

## Overview of standards for data disaggregation

### Read me first:

This document gives an overview of possible and existing standards, thoughts and ideas on data disaggregation. Please note, that this document only refers to the disaggregation dimensions stated in §74 (g) of the Resolution 70/1.

The first chart is a collection of standards already in use for presenting disaggregated data (this document only contains the European perspective, however it is open for further input).

The other table includes the responses from the consultation mechanism, where Custodian Agencies and specialized groups were asked about further possible standards for data disaggregation dimensions.

Dimensions	Different categories already in use	Information/ Evaluation	Categories used in the Global Indicator Framework	Existing global standards	Existing regional standards	Comments
<b>Income/ economic status/ poor and vulnerable</b>	Income per capita  Income quintiles  DHS Wealth Index (wealth quintiles)  Multidimensional Poverty Index  Unsatisfied Basic Needs - Deprivation	No single standard measure available; measured in income, economic status, poverty or wealth and in relative as well as absolute numbers  Usage of small area estimates in poverty/ income mapping (e.g. methodology used in the Poverty Atlas by the World Bank) combines disaggregation of income/ poverty and geographical location	Wealth: Low to high socio-economic parity status index  Income: Growth rate of income for bottom 40% and total	Rio Group on Poverty Statistics, last meeting in 2006, no standard developed  Canberra Group on Household Income Statistics: no definitive set of standards, presentation of all relevant issues  Poverty Mapping (Poverty mapping group of the World Bank)  UNDP: Multidimensional Poverty Index  <a href="#">UN Handbook on Poverty Statistics</a> <i>Headcount measure</i> <i>Poverty gap</i> <i>Watts index</i> <i>Squared poverty gap</i>	EU-Standard: Income: income quintiles (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> )  Poverty: <a href="#">3 dimensions</a> in Europe 2020 strategy target on the risk of poverty and social exclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monetary poverty</li> <li>• Severe material deprivation</li> <li>• Very low work intensity</li> </ul> EU-SILC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Net equivalent income (median)</li> <li>• At-risk of poverty rate</li> </ul>	
<b>Sex</b>	Gender and Agriculture Research Network (CGIAR): Standards for Collecting Sex Disaggregated Data  Demographic and Health Survey (DHS): woman's/ male questionnaire in households	CGIAR provides intern guide with must haves for sex/ gender analysis; might be too comprehensive for the inclusion in household surveys with regard to the SDGs monitoring  DHS provides sex disaggregated data mainly for 15-49 year-olds; could be limited by small sample sizes	Female, male, both  gender parity indice	Female, male	EU-Standard: Female, male	
<b>Age</b>	Date of Birth  Age groups  1-year-age-groups	Use of different age groups in national and international data  Differing age groups demanded in indicator or target	Differing age groups:  Commonly used categories 15-49, <15, 15-49, >15 15-65 <5	UN definition of age groups: Infants: 0-5 years Children: 0-15 years Youth: 5-24 years, (UN Youth) Adults 15 years and older; Older Persons: 60 years and older (DSPD: Focal Point for Ageing)	EU-Standard: differing age groups  Often 10 year intervals are used e.g. in the EU SDI database	Canada: Suggest age grouping rather than single year age groups whenever possible. We suggest that 5 year intervals is the lowest level of disaggregation for age.

