Data sources guidance for outcome indicators on article 10:

Right to life

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This data sources guidance is a component of *Promoting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities through the Sustainable Development Goals: a Resource Package*.

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10.20: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.1.1) and disability

Level 2: Indicator can be produced with straightforward additions or modifications to existing data collection efforts

Link to the metadata related to this Sustainable Development Goal indicator

According to the metadata:

> Two separate sources exist at the country level, namely, the criminal justice system and public health or civil registration. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) collects and publishes data from criminal justice systems through its annual data collection process, as mandated by the General Assembly – the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. Data collection through the survey is facilitated by a network of over 130 national focal points appointed by the responsible authorities.

According to the methodological annex to the Global Study on Homicide 2019, the primary source of criminal justice data used for homicide statistics at UNODC are official administrative data regularly collected by UNODC through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. Reference is usually made to police-recorded data on intentional homicides (rather than data provided by prosecution or court authorities). These data include the total number of homicide victims, as well as relevant disaggregation of homicide victims by sex, age, killing mechanism (firearms, sharp objects and others) and the perpetrator or context of the crime (family or intimate partner, organized crime, gang, robbery, other or unknown context).

In most cases, it would not be feasible for investigating police to determine, after death, whether the person had a disability. However, once the victim's identity is known, that information could theoretically be cross-referenced in countries with a national disability card or registry, particularly in countries where individuals carry a unique national identification number.

In the United States of America, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, through its Uniform Crime Reporting Program, collects supplementary homicide data that provide the age, sex, race and ethnicity of the murder victim and offender; the type of weapon used; the relationship of the victim to the offender; and the circumstances surrounding the incident. However, it does not record disability status. As only persons who cannot work because of a disability are certified as having a disability in government records in the United States, a large majority of persons with disabilities would be missed through this cross-referencing. In a country with a more comprehensive registry system, it may be possible to obtain more accurate statistics.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme and UNODC have developed the Sustainable

Development Goal 16 survey initiative, which is aimed at providing a coherent survey instrument that countries can use to measure progress on multiple survey-based indicators on Goal 16. The survey is used to collect data on governance, access to justice, violence, corruption, discrimination and trafficking in persons. The Sustainable Development Goal 16 survey initiative is focused on 13 global indicators under Goal 16 and others, with data derived from population surveys. This type of data source presents numerous advantages, including high data quality and the ability to produce indicators disaggregated by a number of variables. Monitoring progress on these indicators will require a substantial increase in national surveys on crime victimization, access to justice and corruption, which can be costly and challenging for national statistical offices to implement on a regular basis. To ease the task of these offices having to monitor the survey-based indicators as part of their reporting on Goal 16, it is proposed that dedicated Goal 16 survey modules be developed and included in ongoing data collection programmes of household and other relevant statistical surveys. The survey initiative has been piloted in eight countries and the Sustainable Development Goal 16 survey initiative questionnaire is available online.

10.21: Reported cases of arbitrary deprivation of life and death threats, disaggregated by sex, age and disability of the victims

Level 2: Indicator can be produced with existing data but has not been reported on

If cases of arbitrary deprivation of life and death threats are reported to the police, the indicator can be produced (provided that disability status is recorded as part of the intake procedure). This is done in South Africa, where the Police Service has a disability focal point that focuses on victims and perpetrators. When victims report to the police, they self-identify as having a disability. Upon self-identification, they are asked to choose which category of disability applies to them. Data are entered into the Crime Administration System. This also takes place when people are imprisoned. South Africa is currently reviewing the possibility of using the Washington Group short set of questions on functioning as part of its intake form, in addition to self-identification.

This information could be determined through a national disability survey but, given the frequency of such events, the sample size of a typical survey may not be adequate to generate an accurate estimate.

Countries that use the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes will also have these data.

Data sources for this indicator could also include:

- OHCHR monitoring work
- Work of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council

- Reports of treaty bodies
- Press releases and statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Other reports and publications, such as the Secretary-General's reports on reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations in the field of human rights

Human Rights Watch reports annually on key human rights issues in more than 90 countries based on the investigative work of its staff, usually in close partnership with human rights activists and groups in the country in question. Disability is one of the focus areas; the reports include information about human rights violations affecting persons with disabilities. The report for 2019 can be found on the website of Human Rights Watch. While this report is not quantitative, and therefore does not easily lend itself to an indicator, it does provide helpful insight into this area.

