## Directory of statistical services of international organisations

### UNESCO Institute for Statistics

![UNESCO Institute for Statistics logo]

| Brief description of the organization\(^1\) | The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) is the official source of internationally comparable data on education, science, culture, and communication, which it produces by working with national statistical offices, line ministries, and other statistical organizations. The UIS Director serves as UNESCO’s chief statistician.  
| Based in Montreal, Canada, the Institute was created in 1999 to meet the growing demand for policy-relevant, timely, and reliable statistics needed by UNESCO Member States and the international community. |
| **Mission**\(^2\) | The UIS mission is to provide statistical information on education, science, culture, and communication, which informs decision-making by countries and other stakeholders and allows benchmarking progress towards national and international goals. This involves close working relationships with national statisticians in countries at all stages of development.  
| The UIS is the official data source for the education-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). |
| **Fields of Activity/structure** |
| **Statistics** | The UIS delivers:  
| 1. Standards and methodologies  
| 2. Data and analytics  
| 3. Brokerage and country support |

The Institute’s main services include:  
- collecting and disseminating statistics in education, science and technology, culture, and communication.  
- setting and applying standards to compare data internationally.  
- helping Member States to improve the quality and analysis of their data.  
- monitoring progress towards international development goals.  
- designing new indicators to better reflect the policy needs of developing countries; and  
- promoting wider use of data for policymaking.  

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\(^1\) Description of the statistics section/department in the organization  
\(^2\) Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization
The UIS partners with a variety of multilateral agencies, regional and national organizations, governments, civil society groups, and others to research, implement, innovate and deliver results.

The UIS works closely with national statisticians in more than 200 countries and territories to improve data quality at the national and international levels. National statisticians and policy-planners take part in UIS training workshops, technical assistance projects as well as bilateral and regional consultations to improve data collection tools and the comparability of international statistics, especially in the field of education.

| **Mandate** |  ■ See general description and mission statement.  
  ■ As an autonomous organization, the Institute has its own Governing Board that consists of 12 experts, representing different regions and international organizations. |
| **Statistical work programme** |  ■ The [UIS Medium-Term Strategy for 2022 – 2029](https://uis.unesco.org) provides an overview of the Institute’s priorities, major activities, strategic orientations and resources. In particular, it highlights new directions designed to focus not on process, but on the utility and use of the data so that the UIS’ work adds value for stakeholders and Member States.  
  ■ The strategy is the basis for annual programmes that set more detailed objectives for each year. |
| **Number of staff** |  ■ About 45 worldwide. |
| **Total / Statistical division** |  ■ See general description and mission statement.  
  ■ As an autonomous organization, the Institute has its own Governing Board that consists of 12 experts, representing different regions and international organizations. |
| **Flagship Publications** |  ■ [SDG 4 Benchmark Scorecard](https://uis.unesco.org) series  
  ■ [LASER](https://uis.unesco.org)  
  ■ The UIS is the primary source of education and literacy for leading publications and databases, such as:  
    • Sustainable Development Goals Report (UN)  
    • Global Education Monitoring Report  
    • Human Development Report (UNDP) among others |
| **Website** |  [http://www.uis.unesco.org](http://www.uis.unesco.org) |

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Online databases, datasets

UIS data browser
SDG 4 Data Explorer
Education Data and Statistics Commission
UIS data resources
LASER
Methodological toolkit
ISCED diagrams and mappings
Conference on Education Data and Statistics
Assessments for Minimum Proficiency Levels