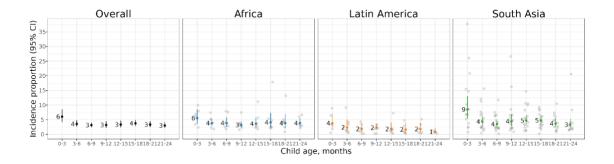
Supplementary Note 1. Severe stunting analyses

Below, we display plots for the age-specific prevalence and cumulative incidence of severe stunting (LAZ < -3). Overall, the patterns are the same as for stunting (LAZ < -2), with the peak in prevalence at ages 18-24 months and the highest incidence proportion from 0-3 months.

1.1 Age-specific severe stunting prevalence

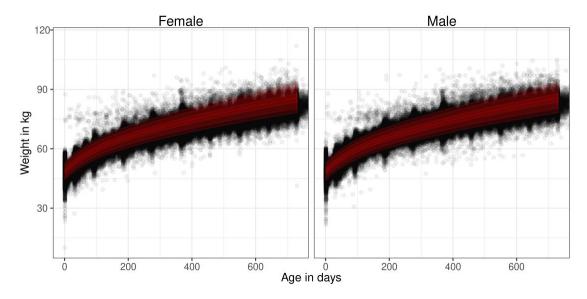


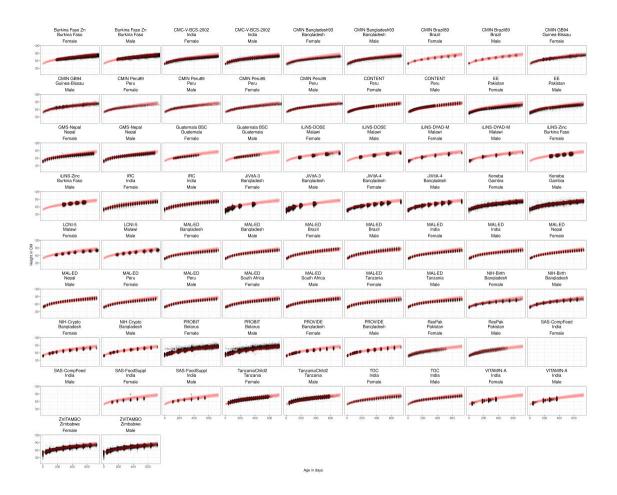
1.2 Age-specific severe stunting incidence



Supplementary Note 2. Quality assurance

To check for outliers in length measurements, we plotted the distribution of raw length measurements by age and sex against different percentiles of the World Health Organization child growth standard distribution. The majority of observations fell within 3 standard deviations of the mean of the standard for males and females. There were certain cohorts, such as the Keneba cohort, that had a larger proportion of observations outside of 3 standard deviations from the mean. There was a higher variability of length measurements in the PROBIT, ZVITAMBO, and Keneba cohorts.





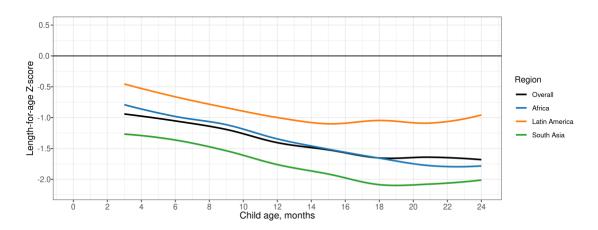
Supplementary Note 3. Analysis with monthly cohorts

To explore the influence of differing numbers of cohorts contributing data at different ages, we conducted a sensitivity analysis in which we subset data to cohorts that measured anthropometry monthly from birth to 24 months.

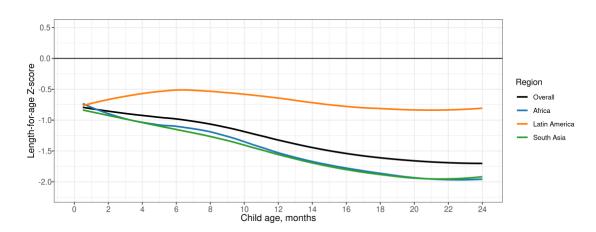
In this sensitivity analysis, the mean length-for-age Z-score was higher in Latin America and exhibited less of a downwards trajectory with age. Age-specific stunting prevalence and incidence was slightly lower in Latin America and Asia and slightly higher in Africa. Standard errors were smaller for Latin America because the analyses with monthly cohorts excluded the COHORTS Guatemala study, which had a very high stunting prevalence compared to other Latin American cohorts.

