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COI QUERY RESPONSE

SOMALIA - HEALTHCARE

A report issued in February 2024 by *Frontiers* states that: “Armed conflicts have ravaged healthcare infrastructure, resulting in limited access to vital health services.”¹

This paper also comments on the: “...urban-centric focus of the existing healthcare system, which leaves rural populations devoid of affordable healthcare access.”²

A paper issued in March 2024 by the *Danish Immigration Service* on health services is additionally referenced and can be access through the link below.³

A report issued in July 2024 by the *Refugee Law Clinic* states that: “Healthcare services in Somalia are extremely limited due to ongoing conflict, insecurity, and underfunding. The country's healthcare system has been severely disrupted by decades of conflict, which has led to the displacement of millions of people, the destruction of infrastructure, and the loss of many skilled medical professionals. Somalia's healthcare system is among the most fragile worldwide.”⁴

Amnesty International in July 2024 states that: “...Somalia's poor health sector is still characterized by insufficient health personnel, high levels of child and maternal mortality, inadequate and largely under-equipped health facilities, low levels of immunization...”⁵

¹ Frontiers (1 February 2024) Implementing health system and the new federalism in Somalia: challenges and opportunities, p.2

² *ibid*, p.2

³ Danish Immigration Service (March 2024) Somalia, Health care services in Mogadishu, p.1

⁴ Refugee Law Clinic (8 July 2024) Access to mental health services in Eritrea, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Greater Horn of Africa region, p.19

⁵ Amnesty International (2 July 2024) Reduction of Somali health budget after 2023 debt relief a betrayal

In July 2024 the *European Commission* states that: “The country’s health system also faces critical shortages, and only 1/3 of health facilities are functional.”⁶

In August 2024 the *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights* states that: “Access to health care remains challenging for thousands of Somalis, notably in conflict areas.”⁷

This document also states that: “The health sector in Somalia faces a critical shortage of financial resources, skilled professionals and adequate infrastructure, which curtails the ability to expand and maintain health services.”⁸

The *International Rescue Committee* states in August 2024 that: “Years of conflict and underinvestment have left the country’s healthcare system fragile and overwhelmed.”⁹

A paper issued by the *World Bank* in September 2024 states that: “Poverty remains high, especially among those outside of urban areas. Over half of the population lives below the national poverty line (54%), with the highest poverty rate among the nomadic population (78%) and the lowest rate in urban areas (46%). However, given the high rate of urbanization, poverty is concentrated in urban areas. Spatially, poverty is higher in regions in Central and Southern Somalia.”¹⁰

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International Rescue Committee (28 August 2024) *Years of conflict and underinvestment have left the country’s healthcare system fragile and overwhelmed*

⁶ European Commission (23 July 2024) *Somalia*, p.2

⁷ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (23 August 2024) Report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, Isha Dyfan (August 2024), p.10

⁸ *ibid*, p.11

⁹ International Rescue Committee (28 August 2024) Years of conflict and underinvestment have left the country’s healthcare system fragile and overwhelmed

¹⁰ World Bank (24 September 2024) *Somalia, Poverty And Equity Assessment*, p.xii

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United States Department of State

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