



الهيئة العامة للإحصاء
General Authority for Statistics

Metadata Report of Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication

V-2.0

Quality Management

Last update: 05.02.2023



Table of Contents

1. Contact	5
1.1. Contact organization	5
1.2. Contact organization unit	5
1.3. Contact person function	5
1.4. Contact mail address	5
1.5. Contact email address	5
1.6. Contact phone number	5
2 Metadata Update	5
2.1. Metadata last update	5
3. Statistical Presentation	5
3.1. Data description	5
3.2. Classification system	6
3.3. Sector coverage	6
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	6
3.5. Statistical unit	7
3.6. Statistical population	7
3.7. Reference area	7
3.8. Time coverage	7
3.9. Base period	7
4. Unit of measure	7
5. Reference period	8
6. Confidentiality	8
6.1. Confidentiality - policy	8
6.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	8
7. Release policy	9
7.1. Release calendar	9
7.2. Release calendar access	9
7.3. User access	9
8. Frequency of dissemination	9
9. Accessibility and clarity	10



9.1.	News release	10
9.2.	Publications	10
9.3.	On-line database	10
9.4.	Micro-data access	10
9.5.	Other	11
9.6.	Documentation on methodology	11
9.7.	Quality documentation.....	12
10.	Quality management.....	12
10.1.	Quality assurance	12
10.2.	Quality assessment	12
11.	Relevance	13
11.1.	User needs	13
11.2.	User satisfaction	13
11.3.	Completeness	13
12.	Accuracy and reliability	14
12.1.	Overall accuracy	14
13.	Timeliness and punctuality	14
13.1.	Timeliness	14
13.2.	Punctuality	14
14.	Coherence and comparability	15
14.1.	Comparability - geographical	15
14.2.	Comparability - over time.....	15
14.3.	Coherence- cross domain	15
14.3.1.	Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics	15
14.3.2.	Coherence- National Accounts	15
14.4.	Coherence - internal	16
15.	Resources used	16
16.	Data revision	16
16.1.	Data revision - policy	16
16.2.	Data revision - practice	16
17.	Statistical processing	16
17.1.	Source data	16



17.2.	Frequency of data collection	17
17.3.	Data collection.....	17
17.4.	Data validation	17
17.5.	Data compilation	18
17.6.	Adjustment	18
18.	Comment.....	18



1. Contact

1.1. Contact organization	General Authority for Statistics
1.2. Contact organization unit	Health and Education Statistics Dept.
1.3. Contact person function	Director of Health and Education Statistics Dept.
1.4. Contact mail address	P.O. Box: 3735 Riyadh, 11481 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
1.5. Contact email address	info@stats.gov.sa
1.6. Contact phone number	920020081

2. Metadata Update

2.1. Metadata last update	1/11/2023
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3. Statistical Presentation

3.1. Data description
<p>The Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication presents data on all individuals under the age of 15 in Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>The publication on Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics is a publication conducted to collect data on the main topic as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early childhood development and child well-being. <p>The data It is further used to estimate the:</p>



- Early Childhood Development Index.
- The percentage of children under five years old who have the ability to pronounce and speak any language.
- Percentage of children aged 7-14 years who have at least one book at home.

3.2. Classification system

The following classifications are applied in Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication:

National Code of Countries and Nationalities (3166 ISO - codes Country):

A statistical classification based on the international standard (ISO 3166_Country codes), which is a standard issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO of the UN), and this classification gives numeric and literal codes for the world's (248) countries, based on the classification of countries.

The classification is used in the Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing publication to classify Saudi or non-Saudi individuals.

Detailed data is collected through the interview to allow output production according to all relevant classifications.

The classifications are available on the GASTAT's website: www.stats.gov.sa

3.3. Sector coverage

Not Applicable.

