

SDG indicator metadata

(Harmonized metadata template - format version 1.1)

0. Indicator information (SDG_INDICATOR_INFO)

0.a. Goal (SDG_GOAL)

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

0.b. Target (SDG_TARGET)

Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

0.c. Indicator (SDG_INDICATOR)

Indicator 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

0.d. Series (SDG_SERIES_DESCR)

Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection cash benefit

Proportion of children covered by social protection benefits

Proportion of women giving birth covered by maternity benefits

Proportion of persons with disabilities receiving benefits

Proportion of unemployed receiving benefits

Proportion of workers covered in case of employment injury

Proportion of older persons receiving a pension

Proportion of vulnerable persons receiving benefits

Proportion of poor population receiving social assistance cash benefit

0.e. Metadata update (META_LAST_UPDATE)

2022-03-31

0.f. Related indicators (SDG_RELATED_INDICATORS)

3.8.1; 3.8.2; 1.a.2

0.g. International organisations(s) responsible for global monitoring

(SDG_CUSTODIAN_AGENCIES)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

1. Data reporter (CONTACT)

1.a. Organisation (CONTACT_ORGANISATION)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

2. Definition, concepts, and classifications (IND_DEF_CON_CLASS)

2.a. Definition and concepts (STAT_CONC_DEF)

Definition:

The indicator reflects the proportion of persons effectively covered by a social protection system, including social protection floors. It also reflects the main components of social protection: child and maternity benefits, support for persons without a job, persons with disabilities, victims of work injuries and older persons.

Effective coverage of social protection is measured by the number of people who are either actively contributing to a social insurance scheme or receiving benefits (contributory or non-contributory).

Concepts:

Social protection systems include contributory and non-contributory schemes for children, pregnant women with newborns, people in active age, older persons, for victims of work injuries and persons with disabilities. Social protection floors provide at least a basic level in all main contingencies along the life cycle, as defined in the Social Protection Floors Recommendation 2012 (no. 202) referred to in SDG 1.3.

When assessing coverage and gaps in coverage, distinctions need to be made between coverage by (1) contributory social insurance, (2) universal schemes covering all residents (or all residents in a given category), and (3) means-tested schemes potentially covering all those who pass the required test of income and/or assets.

2.b. Unit of measure (UNIT_MEASURE)

Percent (%)

2.c. Classifications (CLASS_SYSTEM)

Social protection functions specified under: Convention 102 Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952, and Resolution concerning the development of social security statistics, adopted by the Ninth International Conference of Labour Statisticians.

3. Data source type and data collection method (SRC_TYPE_COLL_METHOD)**3.a. Data sources** (SOURCE_TYPE)

The main data source is the **Social Security Inquiry (SSI)** (online questionnaire <https://qpss.ilo.org/>), the ILO's periodic collection of administrative data from national ministries of labour, social security, welfare, finance, and others.

Since 1950, the ILO's Social Security Inquiry has been the main global source of administrative data on social protection. Secondary data sources include existing global databases of social protection statistics, including those of the World Bank, UNICEF, UNWOMEN, HELPAGE, OECD and the International Social Security Association.

This forms the **World Social Protection Database (WSPDB)**. It provides a unique source of information and serves as the basis for the ILO flagship World Social Protection Report, which periodically presents development trends of social protection systems, including floors, providing data for a wide range of countries (214 countries and territories).

3.b. Data collection method (COLL_METHOD)

Obtaining internationally comparable data for global monitoring

Data is collected using the SSI questionnaires, which are filled in direct collaboration with government agencies - Ministries of labour, ministries of finance, social protection institutions and others. The collected data collected is revised by the Social Protection Department in order to identify internal inconsistencies between data and indicators, and detect major differences regarding indicators calculated in previous years. When significant discrepancies are detected, the questionnaires are sent back to the countries, including detailed comments, for further revision and adjustments. In many cases direct contact with national counterparts are required, as SSI application lies on a strong coordination with our governmental counterparts.

3.c. Data collection calendar (FREQ_COLL)

Continuous (214 countries and territories in three years)

3.d. Data release calendar (REL_CAL_POLICY)

Continuous (after new data for the country are processed) on <https://wspdb.social-protection.org>

3.e. Data providers (DATA_SOURCE)

National data is provided by national Ministries of Labour, Welfare, Finance, National Statistical Institutions and others, as well as by social security and social protection institutions.

