

The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2025: Country results and methodological note

Sabina Alkire*, Rakesh Mishra****, Lhachi Selden**, Nicolai Suppa***

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Attribution

The country (national) estimates are jointly produced by OPHI and HDRO using 109 survey datasets. The joint country results are published in Table 1 of the UNDP-OPHI Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2025 report, ‘Overlapping hardships: poverty and climate hazards’. Standard errors of the country estimates, which are produced by the authors, are available in OPHI’s [global MPI 2025 release Data Table 1](#) (Worksheet 1.4).

* Sabina Alkire, OPHI, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, sabina.alkire@qeh.ox.ac.uk.

** Lhachi Selden, OPHI, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, lhachi.selden@qeh.ox.ac.uk

*** Nicolai Suppa, Serra Hünter Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics and Business, Department of Econometrics, Statistics and Applied Economics, University of Barcelona, nsuppa@ub.edu.

**** Rakesh Mishra, OPHI, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, rakesh.mishra@qeh.ox.ac.uk

During her tenure leading the global MPI team between 2018 and 2024, Dr Usha Kanagaratnam developed the Stata scripts (do-files) for data cleaning and indicator construction, that were then applied to the underlying microdata of each country survey. For the 2025 round of updates, the authors used the cleaned microdata produced for 96 countries and adapted the do-file to 13 of the new and updated surveys.

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1. Overview

This methodological note presents the methodology and technical decisions behind the country (national) results of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2025.¹ Methodological Note 62 presents the disaggregation decisions, while Methodological Note 63 describes the harmonisation of datasets to estimate changes over time.

The country results for 2025 are based on the most recent data from 109 countries, covering 6.3 billion people.² This note is structured as follows. Section 2 presents the global MPI structure and indicator definitions,³ while Section 3 outlines the global MPI and its partial indices that we estimate and publish. Section 4 elaborates on the toolbox designed to estimate the global MPI. Section 5 details the data management policies of the global MPI. Section 6 summarises the survey details and Section 7 summarises the country-specific technical decisions that were applied for each of the new or updated surveys. We conclude with brief reflections.

2. The global MPI structure

The global MPI is a measure of acute poverty covering over 100 countries in the developing regions of the world. This measure is based on the dual cutoff counting approach to poverty measurement developed by Alkire and Foster (2011). The global MPI was developed in 2010 by Alkire and Santos (2014, 2010) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Human Development Report Office (HDRO). Since its inception, the global MPI has used information from 10 indicators, which are grouped into three equally weighted dimensions: health, education and living standards (Figure 1). These dimensions are the same as those used in the UNDP's Human Development Index.

The first major revision of the global MPI was undertaken in 2018, considering improvements in survey microdata and to better align to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development insofar as possible (Alkire and Jahan, 2018; OPHI, 2018; Alkire and Kanagaratnam, 2021). The revision

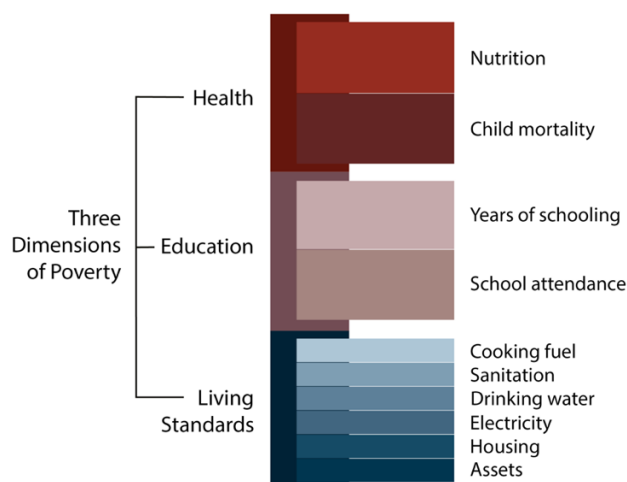
¹ This methodological note builds on previous methodological notes by Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa between 2018 and 2024, with the year, datasets, country-specific adjustments and country briefs updated as required. The remaining intellectual content of previous notes is reprinted with the clear acknowledgement that, as part of an ongoing series, it is useful to reprint this information each year, however, the current author team did not newly write those sections.

² [Table 1](#) National Results MPI 2025.

³ Section 2 draws on methodological notes published for each update of the global MPI (see updates by the authors in 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019); Alkire et al. (2016); and the book by Alkire et al. (2015).

adjusted the definitions of five of the ten indicators: child mortality, nutrition, years of schooling, housing and assets. Alkire et al. (2022) provide a comprehensive analysis of the consequences of the 2018 revision. The normative and empirical decisions that underlie the revision of the global MPI, and adjustments related to the child mortality, nutrition, years of schooling and housing indicators, are discussed in Alkire and Kanagaratnam (2021). The revision of the assets indicator is detailed in Vollmer and Alkire (2022).

