

## Indicator 5.3.1

### Indicator Name, Target and Goal

**Indicator 5.3.1** Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18

**Target 5.3** Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

**Goal 5** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

### Definition and Rationale

Definition

Number of reported cases of women entering into a union at the age of 24 or under during the year the survey was conducted

Concepts

Refer to age at the time of wedding or at cohabitation was started.

Rationale and Interpretation:

Vital statistics collects data at the time a marriage certificate is submitted and use this to assess the number of marriages at each age in each year. With that said, it has not been possible to assess the number of brides aged under 18 in Japan as the legal age of marriage is 18 and over.

(Note) Due to the amendment of the Civil Code, the legal marriage age for women was raised from 16 to 18 as of April 1, 2022. However, as a transitional measure, women who were already 16 or older as of April 1, 2022, were allowed to marry even if they were under 18. Therefore, numbers of marriages involving women under 18 appeared until 2024.

### Data Sources and Collection Method

Vital statistics

### Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

Computation Method

N/A

○ Comments and limitations

It is not possible to ascertain the age at which women aged 20-24 entered into a union as the index from the vital statistics.

### **Data Disaggregation**

Marriages by single years of age (total number and for ages 15-24) of bride, by marriage order of bride (for marriages performed and registered each year)

### **References**

Vital statistics

<https://www.e-stat.go.jp/stat-search/files?page=1&toukei=00450011&tstat=000001028897>

### **Custodian Ministries of Data**

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

### **Custodian Ministries of Related Policies**

Ministry of Justice

### **International Organizations**

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)