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				UN Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System (Rev.3): Infants: <1 year Pre-school age: 1-4 years School age: 5-14 years Childbearing age: 15-49 years Working ages:15-64 years Elderly persons: 65 years and older		
<b>Race</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colour</li> </ul>	<p>Caution: different connotation of race</p> <p>Disaggregation categories could offend certain population groups</p>	Data is not disaggregated by race		EU-Standard: SDG data is not disaggregated by race	Canada: Not available in Canada and other countries may not allow the collection of data based upon race.
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ethnic ancestry or origin</li> <li>Ethnic identity</li> <li>Cultural origins</li> <li>Race</li> <li>Minority status</li> <li>Tribe</li> <li>Language</li> <li>Religion</li> <li>Ethnic Self-identification</li> <li>Recognised (national) minorities</li> </ul>	<p>UN Concepts and definitions: “[...] By the nature of this topic, these categories and their definitions will vary widely from country to country; therefore, no internationally accepted criteria are possible.“</p> <p>UN Standards and Methods: „Ethnicity is multidimensional and is more a process than a static concept, and so ethnic classification should be treated with movable boundaries“</p> <p>Caution: different connotation of origin and tribe</p> <p>Disaggregation categories could offend certain population groups</p>	Data is not disaggregated by ethnicity	No international standard possible due to varying national circumstances	EU-Standard: SDG data is not disaggregated by ethnicity  Country/type of citizenship	
<b>Migration status</b>	<p>Country of Birth</p> <p>Country of Citizenship</p> <p>(Legal Status?)</p>	<p>UN recommendation: Country of Birth (native or foreign-born), Country of Citizenship( foreign citizen), Year of arrival in country of enumeration (to measure length of stay), also relevant if national</p>	Data is not disaggregated by migration status	<p>SDG data is not disaggregated by migration status</p> <p>Migration: Country of Birth Country of Citizenship Year of arrival in country of enumeration</p>	<p>EU-Standard: SDG data is not disaggregated by migration status</p> <p>Immigrant measurement by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country of citizenship</li> <li>Country of birth</li> </ul>	

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		<p>boundaries change over time</p> <p>Proposed coding of country of birth: Numerical coding system of Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use</p>		<p>Refugees: UNHCRR standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refugees (incl. refugee-like situations)</li> <li>• Asylum-seekers (pending cases)</li> <li>• Returned refugees</li> <li>• Internally displaced persons (IDPs)</li> <li>• Returned IDPs</li> <li>• Stateless persons</li> <li>• Others of concern</li> </ul> <p><b>The Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics</b> is developing a set of international recommendations for refugee statistics and a refugee statistics compiler manual with operational instructions. Guidelines on refugee statistics will be presented at the 49th UNSC session in 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country of previous residence</li> </ul> <p>Emigrant measurement by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country of citizenship</li> <li>• Country of birth</li> <li>• Country of next residence</li> </ul>	
<b>Disability</b>	<p>Washington Group (WG) short set of questions on disability</p> <p>UNICEF/Washington Group module on Child Functioning</p> <p>International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)</p> <p>International Classification of Diseases (ICD)</p>	<p>Washington Group's sets of questions are proposed as standard for the monitoring of the SDGs by the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Disability Data and Statistics, Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>ICF and ICD are rather classifications than standards</p> <p>Priority list of indicators to be disaggregated by disability, developed by the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities</p>	<p>Disability: Severe disabilities collecting disability social protection benefits</p>	<p>International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, (ICF) Custodian: WHO</p> <p>Washington Group on Disability Statistics</p> <p>CFM in MICS</p>	<p>EU-Standard: In SDG data: Type of disability measured by level of activity limitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None</li> <li>- Some or severe</li> </ul> <p>EU Labour Force Survey: Type of disability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulty in basic activity</li> <li>- No difficulty in basic activity</li> <li>- Limitation in work caused by a health condition or difficulty in basic activity</li> <li>- No limitation in work caused by a health</li> </ul>	<p>Comments of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities:</p> <p>Questions for surveys (WG-SS and CFM) are mixed with classification systems and one of the classification systems is based on a complete medical model, which is rejected by the disability community and violates the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. ICF and ICD are mentioned as classifications, not standards so it is unclear why the classifications are still mentioned. It would be best to delete all mention of the classifications.</p> <p>Concerning "Categories Used in the</p>

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					<p>condition or difficulty in basic activity</p>	<p>Global Indicator Framework they recommend that “severe disabilities” should be removed and be replaced with “with disabilities and without disabilities.”</p> <p>Further endorsements by the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities:                      The short set of questions has been recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission and the United Nation’s Economic Commission for Europe Council of European Statisticians as the method for collecting information on disability in the upcoming 2020 round of censuses.                      The short set of questions has been endorsed by a Disability Data Expert Group under the auspices of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs as the means to disaggregate the Sustainable Development Goals by disability status.                      The UK Department for International Development and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade have adopted the Washington Group Short Set of Questions.                      USAID included the Washington Group Short Set of Questions as an optional module for the Demographic and Health Survey.                      The short set is being used as a disaggregation tool by multiple UN agencies.</p> <p>The “Disability Data Disaggregation Joint Statement by the Disability Sector” (March 2017) recommends</p>