Figure 1. Composition of the global MPI – dimensions and indicators



Source: OPHI 2018

The global MPI begins by establishing a deprivation profile for each person, showing in which of the 10 indicators they are deprived. Each person is identified as deprived or non-deprived in each indicator based on a deprivation cutoff (Table 1). In the case of health and education, each household member may be identified as deprived or not deprived according to the information available for other household members. For example, if any household member for whom data exist is undernourished, each person in that household is considered deprived in nutrition. Taking this approach – which was required by the data – does not reveal intrahousehold disparities,⁴ but is intuitive and assumes shared positive (or negative) effects of achieving (or not achieving) certain outcomes. Next, looking across indicators, each person's deprivation score is constructed by adding up the weights of the indicators in which they are deprived. The indicators use a nested weight structure: equal weights across dimensions and an equal weight for each indicator within a dimension. The indicator weight structure of the global MPI means that the living standards indicators receive lower weight than health and education-related indicators because, from a policy perspective, each of the three dimensions is of roughly equal normative importance.

⁴ Though disparities within households can be explored in parallel. See Alkire and Ul Haq (2023).

Table 1. The global MPI – dimensions, indicators, deprivation cutoffs and weights

| Dimensions | Indicator | Deprived if ... | SDG area | Weight |
|------------------|--------------------|--|----------|--------|
| Health | Nutrition | Any person under 70 years of age for whom there is nutritional information is undernourished . ¹ | SDG 2 | 1/6 |
| | Child mortality | A child under 18 has died in the household in the five-year period preceding the survey. ² | SDG 3 | 1/6 |
| Education | Years of schooling | No eligible household member has completed six years of schooling . ³ | SDG 4 | 1/6 |
| | School attendance | Any school-aged child is not attending school up to the age at which he/she would complete class 8 . ⁴ | SDG 4 | 1/6 |
| Living standards | Cooking fuel | A household cooks using solid fuel , such as dung, agricultural crop, shrubs, wood, charcoal or coal. ⁵ | SDG 7 | 1/18 |
| | Sanitation | The household has unimproved or no sanitation facility or it is improved but shared with other households. ⁶ | SDG 6 | 1/18 |
| | Drinking water | The household's source of drinking water is not safe or safe drinking water is a 30-minute or longer walk from home, round trip. ⁷ | SDG 6 | 1/18 |
| | Electricity | The household has no electricity . ⁸ | SDG 7 | 1/18 |
| | Housing | The household has inadequate housing materials in any of the three components: floor, roof or walls . ⁹ | SDG 11 | 1/18 |
| | Assets | The household does not own more than one of these assets : radio, TV, telephone, computer, animal cart, bicycle, motorbike or refrigerator, and does not own a car or truck. | SDG 1 | 1/18 |

Notes: The global MPI is related to the following SDGs: No Poverty (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Health and Well-being (SDG 3), Quality Education (SDG 4), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6), Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7) and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11).

¹ Children under five years of age (60 months and younger) are considered undernourished if their z-score of either height-for-age (stunting) or weight-for-age (underweight) is below minus two standard deviations from the median of the reference population. Children 5–19 years (61–228 months) are identified as deprived if their age-specific Body Mass Index (BMI) cutoff is below minus two standard deviations. Adults aged 20–70 years (229–840 months) are considered undernourished if their BMI is below 18.5 m/kg².

² The child mortality indicator is based on birth history data provided by mothers aged 15–49. In most surveys, men have also provided information on child mortality, but this lacks the date of birth and death of the child. Hence, the indicator is constructed solely from mothers' responses. However, if the data from the mother are missing, and if the male in the household reported no child mortality, then we identify no child mortality in the household.

³ If all individuals in the household are in an age group where they should have formally completed six or more years of schooling, but none have this achievement, then the household is deprived. However, if any individuals aged 10 years and older reported six years or more of schooling, the household is not deprived.

⁴ The data sources for the age that children start compulsory primary school are Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) or Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) survey reports, and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics data browser (<http://data.uis.unesco.org>).

⁵ If the survey report uses other definitions of solid fuel, we follow the survey report.

⁶ A household is considered non-deprived in sanitation if it has some type of flush toilet or latrine, or ventilated improved pit or composting toilet, provided that they are not shared. If the survey report uses other definitions of improved sanitation, we follow the survey report.

⁷ A household is considered non-deprived in drinking water if the water source is any of the following types: piped water, public tap, borehole or pump, protected well, protected spring or rainwater. It must also be within a 30-minute walk, round trip. If the survey report uses other definitions of improved drinking water, we follow the survey report.

