Distr.
LIMITED

LC/CEA.13/8
24 November 2025

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

2500573[E]

Thirteenth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas
of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 25–27 November 2025

MANUAL ON THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA AND ITS INTEGRATION FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES RELATED TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS: SUMMARY

UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

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INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the importance of administrative data in the production of statistics pertaining to children and adolescents has gained increasing recognition. As governments strive to develop evidence-based policies that safeguard the rights and well-being of children and adolescents, administrative data have emerged as a vital resource. The ability of national statistical offices to harness and integrate these data across sectors is critical for informing public policies; monitoring progress on international goals, like those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; upholding the Convention on the Rights of the Child (United Nations, 1989); and ensuring that no child is left behind in the pursuit of equitable development. The purpose of the manual is to provide concrete guidance for the statistical use of child- and adolescent-related administrative data, with a specific focus on linking and integrating data. This summary was prepared by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, with the leadership and technical guidance of the National Institute of Statistics of Chile and the National Institute of Statistics of Uruguay in their capacity as co-chairs of the working group on child statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

I. FRAMING ADMINISTRATIVE DATA FOR CHILD-FOCUSED STATISTICS

A. THE VALUE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA FOR CHILD- AND ADOLESCENT-FOCUSED STATISTICS

Administrative data may be underutilized in statistical programmes owing to data quality or access concerns. However, when correctly approached, administrative data can provide detailed, timely and high-quality insights into children's and adolescents' experiences across life stages and domains. Their value increases further when combined with other data sources, enhancing the depth and reliability of analysis.

Common statistical uses of administrative data include direct tabulation and analysis, editing and imputation, indirect use in estimation, replacement of data collection, survey frames and data source evaluation. In addition to making these foundational contributions, administrative data can also yield meaningful insights for and about children and adolescents, including subpopulation analysis, gender analysis, rare event analysis and connecting context to outcomes. These analytical strengths are complemented by several practical benefits, such as efficiency, consistency and sustainability.

B. INTEGRATING A CHILD RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE INTO STATISTICS BASED ON ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Integrating a child rights perspective into statistics based on administrative data ensures that data not only monitor progress but also actively uphold children's and adolescents' dignity, inclusion and protection. This approach is informed by a conceptual framework and guidance developed by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Programme [UNICEF], 2019), which makes four key observations: (i) children interact with administrative data systems differently than adults; (ii) data governance must be fit for children; (iii) statistical output activities must focus on the areas of greatest impact for children; and (iv) children's data carry unique statistical challenges. It also provides six core recommendations and eight guiding considerations in understanding the role of administrative data producers and users in supporting evidence-informed decisions for and about children and, ultimately, reinforcing their rights.

C. DATA LINKAGE AND INTEGRATION: AN EMPHASIS ON CROSS-SECTORAL STATISTICS FOR AND ABOUT CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Addressing children's multidimensional needs requires data that cut across sectoral silos. Combining administrative data at the individual level from various sectors, such as education, health, social services and justice, can provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges that children and adolescents face. Three general models exist for the linkage and integration of administrative data for use in population statistics, each with distinct advantages and applications: (i) register-based statistical systems; (ii) linked analytical file environments; and (iii) one-to-one linked data sets. The UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) Link programme, which links household survey data on children to administrative data, is an example of a one-to-one linked data set (Hancioglu and Arnold, 2013).

D. MODELS GUIDING ADMINISTRATIVE DATA USE

The use of administrative data requires adherence to established models to assure high-quality statistics. Two models provide structured approaches in this regard: the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), which defines business processes for statistical production and can be flexibly applied to administrative data (Economic Commission for Europe [UNECE], 2014); and the Generic Statistical Registers Business Process Model (GSRBPM), which builds on this by focusing on register-based systems (Segui Stagno, 2017).

II. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ON CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS RELATED TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 2030 Agenda, grounded in the principle of leaving no one behind, contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 12 of which directly address the rights and well-being of children and adolescents. Five years out from the 2030 deadline, progress has been uneven. Many children continue to experience poverty, inequality and exclusion, despite gains in some areas of development (UNICEF, 2023). Strengthening administrative data systems can help to address these gaps. This section presents case studies illustrating practical approaches from Chile, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru, which provide regionally relevant lessons and strategies for broader application.

