



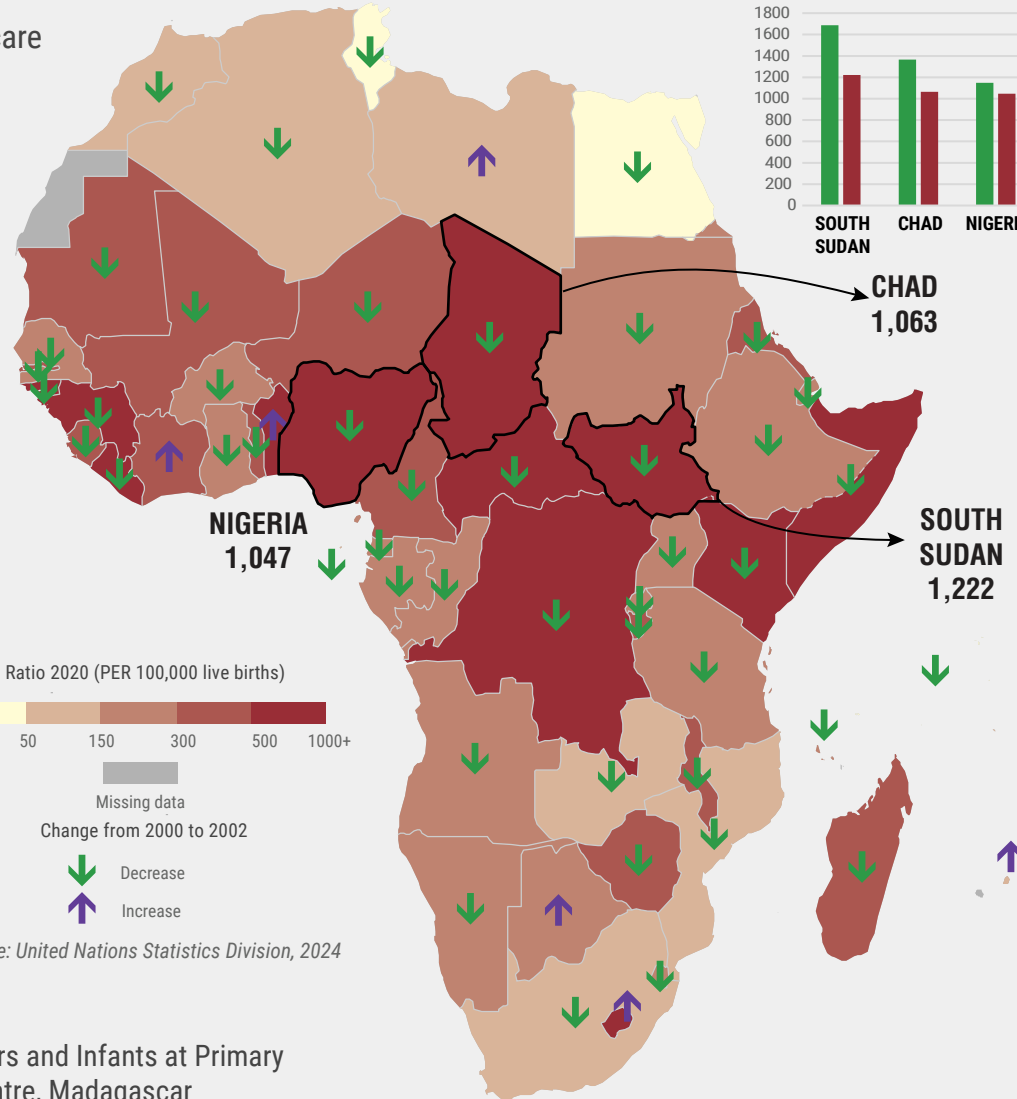
By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live birth

Maternal mortality ratio

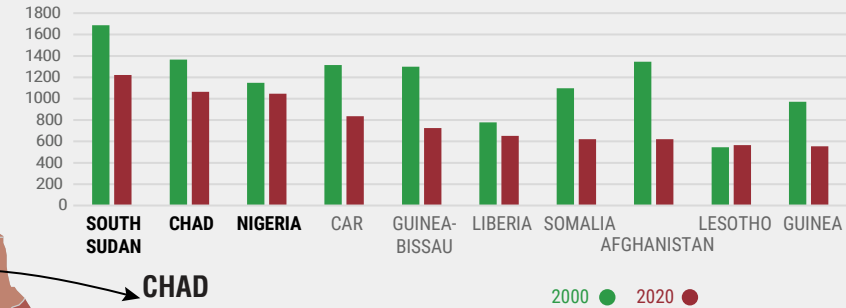
Birth mortality ratio in **Africa** remains alarmingly high, driven by a combination of **natural and human-induced factors**. Insufficient healthcare infrastructure, limited access to essential maternal and newborn health services, pervasive poverty, and disparities in education all contribute to this pressing issue.

High rates of preventable newborn deaths are closely tied to challenges such as inadequate medical facilities, shortages of trained healthcare professionals, and **socio-economic** barriers that limit access to quality care.

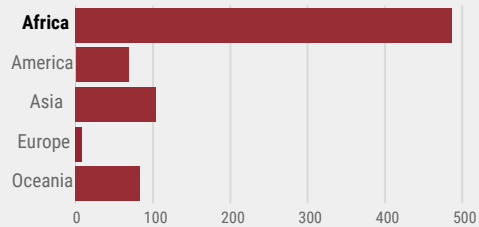
Maternal mortality ratio in Africa



Countries with highest maternal mortality ratios in 2020



Maternal Mortality Ratio per Continent



Mothers and Infants at Primary Health Centre, Madagascar
UN Photo-Eskinder Debebe, 2006

Despite these challenges, the past **two decades** have seen notable reductions in birth mortality across much of the continent. However, Africa continues to bear a disproportionate burden- **nine of the ten countries** in the world with the highest birth mortality rates are in **Africa**.

Vulnerable populations, especially those reliant on subsistence living, remain at high risk, which perpetuates poverty and impedes broader development.