



Regional SDG Data





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SDG Data

This section of the Annual SDG Review 2022 sets out charts of selected SDG data at the regional and subregional levels, providing comparisons to the world where available. Data was obtained from the Arab SDG Monitor as at January 2022. Key messages are also provided for each Goal, including on the level of data availability. For further statistics, see:

[Arab SDG Monitor](#)

[Arab Data Portal](#)

1 NO POVERTY



Evidence strength

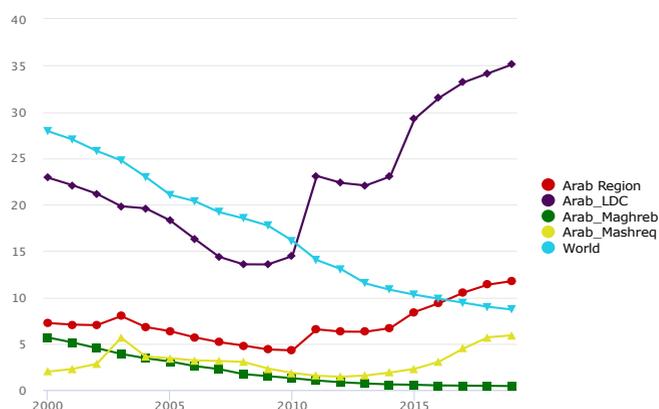
54%

SDG 1 – No poverty

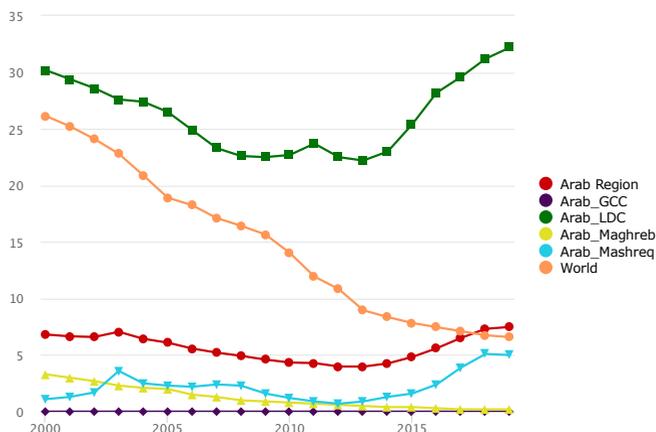
- Poverty remains widespread in the Arab region, which has seen the proportion of the population living below the international poverty line increase sharply since 2010, contrary to the world trend. Poverty among those employed is also increasing in the region.
- While the share of vulnerable employment is decreasing and is way below the world's average, it remains more pronounced among women.
- The adult illiteracy rate remains above the world's average, and is significant among women.
- The Arab region has made progress in providing basic water and sanitation services to residents, surpassing the world's average on the latter.

Data is unavailable for several key indicators, such as disaster-related indicators.

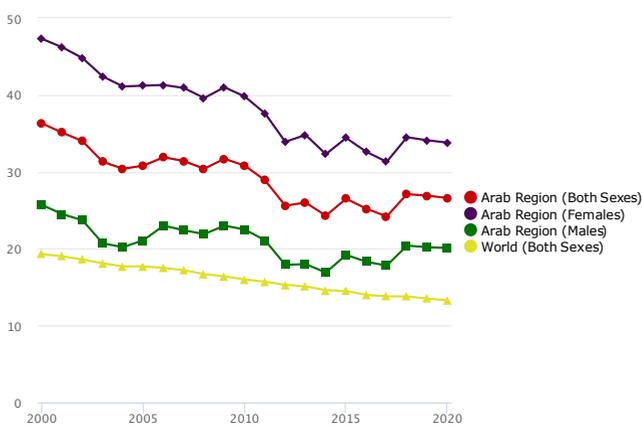
1.1.1 Population below international poverty line (Percentage)



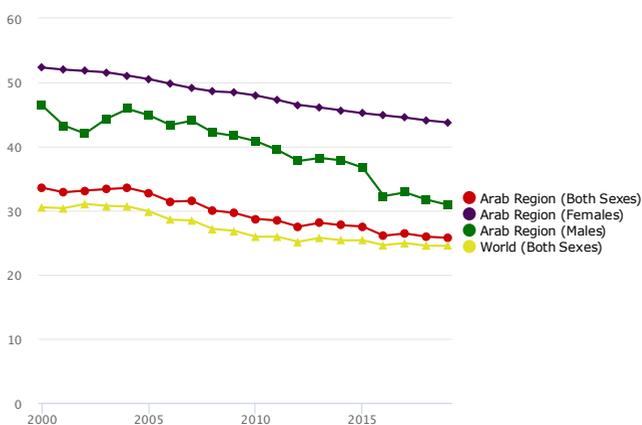
1.1.1 Employed population below the international poverty line (Percentage)



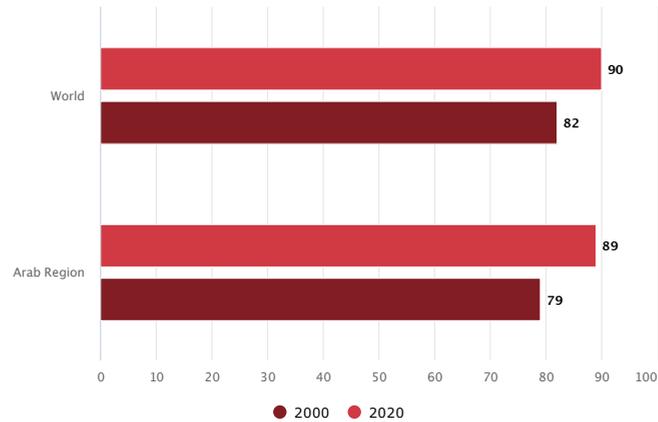
1.2x Adult illiteracy rate (Percentage)



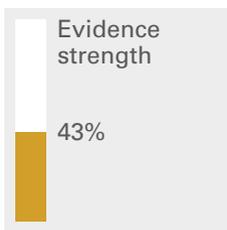
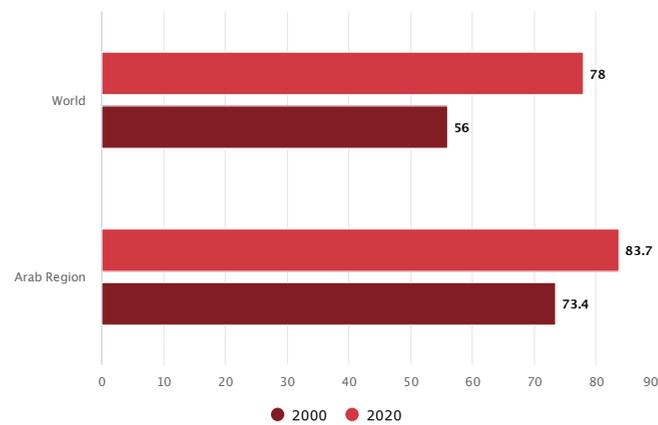
1.3x Vulnerable employment, by sex (Percentage)



1.4.1 Population using basic drinking water services (Percentage)



1.4.1 Population using basic sanitation services (Percentage)



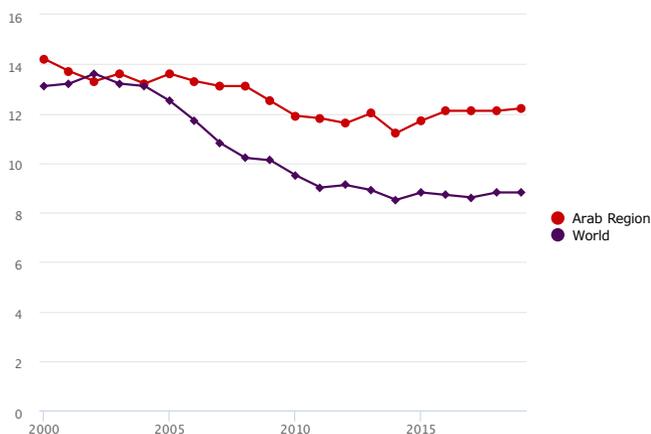
SDG 2: Zero Hunger

- Food security in the Arab region remains a persistent challenge. Undernourishment is above the world's average, and has been slightly on the rise since 2014. Stunting among children and anaemia among women are decreasing, but remain significantly high in the Arab LDCs. The percentage of overweight children continues to increase across the region, and is highest in the Mashreq.
- Following a visible spike in the Agriculture Orientation Index for Government Expenditure in GCC countries in the early 2000s, the Index has subsequently steadily decreased to below the world's average.

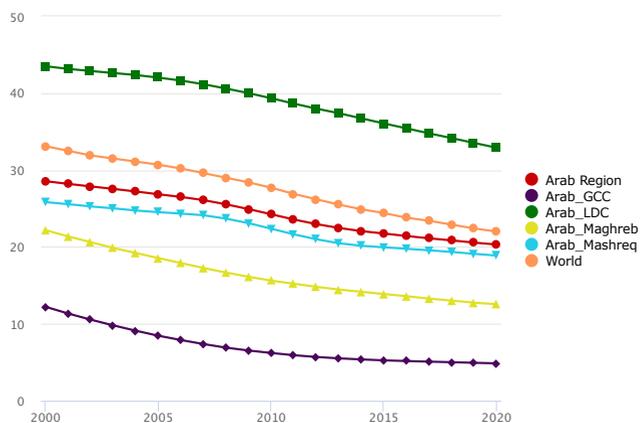
Data is unavailable for key indicators related to agricultural productivity and sustainability.



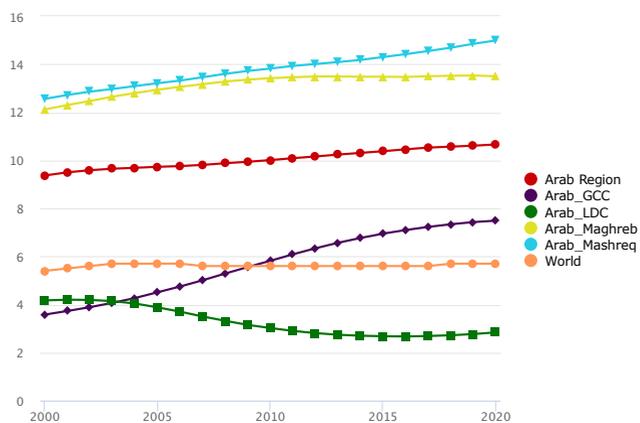
2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment (Percentage)



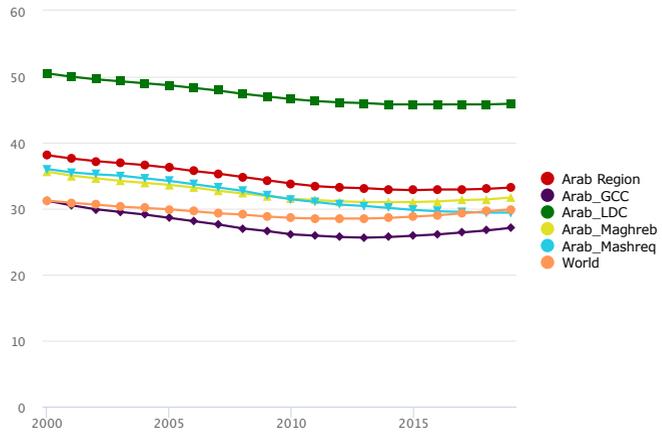
2.2.1 Stunted children (Percentage)



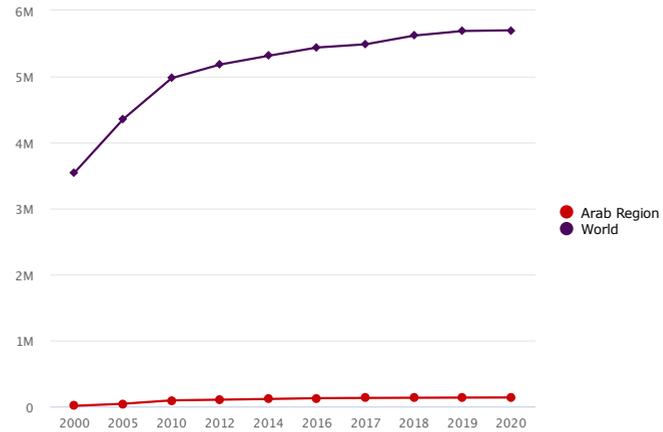
2.2.2. Overweight children (Percentage)



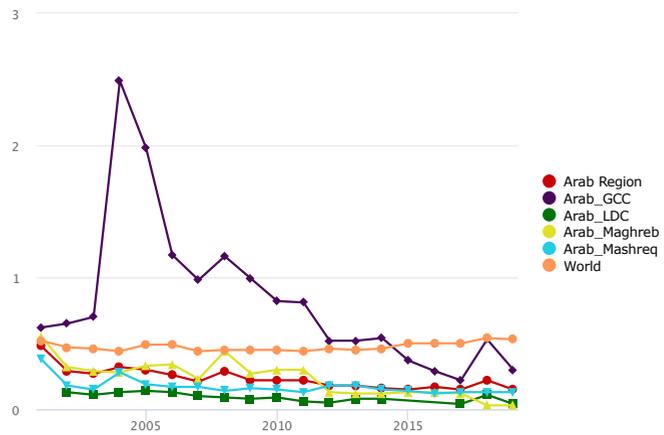
2.2.3 Women with anaemia (Percentage)



