## Directory of statistical services of international organisations

| Brief description of the organisation | Founded in 1948, the World Health Organization (WHO), is the United Nations specialized agency that connects nations, partners and people to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health. WHO leads global efforts to expand [universal health coverage](https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage), directs and coordinates responses to health emergencies and promotes healthier lives from pregnancy to old age. [WHO’s Triple Billion targets](https://www.who.int/health-topics/triple-billion-targets)** aim to achieve global health using science-based policies and programs.  

WHO is responsible for producing health guidelines and standards and helps countries to address public health issues. Working with 194 Member States across 6 regions and on the ground in 150+ locations, the WHO team works to improve everyone’s ability to enjoy good health and well-being. Members meet annually at the [World Health Assembly](https://www.who.int) in Geneva to set policy for the Organization and approve the Organization’s budget. Their work is supported by the 34-member Executive Board, which is elected by the Health Assembly. Six regional committees focus on health matters of a regional nature. |

| Mission | WHO’s mission is to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable. To fulfil these mandates, WHO:  
* provides technical assistance to countries and building sustainable institutional capacity  
* sets international health norms, standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation  
* collects data on global health issues and monitoring and assessing health trends  
* serves as a forum for ethical scientific or policy discussions related to health  
* engages in partnerships where joint action is needed.  

These core functions are set out in [WHO’s Fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025-2028](https://www.who.int) (GPW14). WHO’s General Programme of Work is a strategic document setting the organization’s priorities and strategic direction for a specified period that accelerate progress to the 2030 Health and health-related [Sustainable Development Goals](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment). Tracking the world’s progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and the Triple Billion targets through its [results framework](https://www.who.int) and [dashboard](https://www.who.int) is fundamental to advancing the GPW 14. |
WHO’s Public Health Goods and Technical Products—such as norms and standards, data, and research—are essential products and services delivered for the benefit of all countries to achieve the GPW14 Triple Billion targets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fields of Activity/structure</th>
<th>Production and dissemination of data and statistics are highly decentralized in programme-specific units and departments. The Division of Data, Analytics and Delivery for Impact help coordinate and clear processes for statistical publications, outlined in DDI’s 2024 INFocus.</th>
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<td>Mandate</td>
<td>The WHO Constitution stipulates a core function of WHO is &quot;to establish and maintain such administrative and technical services as may be required, including epidemiological and statistical services&quot;</td>
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| Statistical work programme    | WHO’s Fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025-2028 include the strategic plans and deliverables for DDI. DDI’s three priorities are i) better data availability, ii) improving data access, iii) improving data use to improve policies and programs outlined in DDI’s 2024 InFocus in the four main ways:  
  • monitoring global data  
  • setting global data standards (for example for surveys or Family of International Classifications)  
  • supporting equitable access to global data  
  • increasing country capacity assessment and interventions |
| Number of staff               | Approximately 70 full time equivalent, including staff with the DNA department and in programme-specific HQ departments. WHO regional offices also maintain statistics and monitoring and evaluation units with responsibilities in relation to health statistics. |
| Flagship Publications and tools | World annual Health Statistics report World Health Statistics (who.int)  
WHO mortality database WHO Mortality Database - WHO  
World Health Data Hub Data at WHO  
WHO data principles and related policies Principles (who.int) and Data policy (who.int)  
Health Inequality data repository Data (who.int)  
Global Health estimates Global Health Estimates (who.int)  
Global Excess deaths associated with COVID-19 Global excess deaths associated with COVID-19 (modelled estimates) (who.int)  
WHO data collection and analysis tools Data collection tools - WHO  
WHO SCORE for Health Data Technical Package SCORE data collection tool - WHO  
WHO GIS Centre GIS, geospatial solutions for health, Geographic Information System, Storymap, GIS Center (who.int)  
World Health Survey Plus World Health Survey Plus - WHO |
<table>
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<th><strong>WHO Family of International Classifications</strong></th>
<th><a href="who.int">International Classification of Diseases (ICD)</a></th>
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<td><strong>Website</strong></td>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
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