

Indicator 16.7.1

Indicator Name, Target and Goal

Target 16.7.1 Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups

Target 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

(c) The Judiciary (by sex and age)

Definition and Rationale

○ Definition

Indicator 16.7.1 (c): the proportion of judges and court clerks who are women or below the age of 40.

○ Concepts

Judges

Judges perform the procedures necessary for judicial decisions and related procedures for all manner of cases under the jurisdiction of the court. Judges include the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Presidents of High Courts, judges, assistant judges, and Summary Court judges.

Court Clerks

Court clerks prepare and keep case records and other documents, perform other administrative duties as prescribed by law, assist judges in their investigations of laws and precedents, perform other duties for the purpose of ensuring proper procedures, facilitate the progress of procedures, and assist judges in their decision-making.

○ Rationale and Interpretation:

In order for decision-making by the judiciary to be responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative at all levels, as called for by Target 16.7, it is important to ensure diversity in key positions in national- and local-level courts. Diversity in judicial positions renders decision-making by the judiciary more legitimate in the eyes of citizens and more responsive to the concerns of the whole population.

Data Sources and Collection Method

For the number of judges and court clerks, the total number of those in office was used.

Figures for the labour force are based on the Labour Force Survey conducted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

○ Computation Method

The proportion of judges or court clerks who are women

$$= \frac{\text{The number of female judges or court clerks}}{\text{The total number of judges or court clerks}} \times 100$$

The proportion of judges or court clerks who are below the age of 40

$$= \frac{\text{The number of judges or court clerks below the age of 40}}{\text{The total number of judges or court clerks}} \times 100$$

○ Comments and limitations

- The United Nations global metadata calculates the proportion of judges or court clerks who are below the age of 45, but in Japan such data differentiated by age groups is aggregated based on every ten years of age, so the proportion of those under the age of 40 was calculated instead.
- There is no data for judges before 2010.
- There is no data for court clerks before 2019.

- There is no data differentiated by disability and population group.

Data Disaggregation

None

References

None

Custodian Ministries of Data

Ministry of Justice

Custodian Ministries of Related Policies

Cabinet Secretariat

Cabinet Office

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

National Personnel Authority

International Organizations

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Oslo Governance Centre