2.5.1 Number of stored plant genetic resources



2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index for government expenditure



Note: The Agriculture Orientation Index for Government Expenditure is defined as the agriculture share of government expenditure, divided by the agriculture value added share of GDP.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



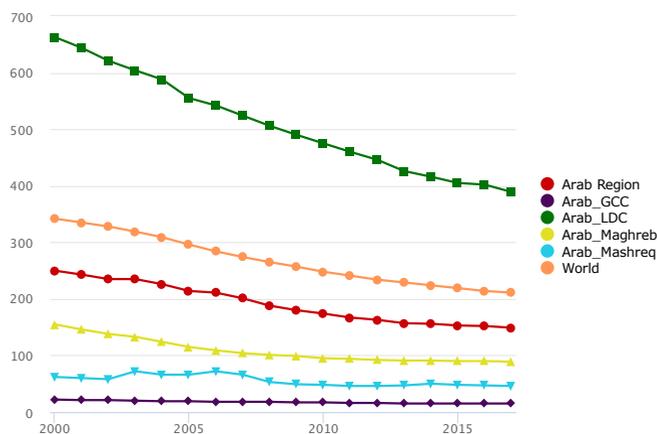
Evidence strength
75%

SDG 3 – Good health and wellbeing

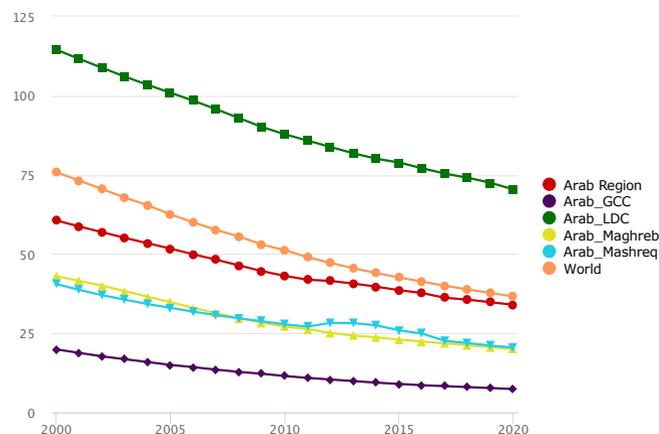
- The region has made significant progress on many health-related indicators over the past decades, notably in terms of reducing under-five and maternal mortality rates, although significant disparities remain between subregions.
- Women’s access to family planning methods is increasing fastest in the Arab LDCs, but remains well below the world’s average.
- The region has underperformed compared with the world in reducing road traffic fatalities, which remain particularly high and on the increase in the Arab LDCs and GCC countries.
- Attainments under the International Health Regulations remain particularly low in the Arab LDCs.

Data availability for health-related indicators is relatively high, with few gaps relating to tobacco use and the health-care workforce.

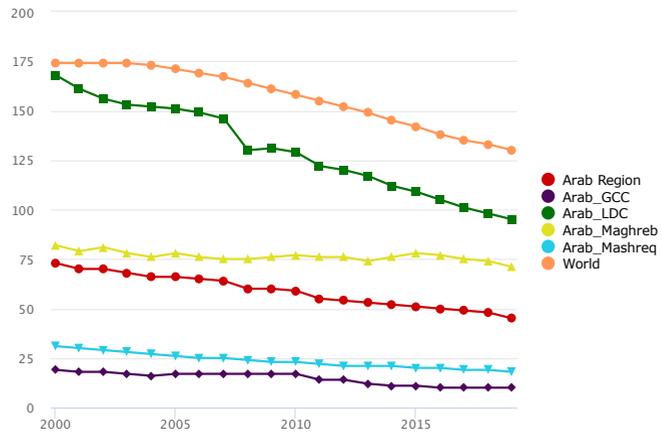
3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (Per 100,000 live births)



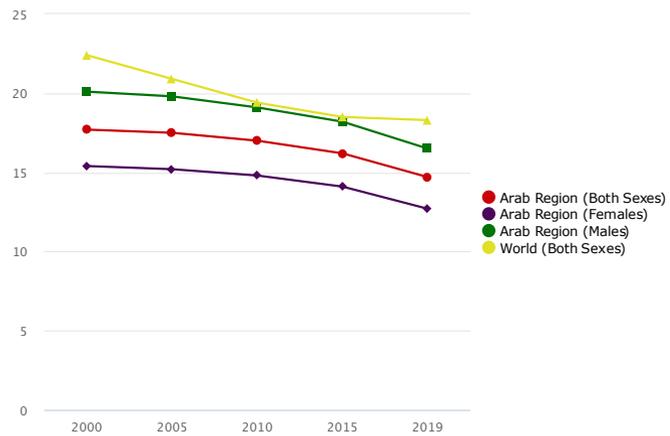
3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate (Per 1,000 live births)



3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence (Per 100,000 population)

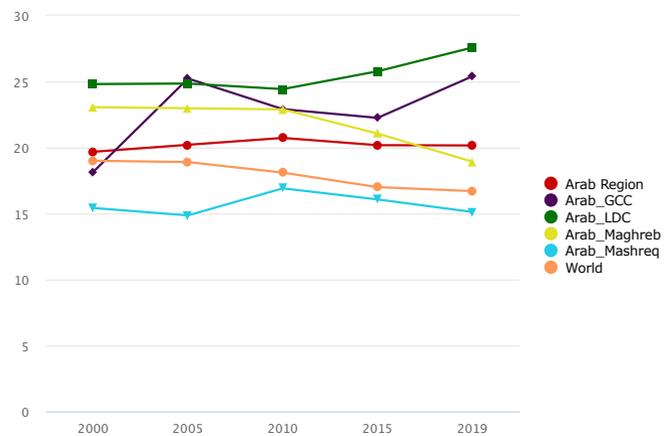


3.4.1 Mortality rate (Probability)

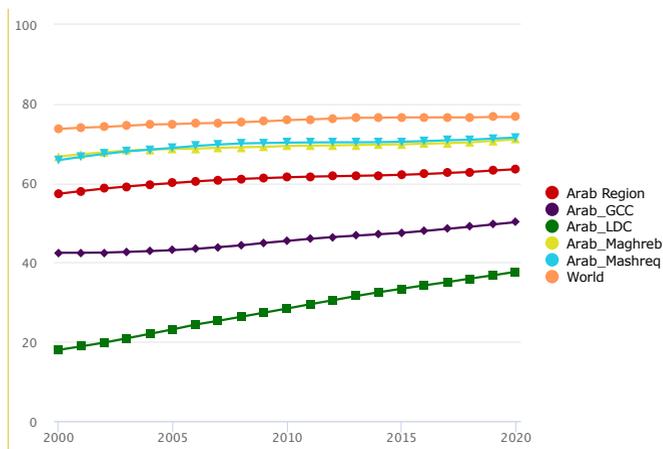


Note: Attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease.

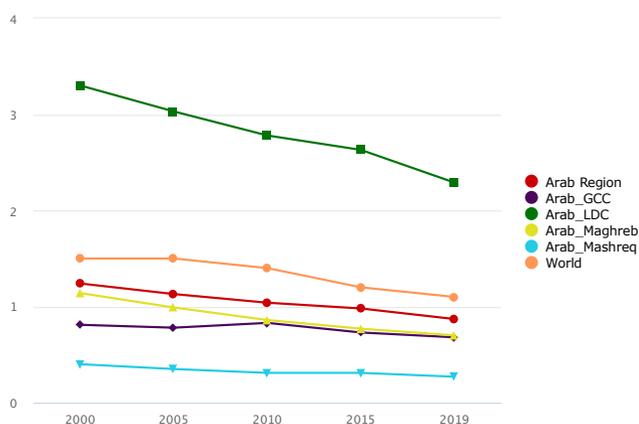
3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries (Per 100,000 of the population)



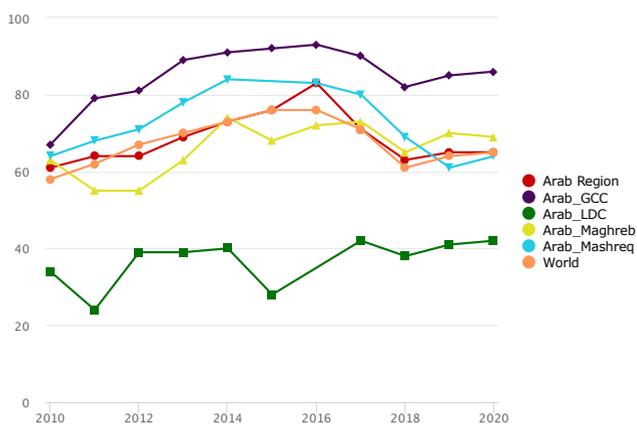
3.7.1 Women (15-49) with satisfied need for modern family planning methods (Percentage)



3.9.3 Mortality rate by unintentional poisoning (Per 100,000 of the population)



3.d.1 International health regulations capacity (Percentage)



Note: International Health Regulations capacity reflects the percentage of attributes of 13 core capacities that have been attained at a specific point in time.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Evidence strength

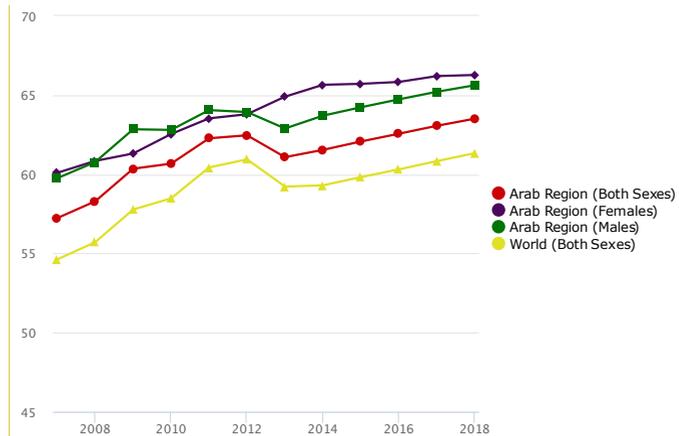
58%

SDG 4 – Quality education

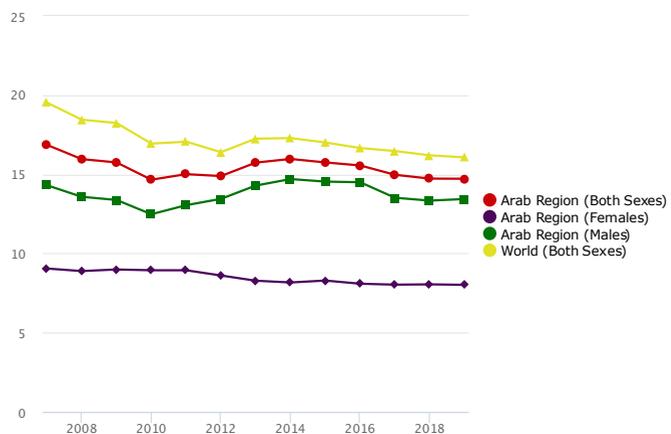
- Since 2000, the region has seen steady improvements in secondary school enrolment for both sexes, but remains below the world's average. Despite visible improvements, the region continues to have a proportion of out-of-school children far exceeding the global average, and low rates of enrolment in pre-primary education.
- The region fares generally better than the world's average in terms of equipping its schools with electricity, Internet and drinking water.
- The proportion of primary school teachers with minimum qualifications is slightly above the world's average, notably for male.

Data gaps inhibit the ability to assess the region's progress in increasing educational attainment and learners' acquisition of skills and knowledge.