3.f. Data compilers (COMPILING_ORG)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

3.g. Institutional mandate (INST_MANDATE)

Data compilation on the functioning of social security/social protection systems and monitoring progress are the responsibilities undertaken by the ILO in view of its mandate to assess the compliance with international standards in this field, in particular the conventions and recommendations on social security adopted by the member States of the ILO.

4. Other methodological considerations (OTHER_METHOD)

4.a. Rationale (RATIONALE)

Access to at least a basic level of social protection throughout the life cycle is a human right. The principle of universality of social protection evidences the importance of social protection systems in guaranteeing decent living conditions to the whole population, throughout their lives. The proportion of the population covered by social protection systems/floors provides an indication of the extent to which universality is accomplished, and thus, how secure are the population's living conditions.

Measurements of **effective coverage** should reflect how in reality legal provisions are implemented.

It refers to the percentage of people actually receiving benefits of contributory and non-contributory social protection programmes, plus the number of persons actively contributing to social insurance schemes.

4.b. Comment and limitations (REC_USE_LIM)

Data is collected through an administrative survey ongoing for decades, the ILO Social Security Inquiry. Whenever countries provide data, the indicator is disaggregated by sex. Indicators disaggregated by country and region are also available.

4.c. Method of computation (DATA_COMP)

Calculations include separate indicators in order to distinguish effective coverage for children, unemployed persons, older persons and persons with disabilities, mothers with newborns, workers protected in case of work injury, and the poor and the vulnerable. For each case, coverage is expressed as a share of the respective population.

Indicators are obtained as follows:

- a) Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection cash benefit: ratio of the population receiving cash benefits under at least one of the contingencies/social protection functions (contributory or non-contributory benefit) or actively contributing to at least one social security scheme to the total population.
- b) Proportion of children covered by social protection benefits: ratio of children/households receiving child or family cash benefits to the total number of children/households with children.
- c) Proportion of women giving birth covered by maternity benefits: ratio of women receiving cash maternity benefits to women giving birth in the same year (estimated based on age-specific fertility rates published in the UN's World Population Prospects or on the number of live births corrected for the share of twin and triplet births).
- d) Proportion of persons with disabilities receiving benefits: ratio of persons receiving disability cash benefits to persons with severe disabilities. The latter is calculated as the product of prevalence of disability ratios (published for each country group by the World Health Organization) and each country's population.
- e) Proportion of unemployed receiving benefits: ratio of recipients of unemployment cash benefits to the number of unemployed persons.
- f) Proportion of workers covered in case of employment injury: ratio of workers protected by injury insurance to total employment or the labour force.
- g) Proportion of older persons receiving a pension: ratio of persons above statutory retirement age receiving an old-age pension to persons above statutory retirement age (including contributory and non-contributory).
- h) Proportion of vulnerable persons receiving benefits: ratio of social assistance recipients to the total number of vulnerable persons. The latter are calculated by subtracting from total population all people of working age who are contributing to a social insurance scheme or receiving contributory benefits, and all persons above retirement age receiving contributory benefits.
- i) Proportion of poor population receiving social assistance cash benefit: ratio of social assistance recipients to the population living below the national poverty line.

4.d. Validation (DATA_VALIDATION)

Validation is organized through the ILO regional and country offices with the Ministry of Labour or another institution that serves as a focal point in the country.

4.e. Adjustments (ADJUSTMENT)

Not applicable

4.f. Treatment of missing values (i) at country level and (ii) at regional level (IMPUTATION)

- **At country level**

Indicators for countries with missing values are not part of the reporting.

- **At regional and global levels**

For SDG regions with insufficient country coverage, imputations are used.

4.g. Regional aggregations (REG_AGG)

Global and regional indicators are weighted averages of national indicators with weights equal to the denominators indicated in section 3.3, a-g. Global and regional estimates are based on econometric models designed to impute missing data in countries for which nationally-reported data are unavailable. The output of the models is a complete set of single-year estimates for seven social protection indicators for 169 countries. The country-level data (reported and imputed) are then aggregated to produce global and regional estimates of the social protection indicators.