3.1 Mean length-for-age Z-score by age

3.1.1 All eligible cohorts

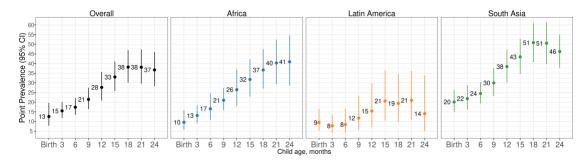


3.1.2 Cohorts that measured monthly from birth to 24 months

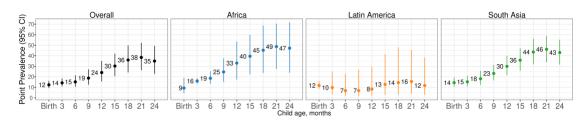


3.2 Age-specific stunting prevalence

3.2.1 All eligible cohorts

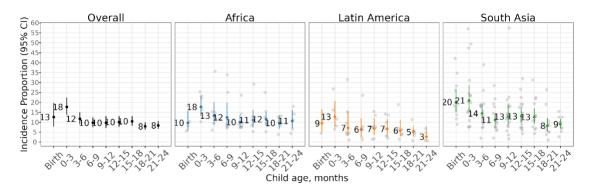


3.2.2 Cohorts that measured monthly from birth to 24 months

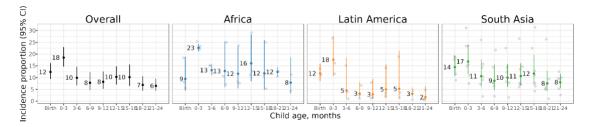


3.3 Age-specific stunting incidence

3.3.1 All eligible cohorts

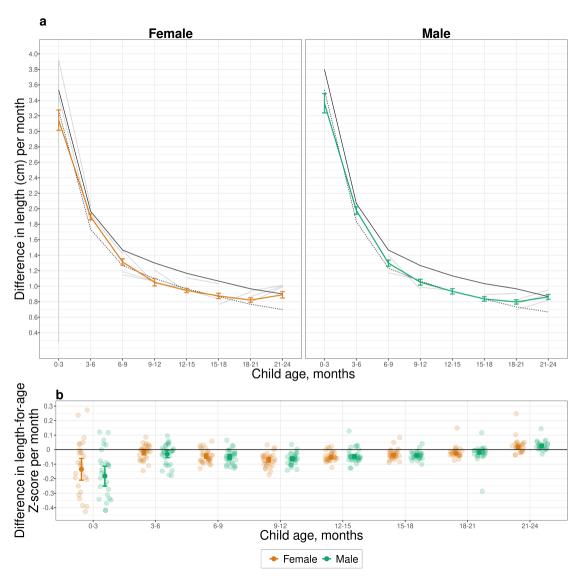


3.3.2 Cohorts that measured monthly from birth to 24 months

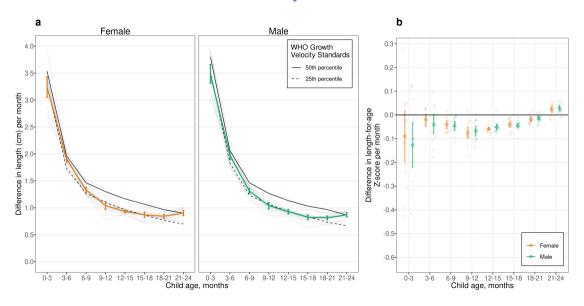


3.4 Linear growth velocity

3.4.1 All eligible cohorts

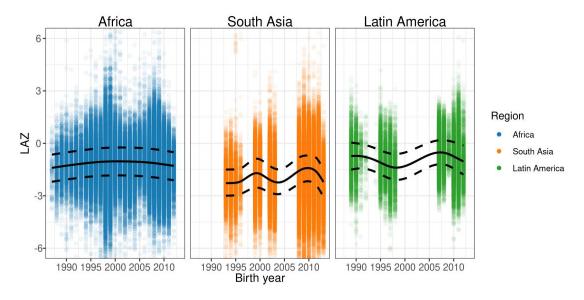


3.4.2 Cohorts that measured monthly from birth to 24 months



Supplementary Note 4. Assessment of potential secular trends

This study included cohorts that measured child growth from 1987 to 2017. To assess potential secular trends, we plotted the mean length-for-age Z-score (LAZ) over time. The plot below shows the individual observations from included studies over this range of years. Curves were fit to the data using generalized additive models, with the solid line fit through the median LAZ by birth year, and the dashed lines mark the 1st and 3rd quartiles. There does not appear to be a secular trend in LAZ.

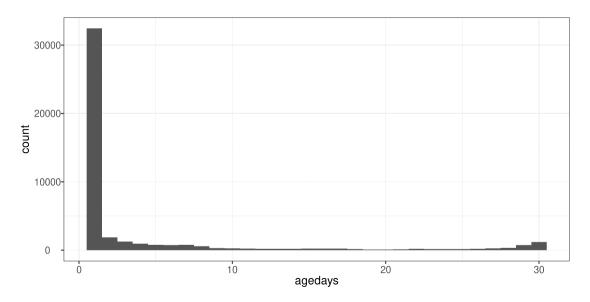


Supplementary Note 5. Analyses of age at first measurement

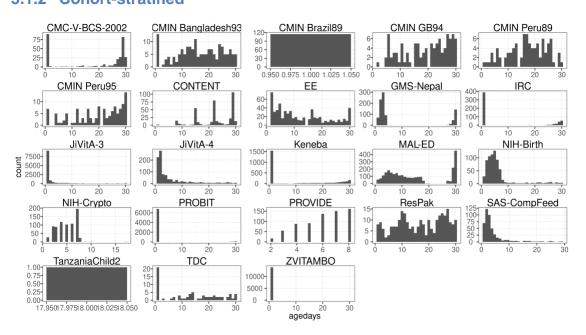
Our analyses of stunting incidence assumed that children whose first measurement occurred after birth were assumed to have experienced stunting onset at the age halfway between birth and the first measurement. To assess the extent to which this assumption influenced our estimates, we plotted the distribution of age at first measurement and the age at enrollment. The vast majority of children were enrolled close to birth, and the majority were less than 5 days of age at their first measurement.

5.1 Histogram of first measurement within age 0-30 days

5.1.1 All cohorts

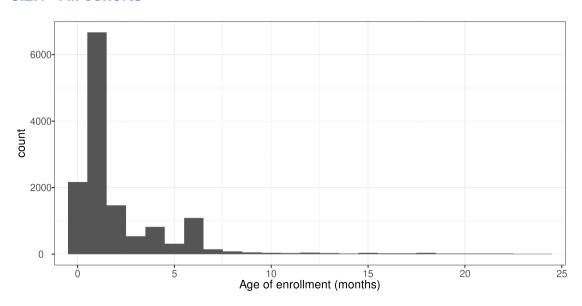


5.1.2 Cohort-stratified

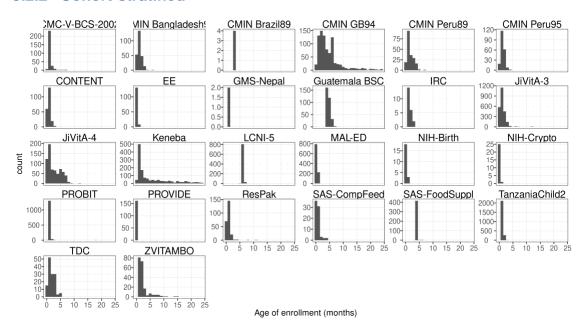


5.2 Histogram of age at enrollment

5.2.1 All cohorts



5.2.2 Cohort-stratified



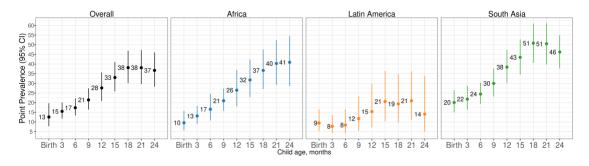
Supplementary Note 6. Sensitivity analysis using fixed effects

The primary analyses presented in this manuscript pooled across individual studies using random effects. Inferences about estimates from fixed effects models are restricted to only the included studies.¹ The random effects approach was more conservative in the presence of study heterogeneity, as evidenced by larger confidence intervals around each point estimates. Overall, the inference from results produced by each method was similar.

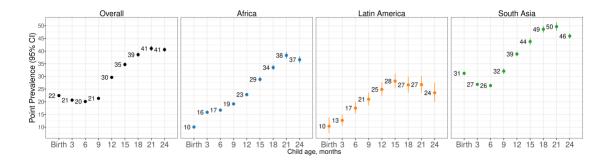
The pooled estimates using random effects vs. fixed effects differed in some cases, indicating the presence of heterogeneity in underlying cohort-specific estimates. For example, stunting incidence at ages peaked at ages 0-3 months in Latin America using random effects models, but in fixed effects models, incidence was similar at ages 0-3 and 3-6 months. However, overall, our scientific inferences from results produced by each method were similar.