A. CASE STUDY I: MIGRATION STATISTICS IN CHILE, WITH A FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

The National Institute of Statistics of Chile is positioned to collaborate with State institutions to keep relevant administrative records for social statistics. Since 2018, it has partnered with the National Migration Service to produce intercensal estimates of the foreign population, complemented by a joint initiative with UNICEF focused specifically on children and adolescents (National Institute of Statistics and United Nations Children's Fund [INE and UNICEF], 2023). This collaboration has deepened analysis on migrant children while refining methodologies for integrating administrative and census data.

Historically, the Population and Housing Census was the main data source for the production of migration statistics. The 2017 census revealed a surge in immigration, with foreign residents accounting for 4.4% of the population, the highest share since 1907. Subsequent increases in residency permit applications demonstrated the limited ability of the census to capture rapid changes, underscoring the need for administrative data. Beginning in 2018, the National Institute of Statistics developed a methodology combining the 2017 census baseline with administrative records, which expanded in scope over time to include both regular and irregular migrants.

The 2023 estimates incorporated, for the first time, data from the Ministry of Education on foreign students with provisional identification numbers. This improvement enabled the inclusion of previously uncounted children, in particular those in irregular situations. The integration process combined micro-level linkage —using deterministic or mixed-match approaches, depending on identifier availability— with macro-level adjustments of census data by age, sex, nationality and region

Results showed that in 2023, 302,306 foreign residents in Chile were under 20 years old, representing 15.8% of the migrant population. The age group accounting for the largest share was 10–14 years (36%). Notably, 77.9% of the updated count of migrant children was derived directly from administrative records.

The Chilean experience offers several lessons: administrative data are invaluable for intercensal updates; inter-agency collaboration is essential; children can be studied as a subpopulation within larger statistical operations; linkage enables subnational disaggregation; and mapping all institutions that hold child data is critical.

B. CASE STUDY II: INTEGRATION OF VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEMS AND ESTIMATES OF UNDERREPORTING OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN BRAZIL, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON CHILD STATISTICS

The Brazilian experience demonstrates how integrating vital statistics systems can strengthen child rights monitoring and advance progress on the SDGs, in particular target 3.2 on reducing preventable child mortality and target 16.9 on legal identity for all. There are two main vital statistics systems in Brazil: the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) system, based on civil registry statistics, and the Live Birth and Mortality Information Systems of the Ministry of Health.

Beginning in 2017, IBGE initiated efforts to integrate these systems and develop model-based estimates at the national, state and municipal levels. Experimental variables on maternal demographics, birth characteristics, cause of death and geographical information were progressively refined and were formalized with the 2023 release of official figures. Integration followed a three-step methodology: deterministic matching of birth and death certificates; capture-recapture to estimate unobserved events; and the use of generalized linear models to adjust for source dependencies (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, 2025).

The integration achieved very high agreement, with more than 98% overlap for live births and 96% for deaths in 2023. Substantial improvements in completeness followed: underregistration of live births fell from 4.2% in 2015 to 1.0% in 2023, and undernotification dropped from 2.0% to 0.4%. Progress in the completeness of mortality data was smaller but still significant, with underregistration declining from 4.9% to 3.6% and undernotification declining from 2.3% to 1.1%. For child mortality, specifically, underregistration of deaths among children under the age of 1 decreased from 15.3% to 11.4% over the same period.

The Brazil case study highlights lessons for national statistical offices on integrating administrative data, emphasizing the need for robust legal frameworks, investment in infrastructure and training, and strong cross-sectoral coordination to ensure reliable vital records. It also underscores the value of international cooperation and the adoption of experimental approaches to test innovative methods and expand data use.

C. CASE STUDY III: THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF STATISTICAL RECORDS AND SURVEYS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS URUGUAY

The System of Integrated Statistical Registers and Surveys (SIREE) represents a comprehensive and modernized approach to statistical infrastructure, aligning with international best practices for register-based systems. Developed by the National Institute of Statistics of Uruguay, SIREE integrates administrative, survey and census data within a unified framework to strengthen the production of official statistics, including on children and adolescents.

SIREE is based on three fundamental pillars —people, processes and technology— and draws on Nordic register-based models (Segui Stagno, 2017). Its architecture features a central data warehouse supported by master data management, metadata standards and a conceptual framework informed by GSRBPM. Together, these elements ensure coherence, interoperability and methodological consistency.

From a functional perspective, SIREE links diverse sources, including administrative records, surveys and census data, creating an integrated system that can produce disaggregated, policy-relevant outputs. For children and adolescents, the population register incorporates administrative data from birth and education records, ensuring that this subpopulation is systematically included. SIREE also provides secure data access to internal and external users through a microdata library, facilitating research while safeguarding privacy.