4.h. Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level (DOC_METHOD)

The ILO's Social Security Inquiry is used at the national level to compile the data. All the relevant information (questionnaire, technical guide, etc) can be obtained here: <https://www.social-protection.org/gimi/WSPDB.action?id=41>

4.i. Quality management (QUALITY_MGMT)

The processes of compilation, analysis and publication of social protection data, including its quality control, are carried out following the methodological framework and standards established by the ILO Department of Statistics, in compliance with the information technology and management standards of the ILO.

4.j Quality assurance (QUALITY_ASSURE)

The compilation of social protection data is based on the ongoing implementation of SSI at the country level. The cycle of application and processing of data, information and indicators from the SSI is carried out in close coordination with the government offices of the countries concerned, with technical supervision by ILO specialists in the field offices. The information collected at the country level through the SSI is complemented with information from other national sources in order to calculate a set of variables and indicators that make up the World Social Protection Database. Quality control practices

include consultations with government agencies providing the information, comparisons with the values of the variables and indicators obtained in previous years, and application of a set of calculation and verification algorithms.

4.k Quality assessment (QUALITY_ASSMNT)

The final assessment of the quality of social protection information is carried out by the Public Finance, Actuarial and Statistics Unit of the ILO's Social Protection Department. This process follows the standard quality criteria established by the ILO Department of Statistics. In cases of doubt about the quality of specific data, these values are reviewed with the participation of the national agencies responsible for producing social protection data. If the issues cannot be clarified, the respective information is not published.

5. Data availability and disaggregation (COVERAGE)

Data availability:

The Social Security Inquiry/World Social Protection Database includes data on 214 countries and territories. As of March 2017, ILO is processing the Social Security Inquiry data for approximately 70 countries per year.

An updated pre-filled version of the questionnaire is sent to the countries in April-May.

Time series:

From 2015 (for some series from 2000)

Disaggregation:

Whenever data are available, the indicator is disaggregated by sex and age groups.

6. Comparability / deviation from international standards (COMPARABILITY)

Sources of discrepancies:

Estimations are based on administrative data produced by countries (SSI).

7. References and Documentation (OTHER_DOC)

URLs:

[ILOSTAT](https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/)

<https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/>

[World Social Protection Data Dashboards](https://wspdb.social-protection.org)

<https://wspdb.social-protection.org>

Social Security Inquiry (questionnaire):

<https://qpss.ilo.org/>

Social Security Inquiry. Manual 2018:

<http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/RessourcePDF.action?ressource.ressourceId=53711>

ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation (n°202), 2012

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID,P12100_LANG_CODE:3065524

World Social Protection Report 2020-22

<https://wspr.social-protection.org>

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0.c. Indicator (SDG_INDICATOR)

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0.d. Series (SDG_SERIES_DESCR)

SI_COV_SOCINS - Proportion of population covered by social insurance programs [1.3.1]

SI_COV_SOCAST - Proportion of population covered by social assistance programs [1.3.1]

SI_COV_LMKT - Proportion of population covered by labour market programs [1.3.1]

0.e. Metadata update (META_LAST_UPDATE)

2024-03-28

0.f. Related indicators (SDG_RELATED_INDICATORS)

1.a.1 Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programs

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 in sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups.

0.g. International organisations(s) responsible for global monitoring

(SDG_CUSTODIAN_AGENCIES)

World Bank (WB)

1. Data reporter (CONTACT)

1.a. Organisation (CONTACT_ORGANISATION)

World Bank (WB)

2. Definition, concepts, and classifications (IND_DEF_CON_CLASS)

2.a. Definition and concepts (STAT_CONC_DEF)

Definition:

Coverage of social protection and labor (SPL) is the percentage of population participating in social insurance, social assistance, and labor market programs. Estimates include both direct and indirect

beneficiaries (number of individuals who live in a household where at least one member participates in a social protection program).

Concepts:

Coverage Coverage is estimated by three social protection areas: social insurance, social assistance and labor market programs. The indicator is calculated for the entire population and for the poorest quintile, which is generated using per capita income or consumption including transfers.

The source of the indicator is the Atlas of Social Protection: Indicators of Resilience and Equity (ASPIRE). ASPIRE is the World Bank's premier compilation of indicators to analyze the scope and performance of social protection programs. Developed by the Social Protection and Jobs (SPJ) Global Practice, ASPIRE provides indicators for 130+ countries on social assistance, social insurance and labor market programs based on both program-level administrative data and national household survey data. ASPIRE is an ongoing project that aims to improve SPL data quality, comparability, and availability to better inform SPL policies and programs.