6.1 Age-specific prevalence

6.1.1 Random effects



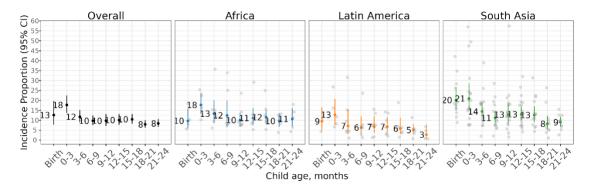
6.1.2 Fixed effects



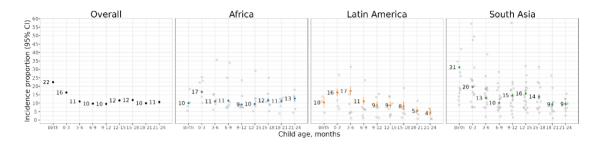
¹ Hedges, L. V. & Vevea, J. L. Fixed- and random-effects models in meta-analysis. Psychol. Methods 3, 486–504 (1998).

6.2 Age-specific incidence

6.2.1 Random effects

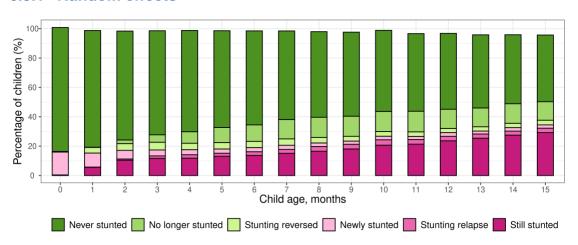


6.2.2 Fixed effects

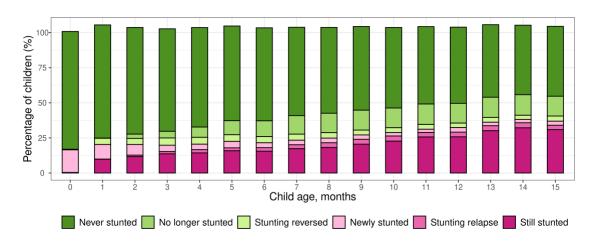


6.3 Changes in stunting status by age

6.3.1 Random effects

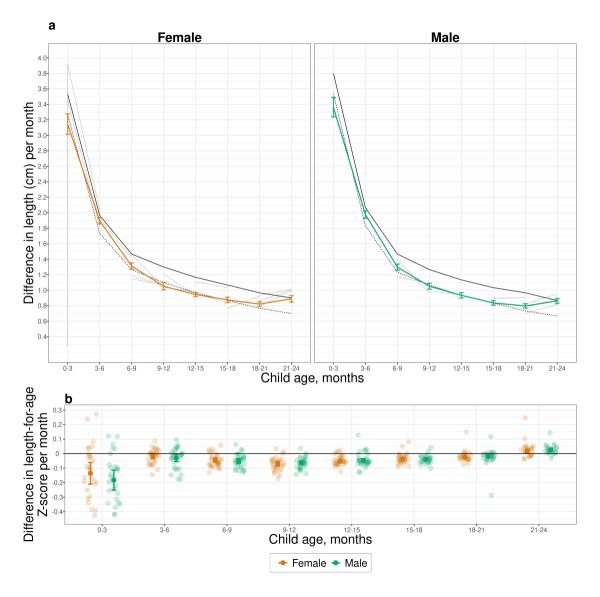


6.3.2 Fixed effects

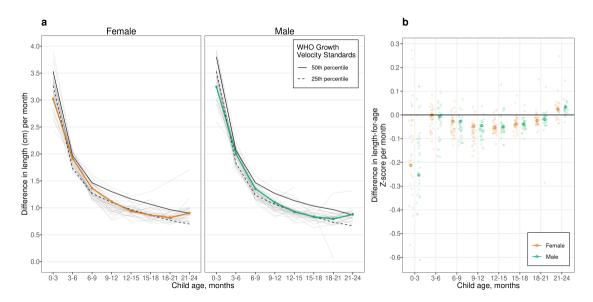


6.4 Linear growth velocity

6.4.1 Random effects



6.4.2 Fixed effects

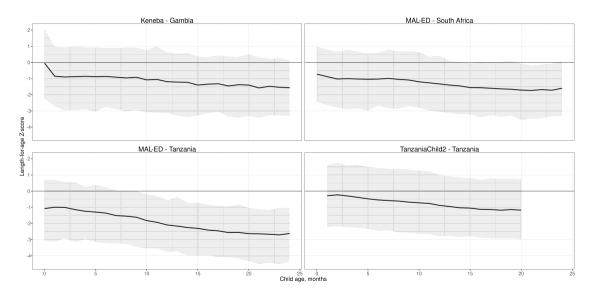


Supplementary Note 7. Cohort-specific results

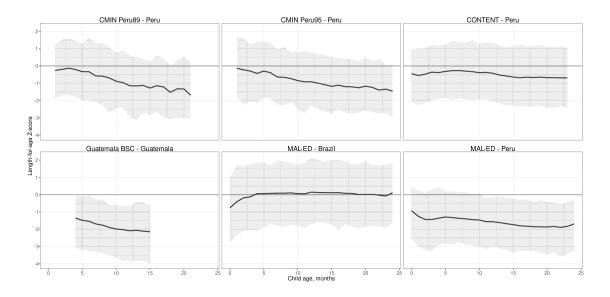
Here, we present cohort-specific estimates of length-for-age Z-score by age, age-specific prevalence, and age-specific incidence.