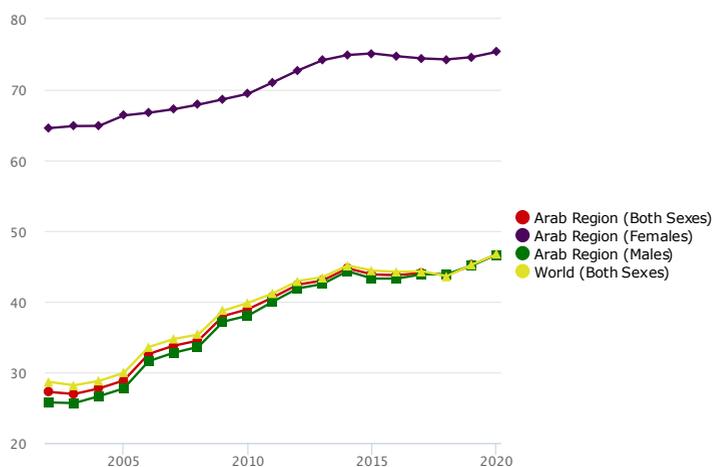
4.1x Secondary school enrollment (Percentage)



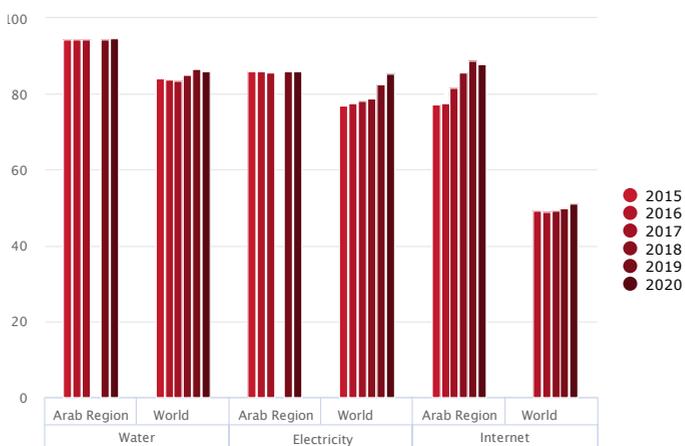
4.2x Children out of primary school (Percentage)



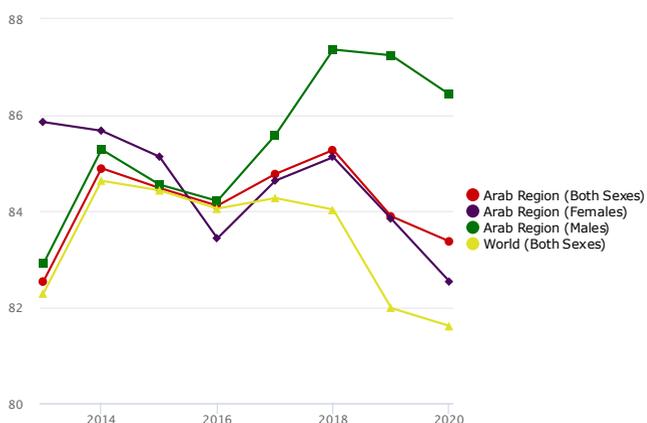
4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (Percentage)



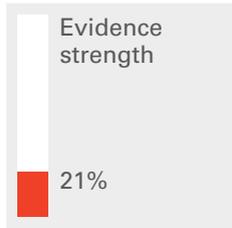
4.a.1 Lower secondary schools with access to internet, electricity, and drinking water (Percentage)



4.c.1 Teachers with minimum qualifications in primary education (Percentage)



5 GENDER EQUALITY

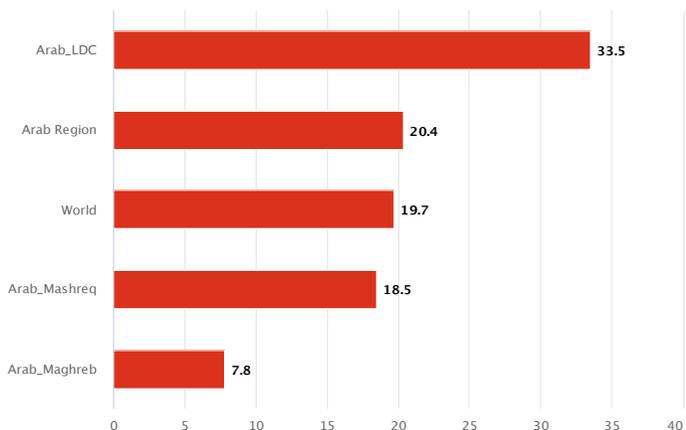


SDG 5 – Gender equality

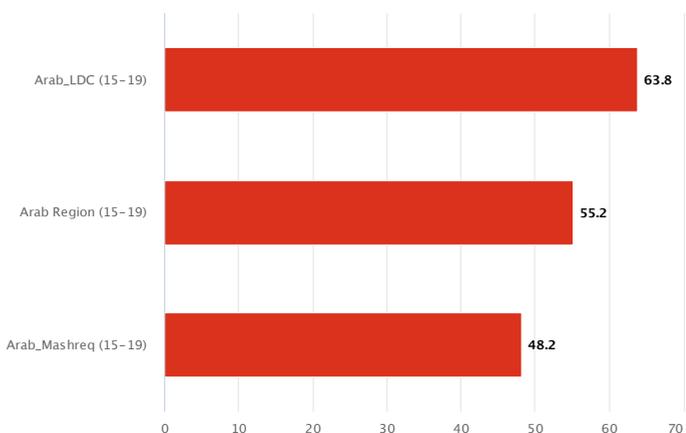
- The Arab region still has work to do to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls. The representation of women in elected local governments is steadily catching up with the world’s average, but remains far from gender parity. However, no visible improvement can be seen in the rate of women in managerial positions, which remains far behind the world’s average.
- Child marriage and female genital mutilation remain high, and the legal environment governing access to sexual and reproductive health care is below international standards across the region.

Data availability is notably weak, impeding the assessment of efforts to end discrimination, guarantee equal rights and access to resources, and eliminate violence against women and girls.

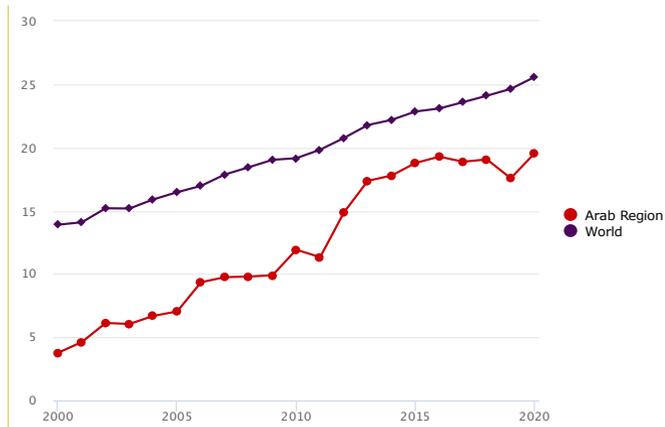
5.3.1 Married women or in a union before age of 18, 2020 (Percentage)



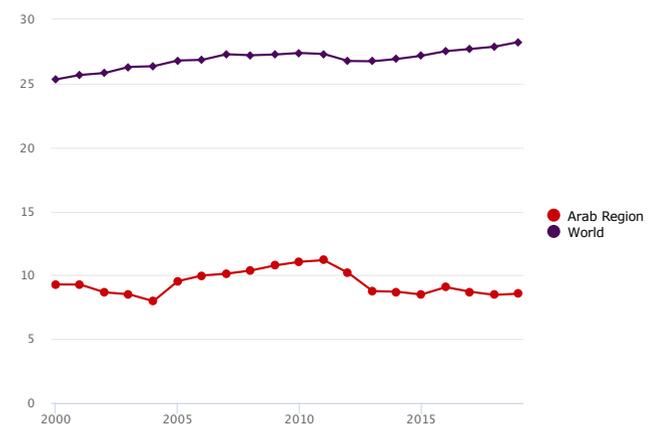
5.3.2 Women who have undergone female genital mutilation, 2020 (Percentage)



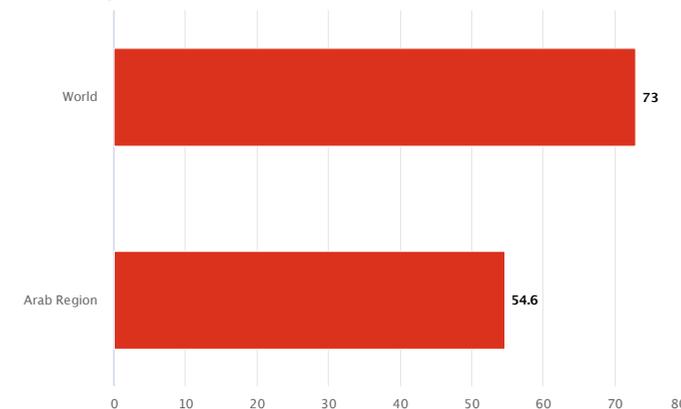
5.5.1 Elected seats held by women in local government (Percentage)



5.5.2 Women in managerial positions (Percentage)



5.6.2 Laws for equal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, 2019 (Percentage)



Note: Measures the extent to which countries have legal and regulatory environments across the following four thematic sections: maternity care; contraception and family planning; comprehensive sexuality education and information; and HIV and HPV.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Evidence strength

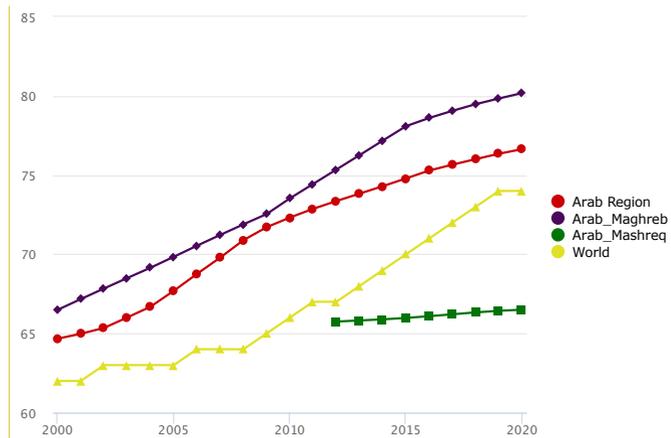
36%

SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation

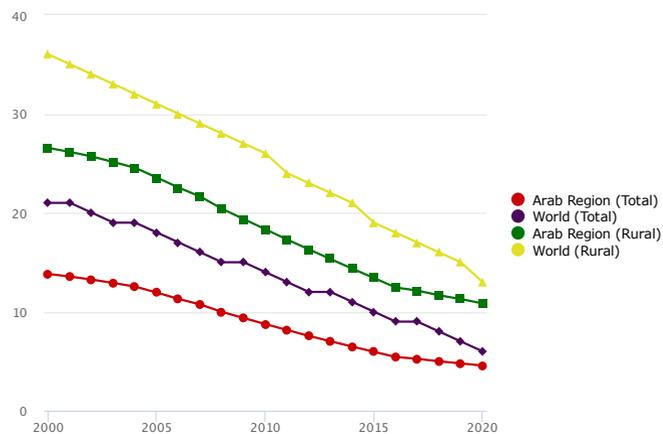
- The Arab region has registered important progress on indicators related to population access to safely managed water and sanitation services since the early 2000s. The practice of open defecation in rural areas of the region is decreasing, and is lower than the world's average for rural areas.
- The GCC subregion is implementing integrated water resources management to a higher degree than other subregions, and is making significant improvements in water use efficiency, which reflects a better ability to decouple economic growth from water use.
- The region needs to bring down freshwater withdrawals to a more sustainable level, and enhance water cooperation arrangements for transboundary basins.

Data gaps relate mainly to water quality, wastewater treatment, and the participation of local communities in water management.

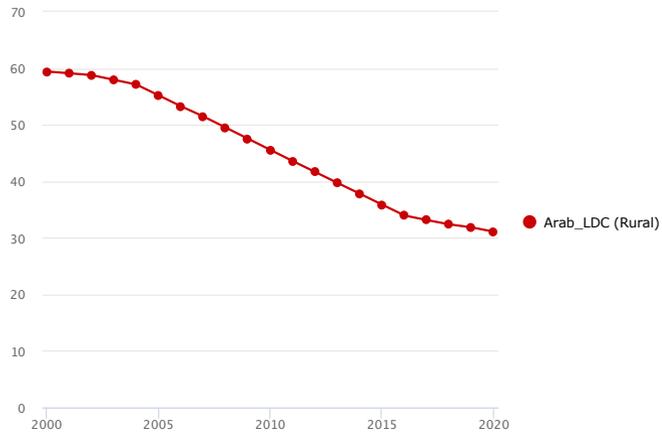
6.1.1 Population using safely managed water (Percentage)



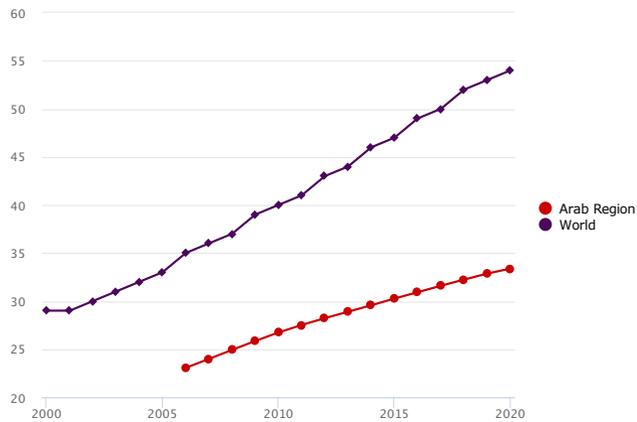
6.2.1 Population practicing open defecation (Percentage)