2.b. Unit of measure (UNIT_MEASURE)

Percent (%). Beneficiaries as percent of total population and the poorest quintile.

2.c. Classifications (CLASS_SYSTEM)

The World Bank's classification of social protection and labor market programs includes 3 areas and 12 program categories, as follows:

1. Social insurance: Contributory pensions and other social insurance;
2. Labor market: Active and passive labor market programs;
3. Social assistance: Unconditional cash transfers, conditional cash transfers, social pensions (non-contributory), food and in-kind transfers, school feeding, public works, workfare and direct job creation, fee waivers and targeted subsidies, and other social assistance.

3. Data source type and data collection method (SRC_TYPE_COLL_METHOD)

3.a. Data sources (SOURCE_TYPE)

Data are based on official national representative household surveys produced by national statistical offices. Data source is ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity, The World Bank (see www.worldbank.org/aspire/).

3.b. Data collection method (COLL_METHOD)

Unit-record data of nationally representative household surveys are collected by national statistical offices (NSOs) and provided to the World Bank (WB) for analytical purposes. The ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) team harmonizes social protection information captured by these household surveys to make the analysis reasonably comparable across countries and over time.

The ASPIRE harmonization methodology for household survey data rests on the following three steps:

1. Identification and classification of social protection and labor (SPL) programs

Household surveys are carefully reviewed to identify SPL program information. Once this information is identified, two levels of analysis are implemented: first, variables are created for each of the country specific programs found in the survey; second, program variables are aggregated and harmonized into 12 SPL program categories, and 2 private transfer categories. The country specific programs included into

these SPL categories are documented in detail and validated with World Bank country task teams leaders in close coordination with national counterparts.

To generate the indicators, the following variables are also used: household identification number, location (urban/rural), household size, welfare aggregate (income or consumption), household weight, and two poverty lines: a relative poverty line, that defines the poorest 20% of the welfare distribution, and the international poverty line of PPP \$22.15 per day.

2. Welfare aggregates

Households are ranked in quintiles of percapita welfare (income or consumption). ASPIRE makes special efforts to include the most updated welfare aggregates officially agreed with NSOs and harmonized by the World Bank's Global Monitoring Database initiative, led by the Poverty and Equity Global Practice. These welfare aggregates are comparable across countries and across years for global poverty monitoring and welfare measurement.

3. PPP conversions

All monetary variables (transfer amounts) and welfare aggregates are deflated to 2017 values and then expressed in 2017 purchasing power parity (PPP) terms. To this effect, the private consumption PPP conversion factor is used.

Once the information is harmonized performance indicators are generated using ADePT social protection software developed by the World Bank.

3.c. Data collection calendar (FREQ_COLL)

Ongoing process

3.d. Data release calendar (REL_CAL_POLICY)

Ongoing process

3.e. Data providers (DATA_SOURCE)

World Bank

3.f. Data compilers (COMPILING_ORG)

World Bank

3.g. Institutional mandate (INST_MANDATE)

The World Bank supports social protection and labor (SPL) systems in client countries as central part of its mission to reduce poverty through sustainable and inclusive growth. The World Bank's SPL strategy lays out ways to deepen its involvement, capacity, knowledge and impact in SPL. In this context ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) is the main World Bank tool to track the outcomes of the SPL strategy.

4. Other methodological considerations (OTHER_METHOD)

4.a. Rationale (RATIONALE)

ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) coverage indicators refer to the ‘effective’ coverage definition, measuring the direct and indirect beneficiaries who are receiving social protection benefits at the time when nationally representative household survey data are collected. Effective coverage is directly relevant to SDG 1 of ending poverty in all its forms.

ASPIRE indicators do not include individuals who have benefits guaranteed but are not receiving them at the time when the survey is administered – for example, people who actively contribute to old age pensions and are entitled to the benefits when reaching retirement age.

4.b. Comment and limitations (REC_USE_LIM)

Information on country social protection and labor (SPL) programs included in ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) is limited to what is captured in the respective national representative household survey and does not necessarily represent the universe of programs existing in the country. In addition, the periodicity in which household surveys are produced by national statistical offices vary across countries, therefore, ASPIRE does not include balance panels for regional aggregates.