7.1 Mean length-for-age Z-score by age

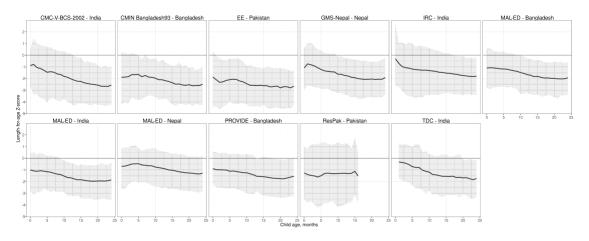
7.1.1 Africa



7.1.2 Latin America

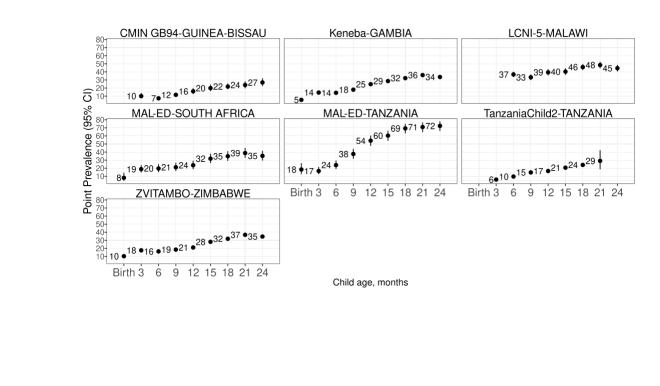


7.1.3 South Asia

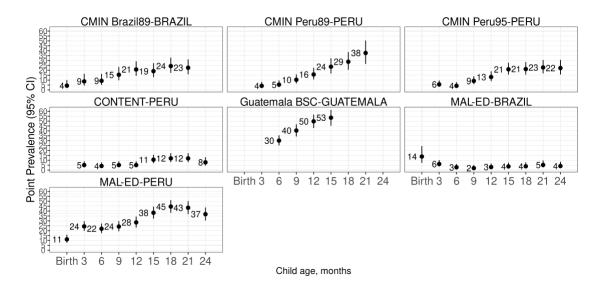


7.2 Age-specific prevalence

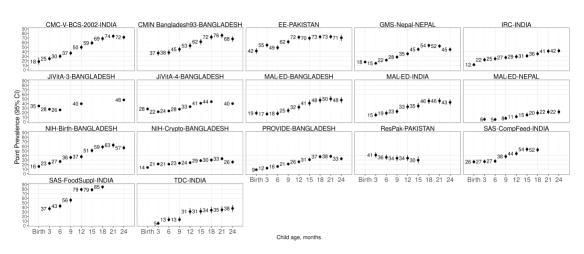
7.2.1 Africa



7.2.2 Latin America

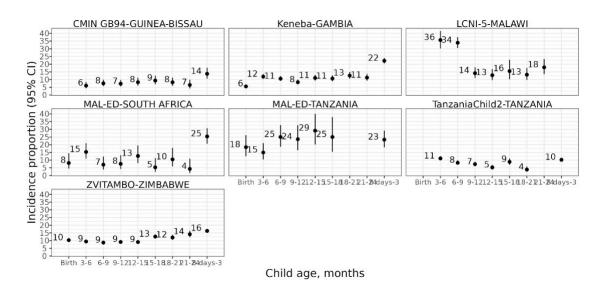


7.2.3 South Asia

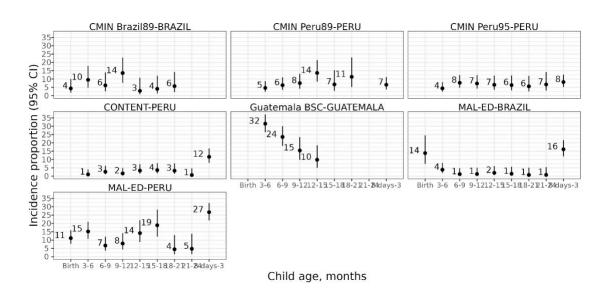


7.3 Age-specific incidence

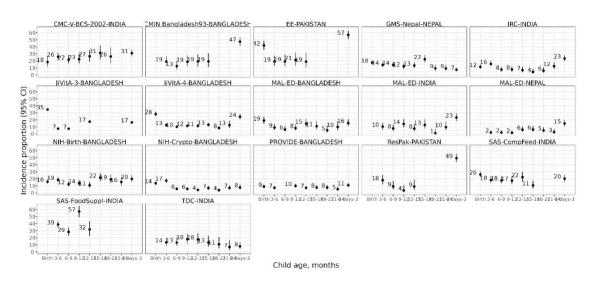
7.3.1 Africa



7.3.2 Latin America

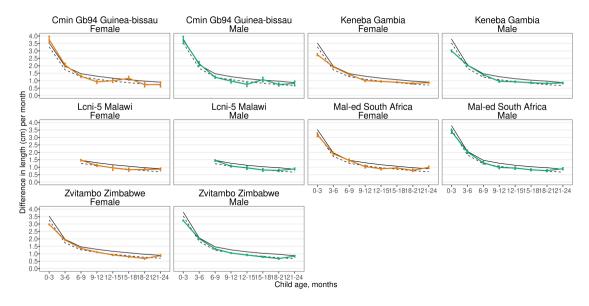


7.3.3 South Asia

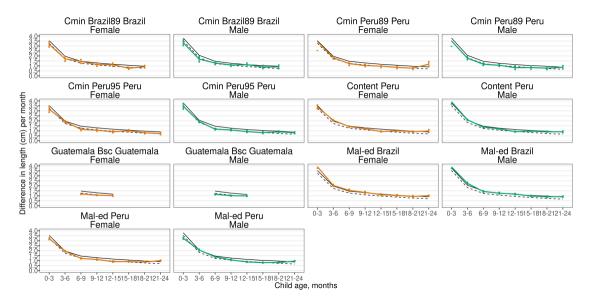


7.4 Length velocity by age and sex

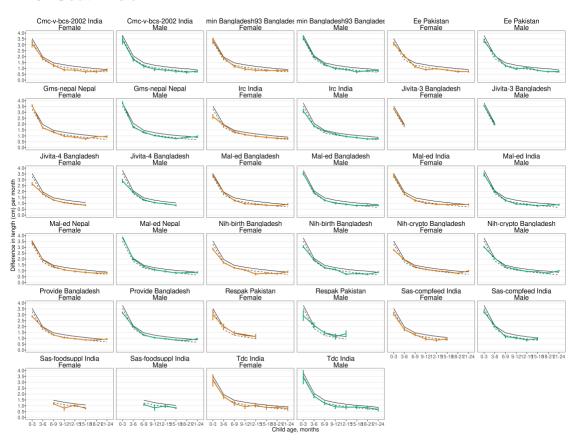
7.4.1 Africa



7.4.2 Latin America

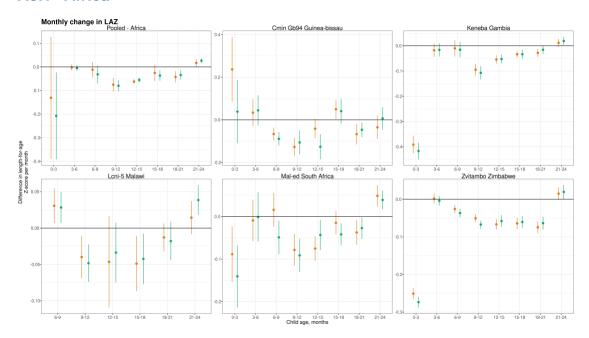


7.4.3 South Asia

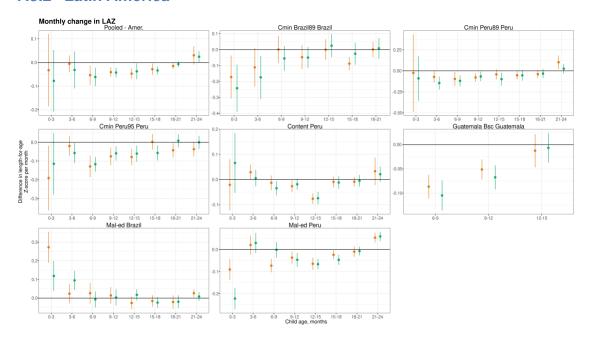


7.5 LAZ velocity by age and sex

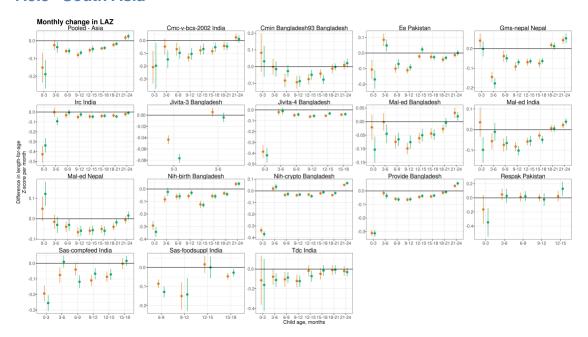
7.5.1 Africa



7.5.2 Latin America



7.5.3 South Asia

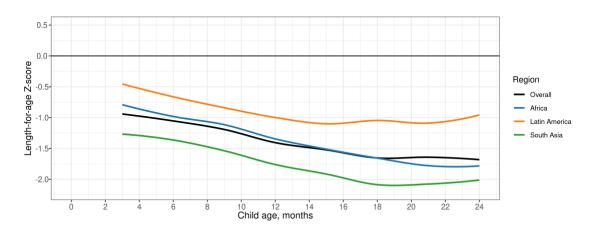


Supplementary Note 8. Primary analyses excluding the PROBIT study

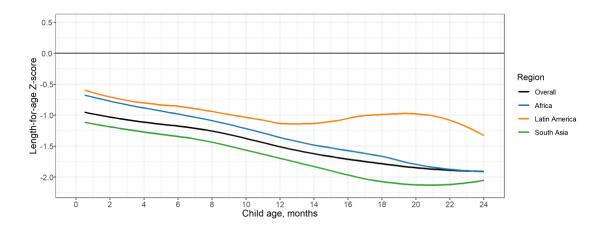
Only one cohort from Europe met the inclusion criteria for this study – the PROBIT study. To assess whether inclusion of this study altered our overall study inference, we repeated analyses excluding the PROBIT cohort, as shown below in the "Overall" panels. Results were very similar with and without the PROBIT cohort. Stunting prevalence and incidence were slightly higher at birth when excluding PROBIT, but overall age-specific patterns remained the same. For this reason, we chose to retain PROBIT in the primary analyses presented in this manuscript.

8.1 Mean length-for-age Z-score by age

8.1.1 Including PROBIT

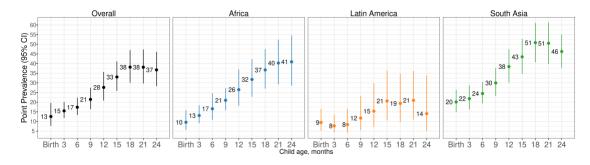


8.1.2 Excluding PROBIT

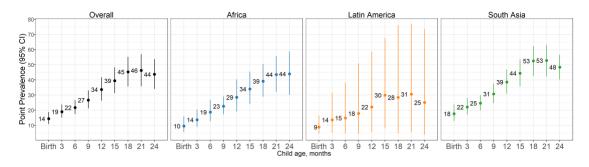


8.2 Age-specific prevalence

8.2.1 Including PROBIT

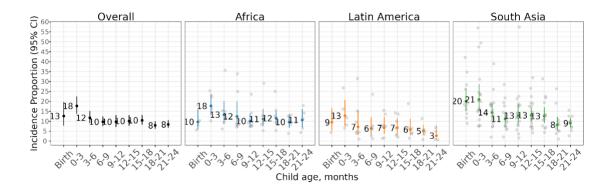


