

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2025 Comprehensive Review – metadata template for additional or replacement¹ indicator proposals

The purpose of this template is to submit reference metadata for SDG indicator proposals. It uses the standard format for SDG indicator metadata to monitor the Goals and targets in a consistent manner. In order to ensure the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) thoroughly review the proposal, information is requested using this standard template. For reference, metadata for existing indicators can be found at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>.

Please replace the instruction text shaded in **yellow** with the appropriate text describing the metadata concepts (i.e. definition and concepts, rationale, etc.). All fields must be filled. If the field is not applicable or still to be determined, please enter “not applicable” or “TBD”.

Please try to make your responses as concise as possible while making sure to include all relevant information. For more detailed methodological information, a link can be included in the reference section (7. References and Documentation).

Use only the metadata concepts/fields provided. Do not add additional fields. Use the detailed metadata concepts (preceded by a number and a letter e.g. “0.a”) where available and as feasible; otherwise use the main concepts (preceded by a number e.g. “0”). Descriptions of the fields are provided on page 7.

¹ For indicator revision/adjustment proposals, please make the revisions/adjustments in track change to the current indicator’s metadata file located at the metadata repository, <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>.

SDG indicator metadata

(Harmonized metadata template - format version 1.1)

0. Indicator information (SDG_INDICATOR_INFO)

0.a. Goal (SDG_GOAL)

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

0.b. Target (SDG_TARGET)

By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

0.c. Indicator (SDG_INDICATOR)

Mortality rate from diseases related to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)

0.d. Series (SDG_SERIES_DESCR)

N/A.

0.e. Metadata update (META_LAST_UPDATE)

2024-04-25

0.f. Related indicators (SDG_RELATED_INDICATORS)

6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services

6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water

0.g. International organisations(s) responsible for global monitoring

(SDG_CUSTODIAN_AGENCIES)

World Health Organization (WHO).

1. Data reporter (CONTACT)

1.a. Organisation (CONTACT_ORGANISATION)

World Health Organization (WHO).

2. Definition, concepts, and classifications (IND_DEF_CON_CLASS)

2.a. Definition and concepts (STAT_CONC_DEF)

Definition:

The mortality rate from diseases related to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation, and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services) as defined as the number of deaths from diarrhoea, intestinal nematode infections, and protein-energy malnutrition in a year, divided by the population, and multiplied by 100,000.

Concepts:

Deaths from diseases related to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene focusing on inadequate WASH services, expressed per 100,000 population. The included diseases are diarrhoea (GHE code 110 which

includes ICD-10 codes A00, A01, A03, A04, A06-A09), intestinal nematode infections (GHE codes 340, 350 and 360 which include ICD-10 codes B76-B77, and B79) and protein-energy malnutrition (GHE code 550 which includes ICD-10 codes E40-E46).

2.b. Unit of measure (UNIT_MEASURE)

Mortality rate (deaths per 100,000 population).

2.c. Classifications (CLASS_SYSTEM)

International Classification of Diseases (ICD)

3. Data source type and data collection method (SRC_TYPE_COLL_METHOD)

3.a. Data sources (SOURCE_TYPE)

Data is compiled mainly from country and other databases directly. To maximize the data for robust estimates, as well as to reduce duplication of data collection to avoid further data reporting burden on countries, complementary data can be used from various databases.

3.b. Data collection method (COLL_METHOD)

WHO conducts a formal country consultation process before releasing its cause-of-death estimates.

3.c. Data collection calendar (FREQ_COLL)

Ongoing.

3.d. Data release calendar (REL_CAL_POLICY)

Required data, for the past and for the future, is already being collected for the currently 3.9.2.

3.e. Data providers (DATA_SOURCE)

National statistics offices, Various line ministries and databases covering civil registration with complete coverage and medical certification of cause of death.

3.f. Data compilers (COMPILING_ORG)

WHO.

3.g. Institutional mandate (INST_MANDATE)

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the Custodian Agency or co-Custodian Agency for reporting on several SDG indicators, including indicator 3.9.2.

4. Other methodological considerations (OTHER_METHOD)

4.a. Rationale (RATIONALE)

The indicator expresses the number of deaths from diseases related to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene (with focus on WASH services), which could be prevented by improving those services and practices. It is driven by both the WASH service provision in the country, as well as the related health outcomes, and therefore provides important information on the actual disease caused by the risks measured in 6.1 and 6.2.

