Measuring care

Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS)
18th Meeting
Session 3.B

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Care and time-use data offer a way to connect domains and a way forward to more inclusive measures of progress

Care as an overarching policy concern	Statistical framework for care	Strong data infrastructure and governance	Care and time-use measurements to complement GDP
Gender Labour market Human rights Education Health Migration Environment Disasters Economics	Statistical standards and definitions Understand building blocks Multidisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration	Complementary data sources Improve and modernize time-use and other data sources Interoperability of data	Time-use indicators National Time Transfer Accounts Satellite/extended accounts Projections and simulations …

Statistical opportunities

Population census	Size and characteristics of care recipients and care providers
Civil Registration and Vital Statistics	Essential for demographic indicators and to monitor health and population programmes
Disability Statistics	Prevalence, living conditions, care demands and characteristics of people living with disabilities
Migration statistics	Global care chains
Administrative records	Private and public provision of care
Household surveys	Socio-economic characteristics of population Characteristics of care provision
Labour force surveys	Working conditions of paid care providers
Time-use data surveys	Unpaid care work
National Accounts	Care impacts to the economy

Big data	Fill data gaps
Citizen generated data	
Geospatial and statistical integration	Care in territories

Harnessing the power of time-use data

Quality of life and Well-being

Unpaid household service work

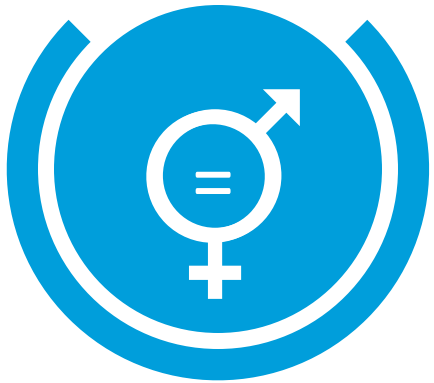
Leisure and sports

Culture

Travel

Paid work

Health



Gender equality

Education

Time-use data is being collected and used by more countries around the world, particularly to measure unpaid work, wellbeing and gender equality.

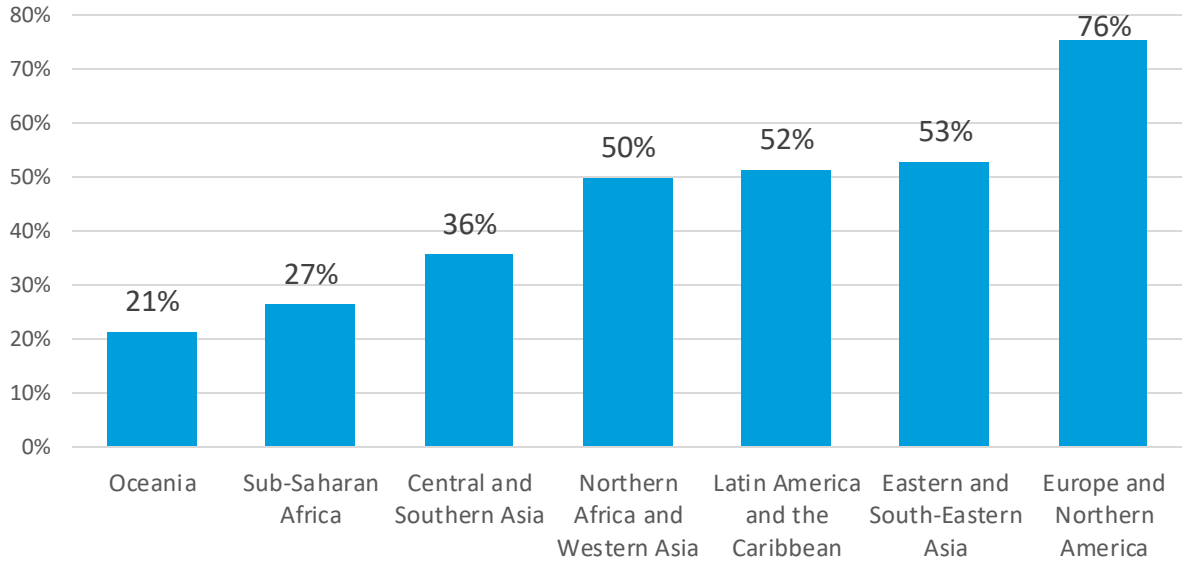
SDG 5.4.1 - Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work by sex

Indicator 5.4.1 in SDGs global database

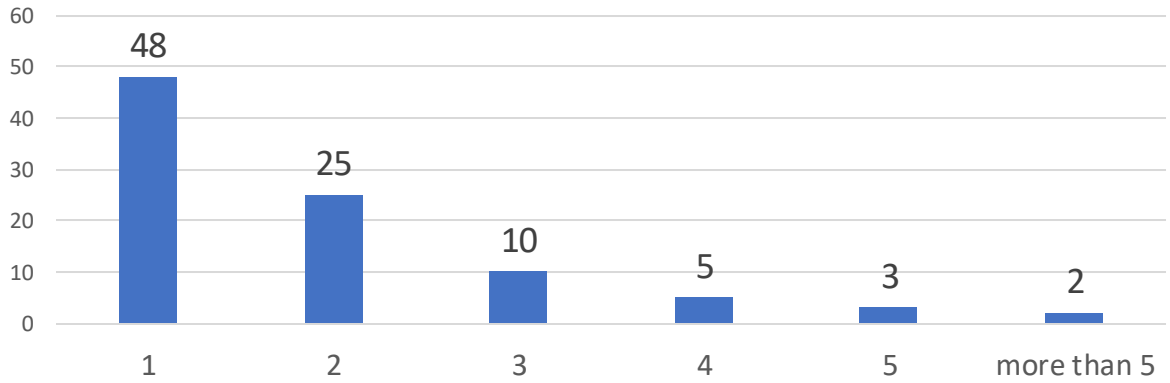
95 countries with data disaggregated by sex (2000-2024)
⇔ *only **72** countries by 2010*