8.2.2 Excluding PROBIT

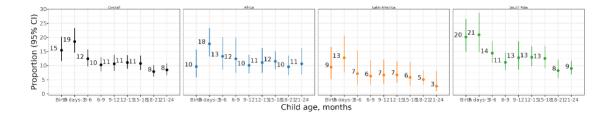


8.3 Age-specific incidence

8.3.1 Including PROBIT



8.3.2 Excluding PROBIT



Supplementary Table 1. Summary of *ki* cohorts

| Region, Study ID | Country | Study Years | Design | Children Enrolled* | Anthropometry measurement ages (months) | Total measurements* | Primary References |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| South Asia | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Biomarkers for EE | Pakistan | 2013- 2015 | Prospective cohort | 379 | Birth, 1, 2,, 18 | 8484 | Iqbal et al 2018 Nature Scientific Reports ¹ |
| Resp. Pathogens | Pakistan | 2011 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 284 | Birth, 1, 2,, 17 | 3177 | Ali et al 2016 Journal of Medical Virology ² |
| Growth Monitoring Study | Nepal | 2012 - Ongoing | Prospective cohort | 698 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 13465 | Not yet published |
| MAL-ED | Nepal | 2010 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 240 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 5703 | Shrestha et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ³ |
| CMC Birth Cohort, Vellore | India | 2002 - 2006 | Prospective cohort | 373 | Birth, 0.5, 1, 1.5,, 24 | 8709 | Gladstone et al. 2011 NEJM ⁴ |
| MAL-ED | India | 2010 - 2012 | Prospective cohort | 251 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 5702 | John et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ⁵ |
| Vellore Crypto Study | India | 2008 - 2011 | Prospective cohort | 410 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 9771 | Kattula et al. 2014 BMJ Open ⁶ |
| CMIN 93 | Bangladesh | 1993 - 1996 | Prospective Cohort | 277 | Birth, 3, 6,, 24 | 5363 | Pathela et al 2007 Acta Paediatrica ⁷ |
| TDC | India | 2008- 2011 | Quasi- experimental | 160 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 3593 | Sarkar et al. 2013 BMC Public Health ⁸ |