4.b. Comment and limitations (REC_USE_LIM)

Data on deaths are also widely available from countries from death registration data or sample registration systems, which are certainly feasible. Such data are crucial for improving health and reducing preventable deaths in countries. The main limitation is that not all countries have such registration systems to date, and data must be filled with another type of information.

4.c. Method of computation (DATA_COMP)

$$\text{Mortality rate due to unsafe WASH}_{year} = \frac{\sum \text{deaths from diarrhoea, intestinal nematode infections and protein – energy malnutrition}_{year}}{\text{population}_{year}}$$

4.d. Validation (DATA_VALIDATION)

Data about deaths from different causes and populations can be validated for WHO country consultation process and SDG focal points every time new data are generated.

4.e. Adjustments (ADJUSTMENT)

N/A.

4.f. Treatment of missing values (i) at country level and (ii) at regional level (IMPUTATION)

Data are available for almost all countries. However, when the national data are incomplete, international agencies can provide the missing information, which has been interpolated/ extrapolated, adjusted, and completed by additional data and cause-of-death models.

4.g. Regional aggregations (REG_AGG)

Country estimates of number of deaths by cause are summed to obtain regional and global aggregates. Populations published by the UNPD's World Population Prospects are aggregated to regional and global levels. The mortality rate is then calculated at the regional and global levels.

4.h. Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level (DOC_METHOD)

Data for this indicator are routinely collected by most countries. Its calculation is simple and can be done by countries themselves with this metadata instructions.

4.i. Quality management (QUALITY_MGMNT)

For information on data quality management, assurance, and assessment processes at WHO, please refer to:
<https://www.who.int/data/ddi>

4.j Quality assurance (QUALITY_ASSURE)

For information on data quality management, assurance, and assessment processes at WHO, please refer to:
<https://www.who.int/data/ddi>

4.k Quality assessment (QUALITY_ASSMNT)

For information on data quality management, assurance, and assessment processes at WHO, please refer to:
<https://www.who.int/data/ddi>

5. Data availability and disaggregation (COVERAGE)

At least 183 UN Member States.

6. Comparability / deviation from international standards (COMPARABILITY)

WHO is required by World Health Assembly resolution to consult on all WHO statistics, and seek feedback from countries on data about countries and territories. Before publishing, all estimates undergo country consultations. Causes of mortality definition is based on international classification (ICD), then the indicator is perfectly comparable between countries.

7. References and Documentation (OTHER_DOC)

WHO methods and data sources for global causes of death, 2000–2019
https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/gho-documents/global-health-estimates/ghe2019_cod_methods.pdf

Definitions of Metadata Concepts

0.a. Goal: SDG Goal number and name.

0.b. Target: SDG Target number and name.

0.c. Indicator: SDG Indicator number and name.

0.d. Series: Codes and descriptions of all series to which the metadata set applies.

0.e. Metadata update: The date when this metadata report was last updated.

0.f. Related indicators: Linkages with any other Goals and Targets.

0.g. International organisation(s) responsible for global monitoring: (also known as *custodian agency(ies)*) Global reporting: International organizations (departments/offices) responsible for monitoring this indicator at the global level. Country reporting: This concept has no national counterpart.

1.a. Organisation: Organisation unit information of the contact points for the data or metadata.

1.d. Contact person function: Functional title(s) of the contact points for the data or metadata.

1.e. Contact phone: Phone number(s) of the contact points for the data or metadata.

1.f. Contact mail: Mailing address(es) of the contact points for the data or metadata.

1.g. Contact emails: E-mail address(es) of the contact points for the data or metadata.

2.a. Definition and concepts: Precise definition of the indicator preferably relying on internationally agreed definitions. The indicator definition should be unambiguous and be expressed in universally applicable terms. Precise definition of all different concepts and terms associated with the indicator, also including reference to any associated classifications.

2.b. Unit of measure: Description of the unit of measurement (proportion, dollars, number of people, etc.)

2.c. Classifications: Describe references to both national and international standards and classification being used. [Information to be provided where applicable.]

3.a. Data sources: Description of all actual and recommended sources of data. This description should include, when applicable, any changes of the data source over time, details of denominator (if from a different source) and any other relevant information related to the origin of the source or indicator. Similar details should be given for administrative sources.