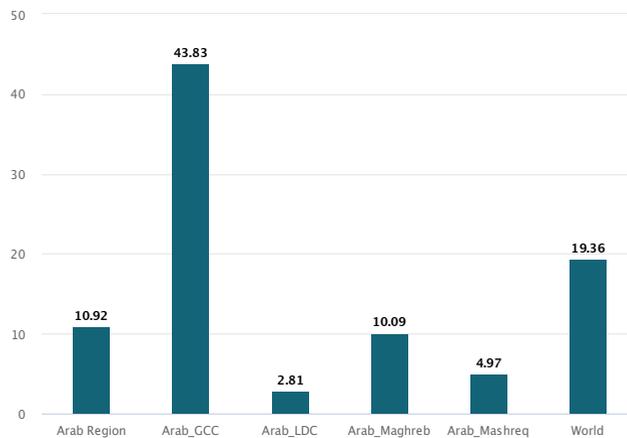
6.2.1 Population practicing open defecation, Arab LDCs, rural (Percentage)



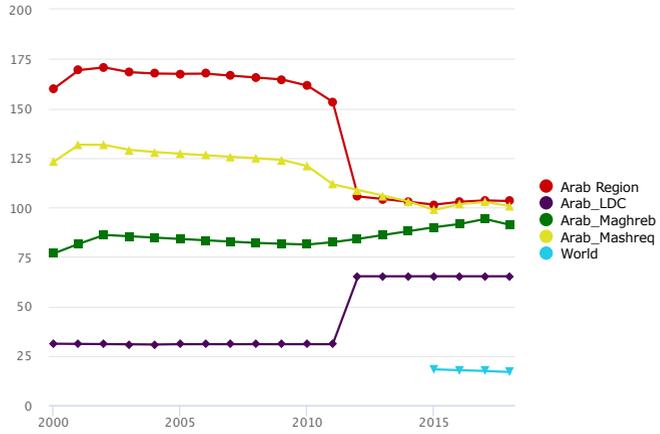
6.2.1 Population using safely managed sanitation services (Percentage)



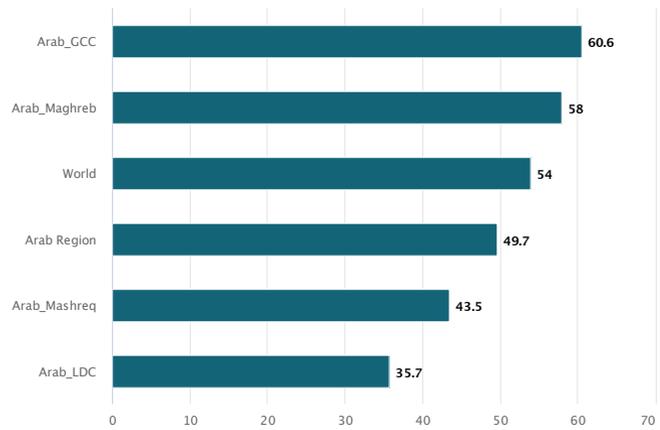
6.4.1 Water use efficiency, 2018 (USD/m³)



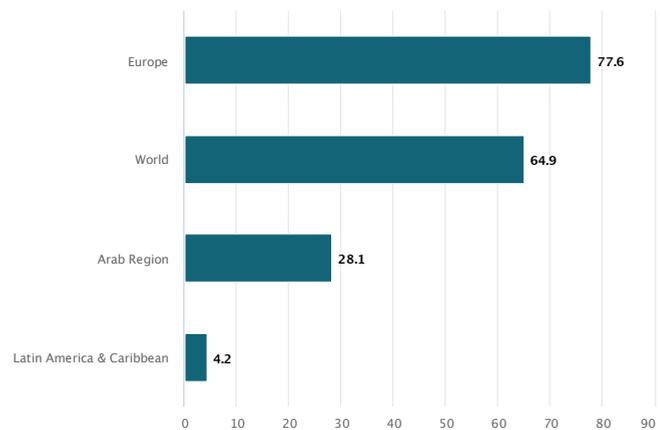
6.4.2 Freshwater withdrawal (Percentage)



6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (Percentage)



6.5.2 Transboundary river and lake basins with operational arrangement for water cooperation, 2020 (Percentage)



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



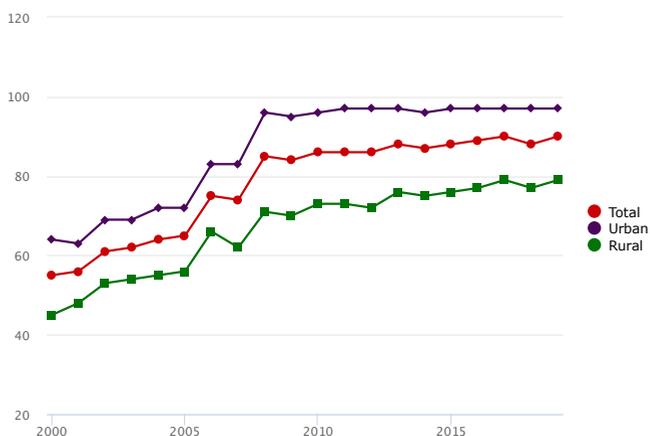
Evidence strength
67%

SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy

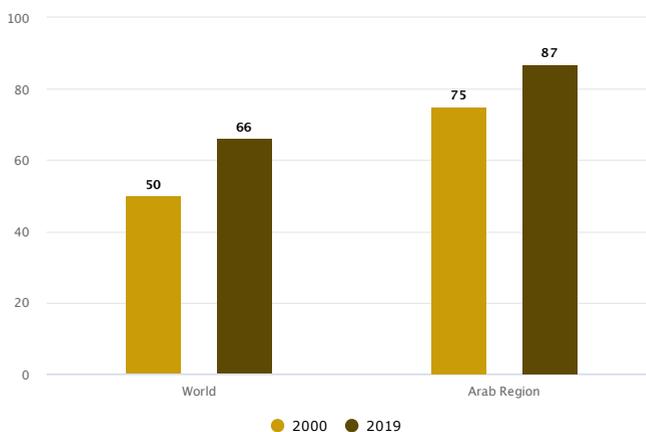
- Since 2000, the Arab region has made significant progress in extending access to electricity and clean fuels. However, the region appears to be struggling to increase the share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption and in installed renewable electricity-generating capacity per capita, both of which remain well below the world’s averages. This could be partially attributed to weak international financial flows into the region in support of clean energy.
- No significant improvement has been registered in the region’s energy intensity since 2000.

Data availability for energy-related indicators is relatively high.

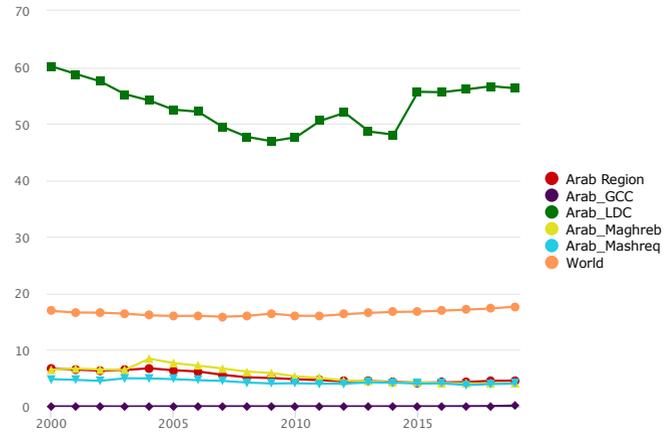
7.1.1 Population with access to electricity by location (Percentage)



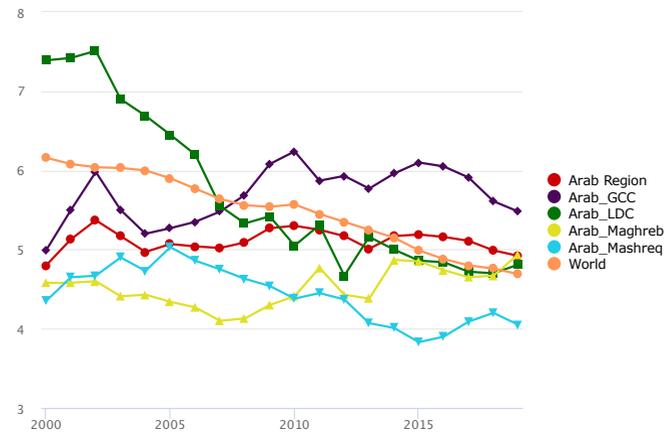
7.1.2 Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology (Percentage)



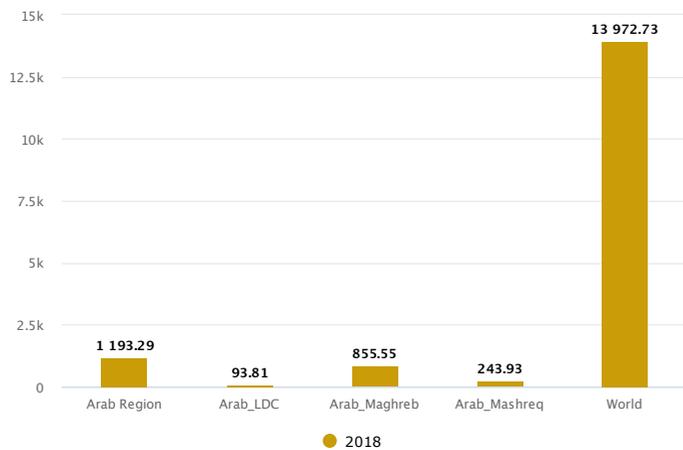
7.2.1 Renewable energy share in final energy consumption (Percentage)



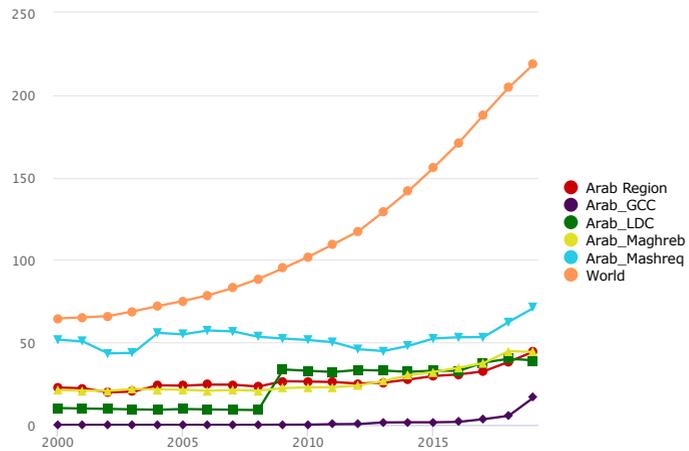
7.3.1 Energy intensity level of primary energy (Megajoules per constant 2011 PPP GDP)



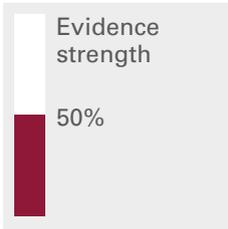
7.a.1 International financial flows into clean energy (Millions of dollars)



7.b.1 Installed renewable electricity-generated capacity (Watts per capita)



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

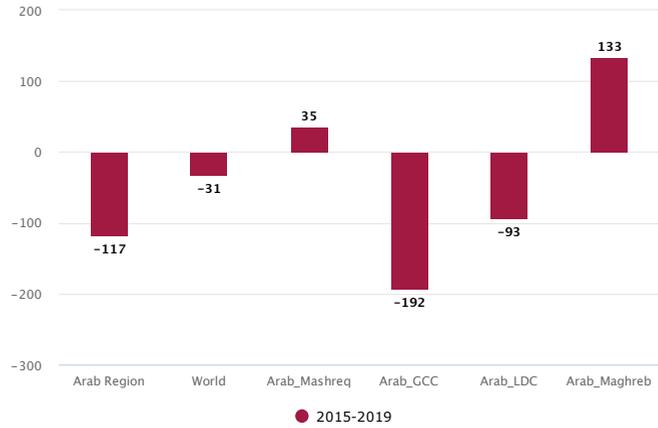


SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth

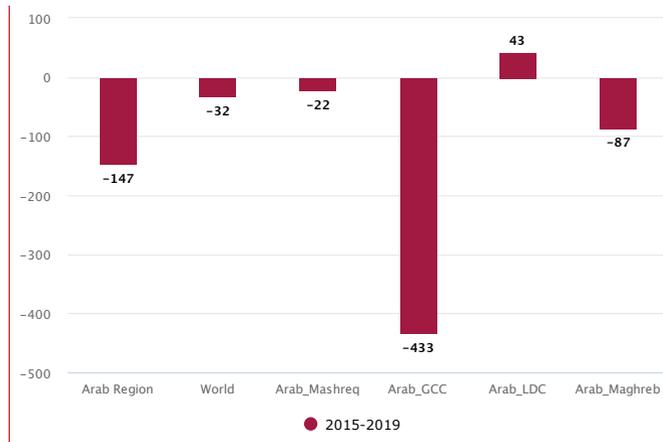
- Low levels of economic growth, over reliance on oil, and the dominance of low-productivity sectors have distorted the region’s labour market, which has failed to meet demand for productive employment and decent work.
- Employment remains a major challenge for the region, especially for women and young people. For example, women in the region aged 15-24 are over three times as likely to be unemployed as their counterparts worldwide.
- The region has an overall low level of account ownership compared with the world’s average, resulting in low levels of financial inclusion, notably for young people, women, persons with primary education and the poor.

