

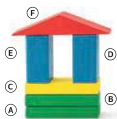


General data

POPULATION, 2023  
**132,530**  
SURFACE, KM<sup>2</sup>, 2022  
**810**  
PHYSICIANS / 1,000 INH, 2022  
**N/A**

Socioeconomic data

COUNTRY INCOME LEVEL, 2022  
**Lower-middle**  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX RANKING, 2021  
**136**  
GDP PER CAPITA (US\$), 2023  
**2106,76**  
HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% GDP), 2021  
**14,81**  
UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, 2021  
**48**



WHO FRAMEWORK FOR PALLIATIVE CARE DEVELOPMENT

- ④ EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
- ③ POLICIES
- ② RESEARCH
- ① USE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
- ⑤ EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- ⑥ PROVISION OF PC

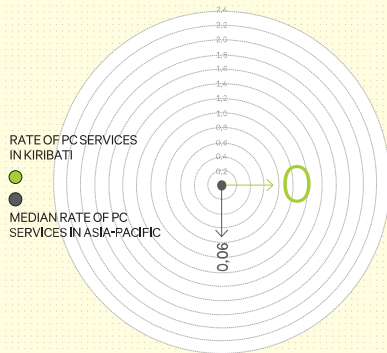


# Kiribati

**F Provision of PC (Specialized Services)**

Total number of Specialized PC services **0**  
Rate of PC services per 100,000 inhabitants **0**

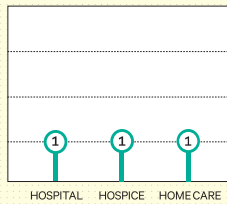
Kiribati in the context of Asia-Pacific regions



Geographic distribution and integration of PC services



Level of development of different types of PC services



Pediatric PC Services

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AND INTEGRATION **1**  
TOTAL NUMBER **0**

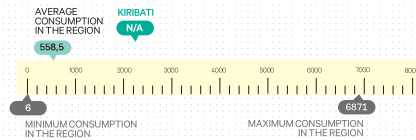


# Kiribati

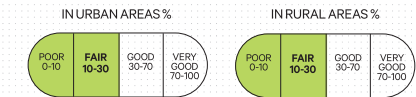
**D Use of essential medicines**

Opioids consumption (excluding methadone) **N/A**

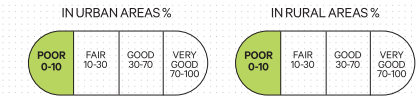
Kiribati in the context of Asia-Pacific regions



Overall availability of essential medicines for pain and PC at the primary level



General availability of immediate-release oral morphine at the primary level



**C Research**

PC-related research articles **1**

Existence of PC congresses or scientific meetings **1**



National Association: -  
Consultants: Teanibuaka Tabunga.

Data collected: June-September 2024.  
Report validated by consultants: October - November 2024  
Report sponsored by National Association: N/A  
Edited by Atlantes Research Team University of Navarra (Spain)

**E Education & Training**

Medical schools with mandatory PC teaching **0/0**

Nursing schools with mandatory PC teaching **0/0**

Recognition of PC specialty **2**

**B Policies**

National PC plan or strategy **1**

Responsible authority for PC in the Ministry of Health **1**

Inclusion of PC in the basic health package at the primary care level **2**



**A Empowerment of people and communities**

Groups promoting the rights of PC patients **1**



Advanced care planning-related policies **1**

AP Kiribati

People & Communities





<p><b>Ind1</b></p> <p>Existence of groups dedicated to promoting the rights of patients in need of PC, their care-givers, and disease survivors.</p>	<p> Only isolated activity can be detected.</p>	
<p><b>Ind2</b></p> <p>Is there a national policy or guideline on advance directives or advance care planning?</p>	<p> There is no national policy or guideline on advance care planning.</p>	

Policies

<p><b>Ind3</b></p> <p>3.1. There is a current national PC plan, programme, policy, or strategy.</p>	<p> Not known or does not exist.</p>	<p>Kiribati includes palliative care (PC) into its National Health Plan, which prioritizes improving access to essential health services, including chronic illness management and end-of-life care. The plan emphasizes a holistic approach to addressing the needs of individuals with life-limiting conditions and outlines strategies to enhance health system capacity. However, while PC is acknowledged within the broader health plan, Kiribati does not have a specifically defined national palliative care plan, programme, policy, or strategy with a detailed implementation framework.</p>
<p>3.2. The national palliative care plan (or programme or strategy or legislation) is a stand-alone.</p>	<p> Not known or does not exist neither standalone nor is included in another national plan.</p>	

