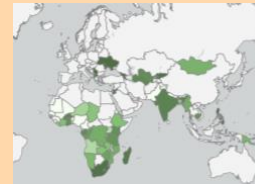# GLOBAL MEASUREMENT UPDATE

UNFPA's Population Data Portal 2.0

For decades, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has worked to improve the quality and availability of population data by strengthening government capacity to collect, compile, and use data from population and housing censuses, household surveys, civil registration and vital statistics systems, and other sources. In July 2023, UNFPA released an updated version of its Population Data Portal (PDP), putting high-quality, disaggregated population data at the fingertips of decision-makers, data users, and the general public. The portal aims to be the go-to resource for the most up-to-date and reliable geospatial population data.

A new resource

The Population Data Portal (PDP) provides the best and latest available geospatial population data.

WHAT IS THE POPULATION DATA PORTAL?

The PDP is a data visualization and analysis tool that features over 200 indicators on topics such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-based violence and harmful practices, gender equality, population, and many more. Drawn from UNFPA and other UN agencies, the PDP integrates data from multiple sources into a single database. The PDP is the product of extensive internal and external consultations and reflects the common vision of experts in countries and in the data community.

Indicators in the PDP are clustered within eight broad categories (Table 1). Data can be filtered by region, country, or sub-national levels, and are available in map, chart, and table views. The PDP also features high-definition maps that overlay population and development indicators and infrastructure details (for example, roads, schools, and health facilities). By using geographic information systems (GIS) analytical features, users can analyze data across various geographic levels, such as country, province, and district. These multi-layered maps allow for the use of several indicators from different data sets at a time.

Table 1: The Eight Domains (and Sub-Domains) of the Population Data Portal

	Education (educational attainment, literacy, gender parity index, school attendance)		**Gender equality** (female genital mutilation, bodily autonomy, violence against women, child marriage)
	Family planning (contraceptive use, demand satisfied, unmet need, method mix)		**Population** (age composition, household structure, living arrangement, demographic, migration, household characteristics, disability, nuptiality, fertility, household headship)
	Inequality		**Labor** (employment)
	Sexual and reproductive health (maternal and newborn health, sexual debut, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections)		**Statistical capacity** (completeness of census, birth and death registration)

What is the Added Value of the Population Data Portal?

The PDP is a key resource to explore national and sub-national progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a user-friendly online portal for people to analyze different indicators, disaggregate data, or simply browse. By combining data sets and generating informative graphics and detailed maps, the portal enables broad use of existing census and survey data. Geo-referenced data down to sub-national levels allows users to map outcomes to see if interventions reach where they are needed most. The PDP uses official UN GIS boundary data at the national level; soon, it will allow for regional and national profiles to enable more targeted analysis. All maps, charts, and data tables can be exported into downloadable files for further use and analysis. The portal includes thematic dashboards on specific topics such as family planning, gender-based violence and harmful practices, and preventable maternal deaths.

Special features

- Geospatial analyses
- Combines indicators by location to map needs and program for impact
- Combines population and service locations to optimize coverage analyses

Who Should Use the Population Data Portal, and How Can It Be Used?

The PDP is a public good available for use by all. It might be particularly effective for the following users:

- **DONORS AND NATIONAL AND LOCAL POLICYMAKERS** can use the PDP for effective programming and monitoring of who is left behind. The PDP shows where health and development deprivations are greatest, which interventions work and should be taken to scale, and which interventions need improvement.
- **PROGRAM MANAGERS AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS** can use the PDP to better identify the most vulnerable populations and priority areas for strengthening. Accessing sub-national maps and conducting analyses may be particularly helpful to inform allocation of technical and financial resources.
- **ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS** can undertake analyses using the multi-layered data to explore trends across and within countries and regions and use the information to identify research questions for exploration.
- **CIVIL SOCIETY** can use the PDP as a tool to track the Sustainable Development Goals and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action and hold country governments and partners accountable to ensure that no one is left behind.

This fact sheet was jointly developed with the UNFPA Population and Development team.

More information

- How-to video
- Contact the PDP team

REFERENCE

UNFPA Population Data Portal

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