Data is largely available for this Goal, with some gaps relating to informal employment and child labour, among others.

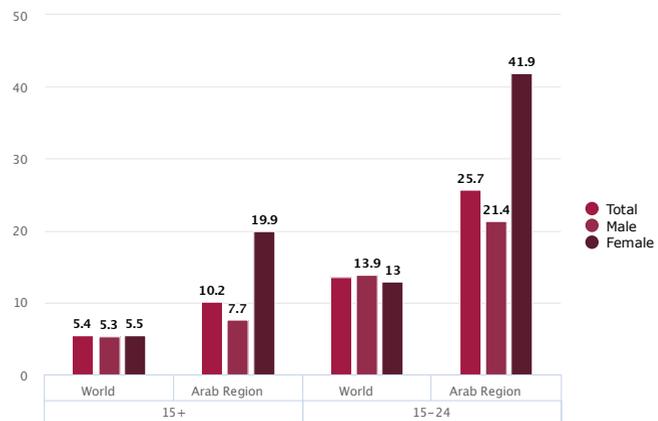
8.1.1 Average Economic Growth (2015-2019) (Percentage)



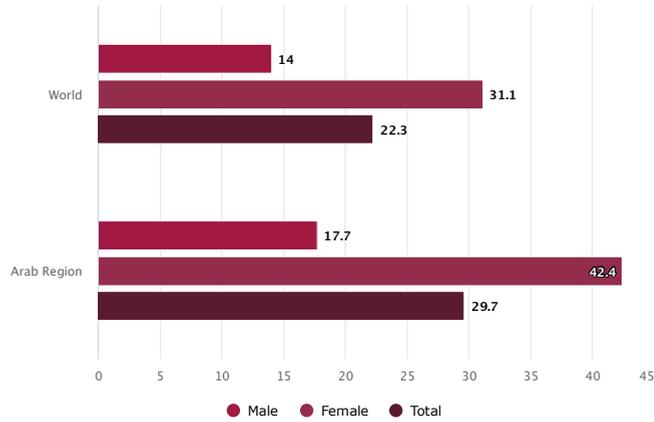
8.2.1 Average Labour Productivity (2015-2019) (Percentage)



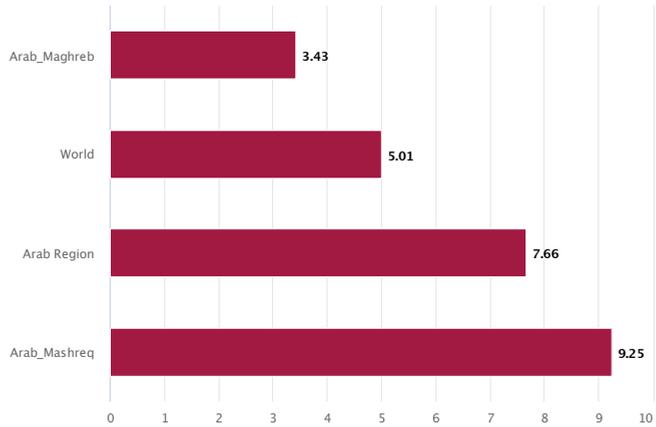
8.5.2 Unemployment, 2019 (Percentage)



8.6.1 Youth not in education, employment or training (Percentage), 2019

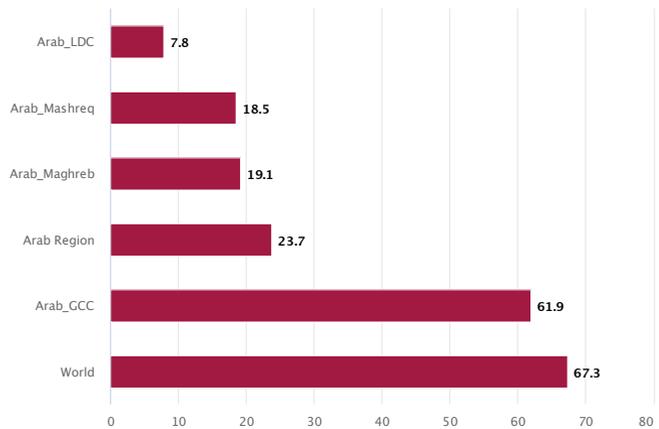


8.8.2 Labour rights, 2020

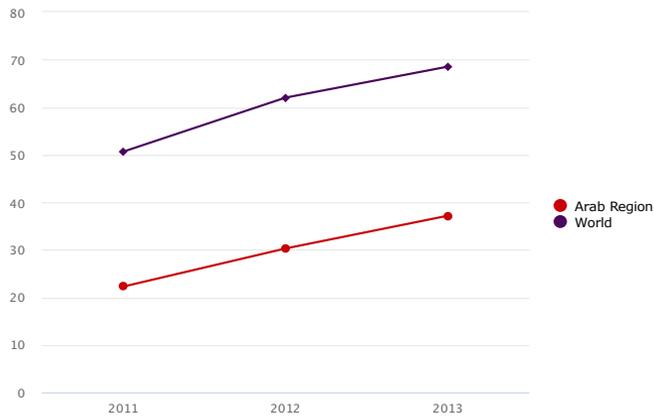


Note: Reflects the level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation.

8.10.1 Number of automated teller machines (Per 100,000 persons), 2020

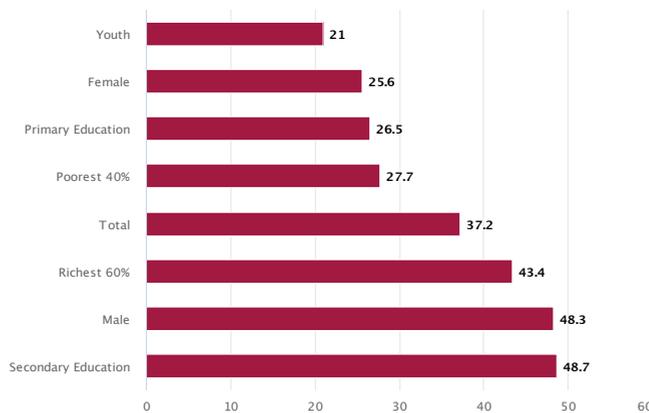


8.10.2 Account ownership (Percentage)

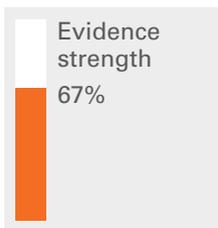


Note: Proportion of adults with an account at a financial institution or a mobile-money-service provider (15 years and older).

8.10.2 Account ownership in the Arab region, 2017 (Percentage)



Note: Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider.



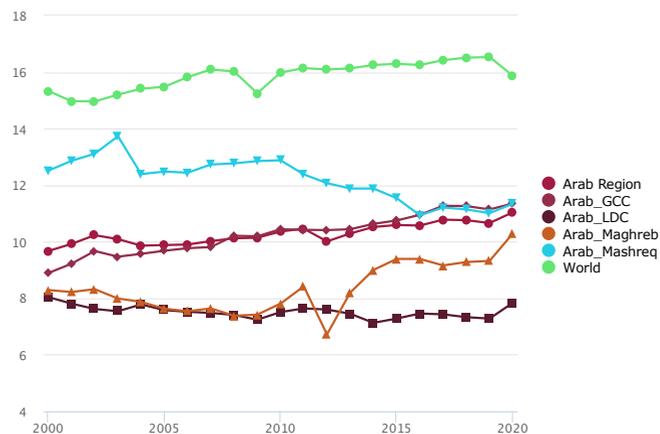
SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

- The Arab region has yet to shift towards sustainable and inclusive industrialization, and to fully reap the benefits of the knowledge economy. Despite minor improvements since 2000, the region's manufacturing sector remains less productive and more polluting than the world's averages, and generates fewer jobs.
- Access of small-scale industrial enterprises to financial services varies across the region, and is particularly low in the Mashreq and the Arab LDCs.

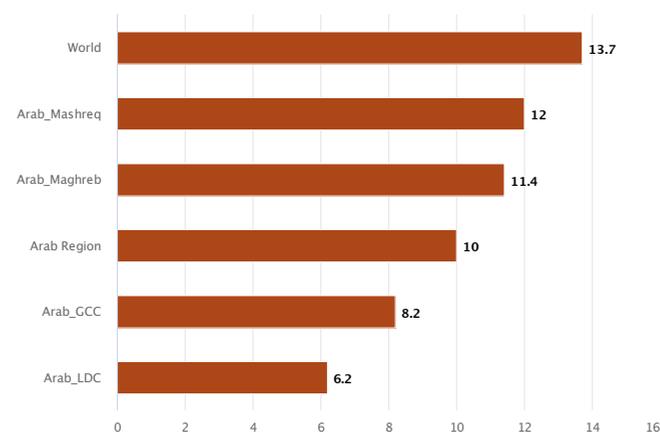
- The region exhibits low value addition in medium- and high-tech industries, and low levels of researchers and research and development expenditures.
- Access to at least a 3G mobile network has been visibly increasing, in line with global growth rates.

Data availability for this Goal is relatively high.

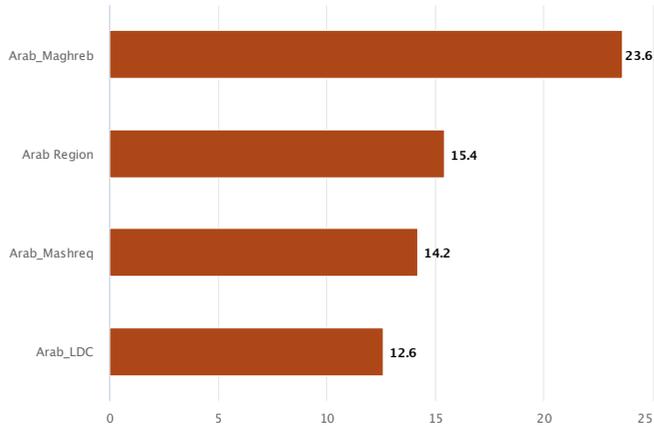
9.2.1 Manufacturing value added (Percentage)



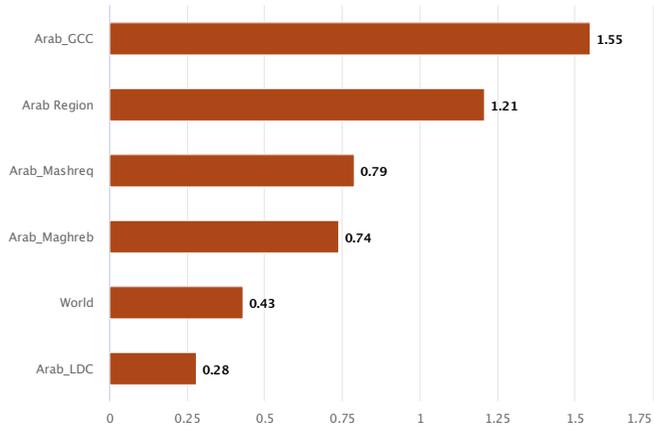
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment, 2019 (Percentage)



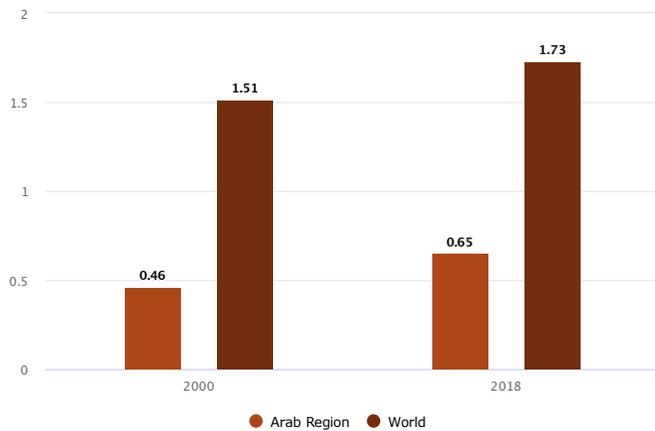
9.3.2 Small-scale industries with loans or credit, 2020 (Percentage)



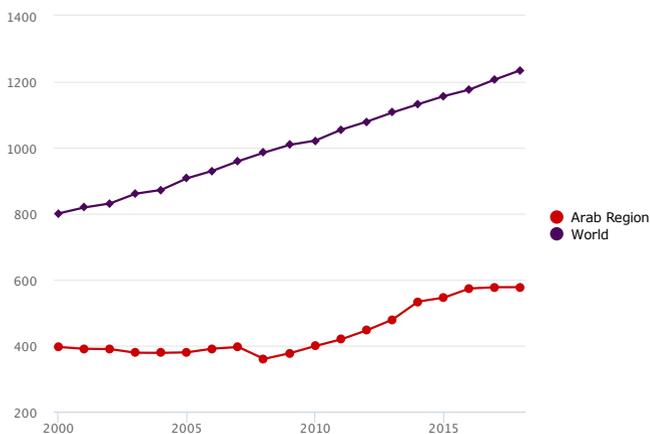
9.4.1 Carbon dioxide emissions per unit of manufacturing value added (Kgs of CO2/constant 2015 USD)