⁸ A small number of countries do not collect data on electricity because of 100% coverage. In such cases, we identify all households in the country as non-deprived in electricity.

⁹ A household is considered deprived if the floor is made of natural materials (mud/clay/earth, sand or dung) or if the dwelling has no roof or walls, or if either the roof or walls are constructed using natural or rudimentary materials such as carton, plastic/ polythene sheeting, bamboo with mud/stone with mud, loosely packed stones, uncovered adobe, raw/reused wood, plywood, cardboard, unburnt brick or canvas/tent. The definition of natural and rudimentary materials follows the classification used in country-specific DHS or MICS questionnaires.

3. The global MPI and its partial indices

In the global MPI, a person is identified as multidimensionally poor (MPI poor) if they are deprived in at least one-third of the weighted MPI indicators. In other words, a person is MPI poor if their deprivation score is equal to or higher than the poverty cutoff of 33.33%. After the poverty identification step, we aggregate across individuals to obtain the **incidence** of poverty, or headcount ratio (H), which represents the percentage of poor people in the population. We then compute the intensity of poverty (A), representing the average deprivation score, or the average percentage of weighted deprivations experienced by poor people. We compute the adjusted poverty headcount ratio (M_0) or **MPI** by multiplying together H and A ($MPI = H \times A$).

Both the incidence and the intensity of multidimensional poverty are highly relevant pieces of information for poverty measurement. The incidence of poverty is intuitive and understandable by anyone. People want to know how many poor people there are in a society as a proportion of the whole population and media tend to pick up on the incidence of poverty. Yet, the proportion of poor people as a headline figure is not enough (Alkire, Oldiges, and Kanagaratnam, 2021).

For example, we can compare two countries with similar incidence of poverty, Tanzania (Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) 2022) and Senegal (DHS 2023), where 47.2% and 45.1% of people are poor, respectively (incidence). Judged by this piece of information, Tanzania has slightly higher levels of poverty. However, in Senegal poor people are deprived – on average – in 50.2% of the weighted deprivations, whereas in Tanzania poor people are deprived – on average – in 46.9% of the weighted deprivations. By combining the two pieces of information – the intensity of deprivations and the proportion of poor people – we know that these two countries are not equally poor, but rather that Senegal ($MPI=0.226$) is poorer than Tanzania ($MPI=0.221$) because the intensity of poverty is higher among poor people. The MPI shows this difference.

A headcount ratio is also estimated using two other poverty cutoffs. The global MPI identifies individuals as **vulnerable** to poverty if they are not poor but are close to the poverty threshold; that is, if they are deprived in 20 to 33.32% of weighted indicators. The method also applies a higher poverty cutoff to identify those in **severe poverty**, meaning those deprived in 50% or more of the weighted indicators.

The Alkire-Foster method has a property that makes the global MPI even more useful – dimensional breakdown. This property makes it possible to consistently compute the percentage of the population who are multidimensionally poor and simultaneously deprived in each indicator. This is known as the **censored headcount ratio** of an indicator. While above we described MPI

to be the product of $H \times A$, the MPI can equivalently be computed as the weighted sum of the censored headcount ratios of all MPI indicators.

The censored headcount ratio shows the extent of deprivations among poor people but does not reflect the weights or relative values of the indicators. Two indicators may have the same censored headcount ratios but different contributions to overall poverty, as the contribution depends both on the censored headcount ratio and on the weight assigned to each indicator. As such, a complementary analysis to the censored headcount ratio is the **percentage contribution** of each indicator to overall multidimensional poverty.

To probe inequality among poor people, we compute the **variance** across deprivation scores of poor people. Multidimensionally poor people are deprived in anything from one-third to 100% of MPI indicators. In other words, even though they are each identified as multidimensionally poor, their deprivation scores vary. The variance measure allows us to identify inequality among poor people. The computation and publication of the variance measure follows the methodology discussed in Seth and Alkire (2017) and Alkire and Foster (2019). The variance value is not reported in our data table if the value is based on a small number of multidimensionally poor people; specifically, if the headcount ratio (H) multiplied by the total sample size used to compute the MPI yields fewer than 400 observations.

Since 2020, as part of the global MPI output, we have published the proportion of **MPI-poor people who are destitute**. The destitution measure has precisely the same structure as the global MPI but applies extreme deprivation cutoffs for most indicators. Destitute people are all already MPI poor but also experience a more extreme level of deprivation, such as severe undernutrition or no sanitation facilities. This measure builds on the framework in Alkire, Conconi, and Seth (2014). The destitution cutoffs were revised in 2019 (see Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa, 2020, p. 9).