3.b. Data collection method: Description of all methods used for data collection. This description should include, when applicable, the sample frame used, the questions used to collect the data, the type of interview, the dates/duration of fieldwork, the sample size and the response rate. Some additional information on questionnaire design and testing, interviewer training, methods used to monitor non-response etc. should be provided here. Questionnaires used should be annexed (if very long: via hyperlink).

3.c. Data collection calendar: Dates when source collection is next planned.

3.d. Data release calendar: Expected dates of release of new data for this indicator, including the year (or, ideally, the quarter/month when the next data point associated with the indicator will become available).

3.e. Data providers: Identification of national and/or international data provider(s), specifying the organization(s) responsible for producing the data.

3.f. Data compilers: Organization(s) responsible for compilation of this indicator either at national or global level.

3.g. Institutional mandate: Description of the set of rules or other formal set of instructions assigning responsibility as well as the authority to an organisation for the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics for this indicator.

4.a. Rationale: Description of the purpose and rationale behind the indicator, as well as examples and guidance on its correct interpretation and meaning.

4.b. Comment and limitations: Comments on the feasibility, suitability, relevance and limitations of the indicator. Also includes data comparability issues, presence of wide confidence intervals (such as for maternal mortality ratios); provides further details on additional non-official indicators commonly used together with the indicator.

4.c. Method of computation: Explanation of how the indicator is calculated, including mathematical formulas and descriptive information of computations made on the source data to produce the indicator (including adjustments and weighting). This explanation should also highlight cases in which mixed sources are used or where the calculation has changed over time (i.e., discontinuities in the series).

4.d. Validation: Description of process of monitoring the results of data compilation and ensuring the quality of the statistical results, including consultation process with countries on the national data submitted to the SDGs Indicators Database. Descriptions and links to all relevant reference materials should be provided.

4.e. Adjustments: Global reporting: Description of any adjustments with respect to use of standard classifications and harmonization of breakdowns for age group and other dimensions, or adjustments made for compliance with specific international or national definitions. National reporting: This concept is typically not applicable for national reporting.

4.f. Treatment of missing values (i) at country level and (ii) at regional level: Global reporting: (National level) Description of the methodology employed for producing estimates for the indicator when country data are not available, including any mathematical formulas and description of additional variables used as input into the estimation process. (Regional level) Description of how missing values for individual countries or areas are imputed or otherwise estimated by international agencies to derive regional or global aggregates of the indicator. National reporting: This concept is not applicable for national reporting.

4.g. Regional aggregations: Global reporting: Description of the methodology, including any mathematical formulas, used for the calculation of the regional/global aggregates from the country values. Description of the weighting structure used for aggregating country indicator values to regional and global levels. Additional methodological details on how the data from countries or areas is assembled by custodian international agencies to provide regional and global aggregates. This is distinct from the method of computation, which looks at how the indicator is compiled at a national level. National reporting: This concept is not applicable for national reporting.

4.h. Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level: Global reporting: Description of methodology used by countries for the compilation of data at national level and the relevant international recommendations and guidelines available to countries. Descriptions and links to all relevant reference materials should be provided. National reporting: For national reporting a country may refer to the globally available metadata and explain how it is being used.

4.i. Quality management: Description of systems and frameworks in place within an organisation to manage the quality of statistical products and processes.

4.j Quality assurance: Description of practices and guidelines focusing on quality in general and dealing with quality of statistical programmes at your agency, including measures for ensuring the efficient use of resources.

4.k Quality assessment: Description of overall evaluation of fulfilling quality requirements, based on standard quality criteria.

5. Data availability and disaggregation: Global reporting: Indicate for how many countries the data for this indicator are already currently available on a regular basis. Data availability by regional breakdowns and time periods can also be described here. Describe the specification of the dimensions and levels used for disaggregation of the indicator (e.g., income, sex, age group, geographic location, disability status, etc.). National reporting: Data availability by sub-national breakdowns and time periods can be described here. Describe the specification of the dimensions and levels used for disaggregation of the indicator (e.g., income, sex, age group, geographic location, disability status, etc.).

6. Comparability / Deviation from international standards: Explanation on the differences between country produced and internationally estimated data on this indicator, highlighting and summarising the main sources of differences.

7. References and Documentation: Descriptions and links to all relevant reference materials related to this indicator.