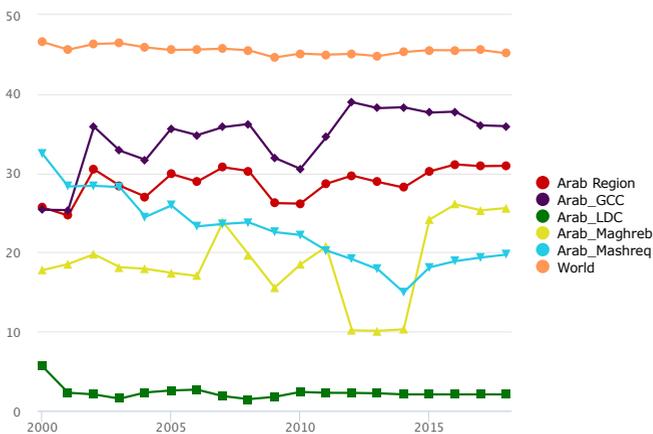
9.5.1 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP (Percentage)



9.5.2 Researchers (Per 1,000,000 population)



9.b.1 Value added of medium- and high-tech industry (Percentage)



9.c.1 Population with access to at least a 3G mobile network (Percentage)



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Evidence strength

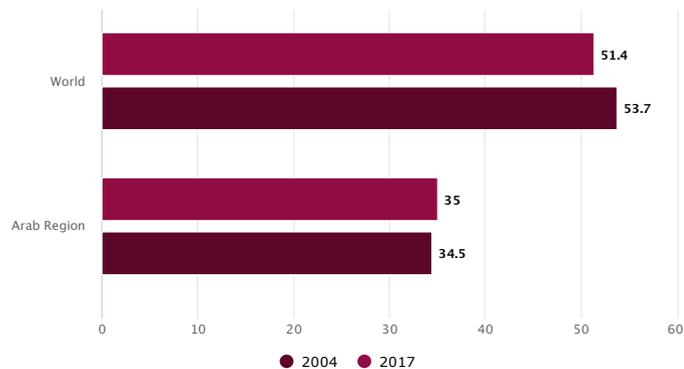
21%

SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities

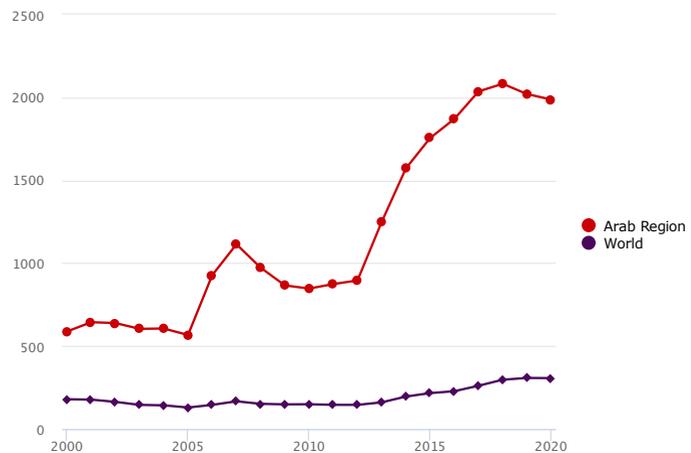
- The Arab region exhibited insignificant change in the compensation of employees as a share of GDP, which remains well below the world's averages, signifying that there were little improvements in the personal income of households.
- Refugees originating from the Arab region have increased visibly over the past 10 years, and constitute a large proportion of its population.
- Remittances received by Arab countries continue to constitute a higher share of GDP compared with the world's average.
- The region's share of official development assistance (ODA) has fluctuated over the years, hovering at around a fifth of the world's ODA in recent years.

Data availability for this Goal is low, with data gaps relating to economic inclusion, discrimination and migration.

10.4.1 Labour share of GDP (Percentage)



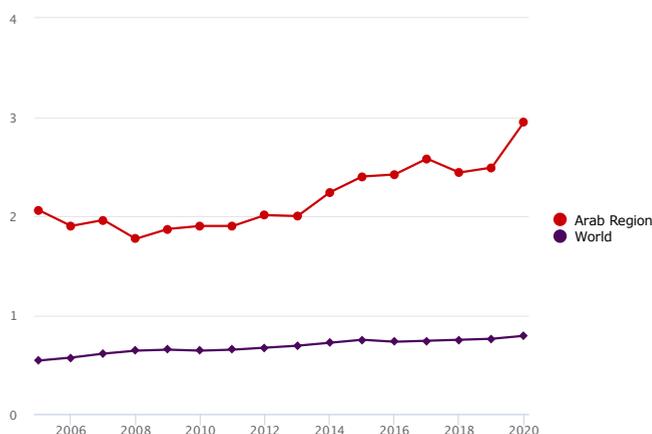
10.7.4 Refugees (Per 100,000 population)



10.b.1x Net official development assistance and official aid received (Constant 2018 US\$ billion)



10.c.x Personal remittances, received (Percentage of GDP)



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Evidence strength

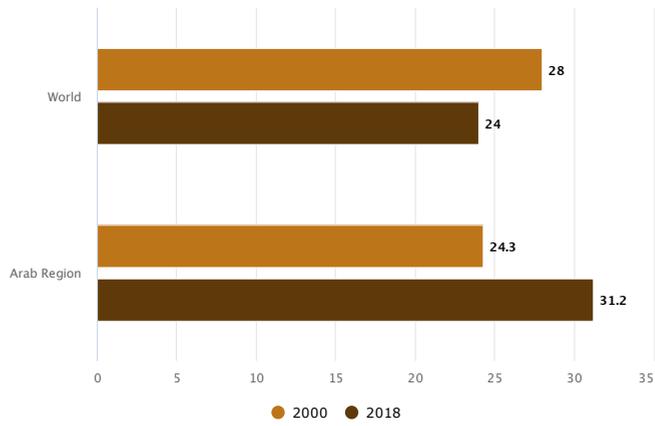
36%

SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

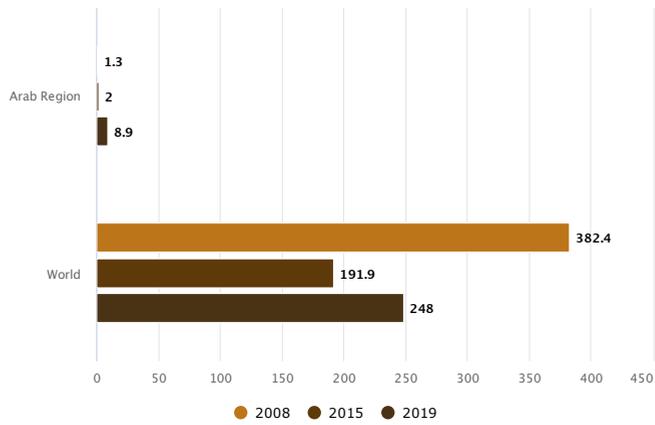
- Increasing and unplanned urbanization in the Arab region has given rise to a variety of challenges. The proportion of the urban population living in slums has increased sharply since 2000, as has urban pollution, both of which exceed the world’s average.
- The number of internally displaced persons owing to disasters has increased visibly over the past 10 years, but remains insignificant compared with the world’s averages.

Data is missing for the majority of SDG 11 indicators, including those related to inclusivity, sustainable transport systems, waste management, public space, and urban-rural linkages.

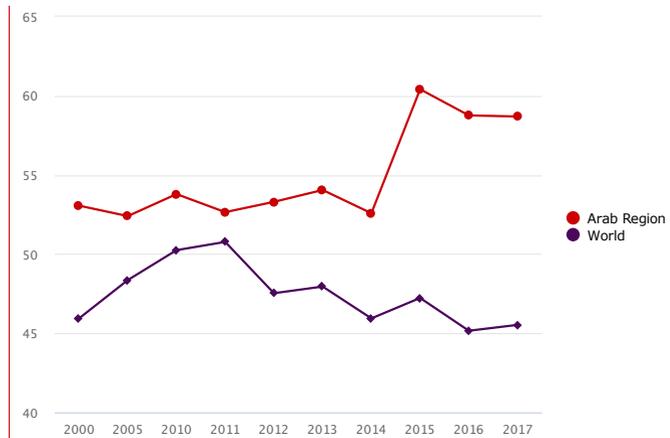
11.1.1 Urban population living in slums (Percentage)



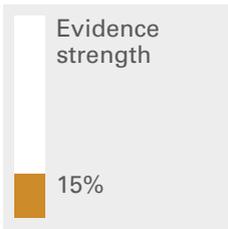
11.5.1x Internally displaced persons associated with disasters (Per 100,000 new cases of displaced persons)



11.6.2 Fine particulate matter in cities (Mg/m³)



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

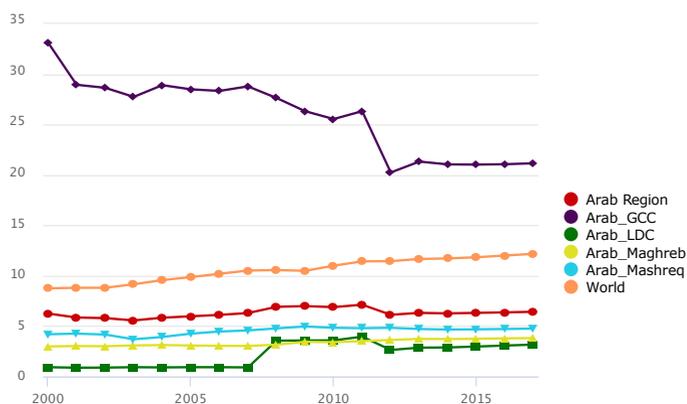


SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production

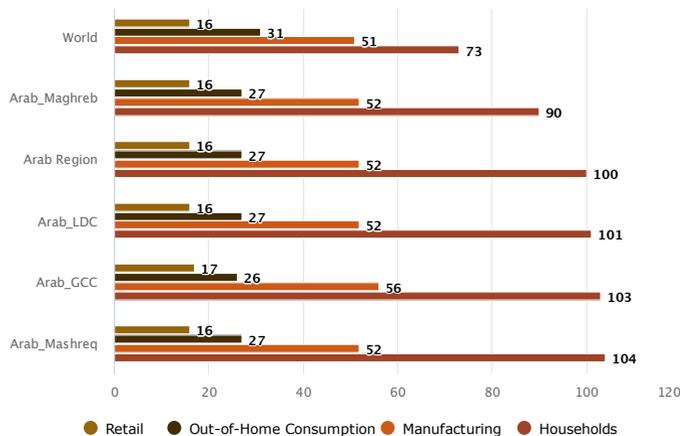
- Except for the GCC subregion, the material footprint in the Arab region is below the world’s average, as is electronic waste generation per capita. However, the region continues to post high rates of food waste relative to the world.
- The region subsidizes fossil fuel consumption at nearly five times the global average.
- Reporting on hazardous waste as per international conventions is particularly low in the Arab LDCs, and very few companies in the region publish sustainability reports.

SDG 12 suffers from low data coverage in the region, with no data available on recycling, policy instruments supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production, sustainable public procurement policies, and tourism sustainability.