3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions

Terminologies and concepts of Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication:

- Early childhood development index:
They are children in the age group of 24-59 months who are on the right developmental path in the areas of: health, learning, and social-emotional development. The data generated by the Early Childhood Development Index 2030 can be used to monitor and report on the Sustainable Development Goal indicator 4.2.1, and to enrich Government efforts to improve developmental outcomes among children. This scale includes 20



questions about the way children behave in some everyday situations, and the skills and knowledge they have acquired, reflecting the increasing difficulty of the skills children acquire as they grow. The twenty items are organized according to the three general areas of health, learning, psychosocial well-being. A child is considered developmentally right if he or she has achieved the minimum expected stages for the age group.

3.5. Statistical unit

The statistical unit in Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication is the individual (Child).

3.6. Statistical population

The statistical populations of Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication are the individuals (both Saudis and non-Saudis) who normally reside in Saudi Arabia.

3.7. Reference area

The publication's results cover 13 administrative regions of Saudi Arabia.

3.8. Time coverage

Data are available for 2023.

3.9. Base period

Not applicable.

4. Unit of measure



Some results are reported as percentage (EX: Percentage of children aged 7-14 years who have at least one book at home).

5. Reference period

References period to the variables or dataset as following:

Data are based on the beginning of the data collection date on 30/4/2023

6. Confidentiality

6.1. Confidentiality - policy

According to the Royal Decree No. 23 dated 07-12-1397, data must always be kept confidential, and must be used by GASTAT only for statistical purposes. Therefore, the data are protected in the data servers of the Authority.

6.2. Confidentiality - data treatment

Data were displayed in appropriate tables to facilitate its summarization, comprehension, and results extraction. Also, to compare data with other data and extract statistical meanings for the study community. It is also easier to check tables without the need to see the original questionnaire, which usually include data like names and addresses of individuals, names of data providers, which violates data confidentiality of statistical data.

"Anonymity of data" is one of the most important procedures. To keep data confidential, GASTAT removed information on individual persons, households, or business entities such a way that the respondent cannot be identified either directly (by name, address, contact number, identity number etc.) or indirectly (by combining different - especially rare - characteristics of respondents: age, occupation, education etc.).



7. Release policy

7.1. Release calendar

The Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication results are bound by a release calendar.

7.2. Release calendar access

Available on the: <https://www.stats.gov.sa/ar/future-releases>

7.3. User access

One of GASTAT's objectives is to meet better its clients' needs, so it immediately provides them with the bulletin's results once the Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication is published.

It also receives questions and inquiries of the clients about the Bulletin and its results through various communication channels, such as:

- GASTAT's official website www.stats.gov.sa
- GASTAT's official e-mail address info@stats.gov.sa
- Client Support's e-mail address cs@stats.gov.sa
- Official visits to GASTAT's official head office in Riyadh or one of its branches in Saudi Arabia.
- Official letters.
- Statistical telephone (92002008).

8. Frequency of dissemination

Annual.



9. Accessibility and clarity

9.1. News release

The announcements for each publication are available on release calendar as mentioned in 7.2. Release calendar access. The news release can be viewed on the website of GASTAT in the link <https://www.stats.gov.sa/en/news>.

9.2. Publications

GASTAT issues Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication publications and reports on a regular basis within a pre-prepared publishing plan and installed on the GASTAT's website. GASTAT is keen to publish its publications in a manner that serves all users of different types, including publications in different formats that contain (publication tables, data graphs, indicators, metadata, methodology, and used questionnaires) in both English and Arabic.

The Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication publications are available on the

9.3. On-line database

The data is published in the statistical database (<https://database.stats.gov.sa/home/indicator/542>).

9.4. Micro-data access

Microdata are unit-level data obtained from sample surveys, censuses, and administrative systems. They provide information about characteristics of individual people or entities such as households, business enterprises, facilities, farms, or even geographical areas such as villages or towns.

The different types of microdata files to meet different information needs:

- Public use:

It consists sets of records containing information on individual persons, households, or business entities anonymized in such a way that the respondent cannot be identified either directly (by name, address, contact number, identity number etc.) or indirectly (by



combining different - especially rare - characteristics of respondents: age, occupation, education etc.).

