

Indicator 3.1.1

Indicator Name, Target and Goal

Indicator 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio

Target 3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.

Goal 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Definition and Rationale

○ Definition

Maternal mortality ratio: The number of deaths per 100,000 live births per year that occur during pregnancy or in less than 42 days of giving birth, from any cause related to the pregnancy, the management thereof or a condition worsened by either of these, regardless of the length of the pregnancy or affected area of the body.

○ Concepts

A maternal death is pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and the site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes.

The figure can also be divided into direct and indirect obstetric deaths. Direct obstetric deaths: those resulting from obstetric complications of the pregnant state (pregnancy, labour and puerperium), from interventions, omissions or incorrect treatment, or from a chain of events resulting from any of the above. Indirect obstetric deaths: those resulting from previous existing disease or disease that developed during pregnancy and that was not due to direct obstetric causes, but that was aggravated by physiologic effects of pregnancy.

○ Rationale and Interpretation:

Vital statistics has been conducted by making death records from death certificates submitted to each local government, and then identifying the ultimate cause of death from the cause of death and conditions written in the death records. Deaths identified as maternal death from this data are compiled annually to find the number of maternal death.

Data Sources and Collection Method

Vital statistics

Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

○ Computation Method

Maternal mortality ratio =

Number of maternal death in a year/number of live births in that year x
100,000

○ Comments and limitations

Vital statistics calculates the maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 total births, whereas the SDGs define it per 100,000 live births.

Data Disaggregation

N/A

References

Vital statistics

Custodian Ministries of Data

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Custodian Ministries of Related Policies

Children and Families Agency

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

International Organizations

World Health Organization (WHO)