



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Session 6: Social Outcomes

Technical Workshop on Time, People, Places and Relationships: A New Lens to Organize Social and Demographic Outcomes

Time-use data

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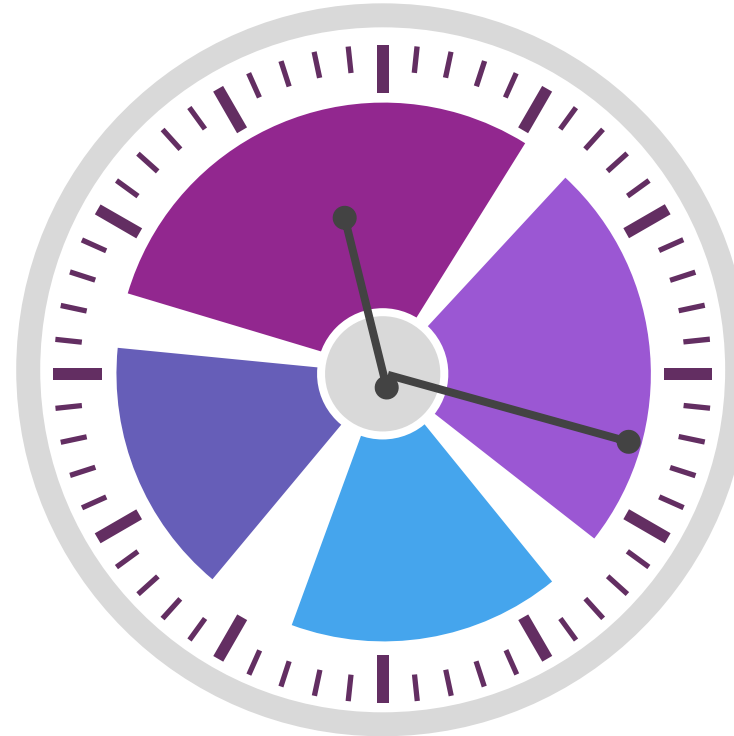
Time-use statistics

Time-use statistics are **quantitative** summaries of **how individuals “spend” or allocate their time over a specified period** – typically over the **24 hours** of a day

Time-use statistics shed light on:

What individuals in the reference population **do** or the **activities** they engage in.

How much time is spent doing each of these activities.



Universal

Everyone has 24 hours
->Enables comparisons across countries and groups

Comprehensive insights

How people allocate time across activities; reflects living conditions and well-being.

Cut across and link pillars/domains

Can inform a myriad of public policies.

Policy relevance of time-use data

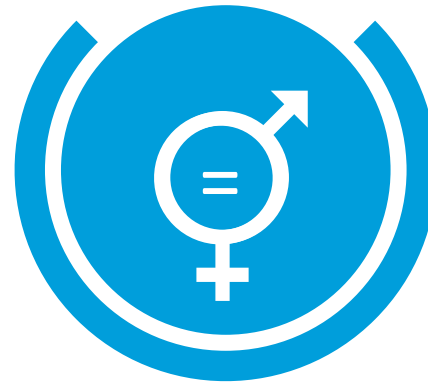


Health



Quality of life and Well-being

Understand the living conditions and well-being of the population and its sub-groups; overall time allocation to the whole range of activities



Gender equality

Analyze the types of activities individuals engage in, the differences in the use of time between men and women and their social and economic contributions.



Travel



Unpaid household service work

Measure all forms of work, including the provision of services by households for their own consumption. This production although not included in the SNA production boundary, is significant and time-use data provide information that can complement the GDP.