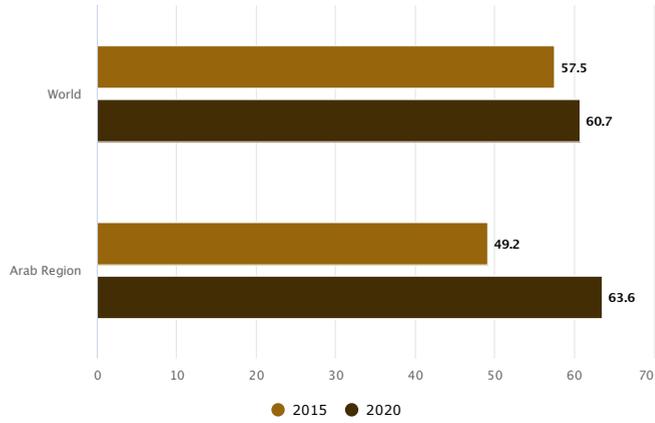
12.2.1 Material footprint (Metric tons per person)



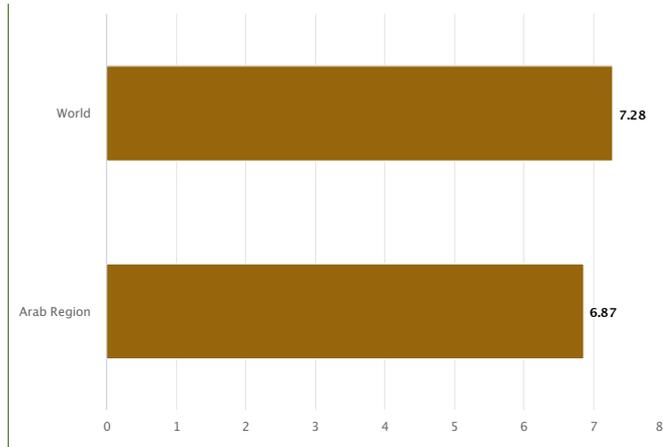
12.3.1 Food waste per capita, 2019 (Kg)



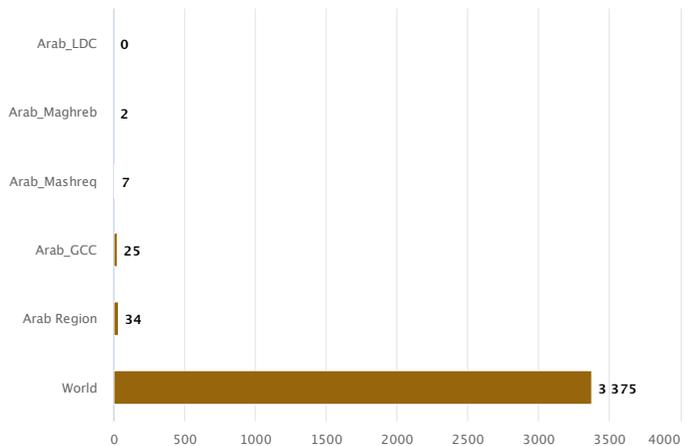
12.4.1 Parties to Basel convention transmitting information on hazardous waste, and other chemicals (Percentage)



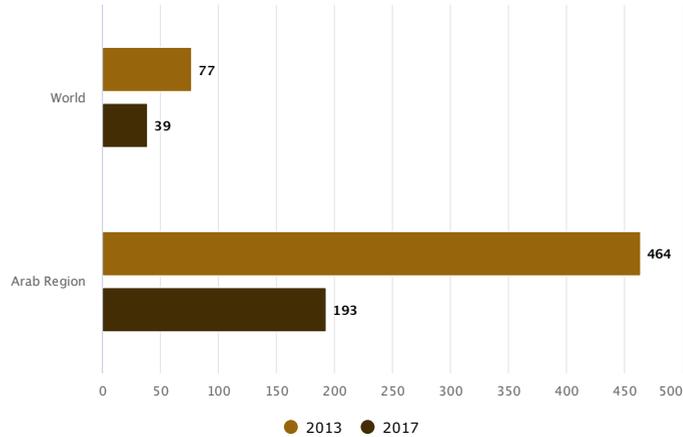
12.4.2 Electronic waste generated, per capita, 2020 (Kg)



12.6.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports, 2020

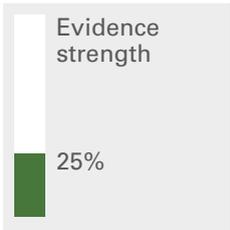


12.c.1 Fossil fuel pre-tax subsidies per capita (USD)



13 CLIMATE ACTION

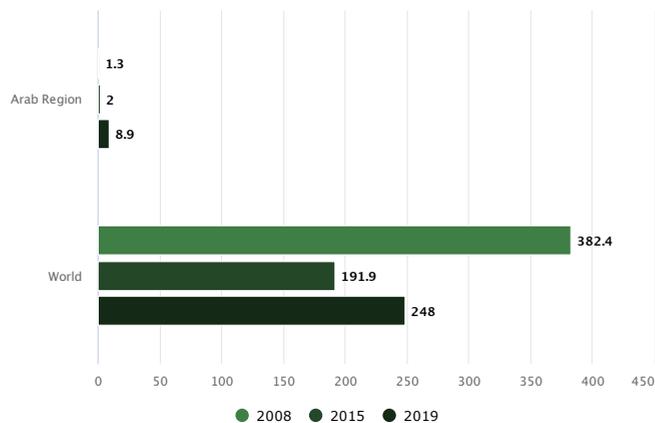
SDG 13 – Climate action



- Per capita CO₂ emissions in the region continues to hover around global averages.
- The share of renewable energy in total consumption is decreasing, and remains well below the world’s average.
- The number of internally displaced persons owing to disasters has increased visibly over the past 10 years, but remains insignificant compared with the world’s averages.

Very few indicators are available at the regional level for SDG 13. Data is unavailable to fully assess the impact of disasters and the adoption of disaster risk reduction strategies as per the Sendai Framework, and the extent to which Arab countries have integrated climate change into national policies.

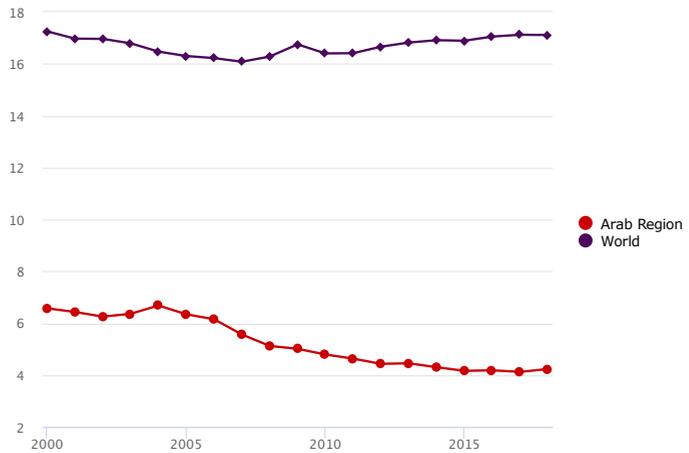
13.1x Internally displaced persons associated with disasters (Per 100,000 new cases of displaced persons)



13.2x CO₂ Emissions (Metric tons per capita)



13.2x Renewable energy share (Percentage)



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Evidence strength

10%

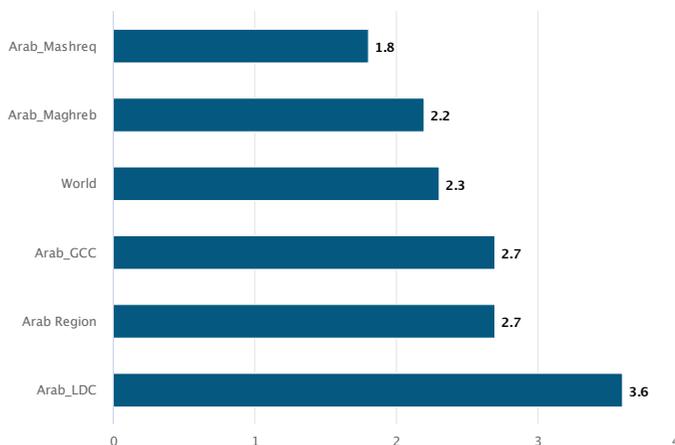
SDG 14 – Life below water

- Marine areas in the Arab region are under threat, with relatively high levels of pollution and few protected marine areas.
- The region has made significant progress in recognizing and protecting access rights for small-scale fisheries, exceeding the world's average.

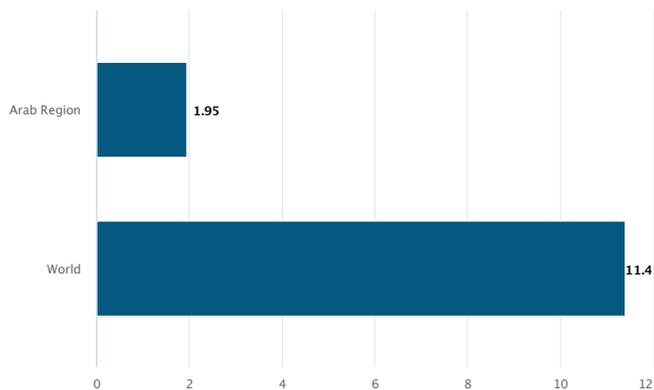
SDG 14 is among the least tracked Goals in the Arab region, with data largely lacking on the health of marine ecosystems and the implementation of sustainable fishing practices.



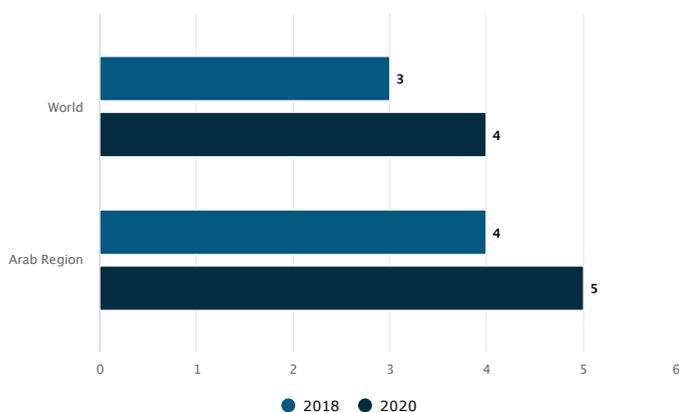
14.1.1 Chlorophyll-a anomaly, 2020 (Percentage)



14.5.1x Marine protected areas, 2018 (Percentage of territorial waters)



14.b.1 Degree of protection of access rights for small-scale fisheries



Note: Composite indicator calculated on the basis of country efforts to implement selected key provisions of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication. Level of implementation: 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

15 LIFE ON LAND



Evidence strength

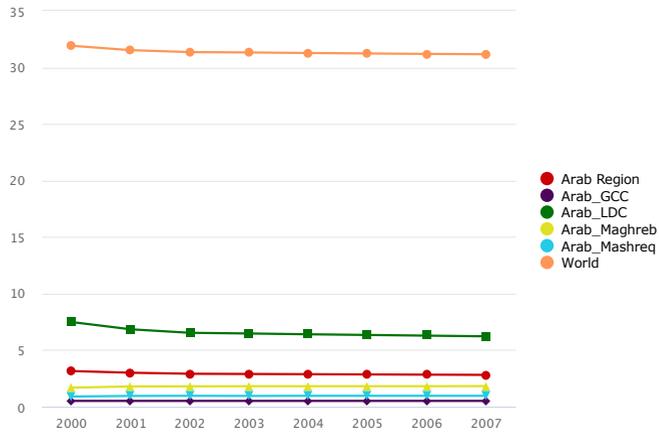
57%

SDG 15 – Life on land

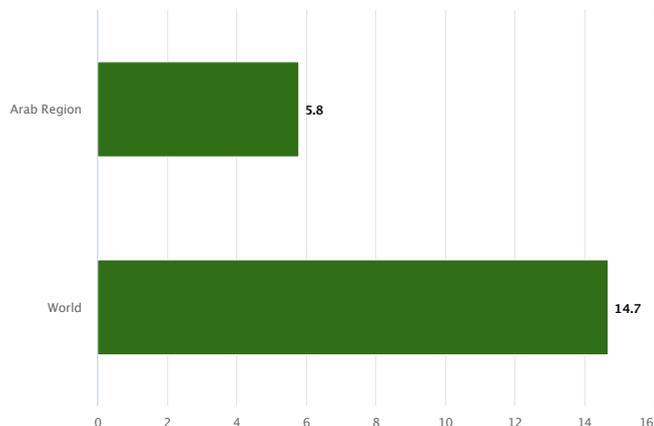
- The Arab region appears to be maintaining its naturally low forest areas, although a slight loss in forest area has been registered in the Arab LDCs. The region is improving in the adoption of long-term forest management plans, driven mainly by progress in the Maghreb, while the Mashreq registers no such plans.
- Although a low proportion of the region’s land area is designated as protected compared with the world, it has high participation in international treaties to protect plant genetic resources.

There are notable data gaps for SDG 15, including indicators related to desertification, land degradation and biodiversity.