The results presented in our tables are based on sample surveys that use information from a fraction of the population to represent the whole population. Thus, it is important to compute a measure of confidence for each estimate from a sample survey. The computation of the **standard errors** and associated confidence intervals is based on the linearised variance estimator (or first-order Taylor series approximation), correcting for single sampling unit stratum using the centred method in the 'svy' Stata command. In estimating standard errors, we consider the two-stage clustering and stratification of the sample.

4. Tool to estimate the global MPI

The global MPI estimates are produced using the Stata package `mpitb`, which is documented in Suppa (2023). `mpitb` facilitates the estimation of measures such as the MPI (adjusted headcount ratio), H (headcount ratio), A (intensity), the censored and uncensored headcount ratios, and percentage contribution of each indicator. `mpitb` supports estimations at the national level relevant to this methodological note. The package also produces estimations by population subgroups that are defined in Alkire et al. (2025b), namely age cohorts, urban and rural areas, subnational regions and gender of household head. It is also able to include any other subgroup disaggregations that are possible with the survey sample. When applied to harmonised datasets, `mpitb` supports the estimation of levels and change between time periods for each of the measures specified in Alkire et al. (2025c) and across the national levels and subgroups. `mpitb` also simplifies estimations and analyses in cross-country settings.

The `mpitb` package is available in the Statistical Software Components (SSC) Archive and on gitlab. The MPI toolbox is distributed free of charge under an MIT licence. The package may be installed by issuing `'ssc install mpitb` in Stata. To access its comprehensive help files, issue `'help mpitb` after the installation. `mpitb` requires Stata 16 or higher.

5. Policies for the global MPI

This section highlights seven key policies: the use of new surveys; the use of new information to improve existing indicators; the population figures used to compute the number of poor people; the exclusion of non-usual household members; the treatment of household members about whom information in certain indicators is lacking; the treatment of datasets that lack any one of the 10 global MPI indicators; and the treatment of households with missing indicators.

5.1 New survey data

The global MPI is updated when new data become available from [Demographic and Health Surveys \(DHS\)](#), [Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys \(MICS\)](#) and national surveys. We also explore whether there are new national surveys in the public domain that have indicators comparable to those included in the global MPI. National surveys are considered in the absence of surveys produced by DHS and MICS, or if DHS and MICS datasets are more than three years older than the national surveys. The latter is a criterion introduced in 2019 to maximise the possibility of using internationally comparable surveys such as DHS and MICS. USAID funding for DHS

surveys was halted in January 2025. The web resources were restored on an interim basis in July 2025. We hope that this precious resource will be fully restored and sustained.

5.2 Indicator availability

Survey instruments improve over time. Our policy while producing the national estimates using the most recent survey of a country is to use as much of the information that is available for the 10 global MPI indicators and to incorporate improvements in the new surveys. For example, in selected countries of the MICS Round 6 surveys, the electricity variable in the data included additional categories that go beyond the usual question on ‘does your household have electricity?’ that is limited to ‘yes’ or ‘no’ categories. Households with access to electricity were further probed on whether they were ‘connected to the grid’, or off-grid with a generator or isolated system. For the global MPI, we identified households on the electricity grid and households that were powered by alternative sources of energy as non-deprived. Another example is when data on ownership of a computer or any hitherto previously missing asset become available in recent surveys (and are already part of the clearly defined global MPI indicators), these will be incorporated into the assets indicator.

Estimations of the MPI for a given year will therefore be the most accurate possible figures using the available data but may not be comparable across time. Indicator definitions must be harmonised for comparability over time. This is covered in detail in Methodological Note 63 (Alkire et al. 2025c).

5.3 Population-weighted global aggregates

Since 2010 we have used a fixed population year to produce the global aggregations. We have also provided the population data for the year of the survey in our [Data Tables](#). The headcount ratio for each country in the global MPI 2025 is multiplied by the total population for 2023, regardless of the year of the survey, to identify the number of MPI-poor people in any given country or across countries:

$$\text{Number of MPI poor people} = H * \text{Total Population (2023)}$$

This approach has the important advantage of comparison: it is possible to aggregate across countries to develop regional rankings, analyse country groupings such as low-income countries, and aggregate across regions. For example, using this approach we can generate the figure that 18.3% of the population in the 109 countries are MPI poor. Suppose the year of the population count (2023) is after the year of the survey. In that case, this approach provides an incentive for governments to update their poverty data as, after updating, the number of poor people will

decline if poverty rates have gone down and if these are not overturned by strong population growth. The approach has limitations. We assume the level of poverty in the year of the survey and the year of population count are identical. We acknowledge that this is a strong assumption, but changes in the global MPI over time do not justify alternative assumptions that are uniform across contexts, and using different population years would impede aggregation.

The population count years used for aggregate estimates of the global MPI are updated by one year, annually. As in past years, the current data tables also include the population during the year of the survey, as well as population figures for both the reference year (2023) and the year before (2022). The source of population data is the [World Population Prospects](#) medium-fertility variant, which is published by United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) (2024).