- **48%** of countries with at least 2 data points (2000-2023)

Proportion of countries reporting data on the indicator 5.4.1, by region



Distribution of countries by number of time-use data collections, 2000-2022



Revised UN Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use

Challenges

- **Coding complexity**
- **High respondents' burden and declining response rates**
- **Limited financial and human resources**
- **Data not used to its full potential**

Solutions

- **Policy relevance**
  Making the case for time-use data to inform public policies and in support of SDGs monitoring
- **Concepts and Definitions**
  Promoting consistent and harmonized terminology
- **Quality considerations**
  Standards to be applied to time-use surveys
- **Modernization of the production of time-use statistics**
  Alternative ways of collecting time-use data involving the use of technology
- **Minimum harmonized instrument**
  Promoting more frequent and cost-efficient time-use statistics

Minimum activity list

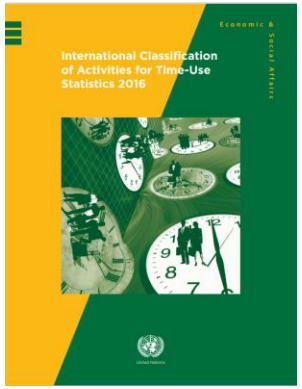
1. Working in paid job or income generating activities
2. Making goods for own household or family use
3. Volunteer work
4. Preparing and serving food and meals for own household or family members
5. Cleaning own or family dwelling
6. Maintaining and making small repairs in own or family dwelling
7. Cleaning and care of clothing and footwear of own household or family members
8. Managing own household
9. Taking care of pet of own household or family
10. Shopping for own household or family
11. Taking care of own (household or family) child
12. Taking care of or helping adults (own household or family)

SDG 5.4.1

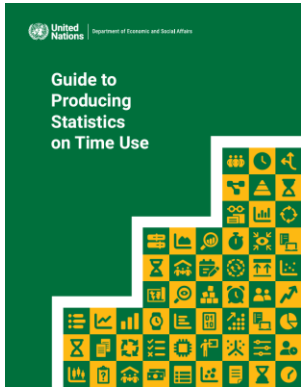
13. Education
14. Socializing and communication
15. Community participation, civic and related responsibilities, and religious practices
16. Cultural, entertainment and sports events
17. Hobbies, games and other pastime activities
18. Sport participation and exercising
19. Reading for leisure
20. Watching TV/Listening to radio or streaming
21. Sleep
22. Eating and drinking
23. Personal hygiene and care
24. Travel
25. Other

Available methods and resources

Methods

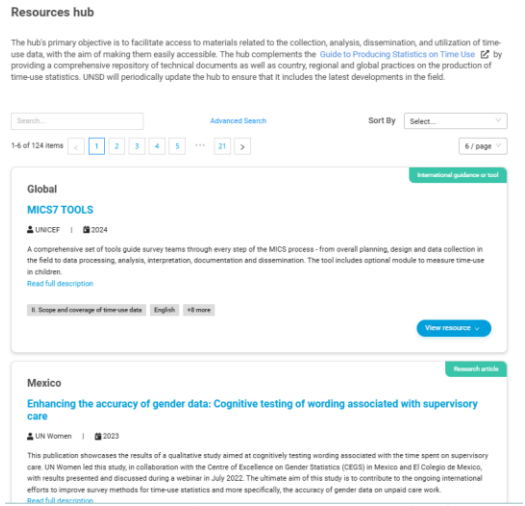


[The International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics 2016 (ICATUS 2016)]

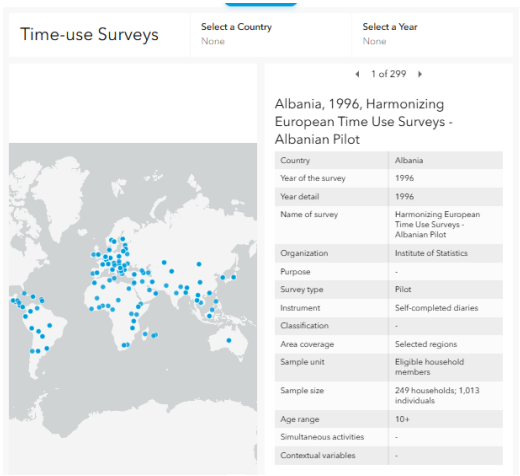


[The Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use, 2024]

Resources



[Time-use data resources hub]



[Time-use data surveys]

Data and metadata

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

- **Indicator 5.4.1:** Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

  See Metadata :

- Indicator I.1: Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location
- Indicator I.2: Average number of hours spent on total work (paid and unpaid), by sex

Thank you!