Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

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.

Indicator 1.3.1: Percentage of the population covered by social protection floors/systems disaggregated by sex, and distinguishing children, unemployed, old age, people with disabilities, pregnant women/new-borns, work injury victims, poor and vulnerable

Institutional information

Organization(s):
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Concepts and definitions

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.

Rationale and interpretation:
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.

Comments and limitations:
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.

Methodology

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 expressed as a share of the respective population.

Indicators are obtained as follows:
   a) 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.
   b) 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).
   c) 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.
   d) Proportion of unemployed receiving benefits: ratio of recipients of unemployment cash benefits to the number of unemployed persons.
   e) Proportion of workers covered in case of employment injury: ratio of workers protected by injury insurance to total employment or the labour force.
   f) 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).
   g) 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.

The aggregate indicator is calculated as the proportion of the total population receiving cash benefits under at least one of the contingencies (contributory or non-contributory benefit) or actively contributing to at least one social security scheme.

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

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

Sources of differences between global and national figures
Estimations are based on administrative data produced by countries (SSI).

Global and regional estimates

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.

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 and social protection institutions. 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.

Data Sources

Description:
The main data source is the **Social Security Inquiry**, 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**. 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 (183 countries).

Data Availability

The Social Security Inquiry/World Social Protection Database includes data on 183 countries. As of March 2017, ILO is processing the 2016 Social Security Inquiry, data for 101 countries have been updated and work is ongoing.
An updated version of the questionnaire will be sent to 183 countries in April-May 2018.

Calendar

Data collection:
May 2018

Data release:
December 2018.

Data providers

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

Data compilers

International Labour Organization (ILO).

References

URLs:
www.ilo.org/ilostat
http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/Wspr.action
Social Security Inquiry. Manual 2016:
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 2017/2019:
http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_604882/lang--en/index.htm