

## Use measures, indicators or metrics

As part of an evaluation, it is often important to either develop or use existing indicators or measures of implementation and/or results.

Using an existing indicator or measure can have the advantage of producing robust data which can be compared to other studies, as long as it is appropriate.

Considerable work has been done to develop measures and indicators that can be used for the outcomes of development projects.

The terms “measure”, “metric” and indicator” are often used interchangeably and their definitions vary across different documents and organisations. Hence, it is always useful to check what these terms mean in specific contexts.

Terms that are commonly associated with measurements include:

- A **target** is the value of an indicator expected to be achieved at a specified point in time. Often a **benchmark** is used to mean the same thing.
- An **index** is a set of related indicators which intend to provide a means for meaningful and systematic comparisons of performance across programmes that are similar in content and/or have the same goals and objectives.
- A **standard** is a set of related indicators, benchmarks or indices which provide socially meaningful information regarding performance.

## Resources

### Advocacy

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Advocacy program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of advocacy programs.

### Education and Training

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Youth tutoring program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of youth tutoring programs.

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Youth mentoring program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of youth mentoring programs.

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Employment training/workforce development program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of Employment Training/Workforce Development Programs.

## Governance

- [Worldwide Governance Indicators](#)

Reports aggregate and individual governance indicators for over 200 countries and territories over the period 1996–2020. (World Bank)

- [The Ibrahim Index](#)

Provides a framework and tools that were developed in order to assess the delivery of public goods and services in Africa. (Mo Ibrahim Foundation)

- [Data.Gov Open data](#)

Allows users to interactively access and compare data for governance issues from around the world.

- [IADB: Numbers for development](#)

Explore a snapshot of key development indicators for a country related to its macroeconomic profile, global integration, and social outlook. (IADB)

## Health

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Health risk reduction program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of Health Risk Reduction Programs.

## Inequality

- [Policy impacts on inequality: Simple inequality measures](#)

This module from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) demonstrates a range of ways to measure inequality by using the statistical concepts of location, shape and variability.

## Poverty

- [Handbook on poverty and inequality](#)

This book from the World Bank provides a range of tools which allow the user to measure, describe, monitor, evaluate, and analyze poverty.

- [Multidimensional Poverty Index](#)

Aims to capture the multiple aspects that constitute poverty. (Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative)

## Welfare

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Transitional housing program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of Transitional Housing Programs.

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Prisoner re-entry program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of Prisoner Re-entry Programs.

- [Outcomes and performance indicators: Emergency shelter program](#)

This set of outcome indicators, developed by the Urban Institute, is aimed at supporting the development, monitoring and evaluation of Emergency Shelter Programs.

## Wellbeing

- [California county scorecard of children's well-being](#)

This website from Children Now provides an interactive display of statistics reporting on the wellbeing of children in California.

It uses 38 indicators to rank child well-being in each of California's 58 Counties.

## World peace

- [Global peace index](#)

The Global Peace Index, an initiative of Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), provides a ranking for each nation in regards to their peacefulness.