Culture



Education



Paid work



Leisure and sports



Environment



The International Classification of Time-Use Statistics (ICATUS 2016)



Hierarchical classification → covers all possible activities undertaken by the population during a 24 hour period



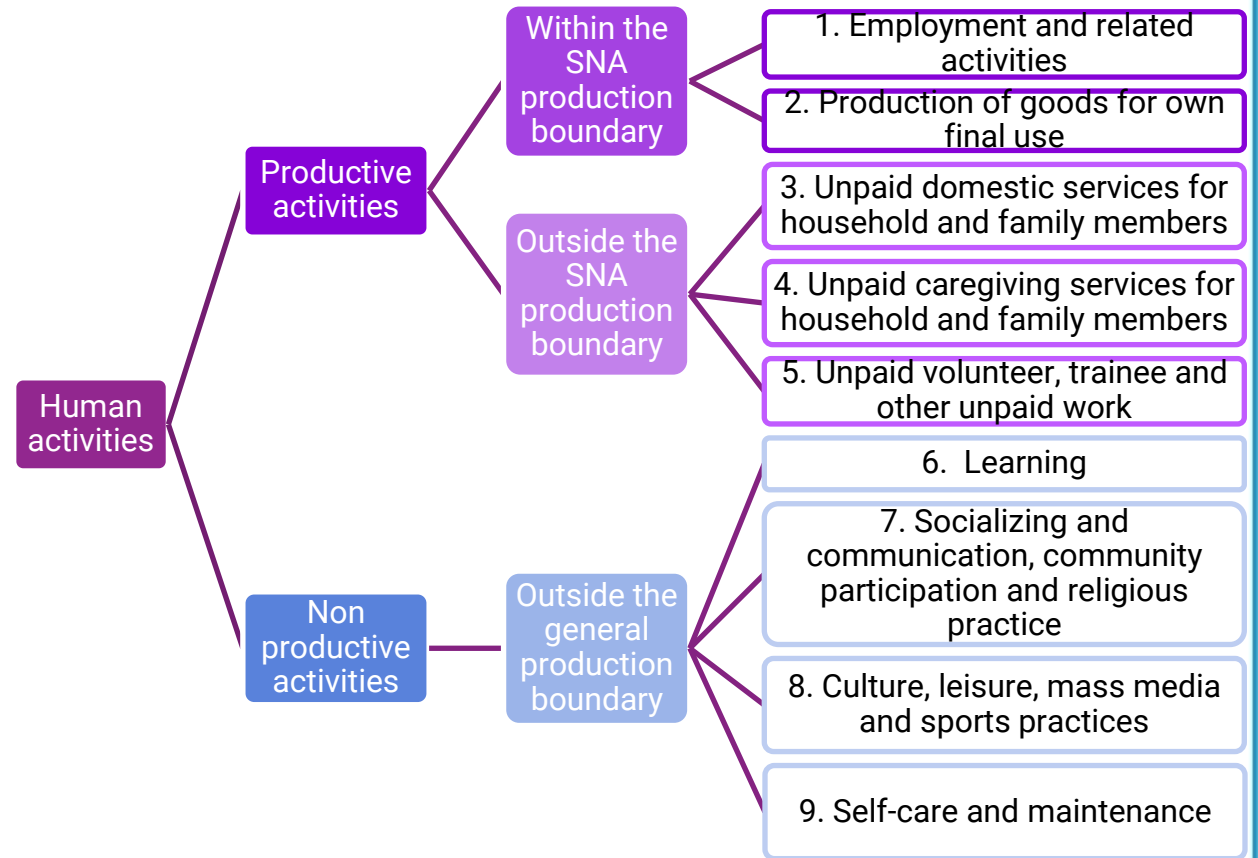
Comparability → Provides a framework with standardized concepts and definitions for systematic collection/dissemination of comparable TUS across countries and over time



Consistency → Linked to SNA & ICLS (allow calculation of aggregates for extended account)



Criterion → Productive vs. non-productive (third-person rule)





Time-use data are used to calculate key indicators:

Activity participation rates (percentage of the population that report doing a given activity)

Average time spent on activities (by all population or by doers only).