- Scientific use:

These files established based on specific methodology asked by data requester to extract the datasets with specific characteristics used for strategic studies and decision making as well scientific research purposes on individuals, households and enterprises with no direct identifiers, which have been subject to control methods to protect confidentiality.

Eligible users can access microdata sets through secure interface built-in by GASTAT called "Etaha" with specific documentary requirements.

9.5. Other

Not available.

9.6. Documentation on methodology

The concepts, definitions, issues and classifications are based on internationally recognized scientific standards, by following the stages of statistical work contained in the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), starting with the stage of identifying needs, passing through the stage of design, construction, collection, processing, analysis, publication, and ending with the evaluation stage, while the methodology for drawing the sample was as follows:

- The survey population was divided into non-overlapping parts characterized by relative homogeneity in their units. Each part is considered a class, and each class is treated as an independent community in its own right.
- A random sample was drawn from each layer independently, and in the end all the drawn sampling units were combined to form the total sample.
- The sample units were selected from among the statistical frameworks that were designed to cover the target statistical population in two stages. In the first stage, the primary sampling units (enumeration areas) were selected from the 2022 Saudi Census framework and using regular random sampling (4537) enumeration areas were selected for a health survey, and child health and well-being survey, distributed among all strata in all administrative regions using the method proportional to size by weighting the number of individuals therein, then in the second stage selecting the final sampling units, which are the individual in the enumeration areas that were selected in the first stage using a simple random sample of (20) individuals. From each enumeration area, that is, a total of (90,740) individuals for the child health and well-being survey at the Kingdom level.
- Preparing the optimal methodology for selecting sample units with the aim of providing



outputs with the required quality, while reducing the burden on data providers through statistical methods known to statisticians, such as using rotation methods and monitoring overlap.

- The descriptive data required to apply the statistical framework and sample allocation, and selection were identified.

9.7. Quality documentation

Quality documentation covers documentation on methods and standards for assessing, measuring, and monitoring the quality of statistical process and output. It is based on standard quality criteria such as relevance, accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability, and coherence.

10. Quality management

10.1. Quality assurance

GASTAT declares that it considers the following principles: impartiality, user orientated, quality of processes and output, effectiveness of statistical processes, reducing the workload for respondents.

Quality controls and validation of data are actions carried out throughout the process in different stages such as the data input and data collection and other final controls.

10.2. Quality assessment

GASTAT performs all statistical activities according to a national model (Generic Statistical Business Process Model - GSBPM). According to the GSBPM, the final phase of statistical activities is overall evaluation using information gathered in each phase or sub-process. This information is used to prepare the evaluation report which outlines all the quality issues related to the specific statistical activity and serves as input for improvement actions.



11. Relevance

11.1. User needs

Internal GASTAT's users, which make use of Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication data, include:

- Social Statistics.
 - Population, Gender and Diversity Statistics.
 - Living Conditions, Lifestyle and Justice Statistics.
 - Health and Education Statistics.

External users who make significant use of (Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication) data include, but is not limited to:

- The governmental entities.
- Regional and International Organizations.
- Research institutions.
- Media.
- Individuals.

The disseminated key variables that mostly used by key users:

Ministry of Education	Some survey variables and indicators
Ministry of Economy and Planning	Some survey variables and indicators
Education and Training Evaluation Commission	Some survey variables and indicators
Human Capability Development Program	Some survey variables and indicators
Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development	Some survey variables and indicators
Family Affairs Council	Some survey variables and indicators

11.2. User satisfaction

Not available.

11.3. Completeness



The **Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics** publication data are based on Survey data from:

- Child Health and Wellbeing Survey

Data are in a complete state.

12. Accuracy and reliability

12.1. Overall accuracy

- The data collected is improved through the researchers, that have been selected according to a set of practical and objective criteria and training program related to the field of work.
- The electronic data collection form of the Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication questionnaire includes.
- Alert, prevention rules and correction rules during the data collection process in order to improve data quality.
- Overall, the data is checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the data. The internal consistency of the data is checked before it is finalized.
- The links between variables are checked and coherence between different data series is confirmed.