A key milestone was reached in 2023 when Uruguay successfully carried out the region's first census combining administrative and direct collection methods. In this exercise, children under the age of 14 who were not directly enumerated were included through linkages between birth certificates and their mothers' census questionnaires. This innovative use of administrative identifiers ensured more complete coverage of children within households.

The Uruguayan case demonstrates how a register-based approach can create durable and adaptable statistical infrastructure, strengthening surveys and censuses. By incorporating administrative data on children and adolescents into population registers, national statistical offices ensure this group's visibility in official statistics, while secure inter-institutional sharing of microdata unlocks material for a range of research needs, enhancing utility.

D. CASE STUDY IV: THE PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT MONETARY WEALTH MAP CREATED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS OF PERU

The National Institute of Statistics and Informatics of Peru, under the guidance of the Advisory Committee for the Estimation of Poverty and with support from development banks and other institutions, carried out a monetary poverty mapping initiative at the provincial and district levels. The objective was to visually

represent the geographical distribution of poverty in smaller administrative areas to inform evidence-based policymaking and to optimize public resource allocation. Given that traditional national or regional aggregates often mask significant disparities, granular poverty maps allow policymakers to prioritize services in the poorest areas (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, 2020).

The methodology relied on small area estimation techniques, adapted from a World Bank micro-level estimation model. Small area estimation is particularly suitable for generating robust estimates where survey data samples are insufficient for smaller geographical units. The National Institute of Statistics and Informatics combined data from the 2017 and 2018 national household surveys, the 2017 National Population Census and more than 20 administrative databases. These administrative sources included the conditional cash transfer programme Together (Juntos), which is particularly relevant for child-focused statistics, as it targets households with at least one member who is pregnant or under the age of 17.

According to the results, 24 provinces have a poverty rate of 48.8% or higher; 50 fall within a range of 38.3%–48.7%; 45 range from 27.3% to 38.2%; 39 range from 16.0% to 27.2%; and 38 report a poverty rate below 16.0%.

The poverty mapping exercise demonstrates the effectiveness of combining survey, census and administrative data with advanced estimation methods to provide policymakers with actionable evidence. By enabling detailed geographical disaggregation, the initiative supports targeted measures, improves social programme design and strengthens the monitoring of child and household well-being.

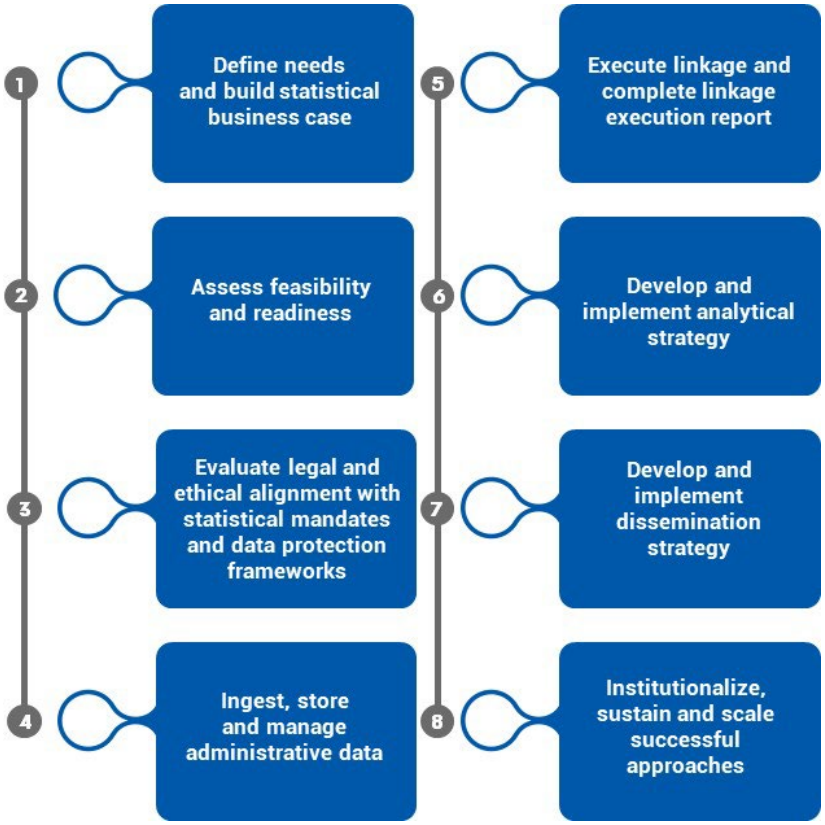
Peru's experience highlights the value of advanced methods like small area estimation for improved precision in poverty measurement and beyond, supported by strong legislation and institutional frameworks that enable administrative data-sharing. Child- and youth-focused records, such as those from cash transfer programmes, are particularly useful for ensuring children's due representation in statistical models.