5.4 Excluding non-usual residents

The DHS datasets define *de jure* residence as **usual** or legal residence. The ‘hv102’ variable in DHS datasets distinguishes *de jure* (usual) from non-*de jure* (non-usual) household members. In the global MPI, we only use information from usual residents and exclude information from non-usual household members. We exclude the information from the non-usual members because this makes it comparable to MICS, which collect information only from usual household members. In addition, the achievements of an occasional visitor (for example, in years of schooling) could cause the household to be non-deprived (in years of schooling) or deprived (in m), which would be misleading. The same principle is applied for national surveys that have variables that allow us to identify non-usual members from the usual householders.

5.5 Applicable and non-applicable populations

Three of the 10 global MPI indicators are not applicable to all **households** – nutrition, child mortality and school attendance. Households that do not have the relevant population are classed as non-deprived in that indicator.

5.5.1 Nutrition

Nutrition has three sub-populations of interest (children under five years of age, children aged 5–19 years and adults aged 20–70 years). The nutrition status (underweight, stunting, low BMI-for-age and low BMI) of each person is generated according to their subgroup. The nutrition status of children under five for the global MPI is based on underweight and stunting. For almost all MICS surveys, nutrition data were collected only for children under five. In such surveys, we consider households that did not have any eligible children under five as non-deprived in nutrition.

In the global MPI, information that allows for the construction of BMI-for age (for those 5–19 years) and BMI (for those 20–70 years) is possible for most DHS surveys and national surveys. In DHS surveys, data that allow for the computation of BMI-for-age and BMI as nutrition status are usually collected from eligible females aged 15–49 years. Women eligible for anthropometric measurement are identified using the *eligibility* variable provided by DHS. In some countries, such as Egypt, eligibility criteria exclude women who have never been married. In some DHS surveys, nutrition data are also collected from a subsample of adult men. Households with no eligible females or males to be measured anthropometrically are considered non-deprived in BMI-for-age and BMI. In some national surveys, nutrition data are collected from all age groups in the household (e.g. China, Bolivia and Ecuador). The global MPI uses all available data on nutrition, up to 70 years of age (≤ 840 months) to construct the final nutrition indicator. A 70-year cutoff is applied because bone density changes in higher-age cohorts, making the BMI measure more complex to interpret. A household is deprived in nutrition if a household has at least one child under five who is underweight or stunted, or at least one child aged 5–19 years with low BMI-for-age, or at least one adult aged 20–70 years with low BMI. We consider households as non-deprived if *all* eligible members are not underweight, not stunted, and have normal BMI-for-age or BMI. In addition, households are identified as non-deprived if those households have no eligible members to assess nutrition.

5.5.2 Child mortality

Child mortality is based on birth history data provided by mothers aged 15–49. The birth history data ordinarily have the date of birth and death of each child. This tells us how old the child was when they died and how long before the survey year the death occurred. We consider households having no eligible women available to be interviewed as non-deprived in child mortality. In most DHS and MICS surveys, a subsample of eligible men have also provided information on child mortality, but this lacks the date of birth and death of the child. Hence, the child mortality indicator is constructed solely from females. However, if data from females are missing, and if the male in the household reported no child mortality, then we identify no child mortality in the household. In a few country surveys (such as Argentina or Thailand), birth history data such as the date of birth and date of death of the child were not collected. In such cases, we have constructed the child mortality indicator using any child death reported by eligible women and men, as we cannot distinguish deaths that occurred in the past five years nor the age of the child who died. In these countries, households that did not have eligible women and men for individual interviews are identified as non-deprived.

5.5.3 School attendance

School attendance is not applicable to households without children of school age. We identify households that did not have children of school age as non-deprived (we consider an eight-year span starting at the age at which a child should begin school in each country). The data sources for the age at which children start compulsory primary school are the MICS and DHS country survey reports, followed by confirmation using the UNESCO Institute for Statistics ([UIS](#)) [Global Database](#). A household is considered as non-missing if at least two-thirds of the eligible members (according to the country's definition of eligibility) have valid data for school attendance variables. If fewer than two-thirds of the eligible population have valid data, the household is classified as missing. However, if any eligible member is deprived in school attendance, the household is considered non-missing, even if data for other household members are missing.

5.6 Treatment of datasets with missing indicators

If a survey dataset is missing any of the 10 indicators that make up the global MPI, then that indicator cannot be used in the computation of the poverty measure and is omitted. Indicator weights of other indicators in that dimension are readjusted accordingly, such that each dimension continues to be given a weight of one-third. For example, suppose one living standards indicator is missing, such as in the case of Bangladesh DHS 2022, which lacks the cooking fuel indicator. In this case, while originally each of the living standards indicators received a relative weight of $1/18$ (5.56%), the remaining indicators will receive a relative weight of $1/15$ (6.66%). If one health or education indicator is missing, the other indicator will receive the full indicator weight of one-third. If all indicators in any dimension are missing, the dataset does not qualify to be included in the global MPI.