| MAL-ED | Bangladesh | 2010 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 265 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 5604 | Ahmed et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ⁹ |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|--|-------|---|
| PROVIDE RCT | Bangladesh | 2011 - 2014 | Individual RCT | 700 | Birth, 6, 10, 12, 14. 17, 18, 24, 39, 40, 52, 53 (weeks) | 9207 | Kirkpatrick et al 2015 Am J Trop Med Hyg ¹⁰ |
| Food Suppl RCT | India | 1995 - 1996 | Individual RCT | 418 | Baseline, 6, 9, 12 | 2232 | Bhandari et al 2001 J Nutri ¹¹ |
| Optimal Infant Feeding | India | 1999 - 2001 | Cluster RCT | 472 | Birth, 3, 6,, 18 | 2948 | Bhandari et al 2004 J Nutri ¹² |
| | | | | | | | |
| NIH Birth Cohort | Bangladesh | 2008 - 2009 | Prospective Cohort | 629 | Birth, 3, 6,, 12 | 6215 | Korpe et al. 2016 PLOS NTD ¹³ |
| JiVitA-4 Trial | Bangladesh | 2012 - 2014 | Cluster RCT | 1434 | 6, 9, 12, 14, 18 | 9344 | Christian et al 2015 IJE ¹⁴ |
| JiVitA-3 Trial | Bangladesh | 2008 - 2012 | Cluster RCT | 13475 | Birth, 1, 3, 6, 12, 24 | 53453 | West et al JAMA 2014 ¹⁵ |
| NIH Cryptosporidium Study | Bangladesh | 2014 - 2017 | Prospective cohort | 758 | Birth, 3, 6,, 24 | 6914 | Steiner et al 2018 Clin Infect Dis ¹⁶ |
| | | | | | | | |
| Africa | | I | | | ı | ı | ı |
| MAL-ED | Tanzania | 2009 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 262 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 5713 | Mduma et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ¹⁷ |
| Tanzania Child 2 | Tanzania | 2007 - 2011 | Individual RCT | 2396 | 1, 2,, 20 | 29565 | Locks et al Am J Clin Nutr 2016 ¹⁸ |

| MAL-ED | South Africa | 2009 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 314 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 6163 | Bessong et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ¹⁹ |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|--|
| MRC Keneba | Gambia | 1987 - 1997 | Cohort | 2915 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 40275 | Schoenbuchner et al. 2019, AJCN ²⁰ |
| ZVITAMBO Trial | Zimbabwe | 1997 - 2001 | Individual RCT | 14074 | Birth, 6 wks, 3, 6, 9, 12 | 71928 | Malaba et al 2005 Am J Clin Nutr ²¹ |
| Lungwena Child Nutrition RCT | Malawi | 2011 - 2014 | Individual RCT | 840 | Birth, 1-6 wk, 6, 12 18 | 4336 | Mangani et al. 2015, Mat Child Nutr ²² |
| iLiNS-Zinc Study | Burkina Faso | 2010 - 2012 | Cluster RCT | 797 | 9, 12, 15, 18 | 1471 | Hess et al 2015 Plos One ²³ |
| CMIN GB94 | Guinea Bissau | 1994 - 1997 | Prospective Cohort | 870 | Enrollment and every 3 months after | 6451 | Valentiner-Branth 2001 Am J Clin Nutr ²⁴ |
| Latin America | | 1 | | | | | |
| MAL-ED | Peru | 2009 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 303 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 6142 | Yori et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ²⁵ |
| CONTENT | Peru | 2007 - 2011 | Prospective cohort | 215 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 8339 | Jaganath et al 2014 Helicobacter ²⁶ |
| Bovine Serum RCT | Guatemala | 1997 - 1998 | Individual RCT | 315 | Baseline, 1, 2,,8 | 2545 | Begin et al. 2008, EJCN ²⁷ |
| MAL-ED | Brazil | 2010 - 2014 | Prospective cohort | 233 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 4858 | Lima et al 2014 Clin Infect Dis ²⁸ |
| CMIN Brazil89 | Brazil | 1989- 2000 | Prospective Cohort | 119 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 889 | Moore et al. 2001 Int J Epidemiol. ²⁹ |

| CMIN Peru95 | Peru | 1995 - 1998 | Prospective Cohort | 224 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 3979 | Checkley et al. 2003 Am J Epidemiol. ³⁰ |
|--------------|---------|----------------|-----------------------|------|-------------------|-------|---|
| CMIN Peru89 | Peru | 1989 - 1991 | Prospective Cohort | 210 | Birth, 1, 2,, 24 | 2742 | Checkley et al. 1998 Am J Epidemiol. ³¹ |
| Europe | | | , | | | , | |
| PROBIT Study | Belarus | 1996 - 1997 | Cluster RCT | 8127 | 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12 | 58649 | Kramer et al 2001 JAMA ³² |

^{*}Children enrolled is for children with measurements under 2 years of age. Total measurements are number of measurements of anthropometry on children under 2 years of age.

Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of participants in each cohort

| | CMC-V-BCS- 2002, India | CMIN Bangladesh 93 | CMIN Brazil 89 | CMIN Guinea- Bissau 94 | CMIN Peru 89 | CMIN Peru 95 | CONTENT, Peru | EE, Pakistan | GMS-Nepal | Guatemala BSC |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| | (N=373) | (N=280) | (N=119) | (N=885) | (N=210) | (N=224) | (N=215) | (N=380) | (N=698) | (N=315) |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 187 (50.1%) | 122 (43.6%) | 62 (52.1%) | 443 (50.1%) | 100 (47.6%) | 96 (42.9%) | 109 (50.7%) | 185 (48.7%) | 328 (47.0%) | 162 (51.4%) |
| Male | 186 (49.9%) | 158 (56.4%) | 57 (47.9%) | 442 (49.9%) | 110 (52.4%) | 128 (57.1%) | 106 (49.3%) | 195 (51.3%) | 370 (53.0%) | 153 (48.6%) |
| Birthweight | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 2910 (434) | 2560 (967) | 3270 (477) | 3330 (541) | 3550 (492) | 3690 (367) | 3070 (323) | 2640 (506) | 2660 (423) | |
| Maternal age | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 24.1 (4.11) | | | | | | | 30.0 (3.99) | 24.0 (5.09) | 25.2 (6.21) |
| Maternal weight | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternal education | | | | | | | | | | |
| (years) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 5.43 (4.10) | | | | | | | 0.873 (2.51) | 2.48 (4.01) | 4.07 (2.95) |
| Number of rooms | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4+ | 14 (3.75%) | | | | | | 78 (36.3%) | | 323 (46.3%) | |
| 1 | 202 (54.2%) | | | | | | 44 (20.5%) | | 49 (7.02%) | |
| 2 | 106 (28.4%) | | | | | | 54 (25.1%) | | 145 (20.8%) | |
| 3 | 51 (13.7%) | | | | | | 39 (18.1%) | | 181 (25.9%) | |
| Number of children <5yrs | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2+ | | | | | | | | | | |
| mproved sanitation | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | 201 (93.5%) | | | |
| 0 | | | | | | | 14 (6.51%) | | | |
| Food security level | | | | | | | | | | |
| Food Secure | | | | | | | | | 479 (71.1%) | |
| Mildly Food Insecure | | | | | | | | | 106 (15.7%) | |
| Food Insecure | | | | | | | | | 89 (13.2%) | |