III. ROAD MAP FOR THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA AND ITS INTEGRATION FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES RELATED TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

This road map outlines the main steps that national statistical offices can follow to responsibly access, integrate and use administrative data for official statistics pertaining to children and adolescents. Designed to be both practical and adaptable, it reflects international best practices, incorporates a child rights perspective and emphasizes the importance of planning, data governance, quality assurance and stakeholder collaboration throughout the process.

The road map is intended as a guide and a living document. It can be used to support administrative data initiatives at any stage and as a shared reference for modernizing data systems and promoting child rights and well-being through better statistics based on administrative data.

Diagram III.1
Road map for the use of administrative data and its integration for statistical purposes related to children and adolescents



Source: Prepared by the authors.

A. STEP 1. DEFINE NEEDS AND BUILD STATISTICAL BUSINESS CASE

Purpose

This section lays the foundation for incorporating administrative data into official statistics on children and adolescents. It emphasizes the importance of identifying statistical needs, addressing data gaps and aligning outputs with national and international priorities, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the SDGs. By clearly defining objectives and building a business case, national statistical offices can ensure that administrative data are used strategically and responsibly to support evidence-informed decisions for and about children and adolescents.

1. Identify statistical need and project scope

In official statistics, defining data needs is a critical first step in incorporating new data sources into statistical programmes. This typically involves: (i) identifying the demand for statistical products and the specific information needs; (ii) setting high-level objectives for the intended statistical outputs;

(iii) determining the relevant concepts and variables requiring data; (iv) assessing whether existing data collection efforts or methodologies can satisfy these needs; and (v) preparing a business case to secure approval for producing the statistics needed.

2. Align with national and international statistical priorities related to children and adolescents

The Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes specific rights for children and provides international standards and benchmarks for the fulfilment of child rights. National statistical offices play an important role in supporting the monitoring of child rights through the provision of official statistics for evidence-informed decision-making for and about children. While there is no minimum core set of indicators (or core set of administrative indicators) that national statistical offices are required to produce under the Convention, States parties are required to regularly report on its implementation with the support of reliable disaggregated data.

National and international priorities for statistics on children should also be informed by the SDGs, 12 of which directly relate to the rights and well-being of children and adolescents: Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 2 (Zero hunger), Goal 3 (Good health and well-being), Goal 4 (Quality education), Goal 5 (Gender equality), Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth), Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities), Goal 13 (Climate action), Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) (UNICEF, 2019).

In the broader context of monitoring child rights, no official minimum core set of indicators has been established; nonetheless, a set of commonly recognized domains and indicators provides a basis for countries to monitor child rights and well-being.

3. Develop business case

Once the answers to the questions in steps 1.1 and 1.2 are clear, a business case for leveraging administrative data can be articulated.

B. STEP 2. ASSESS FEASIBILITY AND READINESS

Purpose

This section focuses on evaluating the feasibility of using administrative data for statistical purposes. It guides national statistical offices in assessing the data quality and availability, technical infrastructure and human resources capacities necessary to manage and use administrative data. Special attention is given to the unique challenges of data linkage. These assessments are essential for determining whether administrative data can be transformed into robust, high-quality official statistics.

1. Assess administrative data quality

A significant challenge in using administrative data for statistical purposes is that, typically, the data were not originally collected with statistics in mind. National statistical offices do not control the collection and processing of these data; instead, these tasks are managed by the producers. Similarly, the units and variables within administrative data are defined by administrative needs, which may not align directly with the requirements of national statistical offices. Therefore, it is crucial to assess the quality of administrative data sets early on to ensure that they are fit for purpose.

2. Evaluate technical readiness

The technical environment is a foundational element of any administrative data statistical project; it must be robust enough to handle potentially large volumes of data, sophisticated enough to support linkage algorithms when necessary and secure enough to protect sensitive information. Key components of the technical environment for statistical production based on administrative data include secure data transfer and ingestion, processing power, data storage, software and linkage algorithms, data processing and standardization, and security.

