

Definitions of the indicators in the KidsRights Index¹

Domain 1. Life

Under-5 mortality rate - Probability of dying between birth and exactly 5 years of age, expressed per 1,000 live births.

Life expectancy at birth - Number of years newborn children would live if subject to the mortality risks prevailing for the cross section of population at the time of their birth.

Maternal mortality ratio - Number of deaths of women from pregnancy-related causes per 100,000 live births during the same time period.

Domain 2. Health

Underweight - Number of under-fives falling below minus 2 standard deviations (moderate and severe) and minus 3 standard deviations (severe) from the median weight-for-age of the reference population.

Immunization (MCV1) - Percentage of surviving infants who received the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine.

Use of improved drinking water sources - Percentage of the population using any of the following as their main drinking water source: drinking water supply piped into dwelling, plot, yard or neighbor's yard; public tap or standpipe; tube well or borehole; protected dug well; protected spring; rainwater; bottled water plus one of the previous sources as their secondary source.

Use of improved sanitation facilities - Percentage of the population using any of the following sanitation facilities, not shared with other households: flush or pour-flush latrine connected to a piped sewerage system, septic tank or pit latrine; ventilated improved pit latrine; pit latrine with a slab; composting toilet.

Domain 3. Education

Primary school participation = Primary school net enrolment ratio - Number of children enrolled in primary or secondary school who are of official primary school age, expressed as a percentage of the total number of children of official primary school age. Because of the inclusion of primary-school-aged children enrolled in secondary school, this indicator can also be referred to as a primary adjusted net enrolment ratio.

Secondary school participation = Secondary school net enrolment ratio - Number of children enrolled in secondary school who are of official secondary school age, expressed as a percentage of the total number of children of official secondary school age. Secondary net enrolment ratio does not include secondary-school-age children enrolled in tertiary education, owing to challenges in age reporting and recording at that level.

Primary school enrolment ratio (female as % of male) - Number of children enrolled in primary or secondary school who are of official primary school age, expressed as females as a percentage of males.

Secondary school enrolment ratios (female as % of male) - Number of children enrolled in secondary school who are of official primary school age, expressed as females as a percentage of males.

Survival rate to last grade of primary (female as % of male) - Percentage of children entering the first grade of primary school who eventually reach the last grade of primary school, expressed as females as a percentage of males.

¹ https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_SOWC_2016.pdf - https://www.unicef.org/crc/files/Guiding_Principles.pdf - <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>

Primary school net attendance ratio (rural) = Primary school net attendance ratio - Number of children attending primary or secondary school who are of official primary school age, expressed as a percentage of the total number of children of official primary school age (in rural areas).

Domain 4. Protection

Child labour - Percentage of children 5–14 years old involved in child labour at the moment of the survey. A child is considered to be involved in child labour under the following conditions: (a) children 5–11 years old who, during the reference week, did at least 1 hour of economic activity or at least 28 hours of household chores, or (b) children 12–14 years old who, during the reference week, did at least 14 hours of economic activity or at least 28 hours of household chores.

Adolescent birth rate - Number of births per 1,000 adolescent girls aged 15–19.

Birth registration - Percentage of children less than 5 years old who were registered at the moment of the survey. The numerator of this indicator includes children reported to have a birth certificate, regardless of whether or not it was seen by the interviewer, and those without a birth certificate whose mother or caregiver says the birth has been registered.

Domain 5. Enabling Environment for Child Rights

Non-discrimination (Article 2) - The extent to which a country has operationalized the general principle of non-discrimination. The Convention applies to all children, whatever their race, religion or abilities; whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from. It doesn't matter where children live, what language they speak, what their parents do, whether they are boys or girls, what their culture is, whether they have a disability or whether they are rich or poor. No child should be discriminated unfairly on any basis.

Best interests of the child (Article 3) - The extent to which a country has operationalized the general principle of the best interests of the child. The best interests of children must be the primary concern in making decisions that may affect them. All adults should do what is best for children. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children. This particularly applies to budget, policy and law makers, public or private welfare institutions, courts of law and administrative authorities.

Enabling legislation (Article 4) - The extent to which there is a basic 'infrastructure' for making and implementing child rights policy, with a particular emphasis on the legal framework for protecting and promoting children's rights. According to the CRC, States Parties shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative, and other measures for the implementation of the Convention.

Best available budget (Article 4) - The extent to which there is a basic 'infrastructure' for making and implementing child rights policy in the form of providing the maximum resources available to a country for protecting and promoting children's rights. With regard to economic, social and cultural rights, States Parties shall undertake such measures to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international co-operation.

Respect for the views of the child/child participation (Article 12) – The extent to which a country has operationalized the general principle of respect for the views of the child. When adults are making decisions that affect children, children have the right to say what they think should happen and have their opinions taken into account. This does not mean that children can now tell their parents or others what to decide or do. The CRC encourages adults to listen to and seriously consider the opinions of children and to involve them in decision-making – but not to give children authority over adults. Article 12 does not interfere with the parental right and responsibility to direct and guide their child in exercising her/his rights or with the parental right to express their views on matters affecting their children. Moreover, the Convention recognizes that the level of a child's participation in decisions must be appropriate to the child's level of maturity or evolving capacities. Children's ability to form and express their opinions usually develops with age and most adults will naturally give the views of teenagers greater weight than those of a preschooler, whether in family, legal or administrative decisions.

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Collection and analysis of disaggregate data (implied in Article 4) – The extent to which there is a basic ‘infrastructure’ for making and implementing child rights policy in the form of the collection and analysis of disaggregated data (data collected on the situation of particular (groups of) children in a country or children in a particular location) to protect and promote children’s rights.

State – civil society cooperation for child rights (implied in Articles 3 and 5) – The extent to which there is a basic ‘infrastructure’ for making and implementing child rights policy in the form of an effective cooperation for children’s rights between the state and civil society.



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