13. Timeliness and punctuality

13.1. Timeliness

GASTAT uses the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) issued by the International Monetary Fund. According to this Standard, all statistics agencies are required to publish data on an annual basis, and with a delay of not more than one quarter (180 days) after the end of the reference period. If the data are from different source, they may be published in a different frequency.

13.2. Punctuality

Publication takes place in accordance with published release dates for



Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication in the GASTAT webpage. The data are available at the expected time, as scheduled the release calendar, if the publication delayed the reasons would be provided.

14. Coherence and comparability

14.1. Comparability - geographical

Data are fully comparable.

14.2. Comparability - over time

The Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication started in 2023, based on the Child Health and Wellbeing Survey as an annual survey, which is one of the new surveys implemented by the General Authority for Statistics.

14.3. Coherence- cross domain

Not applicable.

14.3.1. Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

14.3.2. Coherence- National Accounts

Not applicable.



14.4. Coherence - internal

Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication estimates for a given reference period have full internal coherence, as they are all based on the same corpus of microdata, and they are calculated using the same estimation methods.

15. Resources used

Description	Total
Total staff (GASTAT's staff, researchers)	852
Number of surveyed units	90,740
Total days of data collection period (end date - start date)	85
Average conducted interviewer per day (during data collection)	Not applicable

16. Data revision

16.1. Data revision - policy

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

16.2. Data revision - practice

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

17. Statistical processing

17.1. Source data



The publication of Early Childhood Development and Child health and Wellbeing Statistics 2023 relies on the data of the Child Health and Wellbeing Survey implemented by the General Authority for Statistics.

The disseminated key variables of survey data are:

- Sex.
- Nationality.
- Age groups.
- Administrative region.

17.2. Frequency of data collection

Annual.

17.3. Data collection

Data collection from Child Health and Wellbeing survey:

Data are collected from a sample of male and female individuals (Saudis and non-Saudis) under the age of 15 in Saudi Arabia through computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI), computer-assisted online interviews (CAWI) and computer-assisted interviews (CAPI).

17.4. Data validation

Data are reviewed and matched to ensure their accuracy and precision in a way that suits their nature with the aim of giving the presented statistics quality and accuracy.

The data of the publication's current year are compared with the data of the previous year to ensure their integrity and consistency in preparation for processing data and extracting and reviewing results.

In addition to the data processing and tabulation to check their accuracy, all the outputs are stored and uploaded to the database after being calculated by GASTAT to be reviewed and processed by specialists in Health and Education Statistics - social statistics through modern technologies and software designed for this purpose.



17.5. Data compilation

Data Coding:

In the Child Health and Wellbeing Survey, interviewers collect from respondents, a detailed description of each field. This information is then coded in-house by an automated process, which is reviewed by a small-dedicated team of coding experts using a series of consistency checks.

Data Editing:

Specialists of Health and Education Statistics - social statistics Department have processed and analyzed data in this stage, and this step was based on the following measures:

- Sort and arrange data in groups or different categories in a serial order.
- Summarize detailed data into main points or main data.
- Linking between many parts of data and make them connected.
- Process incomplete or missing data.
- Process illogical data.
- Converting data into statistically significant data.
- Organize, display and interpret data.

Extrapolation and weighting:

After processing the data collected from the responding individuals, survey weights were generated to produce indicator tables by following two main steps in creating survey weights:

- Adjustment of non-response.
- Calibration weight.

Applied statistical estimation:

GASTAT has relied on the formulas approved by the international standards in calculating Early Childhood Development and Child Wellbeing Statistics publication indicators, as follows:

- Early Childhood Development Index, calculated using the indicator methodology (4.2.1) of the fourth goal of the Sustainable Development Goals: the proportion of children aged 24 to 59 months who are on track in terms of growth in the areas of health, learning and psychosocial well-being, and by sex.

17.6. Adjustment

Not applicable, only final results will be published.

18. Comment

