

Glossary

Absolute inequality	Magnitude of difference in health between subgroups. Absolute measures of inequality, such as difference, retain the same unit of measure as the health indicator.
Date	Date, such as a year (e.g., 2024) or a month/year combination (e.g., Jan-2024).
Dimension of inequality	A demographic, socioeconomic or geographic characteristic (e.g., economic status, education, ethnicity, place of residence, subnational region).
Disaggregated data	Health indicator data that are broken down by subgroups of a population, which are defined according to dimensions of inequality such as demographic, socioeconomic or geographic characteristics (e.g., age, sex, economic status, place of residence, subnational region).
Estimate	The indicator estimate for the subgroup. If this variable is missing for one subgroup (or more), complex summary measures cannot be calculated. Simple measures may be calculated depending on which estimates are missing. Proportions/percentages must be already multiplied by 100 (not left as decimals).
Favourable indicator	This dummy variable (favourable_indicator) indicates the indicator type. It must be 1 for favourable indicators and 0 for non-favourable (adverse) indicators. <i>Favourable indicators</i> measure desirable health events that are promoted through public health action. They include health intervention indicators, such as antenatal care coverage, and desirable health outcome indicators, such as life expectancy. For these indicators, the ultimate goal is to achieve a maximum level, either in health intervention coverage or health outcome (e.g. complete coverage of antenatal care or the highest possible life expectancy). <i>Adverse indicators</i> measure undesirable health events that are to be reduced or eliminated through public health action. They include undesirable health outcome indicators, such as stunting prevalence in children aged less than five years or under-five mortality rate. Here, the ultimate goal is to achieve a minimum level (e.g. theoretically 0 deaths per 1000 live births).
Indicator	A health indicator name (e.g., "Births attended by skilled health personnel").
Indicator scale	This variable (indicator_scale) indicates the scale of the indicator, such as "100" for indicators reported as percentages or "1000" for indicators reported as rates per 1000 population.
Ordered dimension	This dummy variable (ordered_dimension) indicates the dimension type. It must be 0 for dimensions with two subgroups (binary dimensions). For dimensions with more than two subgroups, it must be 1 for ordered dimensions and 0 for non-ordered dimensions. <i>Ordered dimensions</i> have ordered subgroups that have an inherent positioning and can be ranked. For example, education has an inherent ordering in the sense that those with less education unequivocally have less of something compared to those with more education. <i>Non-ordered dimensions</i> have non-ordered subgroups that are not based on criteria that can be logically ranked. Subnational regions are an example of non-ordered groupings. <i>Binary dimensions</i> compare the situation in two population subgroups (e.g. males and females).
Population	The number of people within each subgroup (or the weighted population in the case of estimates calculated from survey data). For example, if the indicator in question is under-five mortality rate disaggregated by wealth quintiles, then the population for the poorest quintile is the number of children aged under five years belonging to the poorest subgroup. If the population value is missing for one subgroup (or more), complex summary measures cannot be calculated.
Reference subgroup	This variable (reference_subgroup) indicates the reference subgroup for non-ordered dimensions and binary dimensions . <i>For ordered dimensions</i> (i.e. if ordered_dimension=1), this variable must be 0. <i>For non-ordered dimensions and binary dimensions</i> (i.e. if ordered_dimension=0), you have the option to choose a reference subgroup. A reference subgroup can be chosen by assigning the value 1 to that subgroup and 0 to all other subgroups. For example, for subnational regions (with more than two subgroups), the capital city can be chosen as the reference subgroup. For place of residence (urban vs. rural), urban can be chosen as the reference subgroup.
Relative inequality	Proportional difference in health between subgroups. Relative measures of inequality, such as ratio, are unitless.
Setting	Setting name (e.g., a country like "Indonesia" or a province like "Bali").
Subgroup	A subgroup of the population within a given dimension of inequality. For example, within a "subnational region" dimension, each subgroup is a different subnational region.

Subgroup order	This variable (subgroup_order) indicates the order of subgroups for ordered dimensions. <i>For ordered dimensions</i> (i.e. if ordered_dimension=1), this variable must be an increasing sequence of integers starting with the value 1 for the most-disadvantaged subgroup. It must be sorted in order of smallest to largest integer. For example, for education with three subgroups, the most-disadvantaged subgroup "No education" will be assigned the value 1, "Primary school" will be assigned the value 2 and the most-advantaged subgroup "Secondary school +" will be assigned the value 3. <i>For non-ordered dimensions and binary dimensions</i> (i.e. if ordered_dimension=0), this variable must be 0.
Standard error	The standard error of the subgroup indicator estimate. If this variable is missing for one subgroup (or more), 95% confidence intervals for some (or all) summary measures cannot be calculated.
Summary measure of health inequality	Summarises the amount of health inequality across population subgroups in a single number - which facilitates the comparison of inequalities over time and across different settings and indicators. <i>Simple measures</i> (difference and ratio) compare the situation in two population subgroups. They can be calculated for all dimensions of inequality (with two subgroups or more). <i>Complex measures</i> are calculated for inequality dimensions with more than two population subgroups and consider the situation in all subgroups. They can only be calculated for dimensions with more than two subgroups.
95% confidence interval	Expresses the precision of an estimate and the level of uncertainty associated with it. It is a range of values (upper and lower) that you can be 95% certain contains the true estimate. It is calculated by taking the estimate plus or minus 1.96 multiplied by the standard error of the estimate.