5.7 Dropping households with missing indicators from survey sample

Once each indicator has been constructed, we only use households that have complete information in all the constructed indicators for the poverty estimates. Households that lack data on any indicator are dropped from the final analytical sample. The percentage of the sample that is dropped is reported in the [global MPI 2025 release Data Table 1](#) (see Sheet 1.7, 'Sample Size and Non-Response'). The sample size after the treatment of missing data must be reasonably high, as a lower sample size may affect accurate comparability across subnational estimations. The policies for MPI estimation by subnational regions are discussed in Methodological Note 62 (Alkire et al., 2025b).

6. Survey details of the global MPI 2025

The 2025 global MPI estimations are based on survey data from 109 countries. The global MPI 2024 covered 112 countries, while the global MPIs for 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018 covered 110, 111, 109, 107, 101 and 105 countries, respectively. The number of countries covered in each round varies for two reasons: (1) whether new or updated surveys are available; and (2) whether countries from previous rounds are dropped from the next round because the surveys for these countries are considered outdated.

6.1 New and updated country surveys

The 2025 round reintroduced two countries (Azerbaijan and Vanuatu)⁵ and updated estimations using 11 more recent survey datasets (Table 2). Collectively, the 13 new and updated surveys represent some 431 million people, close to 6.9% of the population living in the developing regions of the world covered by the global MPI.

Table 2. List of new and updated surveys used in the global MPI 2025

| Country | Survey | Year |
|------------|---------|---------|
| Azerbaijan | MICS | 2023 |
| Bangladesh | DHS | 2022 |
| Bolivia | EDSA | 2023 |
| Jordan | DHS | 2023 |
| Kyrgyzstan | MICS | 2023 |
| Lao PDR | MICS | 2023 |
| Lesotho | DHS | 2023–24 |
| Mexico | ENSANUT | 2023 |
| Nauru | MICS | 2023 |
| Niger | ENAFEME | 2021 |
| Peru | ENDES | 2023 |
| Senegal | DHS | 2023 |
| Vanuatu | MICS | 2023 |

Five of these new or updated surveys were released by MICS, while four were released by DHS over a period of 10 months, from 16 April 2024 to 28 February 2025. In addition, we updated Peru, Bolivia and Mexico, and reintroduced Niger using national surveys that are available in the public domain. The cleaning and standardisation of the new and updated surveys follows the 2019 global MPI indicator specifications, in addition to the minor innovations introduced in 2020 for

⁵ In the 2020 round, we excluded Vanuatu dataset, which was fielded in 2007 and so considered out of date. Similarly, the Azerbaijan dataset was excluded in the 2019 round as it was fielded in 2006.

the years of schooling, drinking water and sanitation indicators (see Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa 2019, 2020 for details).

6.2 Survey coverage

The survey coverage for the 109 countries included in the global MPI 2025 is between 2013–14 and 2024. A total of 60 countries – home to 62% of multidimensionally poor people – have data fielded in the last five years; that is, in 2019–20 or later.

The primary data sources for the global MPI are the DHS (44 countries) and MICS (51 countries) surveys that are open access. For two countries, the source of the data is the Pan Arab Project for Family Health (PAPFAM) surveys. In the countries for which none of these internationally comparable surveys were available, national surveys that contained information on the MPI indicators were used if high-quality surveys with the same indicators were available, and if they were in the public domain or if countries requested to be included in the global MPI. In the global MPI 2025, we have used national data for 14 countries.

6.3 Countries excluded

In this round, we have excluded any survey that was fielded in 2012. These are those for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Barbados, Saint Lucia, Moldova, Nicaragua and Ukraine. In the last round, we used Niger DHS 2012, but since an ENAFEME 2021 survey was available, we instead updated the global MPI for Niger using this survey. In the 2024 round, we would have excluded any country whose most recent survey was fielded in 2011, but there was no such country. In the 2023 round, we excluded Bhutan, Burkina Faso and South Sudan – all fielded in 2010 – but the former two were reintroduced in the 2024 round as updated data were available. In the 2022 round, we excluded Syria, which had a 2009 dataset. In the 2021 round, we would have excluded any country whose most recent survey was fielded in 2008, but there was no such country. In the 2020 round, we excluded Vanuatu as the survey was fielded in 2007; we reintroduced Vanuatu in this 2025 round due to recent data availability. Four countries were excluded in the 2019 round – Azerbaijan, Djibouti, Somalia and Uzbekistan – as their surveys were fielded in 2006. But Uzbekistan was reintroduced in 2023 and Azerbaijan reintroduced in the 2025 round since updated MICS surveys were available. All the surveys that have been included in each of the 14 rounds of the global MPI (2010–11; 2013–25) and their estimates are published in [Data Table 8](#).

