

Statistics for the SDGs - global indicators



Name of the indicator	5.3.1 Number of concluded marriages in which the woman on her wedding day was below 18 years
Sustainable Development Goal	Goal 5. Gender equality
Target	5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
Definition	The number of concluded marriages in which the woman on her wedding day was 16 or 17 years of age.
Unit	persons
Available dimensions	total, age
Methodological explanations	<p>The provisions governing marriage in Poland were included in the Act of February 25, 1964 - the Family and Guardianship Code (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 788).</p> <p>A marriage is concluded when a man and woman, both present at the same time, make a declaration of marriage before the Head of a Public Registry Office. A marriage is also concluded when a man and woman entering into a marriage, subject to the internal regulations of a church or other denominational association, in the presence of a priest, at the same time state their will to get married subject to Polish law. The Head of the Public Registry Office will afterwards draw up a marriage certificate.</p> <p>According to art. 10 1 of the Family and Guardianship Code, marriage cannot be concluded by a person who has not reached 18 years of age. However, for important reasons, the Court of guardians may authorize the marriage a woman who is over sixteen, and of the circumstances appears that the marriage will be in accordance with the best interests of the established families.</p>
Data source	Statistics Poland
Data availability	Annual data since 2010
Notes	"The presented indicator (5.3.1 Number of concluded marriages in which the woman on her wedding day was below 18 years) is a proxy indicator to the one adopted in the official list of indicators of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The replacement of the original indicator (5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24_years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18) is due to the inability to obtain data for it. The proxy indicator has been selected so as to most fully reflect the essence of the observed phenomenon."
Data updated on	13-01-2026
Metadata updated on	12-05-2022