10.22: Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists in the previous 12 months (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.10.1), disaggregated by sex, age and disability

Level 1: Indicator for which data are already being produced and reported on in at least some countries

Link to the metadata related to this Sustainable Development Goal indicator

According to the metadata:

> Data can be collected from global, regional and national mandated bodies, mechanisms and institutions that generate and maintain administrative data whether in aggregated form or at the micro level.

- *Global mechanisms*
  - OHCHR
    - Data from monitoring work of OHCHR
    - Data from the work of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council
    - Data from the treaty bodies reporting system
    - Press releases and statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
    - Other reports and publications, such as the Secretary-General's reports on repri-

sals for cooperation with the United Nations in the field of human rights
        - Other mandated reports and publications
    - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
        - "UNESCO condemns killing of journalists"
        - Other mandated reports and publications
    - International Labour Organization

Other United Nations entities producing relevant reports

- *Regional mechanisms*
    - Cases reviewed by the Committee on Freedom of Association
    - Other mandated reports and publications
- *National mechanisms*
    - National human rights institutions
    - National monitoring and protection mechanisms for journalists, trade unionists and human rights defenders
    - Justice sector institutions such as ministries responsible for justice or for the interior
    - National statistical offices in their general role to coordinate national statistical systems

The integration of data from all possible sources for this indicator is possible through the use of standard definitions, data collection methods, reference periods, counting units and counting rules.

Global and regional data on killings and enforced disappearances are being reported under this indicator in the Global SDG Indicators Database, which is maintained by the Statistics Division of the United Nations, and through the annual Sustainable Development Goals progress report of the Secretary-General and the Sustainable Development Goals report. Selected country data on killings have been reported in various United Nations reports, including those by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Philippines (A/HRC/44/22) and reports of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security.

In 2020, the United Nations tracked 331 killings of human rights defenders in 32 countries and territories, marking an 18 per cent increase from 2019, and 19 enforced disappearances in 14 countries and territories. One would need to identify which individuals have a disability. This information may be obtainable from employment records – at least for visible or reported disabilities. OHCHR is collecting data on whether victims have a disability, whenever such data are available in publicly available sources, but more specific methodological guidance needs to be developed and provided to data collectors.

10.23: Number of deaths, missing persons and persons directly affected by disaster per 100,000 population (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.5.1), disaggregated by age, sex and disability (see also indicator 11.23 on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)

Level 3: Indicator for which acquiring data is more complex or requires the development of data collection mechanisms that are not currently in place

Link to the metadata related to this Sustainable Development Goal indicator

According to the metadata:

> The data provider at the national level is the focal point for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. In most countries, disaster data are collected by line ministries, and national disaster loss databases are established and managed by special purpose agencies, including national disaster management agencies, civil protection agencies and meteorological agencies. The Sendai Framework national focal points in each country are responsible for reporting data through the Sendai Framework monitoring system.

The Sendai Framework does not include a measure of disability. Countries report data on DesInventar Sendai, a form that contains questions about the number of deaths, injuries, evacuations, relocations and missing persons, as well as economic losses. The country is not asked to report on the characteristics of the affected individuals.

One way to disaggregate by disability would be if the identities of the deceased individuals were known and could be linked to a national disability registry.

10.24: Number of conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population by sex, age, disability and cause (based on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.1.2)

Level 3: Indicator for which acquiring data is more complex or requires the development of data collection mechanisms that are not currently in place

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, through ReliefWeb, publishes an annual report on conflicts, human rights and peacebuilding, but it does not include information about disability.

In terms of conflict-related deaths, information on data sources can be found through Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.1.2, which is under the custodianship of OHCHR. Other data sources are the human rights monitoring work of OHCHR and reports by field presences, including those on casualty recording. Country reports with data on casualty recording can be found through the following:

- List of reports per conflict
- Human Rights Service of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
- Human Rights Division of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
- Joint Human Rights Office of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Human Rights Office of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
- United Nations Support Mission in Libya
- United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, for reports on the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel

No examples were found of disaggregation by disability status, which would, in many instances, be impossible to determine after death. As mentioned for previous indicators, only if the identities of the deceased were known and a national registry of persons with disabilities existed could this information be obtained. Alternatively, it could be collected through a national disability survey.