3. Evaluate human resource readiness

Having skilled employees is essential for successful administrative data projects, as it demands a combination of expertise in data management, software tools, possible linkage methodologies and legislative and technical contexts. Personnel must be proficient in relevant methodologies and able to manage computing environments, secure data storage and privacy protections. In addition, employees should be well versed in data governance and legal requirements to ensure compliance. Effective collaboration among technical teams, data custodians and decision makers is key to delivering accurate and secure results.

4. Assess linkage feasibility

Interacting with personal identifiers is inherent to data linkage. Therefore, privacy in data linkage is fundamentally different from other statistical operations, where it is often defined as protecting the identity of individuals in a data set. In data linkage, the ultimate objective is to accurately identify unique individuals in one administrative data set so that they can be identified in another data set and their records can be linked at the individual level for the production of statistics. The feasibility of a linkage project depends largely on the quantity and quality of the available identifying information in the data sources to be linked.

Before initiating a linkage project, which may involve resource-intensive activities, such as developing data-sharing agreements and data acquisition procedures, it is important to assess whether a quality linkage is possible given the available identifiers and their associated discriminating power.

C. STEP 3. EVALUATE LEGAL AND ETHICAL ALIGNMENT WITH STATISTICAL MANDATES AND DATA PROTECTION FRAMEWORKS

Purpose

This section outlines the legal and governance foundations necessary for integrating administrative data into official statistics for and about children and adolescents. It emphasizes the importance of a coherent legal framework —combining statistical, privacy and sectoral laws— and the development of formal and informal engagement strategies with data providers, which are often other government departments. This section also highlights the need for strong data governance practices that support accountability, ethical use and the protection of children's sensitive information. Together, these elements ensure that administrative data initiatives are lawful, ethical and trusted and that they uphold child rights.

1. Determine legal framework and data provider engagement strategy

Administrative data can enhance decision-making for children and adolescents but must be governed responsibly to avoid harm. National statistical offices require strong legislative, governance and ethical frameworks to ensure that statistics are produced in a trustworthy, lawful and socially responsible manner.

A robust framework includes national statistical legislation explicitly covering access to administrative data at both aggregate and micro levels. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean was updated in 2023 to address secondary data sources (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean [ECLAC], 2023), and the Generic Law on Official Statistics for Latin America (ECLAC, 2020) mandates access to administrative records. Coherence with sector-specific laws, including personal data protection and transparency, is also essential.

Formal mechanisms, such as memorandums of understanding, clarify data use, confidentiality, transfer protocols and quality standards. Informal practices —building trust, demonstrating policy value and communicating ethical safeguards— are equally important. Together, these mechanisms strengthen collaboration and promote shared accountability for protecting child rights and well-being.

2. Confirm data governance approach

Strong data governance is essential for child and adolescent statistics based on administrative data. It establishes clear policies, standards and protocols for accessing, sharing and using data, reducing risks of breaches, misuse or inaccuracy while ensuring compliance with national laws and global standards. Governance also fosters transparency and accountability in partnerships with data providers. Given the sensitivity of children's data, additional ethical safeguards are required to protect vulnerable populations. In its conceptual framework and guidance for integrating a child rights perspective into statistics based on administrative data, UNICEF outlines strategic recommendations for national statistical offices, with child-focused governance as a core dimension (UNICEF, in press).

D. STEP 4. INGEST, STORE AND MANAGE ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Purpose

This step ensures that data integrity is maintained, that processing environments meet statistical and privacy standards and that administrative data are staged adequately for further transformation, possible linkage and analysis.

1. Secure data transfer and ingestion

As administrative data are often sourced from other government departments, secure and reliable data transfer and ingestion protocols are critical. These include protected file transfer requiring credentials, designated secure receipt areas and maintenance of records to confirm completeness. All procedures, covering security, receipt and verification, should be detailed in data-sharing agreements or memorandums of understanding to ensure reliability and accountability.

The Five Safes framework is internationally recognized for implementation within broader data governance systems. It provides a structured approach to balancing data utility and privacy (Desai et al., 2016) and consists of safe people, safe projects, safe settings, safe data and safe outputs.

