

## Statistics for the SDGs - global indicators



Name of the indicator	3.c.1 The number of physicians, dentists, nurses and midwives per 10 thous. population
Sustainable Development Goal	Goal 3. Good health and well-being
Target	3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing
Definition	Number of physicians, dentists, nurses and midwives (working directly with a patient) per 10 thous. population.
Unit	persons
Available dimensions	total
Methodological explanations	<p>Pursuant to the Act of 5 December 1996 on the Profession of Doctor and Dentist (unified text Journal of Laws 2005 No 226, item 1943), a <b>doctor</b> is a person having required qualifications, confirmed with appropriate documents to perform the profession of a doctor, i.e. who provides health services, and in particular examines health state, diagnoses diseases and prevents them, leads treatment and rehabilitation of patients, provides consultations, as well as issues medical statements and opinions. Pursuant to Act of 5 December 1996 on the Profession of Doctor and Dentist, the profession of doctor can be practised according to various legal forms. Dentists are not included as doctors.</p> <p>Pursuant to the Act of 5 December 1996 on the Professions of Doctor and Dentist (unified text: Journal of Laws of 2005, No. 226, item 1943), a <b>dentist</b> is a person practicing a profession consisting in providing, by a person with the required qualifications, certified with relevant documentation, health services in the field of diseases of the teeth, oral cavity, facial part of the skull and adjacent areas.</p> <p><b>A nurse</b> - a person who has required qualifications, confirmed by appropriate documents, to perform the profession of a nurse, which consists of providing health services (in particular as regards nursing, preventive, diagnostic, medical, rehabilitative and health promotion services. (Act of 5 July 1996 on the Profession of Nurses and Midwives - consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2009, No. 151, item 1217, with subsequent amendments).</p> <p><b>A midwife</b> - a person who has required qualifications, confirmed by appropriate documents, to perform the profession of a midwife, which consists of providing health services (in particular as regards nursing, preventive, diagnostic, medical, rehabilitative and health promotion services, connected with care over a woman, a pregnant woman, a childbearing woman, a woman lying-in as well as over an infant). (Act of 5 July 1996 on the Profession of Nurses and Midwives. Original text : Journal of Laws 1996 No 91, item 410 consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2001, No. 57, item 602, with later amendments).</p> <p><b>Persons working directly with a patient</b> - persons indicated as working in at least one of the sources: Register of Entities Performing Medical Activity, list of entities having a contract with National Health Fund, entities from the Statistical Units Base, operating according to the Polish Classification of Activity in Section Q Health and social work or active practice (individual or group).</p> <p><b>The following criteria are used in determining the main place of work for people working with a patient:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if a person works in one place, this is their main place of work;</li> </ul>

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- if a person works in more than one workplace, the main workplace is considered to be the one where the working time is the greatest;
- another criterion for choosing the main place of work was: the basis for assessing the pension insurance contribution, and if it is impossible to use it - the basis for assessing the health insurance contribution;
- if the above, successively applied criteria do not allow for an unambiguous choice, the main place of work is considered to be the one where the person working in the profession of a doctor or dentist or nurse or midwife is employed under an employment contract (i.e. where the first four digits of the insurance title code are 01 10);
- in other cases, the main place of work is determined randomly.

<b>Data source</b>	Statistics Poland
<b>Data availability</b>	Annual data; Since 2019.
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Data updated on</b>	25-02-2025
<b>Metadata updated on</b>	10-01-2023