7. Country-specific considerations for new or updated surveys

This section details the country-specific standardised decisions concerning indicator availability and data treatment for the 13 new or updated country surveys included in the global MPI 2025.

7.1 Azerbaijan MICS 2023

The Azerbaijan MICS dataset has anthropometric data from all children under five years of age, which was used to construct the nutrition indicator. The survey is representative at the national level and by 13 economic regions. The 13 regions exclude East Zangazur, which was not sampled due to the temporary deployment of Russian peacekeepers during the period of sampling frame preparation. The survey lacks information on computer ownership and therefore the assets indicator does not include this item. No other country-specific decisions were applied for this survey. The survey data and report are produced by the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan and UNICEF (2024).

7.2 Bangladesh DHS 2022

The Bangladesh DHS dataset has anthropometric data for children aged zero to four years and ever-married females aged 15–49 years collected from one-third of households. In half of these selected households – equivalent to one-sixth of all households – anthropometric measurements were also taken for all ever-married women aged 50 years and above, never-married women aged 18 years and above, and all men aged 18 years and above. Following the principles of the global MPI, we use all available data on nutrition, up to 70 years of age (840 months), to construct the nutrition indicator. The survey report, produced by NIPORT and ICF (2024), presents the nutritional status of children (p.198) and adults (p.208–11) by the eight divisions in Bangladesh, suggesting that anthropometric estimates based on a 30% subsample of households are representative at the subnational level. As such, the global MPI estimation for Bangladesh is based on this subsample. This survey data lacks information on cooking fuel. We have treated this indicator as missing and hence the remaining five indicators (sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing and assets) of the living standards are reweighted to receive one-fifteenth of the indicator weight each, which sums to one-third of the dimension weight. This dataset lacks information on the time it takes to collect drinking water, so the indicator is constructed solely based on the source of drinking water. The survey does not include information on whether the household owns an animal cart, so the assets indicator does not include this item.

7.3 Bolivia EDSA 2023

The national Demographic and Health Survey (EDSA) 2023 micro dataset is available on an open access platform. The dataset has anthropometric information for children under five years of age and for all eligible females and males aged 6–59 years living in all sampled households or who have slept there on the night before the interview. We have computed underweight and stunting measures for children under five years of age, BMI-for-age for children aged 6–19 years and BMI for all eligible men and women aged below 59 years. Information on child mortality was collected from all females aged 12–49 years. The survey does not provide information on animal cart ownership, so the assets indicator does not include this item. The catalogue, questionnaire and factsheets are available from the [EDSA](#) website (Instituto Nacional de Estadística, 2025).

7.4 Jordan DHS 2023

In the Jordan DHS dataset, nutritional status was assessed using anthropometric data from all children under five years of age and ever-married females aged 15–49 years, drawn from a subsample of 50% of households selected for the biomarker module. The survey report, produced by Department of Statistics and ICF (2024), presents the nutritional status of children (p.249) and women (p.264 - 265) by the 12 governorates of Jordan, indicating that anthropometric measurements based on the 50% subsample are representative at the subnational level. As such, the global MPI estimates for Jordan are based on this subsample. The survey did not include a direct measure of electricity coverage, as recent [World Bank](#) data report that 100% of the population in Jordan has access to electricity (World Bank, 2023; Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa 2019). However, the variable ‘type of light at home’ was used as the closest proxy for electricity coverage, consistent with the Jordan DHS report, which assumes electricity to be the primary source of lighting (p.xxxiii). No other country specific adjustments were applied for this survey.

7.5 Kyrgyzstan MICS 2023

The nutrition indicator for the Kyrgyzstan dataset is constructed using anthropometric data from all children under five years of age. No other country-specific decisions were applied for this survey. The country survey report is produced by the National Statistical Committee (NSC) of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNICEF (2024).

7.6 Lao PDR MICS 2023

The Lao PDR dataset has anthropometric data from all children under five years of age, which was used to construct the underweight and stunting indicators. In rural areas, the data distinguish

between households with road access and those without. For the global MPI, these two categorisations have been combined into a single rural category. Following the report, clean cooking fuel is classified as those using clean cooking technologies such as electric stove, LPG/cooking stove, biogas stove, solar cooker or liquid fuel stove dependent on ethanol or alcohol (p.197). The country survey report is produced by the Lao Statistics Bureau and UNICEF (2025).