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						the use of the short set of questions developed by the Washington Group for SDG data disaggregation and is endorsed by the UK Department for International Development, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP, ILO, UNICEF, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, International Disability Alliance, and International Disability and Development Consortium.
<b>Geographical Location</b>	Urban/ Rural  CIESIN WorldPop	<p>There is no harmonised definition of the widely used concept of rural and urban. The ILO has published preliminary overviews of national definitions of urban/ rural and best practices of international organisations. <a href="http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/statistics-overview-and-topics/rural-labour/lang--en/index.htm">http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/statistics-overview-and-topics/rural-labour/lang--en/index.htm</a></p> <p>CIESIN and WorldPop are rather data sources than standards and must be complemented by other data sources, e.g. census data</p> <p>There are already sound experiences in the use of CIESIN for the MDGs and in the publishing of the poverty atlas, jointly with the World Bank</p> <p>Disaggregation by geographical location is a condition for poverty mapping with small area estimation</p> <p>Uncertainties of the meaning of some disaggregation dimensions in the indicator/target names, e.g.: "place of occurrence": does it refer to geographical places? Or general locations?</p>	Urban/ rural  Rural to urban parity index	World Bank: Poverty mapping  UNSD: "Because of national differences, the distinction between urban and rural areas is not amenable to a single definition that would be applicable to all countries. Where there are no regional recommendations on the matter, countries must establish their own definitions in accordance with their own needs."	EU-Standard: Urban / Rural (DEGURBA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cities</li> <li>• Towns and suburbs</li> <li>• Rural areas</li> </ul> Region: Nuts 2	

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**Results from the consultation mechanism on standards on data disaggregation:**

Organization	Proposed standard	Information
<b>Mountain Partnership</b>	<p>On-going work on geospatial analyses to determine magnitudes and causes of vulnerability for food insecurity of mountain populations</p> <p>Recommendation: Usage of the UNEP-WCMC classification of mountains to separate mountain area from the lowland</p>	
<b>UNFPA uses following standard disaggregation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age, mostly focusing on women age 15-49 (5-year age group)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Residence (urban/rural)</li> <li>• Highest education level (no education, primary education, secondary education, and higher education)</li> <li>• Wealth index (poorest 20% household, poorer 20% household, middle 20% household, richer 20% household, richest 20% household)</li> <li>• Ethnicity, for select indicators only</li> </ul>	
<b>World Health Organization</b>	<p>Recommendation: Disaggregation by five common inequality dimensions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic status</li> <li>• Education level</li> <li>• Place of residence</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Age</li> </ul> <p>Recommendation to add country or context-specific factors for national monitoring (<a href="http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/255652/1/9789241512183-eng.pdf?ua=1">http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/255652/1/9789241512183-eng.pdf?ua=1</a>)</p> <p>Disaggregation used for indicator 3.c.1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Disaggregation on occupation Definition: International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO -08). For details refer to NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Occupation)</li> <li>2. Disaggregation by place of training (migration indicators) Definition: OECD/EuroStat/WHO-Euro Joint questionnaire and National Health Workforce Accounts. For details refer to NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Foreign-trained health worker)</li> <li>3. Disaggregation by place of birth (migration indicators) Definition: OECD/EuroStat/WHO-Euro Joint questionnaire and National Health Workforce Accounts. For details refer to NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Foreign-born health worker)</li> <li>4. Disaggregation by sex For details refer to NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Sex)</li> </ol>	



5. Disaggregation by age  
For details refer to NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Age group)
6. Disaggregation by sector (public/private/..)  
For details refer to the NHWA Handbook (Glossary: Facility/institution ownership type)

**The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS)**

Recommendation:

Sex:

Recommendation According to the UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (Revision 3, 2015)

“The sex of every individual should be recorded on the census questionnaire for those countries that collect their census information in this way. The disaggregation of data by sex is a fundamental requirement for gender statistics. For many socioeconomic and demographic characteristics that could be collected through a census, such as education, economic activity, marital status, migration, disability and living arrangements, there are generally variations by sex. The successful planning and implementation of gender-sensitive policies and programmes requires the disaggregation of data by sex to reflect problems, issues and questions related to both men and women in society. Sex, together with age, represents the most basic type of demographic information collected about individuals in censuses and surveys, as well as through administrative recording systems, and the cross-classification of these data with other characteristics forms the basis of most analyses of the social and demographic characteristics of the population, as it provides the context within which all other information is placed.”