| | IRC, India | JiVitA-3, Bangladesh | JiVitA-4, Bangladesh | Keneba, Gambia | LCNI-5, Malawi | MAL-ED, Bangladesh | MAL-ED, Brazil | MAL-ED, India | MAL-ED, Nepal | MAL-ED, Peru | MAL-ED, South Africa |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | (N=410) | (N=28300) | (N=5449) | (N=2954) | (N=840) | (N=265) | (N=233) | (N=251) | (N=240) | (N=303) | (N=314) |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 185 (45.1%) | 13785 (48.7%) | 2728 (50.1%) | 1426 (48.3%) | 421 (50.1%) | 136 (51.3%) | 113 (48.5%) | 138 (55.0% |) 110 (45.8%) | 143 (47.2% | 5)159 (50.6%) |
| Male | 225 (54.9%) | 14515 (51.3%) | 2721 (49.9%) | 1528 (51.7%) | 419 (49.9%) | 129 (48.7%) | 120 (51.5%) | 113 (45.0% |) 130 (54.2%) | 160 (52.8% | 3)155 (49.4%) |
| Birthweight | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 2890 (448 |) 2550 (428) | 2990 (823) | 2970 (421) | | 2800 (412) | 3340 (483) | 2890 (442) | 2980 (390) | 3130 (430) | 3130 (464) |
| Maternal age | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 23.7 (3.68 |) 21.4 (5.27) | | 27.4 (7.16) | 26.8 (7.87) | 24.8 (4.99) | 24.8 (5.53) | 23.9 (4.10) | 26.4 (3.76) | 24.2 (6.06) | 26.4 (6.86) |
| Maternal weight | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | | 43.7 (6.13) | | | 50.9 (6.66) | 49.6 (8.54) | 61.9 (11.8) | 50.4 (9.37) | 56.3 (8.27) | 55.5 (8.95) | 67.5 (14.9) |
| Maternal education (years) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 5.06 (4.61 |) 5.06 (3.82) | 7.51 (4.82) | | 3.54 (3.34) | 5.63 (2.58) | 9.18 (2.81) | 7.88 (3.17) | 8.77 (3.44) | 7.81 (2.79) | 10.3 (1.94) |
| Number of rooms | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4+ | 17 (4.17% |) 1181 (4.18%) | 286 (5.26%) | | | 12 (4.96%) | 127 (60.5%) | 25 (10.6%) | 131 (55.5%) | 139 (51.1% | 5)196 (76.3%) |
| 1 | 185 (45.3%) | 16754 (59.3%) | 3196 (58.8%) | | | 152 (62.8%) | 4 (1.90%) | 84 (35.7%) | 52 (22.0%) | 19 (6.99%) | 14 (5.45%) |
| 2 | 170 (41.7%) | 7605 (26.9%) | 1389 (25.6%) | | | 50 (20.7%) | 20 (9.52%) | 78 (33.2%) | 31 (13.1%) | 52 (19.1%) | 22 (8.56%) |
| 3 | 36 (8.82% |) 2723 (9.63%) | 562 (10.3%) | | | 28 (11.6%) | 59 (28.1%) | 48 (20.4%) | 22 (9.32%) | 62 (22.8%) | 25 (9.73%) |
| Number of children <5yrs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 89 (21.7% |) 18200 (64.4%) | | | 391 (48.2%) | | | | | | |
| 2+ | 321 (78.3%) | 10066 (35.6%) | | | 421 (51.8%) | | | | | | |
| Improved sanitation | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | 19609 (69.4%) | 4191 (77.1%) | | 3 (0.369%) | 204 (84.3%) | 206 (98.1%) | 108 (46.4% |) 235 (99.6%) | 65 (24.7%) | 4 (1.60%) |
| 0 | | 8655 (30.6%) | 1242 (22.9%) | | 810 (99.6%) | 38 (15.7%) | 4 (1.90%) | 125 (53.6% |) 1 (0.424%) | 198 (75.3% | 5)246 (98.4%) |
| Food security level | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Food Secure | | 8711 (50.0%) | 2751 (50.9%) | | | 161 (83.0%) | 3 (2.33%) | 190 (89.6% |) 94 (73.4%) | 27 (23.9%) | 132 (56.7%) |
| Mildly Food Insecure | | 5793 (33.3%) | 1951 (36.1%) | | | 4 (2.06%) | 11 (8.53%) | 5 (2.36%) | 15 (11.7%) | 29 (25.7%) | 19 (8.15%) |
| Food Insecure | | 2910 (16.7%) | 703 (13.0%) | | | 29 (14.9%) | 115 (89.1%) | 17 (8.02%) | 19 (14.8%) | 57 (50.4%) | 82 (35.2%) |

| | MAL-ED, Tanzania | NIH-Birth, Bangladesh | NIH-Crypto, Bangladesh | PROBIT, Belarus | PROVIDE, Bangladesh | ResPak, Pakistan | SAS- CompFeed, India | SAS- FoodSuppl, India | Tanzania Child 2 TDC, India ZVITAMBO, Zimbabwe | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------|----------------|
| | (N=262) | (N=629) | (N=758) | (N=17046) | (N=700) | (N=284) | (N=1535) | (N=418) | (N=2400) | (N=160) | (N=14104) |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 133 (50.8% | %) 297 (47.2%) | 381 (50.3%) | 8217 (48.2%) | 332 (47.4%) | 136 (47.9%) | 702 (45.7%) | 223 (53.3%) | 1184 (49.3%) | 75 (46.99 | %)6847 (48.5%) |
| Male | 129 (49.2% | %) 332 (52.8%) | 377 (49.7%) | 8829 (51.8%) | 368 (52.6%) | 148 (52.1%) | 833 (54.3%) | 195 (46.7%) | 1216 (50.7%) | 85 (53.19 | %)7257 (51.5%) |
| Birthweight | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 3180 (452) | 2710 (414) | 2800 (410) | 3440 (419) | 2780 (371) | 2930 (525) | 2750 (516) | | 3230 (474) | 2910 (450) | 2970 (456) |
| Maternal age | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 28.4 (6.67) | 25.0 (5.32) | 24.3 (4.68) | 24.9 (4.92) | 24.7 (4.65) | | 23.6 (4.08) | 25.0 (4.63) | 26.4 (5.04) | | 24.5 (5.30) |
| Maternal weight | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 55.7 (9.11) | 48.0 (8.51) | 52.1 (9.17) | 66.2 (12.5) | 49.3 (9.41) | | 47.6 (7.05) | | 62.2 (11.7) | | 60.0 (11.1) |
| Maternal education (years) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean (SD) | 6.17 (1.79) | 3.76 (3.45) | 5.77 (3.63) | 13.0 (1.40) | 4.33 (3.62) | | 4.42 (4.52) | 1.25 (2.70) | 7.90 (2.27) | | 9.66 (1.95) |
| Number of rooms | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4+ | 108 (43.2% | 6) | 95 (12.5%) | | 23 (3.29%) | | | | | 5 (3.13% |) |
| 1 | 13 (5.20%) | | 368 (48.5%) | | 507 (72.4%) | | | | | 91 (56.99 | %) |
| 2 | 63 (25.2%) | | 191 (25.2%) | | 108 (15.4%) | | | | | 49 (30.69 | %) |
| 3 | 66 (26.4%) | | 104 (13.7%) | | 62 (8.86%) | | | | | 15 (9.389 | %) |
| Number of children <5yrs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | 541 (71.4%) | | 512 (73.1%) | | | | 1640 (68.6%) | | |
| 2+ | | | 217 (28.6%) | | 188 (26.9%) | | | | 749 (31.4%) | | |
| Improved sanitation | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | 242 (38.5%) | 655 (87.7%) | | 58 (96.7%) | | | | | | |
| 0 | | 387 (61.5%) | 92 (12.3%) | | 2 (3.33%) | | | | | | |
| Food security level | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Food Secure | | 95 (15.1%) | 453 (59.8%) | | | | | | | | |
| Mildly Food Insecure | | 492 (78.2%) | 219 (28.9%) | | | | | | | | |
| Food Insecure | | 42 (6.68%) | 86 (11.3%) | | | | | | | | |

