

Measuring
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
through the indicators of the
Sustainable Development Goals
(SDGs) and the World Programme
of Action for Youth (WPAY)

SDGs and WPAY: working together to measure youth development

Through the development and use of indicators youth development can be better measured contributing to the development of effective youth policies and youth-related policies. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) allows for enhanced opportunity to measure youth development efforts while the continuing relevance and importance of frameworks such as the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) help bolster these efforts.

The infographics that follow provide a compilation and comparison of the youth related indicators pertaining to both the SDGs and WPAY, and is intended to provide an overview of the range of indicators available to measure the situation and well-being of youth.

Comparison of indicators:

Of the **232** indicators of the Global Sustainable Development Framework, **68** provide information, directly or clearly, relevant to youth development, while a further **18** provide information that may be highly relevant to youth. The WPAY comprises **49** indicators for selection and adaptation by Member States to help monitor and assess its implementation.

A comparison of the **68** youth related SDG indicators and the **49** WPAY indicators shows that **20** are identical or similar, in wording, meaning or objective.

How does this infographic work?

The infographic is ordered by each of the 15 WPAY priority areas. Each infographic sets out the SDG indicators relevant to youth on the left, and the WPAY indicators on the right. Indicators that are common or similar in wording/meaning to both the SDG and WPAY indicator frameworks are listed in the middle.

As noted above, the SDG framework comprises 68 indicators relevant to youth and 18 additional which provide information highly relevant to youth. They can be divided into three categories, explained below and clearly denoted throughout the document:

Socio-Demographic: Indicators that measure and contribute information on the socio-demographic situation of youth.

Enabling Environment: Indicators which provide information on environments which can enable or support youth development.

Additional Indicators: Indicators which are deemed highly relevant to youth in that they measure one of the WPAY priority areas, and which can be refined and used at the national level.

Measuring Youth Development through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators



SDG INDICATORS

COMMON INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex

4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill

4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated

4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

4.b.1 Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study

4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country

4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to: (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic hand-washing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)

4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex

4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex

Core

2. Transition rate from primary education to secondary education, each sex

5. Gross graduation ratio for upper secondary education, each sex

6. Gross enrollment ratio in tertiary education, each sex

Supplementary

1. Proficiency in reading, mathematics and in science, each sex

2. Educational attainment of the population 15-24 years

EDUCATION

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

Socio-Demographic Status

8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities
8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age
8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider

8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Core

8. Ratio of youth to adult unemployment rates

9. Youth labour force participation rate, each sex

11. Working poor youth, each sex

Enabling Environment

8.b.1 Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a proportion of the national budgets and GDP

8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training

Supplementary

3. Youth employment-to-population ratio

4. Youth in vulnerable employment tertiary education, each sex

Additional Indicators

8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex
8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status

EMPLOYMENT

Measuring Youth Development through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

- 1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)
- 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population
- 10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- 11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing

- 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
- 1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)
- 1.b.1 Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups

- 2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height $>+2$ or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)
- 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status
- 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
- 6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water
- 6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management
- 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity
- 7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology
- 9.1.1 Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road

COMMON INDICATORS

- 1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age
- 11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

WPAY INDICATORS

Core

- 13. Percentage of youth deprived of adequate shelter, each sex
- 14. Percentage of youth deprived of sanitation, urban and rural

Supplementary

- 5. Access to electricity

HUNGER AND POVERTY

Measuring Youth Development through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

- 3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations
- 3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders
- 3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution
- 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)
- 3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning

- 3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)

- 3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national programme

COMMON INDICATORS

- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio
- 3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate
- 3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol
- 3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries
- 3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods
- 3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group
- 3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older

WPAY INDICATORS

Core

- 20. Modern contraceptive use among sexually active youth aged 15-24
- 23. Percentage of young people considered overweight (>1 standard deviation above mean by World Health Organization guidelines), each sex

Supplementary

- 8. Percentage of youth considered underweight (>1 standard deviation below age and sex average, using World Health Organization guidelines)
- 9. Percentage of youth who report being physically active for at least 60 minutes per day, in the last seven days
- 10. Percentage of youth who reported any serious injuries (road traffic, violence) in previous 12 months
- 11. Percentage of youth 15-24 who have used health services at least once in the previous 12 months

HEALTH

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG
INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC STATUS
INDICATORS

13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons
and directly affected persons attributed to
disasters per 100,000 population

NO WPAY INDICATORS

12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula

13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

ENVIRONMENT

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC STATUS
INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

Core

24. Annual prevalence of illicit drug use and drug dependence among youth by drug type, each sex

Supplementary

12. Percentage of youth who report cannabis use at least once in the previous month

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

16.3.2 Unsented detainees as a proportion of overall prison population

Core

25. Number of youth held in custody by civil authorities in connection with drug related crimes (annual), each sex

26. Number of population 15-24 years in criminal detention as juveniles, each sex

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

NO COMMON INDICATORS

NO WPAY INDICATORS

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

LEISURE-TIME
ACTIVITIES

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

- 5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age
- 5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence
- 5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age
- 5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location
- 5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

- 5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18
- 5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education
- 5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment

- 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments
- 5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions

COMMON INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO WPAY INDICATORS

GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

Measuring Youth Development through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

- 10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law
- 11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months
- 16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months
- 16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live
- 16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month
- 16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation
- 16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18
- 16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months
- 16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions
- 16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group
- 16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

- 16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms
- 16.6.2 Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services
- 16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months

COMMON INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO WPAY INDICATORS

FULL AND EFFECTIVE
PARTICIPATION OF
YOUTH
IN THE LIFE OF
SOCIETY
AND IN DECISION
MAKING

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC STATUS
INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

Core

27. Youth migrants (number and as a percentage of total youth), each sex

28. Student outbound mobility ratio at the tertiary level, each sex

10.7.2 Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

GLOBALIZATION

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

Socio-Demographic Status

9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology

5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet

Core

30. Percentage of youth who used a computer at any location in the previous week or month, urban and rural, each sex

Supplementary

13. Provisions for the protection of youth from harmful aspects of information and communications technologies

14. Disaggregation of youth Internet use by location of use and by activity

Enabling Environment

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

Additional Indicators

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

Socio-Demographic Status

3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations

NO COMMON INDICATORS

Core

32. HIV prevalence rate among youth, each sex

33. Percentage of youth with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS, each sex

34. Percentage of youth who used a condom at most recent high-risk sexual activity

Supplementary

15. Percentage of sexually active youth accessing HIV counseling and testing and knowing the result

Enabling Environment

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

Additional Indicators

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

HIV/AIDS

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC STATUS
INDICATORS

16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000
population, by sex, age and cause

NO WPAY INDICATORS

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

ARMED
CONFLICT

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators

Measuring Youth Development
through the SDG and the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) Indicators

SDG INDICATORS

COMMON
INDICATORS

WPAY INDICATORS

NO SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC STATUS
INDICATORS

NO COMMON INDICATORS

NO WPAY INDICATORS

NO ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

NO ADDITIONAL INDICATORS

INTERGENERATIONAL
ISSUES

Socio-Demographic Status

Enabling Environment

Additional Indicators