| Area | Indicator | Relevance |
|---|--|--|
| Unpaid domestic and care work | Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work | Allows monitoring of unpaid productive activities and their contribution to society and the economy. Also enables measurement of disparities in unpaid domestic and care work, monitoring progress toward gender equality, and informing policies aimed at reducing the burden of unpaid work and promoting shared responsibility within households. |
| Total work | Average number of hours spent on total work (paid and unpaid) | Provides a comprehensive view of all forms of work, offering a complete picture of productive activities and revealing disparities in the distribution of paid and unpaid work. |
| Leisure time | Average number of hours spent on leisure activities | To assess work-life balance and the allocation of time for leisure among individuals, monitor disparities in time use, and inform policies aimed at promoting well-being. |
| Time spent alone | Average number of hours spent alone | Allows for assessing social isolation, monitor mental health and well-being trends, and guide interventions aimed at reducing loneliness and fostering social connectedness. |
| Participation in cultural activities | Proportion of population participating in cultural activities | Allows for monitoring trends in cultural participation, and inform policies aimed at promoting access to and inclusion in cultural activities. |

Indicators should be disaggregated, as a minimum, by sex and age group, and by location and other variables, considered relevant in the national context.



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Global coverage: 110 countries with data



Repeated surveys: 58 countries have conducted multiple TUS rounds (since 2000)



Harmonization: Advancing through UN Guidelines



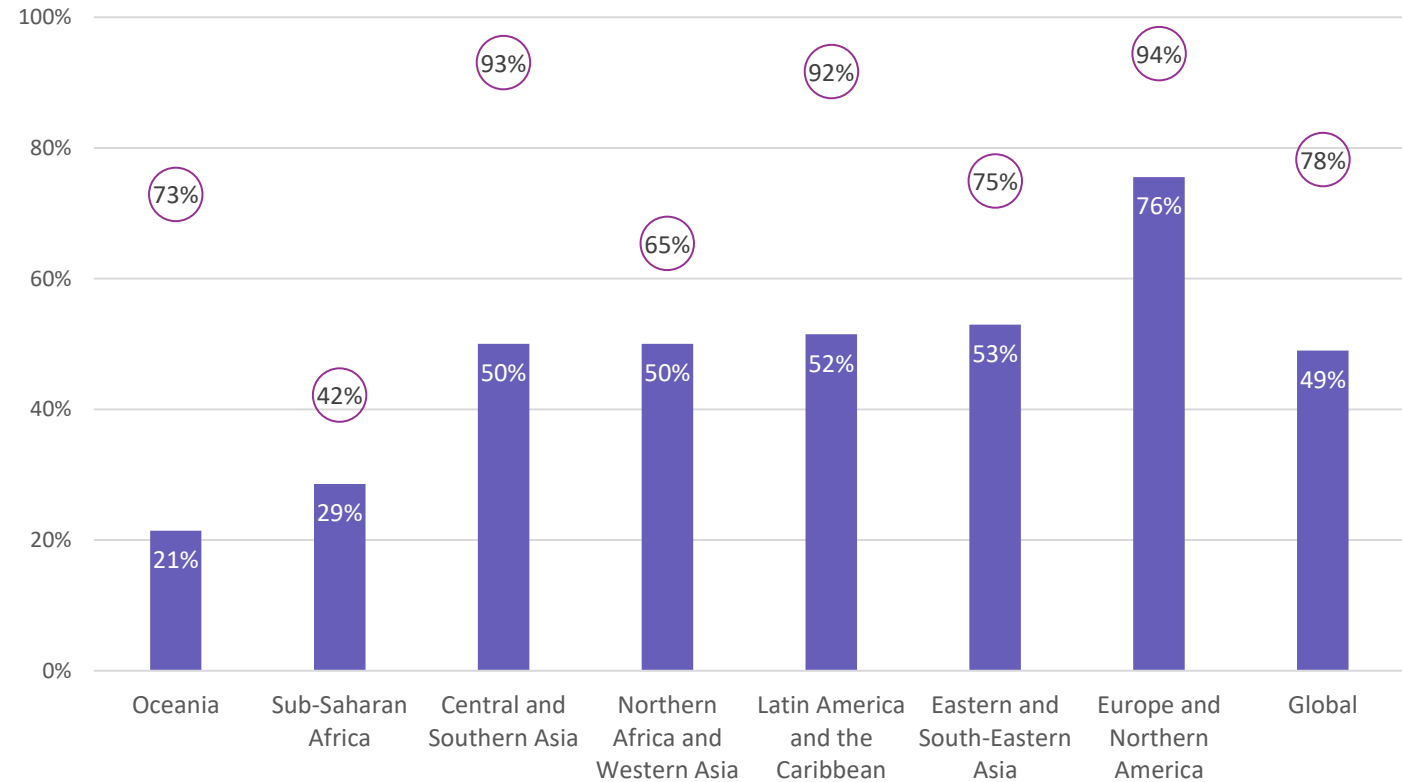
Efficiency: Lower costs with light diaries & survey modules