Despite the above limitations, household surveys have the unique advantage of allowing analysis of program impact on household welfare. Hence, ASPIRE indicators based on household surveys provide an approximate measure of SPL systems performance.

4.c. Method of computation (DATA_COMP)

ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity estimates social protection and labor (SPL) coverage using national representative household surveys. Coverage is estimated as follows:

$$\text{Coverage} = \frac{\text{Number of SPL beneficiaries in the total population (or quintile)}}{\text{Total population (or quintile)}} \times 100$$

ASPIRE SPL coverage indicators are based on a first level analysis of original household survey data (with no imputations) and a unified methodology that does not necessarily reflect country-specific knowledge or in depth country analysis relying on different data sources, such as administrative program level data..

4.d. Validation (DATA_VALIDATION)

ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) uses nationally representative household survey data from national statistics offices (NSOs) to estimate social protection and labor (SPL) performance indicators. NSOs follow their own validation processes to ensure quality. The ASPIRE team relies on these curated microdata and on the validation and harmonization processes done by the World Bank’s Poverty and Equity practice.... Indicators are validated and cleared by the NSOs when required by these institutions before publication.

4.e. Adjustments (ADJUSTMENT)

For regional and global comparisons, monetary variables and welfare aggregates are deflated to 2017 values and then converted to international purchasing power parity (PPP) values as explained above (see 3.b. Data Collection method).

4.f. Treatment of missing values (i) at country level and (ii) at regional level

(IMPUTATION)

i) Country level

Indicators at the country level are estimated using each of the social protection variables captured in the survey. Surveys may include two variables for the same program: a binary variable indicating program participation, and a continuous variable with transfer amounts. If the number of positive observations in the two variables is not the same, missing values are imputed as follows:

- a) If continuous variable < binary variable: missing values are replaced by the mean transfer amount if there is a corresponding positive answer in the binary variable
- b) If binary variable < continuous variable: missing values are replaced by “1” if there is a corresponding transfer value in the continuous variable.

Indicators are not reported in cases where the aggregated variable for a social protection area (social assistance, social insurance or labor market programs) has positive observations only for 60 or fewer households.

ii) Regional level

No imputations are performed at the country nor regional levels.

4.g. Regional aggregations (REG_AGG)

The regional and global aggregates consist of simple and population-weighted averages of country level indicators. For this, ASPIRE uses the most recent survey by country within the last 10 years.

4.h. Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level (DOC_METHOD)

ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) uses national representative household surveys conducted by the national statistics offices (NSOs). These institutions have their own methodologies for the collection and compilation of the data.

4.i. Quality management (QUALITY_MGMT)

The raw data that ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) uses to estimate social protection and labor (SPL) performance indicators are already validated and curated by the NSOs. Microdata with harmonized welfare aggregates are produced and validated by the World Bank's Poverty and Equity Practice based on their own standards. Furthermore, ASPIRE has an internal quality management protocol including a documented workflow, methodological guidances and a specialized software (ADePT) to automate the generation of performance indicators and minimize human errors.

4.j Quality assurance (QUALITY_ASSURE)

To ensure quality of its indicators, the ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) team conducts internal validations, trend comparison, and outlier analysis to detect errors and inconsistencies.

4.k Quality assessment (QUALITY_ASSMNT)

The ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) team peer reviews indicators internally. Indicators are also validated in consultation with World Bank’s Task Team Leaders, specialists and country counterparts.

5. Data availability and disaggregation (COVERAGE)

Data Availability

ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) includes 500+ nationally representative household surveys from 130+ countries. Country data represent all regions of the world: East Asia & Pacific, Europe & Central Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

ASPIRE makes a constant effort to update indicators as soon as new country surveys become available. Depending on the availability of surveys, time trends can be estimated for some countries.

Indicators are disaggregated by per capita income/consumption quintiles including transfers.

6. Comparability / deviation from international standards (COMPARABILITY)

Sources of discrepancies:

While efforts are made to ensure consistency between ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection – Indicators of Resilience and Equity) indicators and World Bank's regional and country reports/national estimates, there may still be cases where ASPIRE performance indicators differ from official WB country reports/national estimates given methodological differences.

7. References and Documentation (OTHER_DOC)

URL:

www.worldbank.org

References:

ASPIRE: The Atlas of Social Protection - Indicators of Resilience and Equity, The World Bank (www.worldbank.org/aspire).