10.25: Suicide rates, disaggregated by sex, age and disability

Level 3: Indicator for which acquiring data is more complex or requires the development of data collection mechanisms that are not currently in place

The Mortality Database of the World Health Organization (WHO) is a compilation of mortality data by age, sex and cause of death, as reported annually by member States from their civil registration systems. Crude and age-standardized suicide rates by age group and sex are available by country.

These data do not include a disability indicator. No examples were found of disaggregation by disability status, which would, in many instances, be impossible to determine after death. As mentioned for previous indicators, only if the identities of the deceased were known and a national registry of persons with disabilities existed could this information be obtained. Theoretically, this could also be done through a national disability survey. However, given the

rate of suicide in the population compared to typical household sample sizes – and the stigma around suicide in many places – it would prove difficult to obtain an accurate estimate.

Several surveys look at attempted suicide. For example, a study based on a 2007 national survey of psychiatric morbidity of adults in England found that 1 in every 150 adults in England had made a suicide attempt during the previous 12 months. Those with some form of disability were four times more likely to have attempted suicide, after adjusting for significant sociodemographic and socioeconomic correlates (female, not married, not employed, being in debt and having a physical health problem). The study used a random probability sample comprising 7,461 respondents, and disability was measured by difficulties in activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living.

A study by the University of Toronto found that 1 in 6 women with learning disabilities had attempted suicide, based on data from the 2012 Canadian Community Health Survey – Mental Health. The lifetime prevalence of suicide attempts was much higher for women who had been diagnosed with learning disabilities (16.6 per cent) when compared to women who had not (3.3 per cent). Men with learning disabilities were also more likely to have attempted suicide when compared to men without learning disabilities (7.7 per cent versus 2.1 per cent).

10.26: Where applicable, number of deaths due to voluntary termination of life procedures ("assisted dying"), disaggregated by sex, age and disability

Level 2: Indicator can be produced with straightforward additions or modifications to existing data collection efforts

In 2016 in Canada, federal legislation on medical assistance in dying authorized the Minister of Health to support data collection and reporting. Since 2019, the Minister of Health has publicly reported on medical assistance in dying in Canada, including information about race, indigenous identity and disability.

Interim reports provided the data found in the table below. The reporting mechanism could be amended to include disability status.

Table 1: Profile of medically assisted deaths and persons receiving medical assistance in dying in Canada, January 2017–October 2018 (22 months)

Total number of medically assisted deaths	4,575
Age (years)	**(percentage)**
18-45	1.8
46-64	19.7

Total number of medically assisted deaths	4,575
Age (years)	**(percentage)**
65-80	44.1
80+	33.0
Most common underlying medical circumstances of those who received medical assistance in dying (percentage)	
Cancer-related	64.0%
Neurodegenerative	11.1%
Circulatory/respiratory system	16.2%
Other causes/unknown	8.6%

Source: Health Canada, *Third Interim Report on Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada* (Ottawa, 2018).

10.27: Number of reported deaths of persons with disabilities in places of detention and institutions or during the provision of disability-related services or health care, and proportion of those deaths that have been subject to investigation disaggregated by deceased's age, sex, disability, place of death and cause of death concluded by investigation

Level 3: Indicator for which acquiring data is more complex or requires the development of data collection mechanisms that are not currently in place

The United States reports the number of deaths in prison by state, race, sex, age and cause of death, but not by disability status, as can be seen in an article published by the United States Department of Justice. This could be added to administrative data.

South Africa records the disability status of incarcerated individuals, but reports could not be found for these indicators.

Many instances of persons with disabilities dying in other types of residential institutions are recorded by the media and in court cases in many countries. A national study in Australia examined the grey literature, contacting "all relevant state and territory departments and coroners' courts, as well as the National Coronial Inquest System (NCIS) administrators, to confirm that no other reports meeting selection criteria were available" (Carmela Salomon and Julian Troller, *A Scoping Review of Causes and Contributors to Deaths of People with Disability in Australia* (Sydney, University of New South Wales, 2019)) . Overall, 901 deaths were examined and reported on in terms of the person's health background, underlying causes of death, and place and circumstances of death.