UNFPA
Methodology & Data Collection

SDG Target 5.6

Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and SRHR
9 September 2020
GOAL 5: ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

TARGET 5.6: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.

INDICATOR 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15-49 who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care.

INDICATOR 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.
### Measurement of SDG Indicator 5.6.1

Only women who make their own decisions in all three key areas are considered to have autonomy in reproductive health decision-making and empowered to exercise their reproductive rights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reproductive health care</th>
<th>Contraceptive use</th>
<th>Sexual relations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who usually makes decisions about health care for yourself?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Who usually makes the decision on whether or not you should use contraception?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Can you say no to your husband/partner if you do not want to have sexual intercourse?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• You</td>
<td>• Mainly respondent</td>
<td>• Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Your husband/partner</td>
<td>• Mainly husband/partner</td>
<td>• No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>You and your husband/partner jointly</strong></td>
<td><strong>Joint decision</strong></td>
<td>• Depends/not sure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Someone else</td>
<td>• Other, specify</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Measurement of SDG Indicator 5.6.1

Only women who make their own decisions in all three key areas are considered to have autonomy in reproductive health decision-making and empowered to exercise their reproductive rights:
Indicator 5.6.1 and three sub-indicators, worldwide and by region (2007-2021)

Source: UNFPA Global Database
Indicator 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15-49 who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

Data sources

• Surveys (DHS and other national surveys), covering most of low and middle income countries
• Need information on data availability in developed countries and non-DHS countries

Based on DHS the following 3 questions were selected to measure the 3 dimensions:

1. Whether a woman can say no to her husband/partner if she does not want to have sexual intercourse;
2. Whether using or not using contraception is mainly the woman’s decision or a joint decision with husband/partner;
3. Whether a woman can make own decision about health care for herself.
Indicator 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15-49 who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

Calculation:
The indicator will be defined as the proportion of women in a given country who satisfy all three empowerment criteria i.e:
• can refuse sex if they do not want; and
• decide on use of contraception either by herself or jointly with husband or partner; and
• decide on health care for herself either by herself or jointly with husband or partner.

Numerator: Number of women aged 15-49
• who can say “no” to sex; and
• for whom the decision on contraception is not mainly made by the husband/partner; and
• for whom decision on health care for themselves is not usually made by the husband/partner or someone else

Denominator: Currently married or in union women aged 15-49
Data can be disaggregated by age, rural/urban residence, education and wealth quintile
Indicator 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15-49 who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

- Data derived from DHS

- In 2019:
  - Data on Q1 (say no to sex) - 52 countries (asked of women married or in union)
  - Data on Q2 (decision on use of contraception) - 68 countries *(asked of women married or in union and who are using contraception)*; 7 countries *(asked of women married or in union, for both contraceptive users and non-users)*
  - Data on Q3 (decision on health care) - 65 countries (asked of women married or in union)
  - Data on all the three core questions (say no to sex, decide on contraception, and decide on health care) - **64 Countries**

- Data for 5.6.1 are included in the UNSD SDG database and annual SDG report
The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019

2019 session
26 July 2018–24 July 2019
Agenda items 5(a) and 6

High-level segment: ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

Special edition: progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

The present report on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals is submitted in response to the 2019 Agenda for Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 70/1).

As the first cycle of the implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals comes to a close and Member States prepare for the high-level political forum in July and five major meetings focused on sustainable development to be held in September, this "special edition" of the progress report on the Goals was written in cooperation with the United Nations System Task Team on the High-Level Political Forum, co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme.

The report demonstrates that over the past four years, progress has been made with regard to a number of Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, and a number of actions have been undertaken by Governments and other stakeholders to respond to the 2030 Agenda more broadly.

The report also demonstrates, however, that progress has been slow on many Sustainable Development Goals, that the most vulnerable people and countries continue to suffer the most and that the global response thus far has not been ambitious enough.

* The present report was submitted after the deadline so as to include the most recent information.
SDG 2019 reporting
Country data availability, 2005-2018
64 Countries / 78 Surveys.
Increasing data coverage

• Ensure all upcoming DHSs:
  ▪ Include all three component questions
  ▪ Extend question regarding the decision making on use of contraception to include women who are not currently using a contraceptive method

• Enhance partnership with UNICEF to include all three component questions in MICS standard questionnaire – around 30 new surveys in the next two years

• Continue working with NSOs to include the questions in national surveys for non-DHS/MICS countries – New Technical Brief: Guidelines on Collecting Data for SDG 5.6.1 in National Household Surveys

• For countries with data, advocate for inclusion of 5.6.1 tabulation in the respective survey reports
Global reporting and data management

• Annual global reporting to UNSD for the preparation of *The Sustainable Development Goals Report* and *The Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on "Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals"*

• SDG Indicators Global Database: [https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/)

• SDG Indicators Metadata Repository [https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/)
Thank you
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