Supplementary Table 3. Number of children included by subgroup and region

| | | 0 11 4 1 | | _ | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Africa | South Asia | Latin America | Europe | Overall |
| | (N=21759) | (N=40279) | (N=1619) | (N=16898) | (N=80555) |
| Decade | | | | | |
| 1990s | 16364 (75.2%) | 2233 (5.5%) | 868 (53.6%) | 16898 (100%) | 36363 (45.1%) |
| 2000s | 5063 (23.3%) | 23108 (57.4%) | 423 (26.1%) | 0 (0%) | 28594 (35.5%) |
| 2010s | 332 (1.5%) | 14938 (37.1%) | 328 (20.3%) | 0 (0%) | 15598 (19.4%) |
| Gross domestic product | per capita (in millions | of USD) | | | |
| < \$1,026 | 21445 (98.6%) | 38119 (94.6%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 59564 (73.9%) |
| ≥ \$1,026 | 314 (1.4%) | 2160 (5.4%) | 1619 (100%) | 16898 (100%) | 20991 (26.1%) |
| Gender development inc | dex | | | | |
| < 10 | 2223 (10.2%) | 25265 (62.7%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 27488 (34.1%) |
| 10 – 16 | 14898 (68.5%) | 15014 (37.3%) | 315 (19.5%) | 0 (0%) | 30227 (37.5%) |
| ≥ 16 | 821 (3.8%) | 0 (0%) | 1009 (62.3%) | 16898 (100%) | 18728 (23.2%) |
| Missing | 3817 (17.5%) | 0 (0%) | 295 (18.2%) | 0 (0%) | 4112 (5.1%) |
| Gender inequality index | | | | | |
| < 0.596 | 10378 (47.7%) | 2606 (6.5%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 12984 (16.1%) |
| 0.596 - 0.614 | 7250 (33.3%) | 14604 (36.3%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 21854 (27.1%) |
| ≥ 0.614 | 314 (1.4%) | 23069 (57.3%) | 1522 (94.0%) | 0 (0%) | 24905 (30.9%) |
| Missing | 3817 (17.5%) | 0 (0%) | 97 (6.0%) | 16898 (100%) | 20812 (25.8%) |
| Coefficient of human inc | equality | | | | |
| < 28.3 | 2117 (9.7%) | 7255 (18.0%) | 358 (22.1%) | 0 (0%) | 9730 (12.1%) |
| 28.3 – 29.3 | 0 (0%) | 9959 (24.7%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 9959 (12.4%) |
| ≥ 29.3 | 0 (0%) | 20459 (50.8%) | 393 (24.3%) | 0 (0%) | 20852 (25.9%) |
| Missing | 19642 (90.3%) | 2606 (6.5%) | 868 (53.6%) | 16898 (100%) | 40014 (49.7%) |
| GINI coefficient | | | | | |
| < 32.32 | 0 (0%) | 30713 (76.3%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 30713 (38.1%) |
| 32.32 - 32.54 | 0 (0%) | 5899 (14.6%) | 0 (0%) | 16898 (100%) | 22797 (28.3%) |
| ≥ 32.54 | 7107 (32.7%) | 3667 (9.1%) | 1409 (87.0%) | 0 (0%) | 12183 (15.1%) |
| Missing | 14652 (67.3%) | 0 (0%) | 210 (13.0%) | 0 (0%) | 14862 (18.4%) |
| Total expenditure on he | alth (as % of gross do | mestic product) | | | |
| 1 – 3% | 0 (0%) | 28901 (71.8%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 28901 (35.9%) |
| 3 – 5% | 1337 (6.1%) | 11098 (27.6%) | 742 (45.8%) | 0 (0%) | 13177 (16.4%) |
| ≥ 5% | 5399 (24.8%) | 0 (0%) | 582 (35.9%) | 16898 (100%) | 22879 (28.4%) |
| Missing | 15023 (69.0%) | 280 (0.7%) | 295 (18.2%) | 0 (0%) | 15598 (19.4%) |
| % of population living or | n below \$1.90 per day | | | | |
| < 18% | 314 (1.4%) | 7891 (19.6%) | 1207 (74.6%) | 16898 (100%) | 26310 (32.7%) |
| 18 – 28% | 129 (0.6%) | 29339 (72.8%) | 202 (12.5%) | 0 (0%) | 29670 (36.8%) |
| ≥ 28% | 6664 (30.6%) | 3049 (7.6%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 9713 (12.1%) |
| Missing | 14652 (67.3%) | 0 (0%) | 210 (13.0%) | 0 (0%) | 14862 (18.4%) |
| Under-5 mortality rate | , , | | • | • • | |
| <50 per 100,000 | 196 (0.9%) | 22027 (54.7%) | 852 (52.6%) | 16898 (100%) | 39973 (49.6%) |
| 50-95 per 100,000 | 4250 (19.5%) | 16591 (41.2%) | 767 (47.4%) | 0 (0%) | 21608 (26.8%) |
| >95 per 100,000 | 17313 (79.6%) | 1661 (4.1%) | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) | 18974 (23.6%) |
| -5 pc. 200,000 | =: === (; 5:5;0) | | 2 (3/3) | 2 (3/0) | 1007 (201070) |