

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

Indicator 1.3.1: Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

Institutional information

Organization(s):

World Bank (WB)

Concepts and definitions

Definition:

Coverage of social protection and labor programs (SPL) is the percentage of population participating in social insurance, social safety net, and unemployment benefits and active labor market programs. Estimates include both direct and indirect beneficiaries.

Rationale:

ASPIRE coverage indicators refer to the 'effective' coverage definition, measuring the direct and indirect beneficiaries who are actually receiving social protection benefits at the time nationally representative household survey data are collected, as within a target group (total population, for different income quintiles, total population in urban and rural areas). 'Effective' coverage is directly relevant to SDG 1 of ending poverty in all its forms.

ASPIRE indicators do not include (in the current edition) those who are protected by law, or those who have benefits guaranteed but are not necessarily receiving them at the time the survey is administered – for example people who actively contribute to old age pensions and are entitled to the benefits on reaching retirement age.

Concepts:

This indicator is estimated by program type, for the entire population and by quintiles of both the post-transfer and pre-transfer welfare distribution. Programs are aggregated into social assistance, social insurance and labor market according to ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) classification. Indicators for all social protection and labor programs (SPL) provide the totals summing up the social assistance, social insurance and labor market figures.

ASPIRE is the World Bank's premier compilation of Social Protection and Labor (SPL) indicators gathered from officially-recognized international household surveys in order to analyze the distributional and poverty impact of Social Protection and Labor programs. ASPIRE is an ongoing project that aims to improve SPL data quality, comparability and availability to better inform SPL policies and programs.

Comments and limitations:

Household surveys have limitations. It is important to note that the extent to which information on specific transfers and programs is captured in the household surveys can vary a lot across countries. Often household surveys do not capture the universe of social protection and labor (SPL) programs in the country, in best practice cases just the largest programs. Many household surveys have limited information on SPL programs, some surveys collect information only on participation without including the transfer amounts; and others include program information mixed with private transfers, making it difficult to isolate individual SPL programs.

Therefore information on country SPL programs included in ASPIRE is limited to what is captured in the respective national household survey and does not necessarily represent the universe of programs existing in the country. In addition, the availability of ASPIRE indicators depends on the type of questions included in the survey. If transfer amounts are available, for example, adequacy and impact on poverty indicators can be generated. If only program participation questions are included in the survey, only non-monetary indicators can be generated such as coverage or beneficiary incidence.

As a consequence, ASPIRE performance indicators are not fully comparable across harmonized program categories and countries.

However, household surveys have the unique advantages of allowing analysis of program impact on household welfare. With such caveats in mind, ASPIRE indicators based on household surveys provide an approximate measure of social protection systems performance.

Methodology

Computation Method:

Data are calculated from national representative household surveys using ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity, The World Bank (see datatopics.worldbank.org/aspire/).

Coverage = Number of beneficiaries in the total population (or group) / Total population (or group).

Generally, ASPIRE indicators are based on a first level analysis of original household survey data (with no imputations) and on a unified methodology that does not necessarily reflect country-specific knowledge and in depth country analysis relying on different data sources (administrative program level data).

Disaggregation:

Disaggregation would be possible by sex, age group, income quintiles, etc.

Treatment of missing values:

- [At country level](#)

No imputation

- [At regional and global levels](#)

The regional and global aggregates are calculated from the most recent values of country data since 2000. No imputation is performed.

Regional aggregates:

Regional and global estimates are calculated as the average of all country data available, weighted by countries' population.

Sources of discrepancies:

While efforts are made to ensure consistency between ASPIRE indicators and World Bank's regional and country reports/national estimates, there may still be cases where ASPIRE performance indicators differ from official WB country reports/national estimates.

Data Sources

Description:

Data are based on national representative household surveys. Data source is ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity, The World Bank (see datatopics.worldbank.org/aspire/)

Collection process:

Unit-record data of national household surveys are collected by national governments and given to the World Bank for analytical purposes. The ASPIRE team harmonizes these household surveys to make them reasonably comparable across country and over time.

The ASPIRE harmonization methodology for household survey data rests on the following three steps:

1. Identification and classification of Social Protection and Labor (SPL) benefits and services

Household surveys are carefully reviewed to identify SPL program information. Once this information is located, two levels of analysis are implemented: first, variables are created for each of the country specific programs found in the survey. If the original program name is not provided in the survey instrument, the variable will report the corresponding ASPIRE's program subcategories according to how the question is framed and country context.

Additionally, program variables are aggregated and harmonized into 12 SPL program categories, and 2 private transfer categories. The country specific programs included into these main SPL categories are documented in detail below and are validated with WB country task teams in close coordination with national counterparts.

In order to generate the indicators, the following variables are also harmonized: household identification number, location (urban/rural), household size, adult equivalent household size, welfare aggregate, household weight and poverty line, defined as the poorest 20% of the welfare distribution.

2. Welfare aggregates

Households are ranked in quintiles of the welfare distribution (either household total income or consumption). Special efforts are made to include the most recently updated welfare aggregates officially agreed with National Statistical Offices and /or harmonized by regional poverty teams (or the Socio-Economic Database for Latin America and the Caribbean - SEDLAC) in the case of Latin American

countries and the ECAPOV database in the case of Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries. These welfare aggregates are also consistent with the ones used by World Bank PovcalNet poverty estimates.

3. PPP conversions

All monetary variables (transfer amounts) and the welfare aggregate are deflated to 2005 values and then converted to international US Dollars according to the following: [all transfers and welfare (t) / CPI (2005)] / [ICP (2005)] where ICP (2005) is the PPP conversion factor base 2005 of private consumption.

Once the information is harmonized performance indicators are generated using ADePT SP software.

Data Availability

Description:

Data Availability 2010 to present (measured in terms of how many countries have at least 1 data point after 2010 for this indicator:

Asia and Pacific: 19; Africa: 37; Latin America and Caribbean: 18; Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan: 15.

Data Availability (2000-2009)

Asia and Pacific: 33; Africa: 37; Latin America and Caribbean: 22; Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan: 21

Calendar

Data collection:

Ongoing process

Data release:

Ongoing process

Data providers

World Bank

Data compilers

World Bank

References

URL:

www.worldbank.org

References:

ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity, The World Bank (datatopics.worldbank.org/aspire/).