7.7 Lesotho DHS 2023

In the Lesotho DHS 2023 dataset, information on height and weight measurements were collected from all children under five years of age. Additionally, anthropometric measures were collected from females aged 15–49 years and males aged 15–59 years in 50% of the sampled households selected for the men’s questionnaire. The survey report, produced by the Ministry of Health of Lesotho and ICF (2024), presents the nutritional status of children (p.236) and of adults (p.250–253) by the 10 districts of Lesotho, indicating subnational representativeness. As such, the global MPI estimates for Lesotho are based on the anthropometric subsample. The survey lacks information on the ownership of a landline phone and therefore asset ownership related to telephone is based solely on access to a mobile phone. No other country specific decisions were applied for this survey.

7.8 Mexico ENSANUT 2023

The National Health and Nutrition Survey (ENSANUT) 2023 is a publicly accessible, nationally representative survey and forms part of the ongoing continuous survey series under Mexico’s National Health Survey System (SNES), overseen by the Ministry of Health. Anthropometric information is available for all children under five years of age and has been used to estimate the nutrition indicator. The child mortality measure is excluded in the MPI estimation. This is because the reported statistics are derived from a subsample of females aged 15–49 years which is not representative of the female population in the 15–49 age group. The survey does not gather data on the time required to collect drinking water and so the indicator is constructed solely from the source of drinking water. Moreover, due to the absence of data on ownership of a bicycle and animal cart, these items were excluded from the construction of the assets indicator. The survey report is produced by Shamah-levy et al. (2024), National Institute of Public Health of the Government of Mexico.

7.9 Nauru MICS 2023

The Nauru MICS 2023 dataset includes anthropometric data from all children under five years of age and from females aged 15–49. These data were used to construct the nutrition indicator. Notably, the survey does not contain information on the geographical (urban/rural) area variable. As ownership of an animal cart was not assessed in the survey, this item is excluded from the assets indicator. The survey report is published by Nauru Bureau of Statistics (2024).

7.10 Niger ENAFEME 2021

The Niger ENAFEME 2021 is a national survey that is open access and nationally representative. This survey lacks information on nutrition. The variable for the strata (hv022) contains missing observations. The report states that the ‘urban and rural areas of each region correspond to sampling strata’ (p.7). The first-stage sample was drawn independently within each stratum. Before selecting the primary units, the sampling frame was organised by region. We assume that the strata can be derived from the region and area variables. Therefore, our strata variable was created by combining these two indicators to compute a confidence interval for each estimate from a sample survey. This process yields 15 strata instead of 16, as the region of Niamey does not have any observations in rural areas. Following the survey report (p.26), households reported using sanitation facilities described as ‘flush to somewhere else’ and ‘flush, don’t know where’ are classified as having access to unimproved sanitation. An unlabelled category in the floor variable, which accounts for nine observations, has been classified as deprived because it is not listed in Table 2.4 (p.27). The survey report is published by the Institut National de la Statistique (INS) and Utica International (2022).

7.11 Peru ENDES 2023

The Peru ENDES 2023 is a continuous survey that is publicly accessible. The nutrition indicator is constructed based on height and weight measurements obtained from all children under five years of age and for all females aged 12–49 years. Additionally, data on child mortality were gathered for all females aged 15–49 years who slept the night before in the household. No other country specific decisions were applied for this survey. The survey report is published by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática of the Government of Peru (INEI 2024).

7.12 Senegal DHS 2023

The Senegal DHS 2023 has anthropometric data for children under five years of age living in a subsample of households, that is in 50% of all sampled houses that are selected for the male

questionnaire. The survey report, published jointly by ANSD and ICF (2024), presents the nutritional status for children by the 14 regions of Senegal (p.153). This suggests that anthropometric estimates based on the 50% subsample of households are representative at the subnational level. The global MPI estimates for Senegal are based on this subsample.

7.13 Vanuatu MICS 2023

The Vanuatu MICS survey has anthropometric data from children under five years of age and females aged 15–49 years living in all sampled households. The survey lacks information on ownership of an animal cart and therefore the assets indicator does not include this item. The report is published by Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics (2024).

8. Concluding remarks

The global MPI 2025 covers 109 countries, of which 10 countries have updated surveys compared to the 2024 round. In addition, Azerbaijan and Vanuatu, previously dropped in 2019 and 2020 respectively due to outdated data, were reintroduced. Nauru has been added for the first time. Collectively these 13 new or updated countries represent close to 6.9% of the population living in the developing regions of the world. The computation of global MPI is only possible with individual-level data from multitopic household surveys such as DHS and MICS. These surveys collectively remain the major microdata source used to produce the global MPI results (for 95 countries). The remaining surveys used in our work are national surveys (12 countries) and PAPFAM (two countries).

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