E. STEP 5. CONDUCT LINKAGE AND COMPLETE LINKAGE EXECUTION REPORT

Purpose

This section outlines the execution of the record linkage process and the documentation of its results. It ensures that linkage is carried out in line with the defined methodology, maintaining transparency, replicability and quality. Preparing a linkage execution report helps to ensure accountability, facilitates review and informs the determination of whether the resulting data are suitable for use in analysis, dissemination and, ultimately, decision-making. Technical guidance is provided in annex 1 of the manual, containing a brief introduction to linkage methodologies and software, and annex 2, containing a methodological protocol for data linkage.

1. Develop methodological protocol for linkage

A methodological protocol will help to ensure linkage feasibility and quality. At a minimum, this protocol should include the following components: data source assessment, preprocessing and standardization of linkage variables, linkage strategy and linkage quality validation.

2. Conduct linkage and prepare linkage execution report

Once the methodological protocol for linkage is finalized, the linkage process can proceed according to the predefined steps and specifications. Conducting the linkage in accordance with the approved protocol ensures that the process is methodologically sound and replicable. Following the completion of the linkage process, it is considered best practice to prepare a linkage execution report.

F. STEP 6. DEVELOP AND EXECUTE ANALYTICAL STRATEGY

Purpose

This section outlines the core elements of creating an analytical plan —a critical step in transforming administrative data into meaningful, high-quality official statistics—, including how to confirm data suitability, define statistical outputs, apply appropriate analytical methods and perform quality assurance.

1. Develop analytical plan

An analytical plan is a step-by-step guide that explains how administrative data will be used to produce official statistics. It helps to ensure that the analysis is meaningful, high-quality and based on clearly defined methods. It also helps to avoid errors and ensures transparency. Contents of the analytical plan include: purpose of analysis, confirmation of data suitability, specification of statistical outputs, data set preparation (including special considerations for linked data sets), selection of analytical methods and quality assurance procedures.

2. Implement analytical plan and complete analysis summary report

Once the analytical plan is finalized, statistical analysis proceeds according to defined objectives, steps and methods. Following the plan ensures that outputs are sound, transparent and aligned with information needs. The completion of an analytical summary report, recording methods, deviations, data quality issues and interpretation notes, strengthens credibility, supports review and facilitates replication. This documentation also provides critical context for assessing whether statistics are fit for purpose and ready for dissemination.

G. STEP 7. DEVELOP AND EXECUTE DISSEMINATION STRATEGY

Purpose

This section outlines key elements of a dissemination strategy. Dissemination is not simply the publication of figures; it is an essential step in building trust, encouraging evidence-based decision-making for and about children and ensuring transparency in the use of child-related administrative data. A thoughtful dissemination strategy helps to ensure that statistics are not only technically sound but also socially meaningful, ethically communicated and used to advance child rights and well-being.

1. Develop dissemination strategy

A dissemination strategy should integrate a child rights perspective by defining target audiences, intended uses and, where appropriate, child-friendly formats. It must specify output formats, such as reports, dashboards and disaggregated tables, along with access levels, while applying disclosure controls to safeguard sensitive subpopulations, especially in linked data sets. Comprehensive metadata and explanatory notes are essential to ensure the accurate interpretation and responsible use of the statistics produced.

2. Implement dissemination strategy

During dissemination, final outputs should be checked for privacy, accuracy and clarity, shared through channels that are accessible for child-focused statistics users, and supported by communications and stakeholder engagement strategies to encourage responsible use and feedback. However, not all administrative data activities require a dissemination strategy; the development of survey frames, for example, does not.

H. STEP 8. INSTITUTIONALIZE, PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALE

Purpose

This section outlines how to institutionalize administrative data for child statistics, which requires long-term integration into legal, organizational and technical systems, supported by sustainable capacity, financing, partnerships and a child rights perspective.

1. Institutionalize practices

Key pathways to institutionalization include embedding practices in policies and procedures, integrating practices into national statistical plans, assigning institutional roles and establishing long-term governance.

2. Promote sustainability

To maintain momentum and secure long-term gains, national statistical offices should invest in capacity and infrastructure, secure sustainable financing, develop reusable tools and templates and embed a culture of data use into institutions.

3. Scale successful approaches

Scaling involves expanding successful practices in a systematic manner, including replicating proven models, considering applications in statistical registers, documenting and sharing lessons learned and advancing regional collaboration.

IV. CONCLUSION

The manual provides a comprehensive, practical road map for national statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean to harness the full potential of administrative data for producing high-quality statistics on children and adolescents. By integrating a child rights perspective, robust technical methods and governance safeguards, the manual highlights how administrative data can strengthen statistical systems, close data gaps and drive evidence-informed policymaking for children and adolescents.

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