Forms of violence:

Categories: Physical, sexual, psychological

Age groups:

15-19  
20-29  
30-39  
40-49  
50-59  
60-69  
70+

15-24  
25-44  
45-54  
55-64  
65+

Place of occurrence:

1. Private residential premises (including own home or yard; others' home or yard) 2. Open area, street or public transport (including street, alley, parking lot, parks, public transit, other open area) 3. Schools or other educational institutions 4. Institutional settings (including prisons, care institutions, other) 5. Other commercial or public non-residential premises (including commercial premises, office buildings, other) 6. Other locations 9. Not known

\* Based on International classification of crimes for statistical purposes (ICCS) and UN Guidelines for

	<p>Producing Statistics on Violence against Women—Statistical Surveys. The place of occurrence="at work" can be derived by the categories above, by adding relevant question(s).</p> <p>type of tenure:          Customary          Freehold          Leasehold          State          Community/Group right          Cooperatives          Other</p>	
<p><b>United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics</b></p>	<p>Recommendation:          For global monitoring:          Step 1: defined by one of the following two variables, which are both listed as a core topic for the 2020 round of population censuses:          - Country of birth. This allows for the dichotomy to be made between the foreign-born (international migrants) and the native-born population (non-migrants);          - Country of citizenship. This allows for the dichotomy to be made between foreign citizens or foreigners (international migrants) and citizens (non-migrants).</p> <p>For national monitoring:          Step 2: If there is a need to distinguish between the first-generation migrants and the second generation migrants, then migratory status should be defined by          - Country of birth of the parents, in combination with the variable country of birth</p> <p>Step 3: Countries interested in other migration-related population groups could collect information on the duration of stay (core topic for the 2020 population census), the reasons for migration (employment, settlement, family, study, humanitarian) or legal status (regular and irregular migration). Countries interested in internal migration can include the various core and non-core topics recommended for the 2020 round of population censuses. Countries interested in internal displacement could add a question on the reasons for internal migration.</p>	<p>International Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations for International Migration Statistics (1998)</li> <li>• Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, rev. 3 (2015)</li> <li>• Handbook on Measuring International Migration through Population Censuses (2017)</li> </ul> <p>Further on-going work:          4-year capacity building project on migration statistics (2018-2021),</p>
<p><b>DESA Population Division</b></p>	<p>Recommendation:          Adoption of some international standards in some cases for comparative purposes, including for regional and global monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the age ranges to use for the primary, secondary and tertiary levels</li> <li>• for the working-age population that underlies the employment indicators</li> <li>• for “older persons”, as referred to under goal 1.</li> <li>• Standards would also be useful for a large set of social indicators that are explicitly meant to be “for all” or “for all ages, but don’t have a ‘built-in’ age range.</li> </ul> <p>In general:          collect the data by single years of age</p> <p>youth: 15-24          adolescents: 10-19          young people: 10-24</p>	

<p><b>Task Stream on Aggregation and Disaggregation to address disaggregation by geographic location</b></p>	<p>last open-ended group: 100plus</p> <p>On-going work on disaggregation by geographical location</p>	<p>The task stream is guided by the Five Principles of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework, as endorsed by Statistical Commission and Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).</p>
<p><b>UNESCO Institute for Statistics</b></p>	<p>Recommendation: International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)</p> <p>Level of education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• early childhood education (sub-divided into early childhood educational development and pre-primary education)</li> <li>• primary education</li> <li>• secondary education (sub-divided into lower secondary and upper secondary)</li> <li>• post-secondary non-tertiary</li> <li>• tertiary education (subdivided into short cycle tertiary, Bachelor's or equivalent, Master's or equivalent and Doctoral or equivalent)</li> </ul>	<p>Data are collected by the UIS, the classify national programmes of education to the ISCED 2011 levels of education via a questionnaire on National Education Systems. Validated ISCED mappings are published on the UIS Website: <a href="http://uis.unesco.org/en/isced-mappings">http://uis.unesco.org/en/isced-mappings</a></p>