

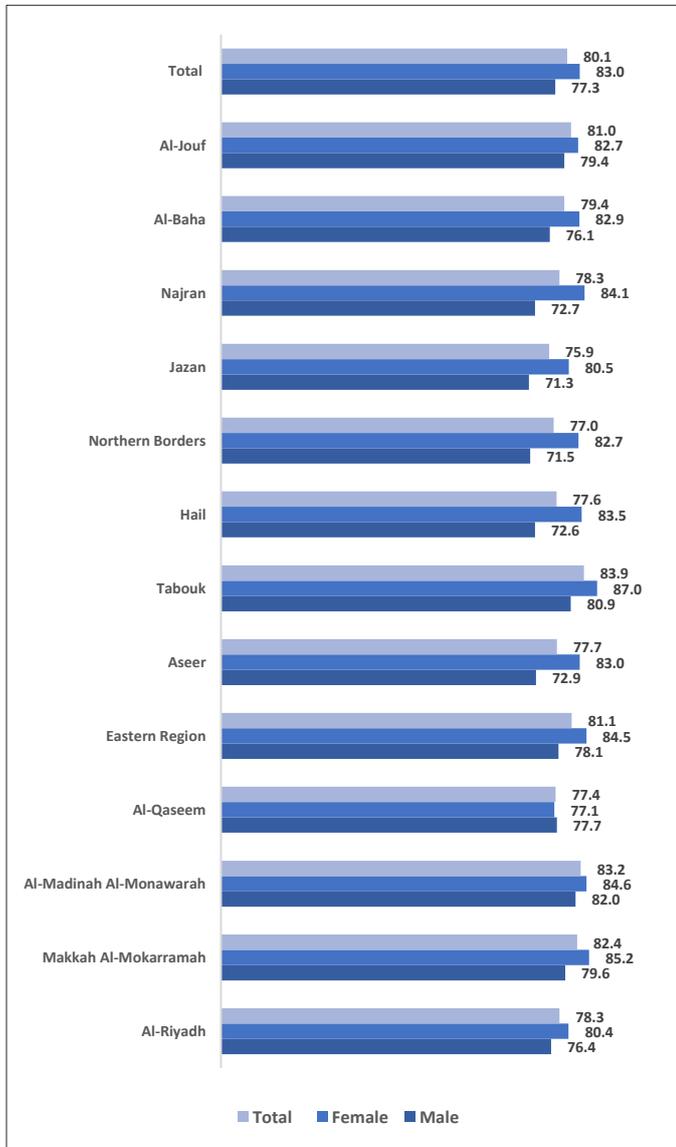
## 80.1% of children in KSA on right growth path in terms of health, learning, and psychological and social well-being

The Early Childhood Development Index 2030 (ECDI2030) module captures the achievement of key developmental milestones by children between the ages of 24 and 59 months. The data generated by the Child Health and Well-being Survey utilized ECDI2030 for monitoring and reporting on SDG indicator 4.2.1. In 2023, the ECDI2030 revealed that the percentage of children who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being reached 80.1%. The ECDI2030 indicator is defined as follows: the numerator is the number of children 24 to 59 months who have achieved the minimum number of milestones expected for their age group and the denominator is the total number of children 24 to 59 months.

### Girls score higher on early childhood development index than boys

The results show that 83% of girls at the age between 2 and under 5 years in the Kingdom are on the right growth path in terms of health, learning, and psychological and social well-being, compared to 77.3% of boys. Tabuk region had the highest early childhood development index value with 83.9%, while Jazan region had the lowest value with 75.9%.

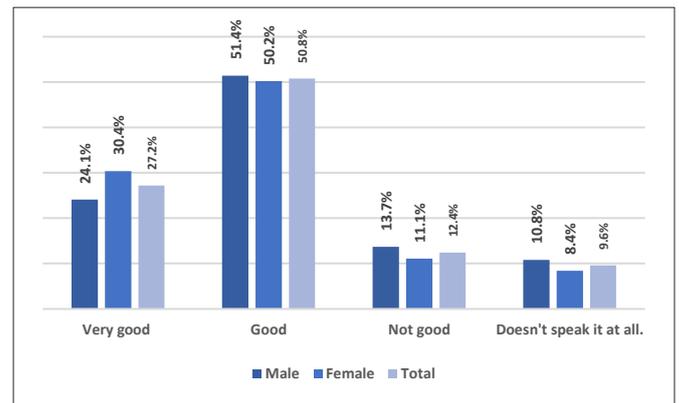
Figure 1: Percentage of children aged (24-59) months who are on the right growth path in terms of health, learning, and psychological and social well-being by administrative region and sex



### Language skills

The results show that 78% of children under the age of five were able to speak at least one language. The share of boys was 75.5% compared to 80.6% of girls.

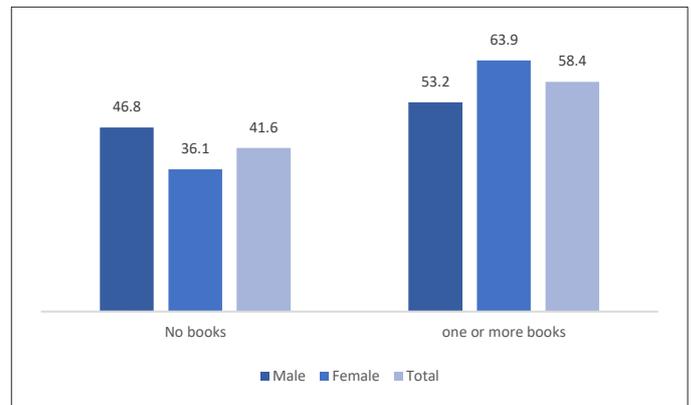
Figure 2: Percentage of children under five years who have the ability to pronounce and speak any language



### 58.4% of children aged 7-14 years have one or more books

58.4% of children have one or more books to read at home. The share of girls who had one or more books to read at home was 63.9% compared to 53.2% for boys.

Figure 3: Percentage of children aged (7-14 years) who had a book at home



### Reference Metadata

This publication reviews the value of Early Childhood Development Index based on the findings of Child Health and Well-being Survey for 2023, and population estimates from the General Authority for Statistics for the year 2023. For more details about the methodology, click on: [Reference Metadata](#)

<sup>1</sup> The indicator derived from the ECDI2030 is the proportion of children aged 24 to 59 months who have achieved the minimum number of milestones expected for their age group, defined as follows: • Children age 24 to 29 months are classified as developmentally on-track if they have achieved at least 7 milestones; • Children age 30 to 35 months are classified as developmentally on-track if they have achieved at least 9 milestones; • Children age 36 to 41 months are classified as developmentally on-track if they have achieved at least 11 milestones; • Children age 42 to 47 months are classified as developmentally on-track if they have achieved at least 13 milestones; • Children age 48 to 59 months are classified as developmentally on-track if they have achieved at least 15 milestones.