AP Kiribati

Policies

<p>3.3. There are indicators in the national plan to monitor and evaluate progress, with measurable targets.</p>	<p> Not known or does not exist.</p>	
<p><b>Ind4</b></p> <p>PC services are included in the list of priority services for Universal Health Coverage at the primary care level in the national health system.</p>	<p> Decree or law to include palliative care in the list of health services provided at the primary care level in preparation.</p>	<p>Palliative care (PC) is recognized as an essential component of the healthcare system in Kiribati, but its development is still in the early stages. There is a shortage of formalized PC services and trained personnel to deliver comprehensive end-of-life care. Efforts are underway to improve training and resources, integrating PC into primary healthcare to meet the needs of those with chronic and terminal illnesses. However, there is no legal framework to formally include PC in primary care services, despite government initiatives and support from organizations like the World Bank to enhance healthcare infrastructure.</p>
<p><b>Ind5</b></p> <p>5.1. Is there a national authority for palliative care within the government or the Ministry of Health?</p>	<p> There is no authority defined.</p>	
<p>5.2. The national authority has concrete functions, budget and staff.</p>	<p> Does not have concrete functions or resources (budget, staff, etc.)</p>	

AP Kiribati

Research

Ind6

Existence of congresses or scientific meetings at the national level specifically related to PC.



There are no national congresses or scientific meetings related to palliative care.

Ind7

Estimation of the level of peer-reviewed articles focusing on PC research published in any language in the past 5 years with at least one author from the country.



Indicates a minimal or non-existent number of articles published on the subject in that country.

Medicines

Ind8

Reported annual opioid consumption –excluding methadone– in S-DDD per million inhabitants per day.

No data reported for Kiribati.

AP Kiribati

Medicines

Ind9

9.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have pain and palliative care medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.



Fair: Between 10% to 30%.

9.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have pain and palliative care medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.



Fair: Between 10% to 30%.

With a population of about 120,000 spread across 33 atolls, Kiribati is working to integrate palliative care (PC) into its health-care system, particularly at the primary health care level. Despite recognizing PC as essential, its development is still in the early stages, facing challenges related to limited resources and infrastructure. The government and organizations like the World Bank are focused on strengthening healthcare access and improving logistics for medical supplies, especially in remote areas, but comprehensive PC services remain a significant hurdle.

Ind10

10.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).



Poor: Between 0% to 10%.

10.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).



Poor: Between 0% to 10%.

AP Kiribati

Education & Training

Ind11

11.1. The proportion of medical schools with **COMPULSORY** teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching) over the total number of medical schools in the country

0/0



Kiribati does not have dedicated medical and nursing schools but collaborates with international partners, including Australia and Fiji, to train healthcare workers. Public education efforts raise awareness about the significance of palliative care for those with chronic illnesses and end-of-life needs.

11.2. The proportion of medical schools with **OPTIONAL** teaching in PC...

0/0

11.3. The proportion of nursing schools with **COMPULSORY** teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching) over the total number of nursing schools in the country.

0/0

11.4. The proportion of nursing schools with **OPTIONAL** teaching in PC...

0/0

Ind12

12. Existence of an official specialisation process in palliative medicine for physicians, recognised by the competent authority in the country.



There is no process on specialization for palliative care physicians but exists other type of professional training diplomas without official and national recognition (i.e., advanced training courses or masters in some universities of institutions).

Kiribati collaborates with international partners, including Australia and Fiji, to train healthcare workers. NGOs and international organizations actively support palliative care initiatives, emphasizing capacity building, training, and resource provision. Notably, a palliative care workshop was conducted in July 2018, supported by Counties Manukau Health, alongside Essential Pain Management courses in 2014 and 2016, with recent follow-up training.

AP Kiribati

Provision of PC / Services

Ind13

13.1. There is a system of specialized PC services or teams in the country that has a **GEOGRAPHIC** reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms.



No or minimal provision of palliative care specialized services or teams exist in the country.

13.2. Are available in **HOSPITALS** (public or private), such as hospital PC teams (consultation teams), and PC units (with beds), to name a few examples.



Not at all.

13.3. Free-standing **HOSPICES** (including hospices with inpatient beds).



Not at all.

13.4. **HOME CARE** teams (specialized in PC) are available in the community (or at the primary Healthcare level), as independent services or linked with hospitals or hospices.

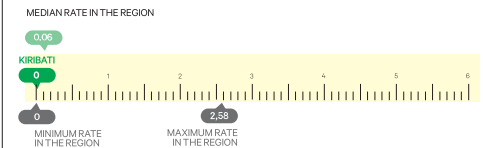


Not at all.

13.5. Please enter the total number of specialized PC services or teams in the country.

With a population of about 120,000 spread across 33 atolls, Kiribati is working to integrate palliative care (PC) into its health-care system, particularly at the primary health care level. Despite recognizing PC as essential, its development is still in the early stages, facing challenges related to limited resources and infrastructure. The government and organizations like the World Bank are focused on strengthening healthcare access and improving logistics for medical supplies, especially in remote areas, but comprehensive PC services remain a significant hurdle.

RATE OF SPECIALIZED PC SERVICES/100,000 INH



0 ← SPECIALIZED PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES

Ind14

14.1. There is a system of specialized PC services or teams for **children** in the country that has **geographic** reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms.



No or minimal provision of palliative care specialized services or teams for children exists in country.

14.2. Please enter the total number of pediatric specialized PC services or teams in the country



PPC TEAMS