Innovation: New technologies supporting data collection

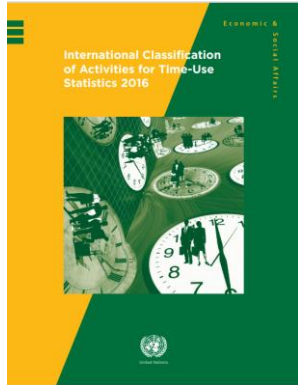
Implementation in countries

Proportion of countries reporting data on (bars) and proportion of population covered by (bubbles) indicator 5.4.1 - proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by region.





Methods



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



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

Resources

Resources hub

The hub's primary objective is to facilitate access to materials related to the collection, analysis, dissemination, and utilization of time-use data, with the aim of making them easily accessible. The hub complements the [Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use](#) by providing a comprehensive repository of technical documents as well as country, regional and global practices on the production of time-use statistics. UNSD will periodically update the hub to ensure that it includes the latest developments in the field.

Search: [Advanced Search](#) Sort By:

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Global

MICS7 TOOLS

UNICEF | 2024

A comprehensive set of tools guide survey teams through every step of the MICS process - from overall planning, design and data collection in the field to data processing, analysis, interpretation, documentation and dissemination. The tool includes optional module to measure time-use in children.

[Read full description](#)

[X](#) [Scope and coverage of time-use data](#) [English](#) [18 more](#) [View resource](#)

Mexico

Enhancing the accuracy of gender data: Cognitive testing of wording associated with supervisory care

UN Women | 2023

This publication showcases the results of a qualitative study aimed at cognitively testing wording associated with the time spent on supervisory care. UN Women led this study, in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) in Mexico and El Colegio de México, with results presented and discussed during a webinar in July 2022. The ultimate aim of this study is to contribute to the ongoing international efforts to improve survey methods for time-use statistics and more specifically, the accuracy of gender data on unpaid care work.

[Read full description](#)

[Time-use data resources hub](#)

Time-use Surveys Select a Country: Select a Year:

None None

1 of 299 >

Albania, 1996, Harmonizing European Time Use Surveys - Albanian Pilot

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Country | Albania |
| Year of the survey | 1996 |
| Year detail | 1996 |
| Name of survey | Harmonizing European Time Use Surveys - Albanian Pilot |
| Organization | Institute of Statistics |
| Purpose | - |
| Survey type | Pilot |
| Instrument | Self-completed diaries |
| Classification | - |
| Area coverage | Selected regions |
| Sample unit | Eligible household members |
| Sample size | 249 households; 1,013 individuals |
| Age range | 10+ |
| Simultaneous activities | - |
| Contextual variables | - |

[Time-use data surveys](#)

Available resources

Data and metadata



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 1.1: Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

- Indicator 1.2: Average number of hours spent on total work (paid and unpaid), by sex



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Thank you!