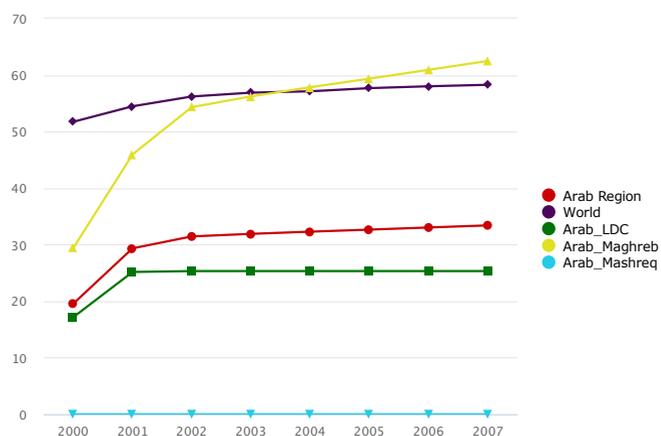
15.1.1 Forest area (Percentage)



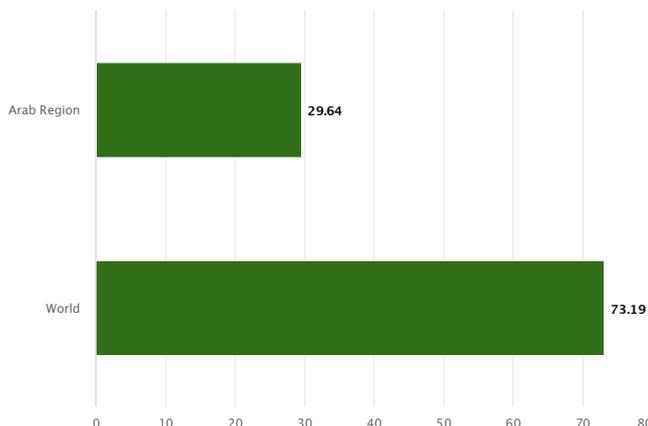
15.1.2x Terrestrial protected areas, 2018 (Percentage)



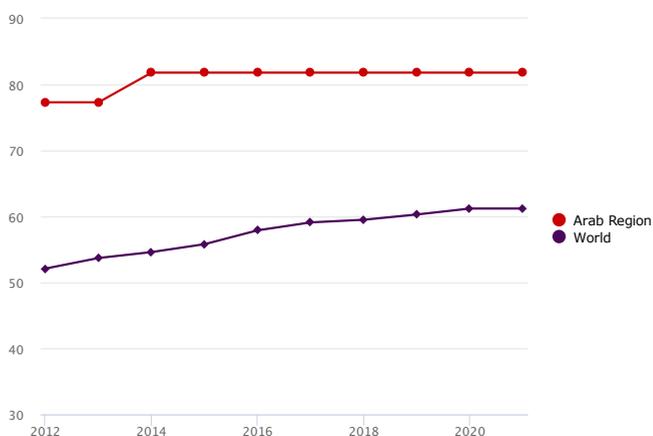
15.2.1 Forest area with a long-term management plans (Percentage)



15.4.2 Mountain green cover, 2018 (Percentage)



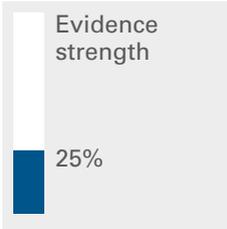
15.6.1 Countries parties or reporting to the international treaty on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (Percentage)



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



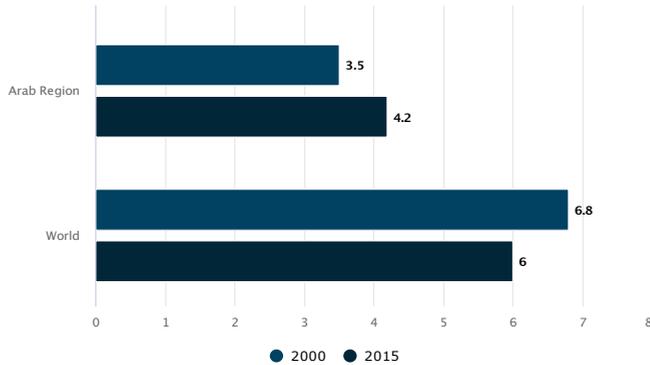
SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions



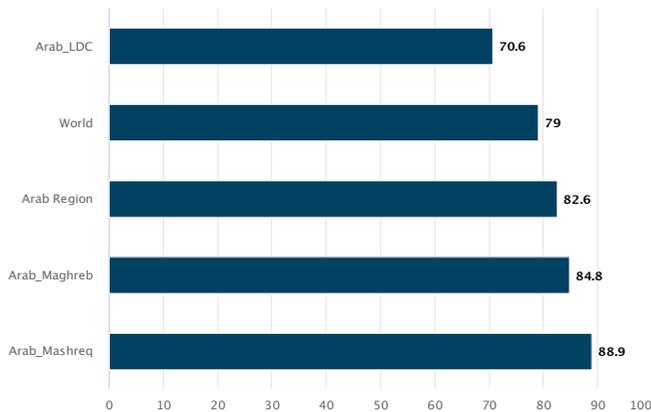
- Intentional homicides are increasing in the region, but remain below the world’s average.
- Children under age 14 in the region are more likely to experience physical punishment and/or psychological aggression compared with the world’s average.
- Arab LDCs have a very low birth registration rate for under-5 children.
- Firms in the Arab region, notably those in the LDCs, are more likely to experience bribe payment requests.

Data on SDG 16 indicators remains largely unavailable at the regional level, with notable gaps in indicators related to personal safety, access to justice and governance, among others.

16.1.1 Intentional homicides (Per 100,000 population)

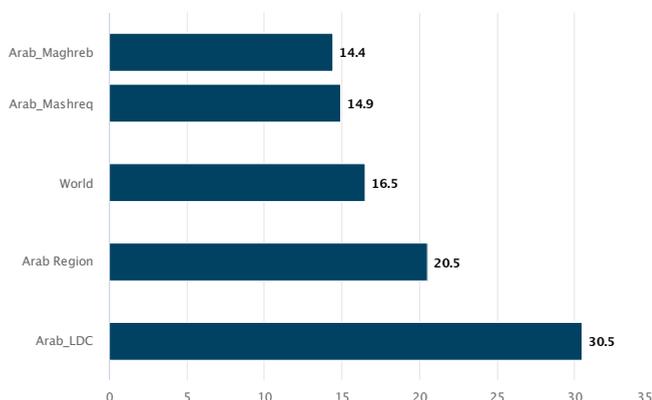


16.2.1 Children punishment, 2020 (Percentage)

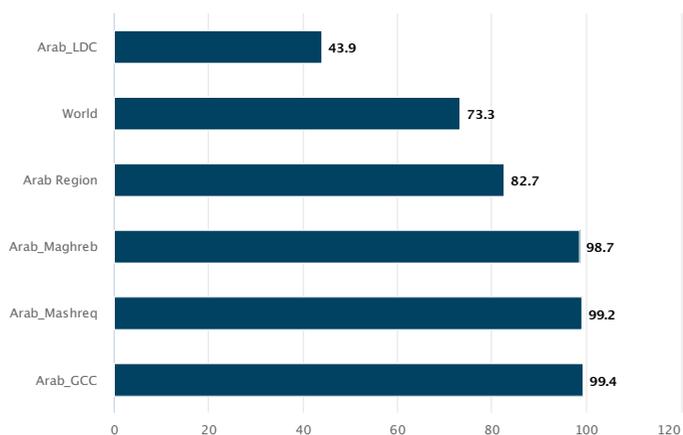


Note: Reflects the proportion of children aged 1-14 who experienced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the last month.

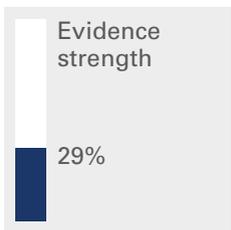
16.5.2 Firms experiencing bribery, 2019 (Percentage)



16.9.1 Birth registration of under 5 children, 2020 (Percentage)



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



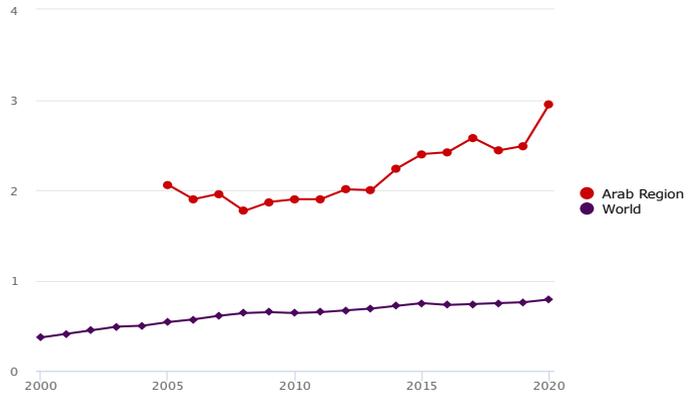
SDG 17 – Partnerships for the goals

- The Arab region has registered significant growth in Internet users and broadband subscriptions. However, for the latter, the region is yet to catch up with the world’s average.
- The Arab region is not benefiting from global trade. For example, while displaying a growing trend, the region’s share of global services exports remains modest. Fluctuations in the share of global merchandise exports may be attributed to the fact that oil and gas constitute a major share of the region’s merchandise exports.
- The Arab region is above global averages in adopting statistical legislation that complies with global principles, and in developing fully-funded statistical plans. However, a smaller proportion of Arab countries have conducted

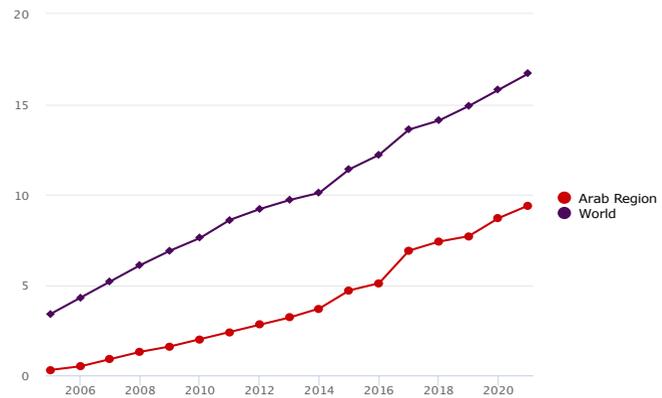
a population and housing census over the past 10 years, compared with the world's average.

The region exhibits major data shortages in several SDG 17 priority areas, including finance and resource mobilization, technology, trade, partnerships, and data collection.

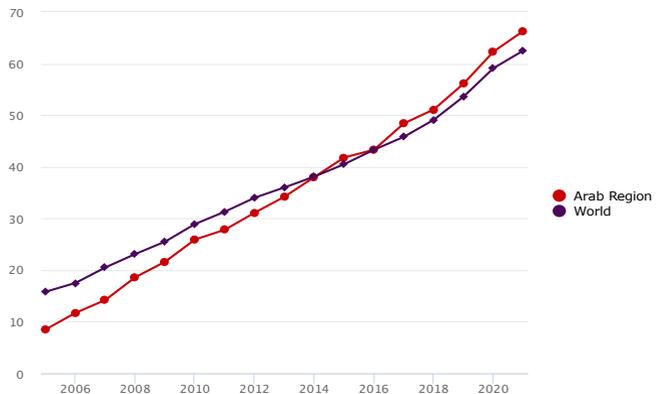
17.3.2 Remittances received (Percentage)



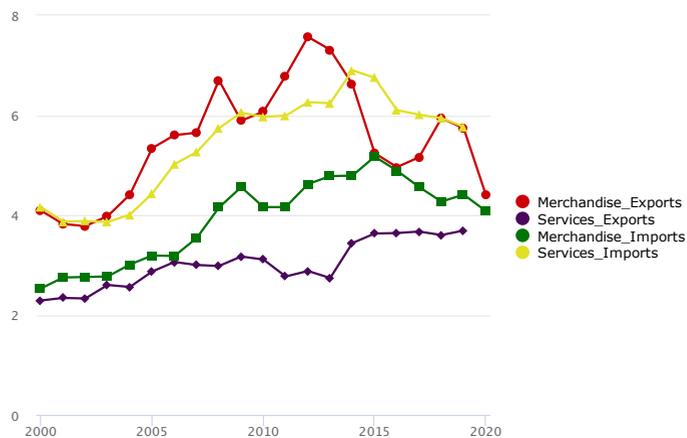
17.6.1 Broadband subscriptions (Percentage)



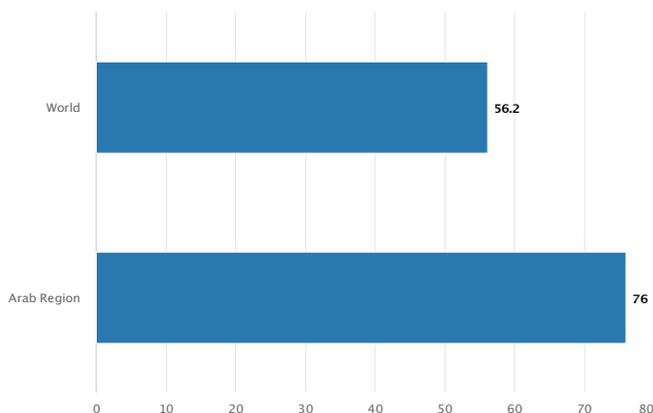
17.8.1 Internet users (Percentage)



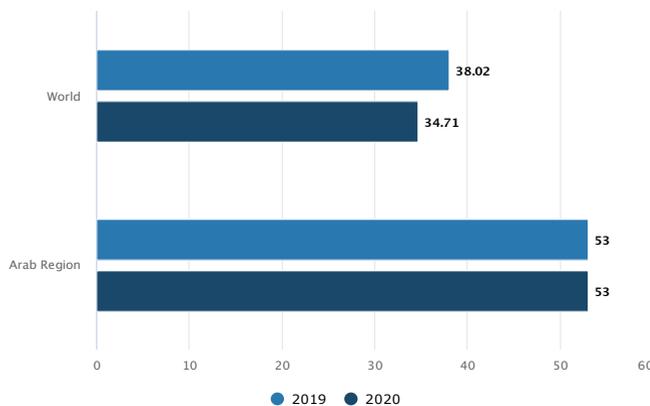
17.11.1 Share of global merchandise and services trade for the Arab region (Percentage)



17.18.2 Arab countries with national statistical legislation that complies with the fundamental Principles of official statistics (Percentage)



17.18.3 Fully funded statistical plans (Percentage)



17.19.2 Countries that have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years (Percentage)



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