

Thematic Guide: Educational outcomes

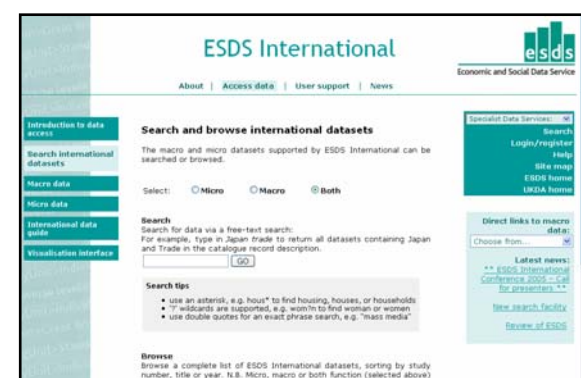
Central to development, education opens the door to economic and social prosperity by creating choices and opportunities for people, reducing poverty and disease and by producing a dynamic workforce of well-informed, empowered citizens able to compete and cooperate globally.

The theme of education is highlighted by one of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - **Achieve universal primary education** to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling. See www.developmentgoals.org/ for more information on the MDGs.

ESDS International hosts a number of datasets containing information on education including data on the three indicators intended to measure the progress towards the MDG goal.

This guide will provide advice on finding both macro and micro data sources on educational outcomes.

Advice on searching for related materials



The ESDS International catalogue can be searched for data on Education using subject terms such as:

- education
- "academic achievement"

Use the ESDS International focused search found at www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/datasearch.asp

Search across macro and micro international datasets or filter to narrow search.

Note: In order to access international macro data at ESDS International, you must be from a UK FE/HE institution.

Alternatively, the dataset descriptions of the international macro datasets www.esds.ac.uk/international/access/dataset_overview.asp provide a brief overview of the subject, geographic and temporal coverage of each of the datasets.

More comprehensive detail on the contents of each of the macro datasets is provided in the form of dataset specific user guides at www.esds.ac.uk/international/support/dataset_guides.asp

Further information on the contents of each of the micro datasets can be found in the Micro data section of the web site - www.esds.ac.uk/International/access/micro.asp

World Bank World Development Indicators	
Creator	The World Bank Group
Countries covered	Over 200 countries and 18 country groups
Subjects covered	The World Development Indicators contains statistical data on over 430 development indicators. Data includes social, economic, financial, natural resources, and environmental indicators.
Periodicity & time range	Annual time series data from 1960 - 2004
Citation information	Publications based on ESDS data collections should always acknowledge the data source with a citation in the reference section. The bibliographic citation for this database is: World Bank, World Development Indicators, ESDS International, University of Manchester
Further information	World_Development_Indicators_user_guide : for further information on the dataset Guide to accessing World Development Indicators via Beyond 20/20 WDS
Access data	**** Access World Bank data via Beyond 20/20 WDS ****

Cross-country comparability

UNESCO's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) is used to define levels of education and provides a framework for the compilation and presentation of national and international education statistics and indicators. It also provides a methodology that translates national educational programmes into an internationally comparable set of categories. The OECD also produces a Handbook for Internationally Comparative Education Statistics, which extends the UNESCO framework to include a wide range of educational concepts

www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=3813_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

Selected ESDS International datasets on educational outcomes:

International macro datasets:

World Bank World Development Indicators http://esds.mcc.ac.uk/wds_wb provides approximately 30 data series on education for over 200 countries and 18 country groups from 1960 onwards. Topics covered include: school enrolment, educational attainment, pupil-teacher ratio, completion rates, repetition rates and number of trained teachers in primary education.

UN Common Database http://esds.mcc.ac.uk/wds_un provides approximately 20 data series on education for 280 countries from 1970 onwards. Topics covered include; school enrolment, completion rates, literacy and illiteracy rates, educational attainment and government expenditure. The MDG indicators for education, i.e. Net enrolment ratio in primary education (UNESCO), Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 (UNESCO) and Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds (UNESCO) can be found in this database.

Eurostat New Cronos http://esds.mcc.ac.uk/wds_eurostat provides many data series on education covering not only European Union (EU) Member states but also many of the central European countries, Japan, the United States and the main economic partners of the EU. Topics covered include: educational attainment by sex, enrolment, personnel and income as well as data on adult learning, numbers of foreign students, students learning a foreign language, expenditure on education, expenditure on public and private institutions.

International micro datasets:

Each of the main ESDS International microdata surveys, including the Eurobarometers (EBs), European Social Survey (ESS), European Values Study (EVS), International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), and World Values Survey (WVS) collect socio-demographic information, including level of education. The ISSP also asks for information about the national population characteristics, using the census or other surveys/data-sources, including education of the population. The surveys are carried out in a range of countries worldwide. Some of the European surveys were carried out not only in Europe but also with neighbouring countries and beyond. The most recent WVS was carried out in over 60 countries, with high priority given to obtaining coverage of Islamic and African societies, which have rarely been included in cross-national survey research. Access the ESDS International microdata surveys at www.esds.ac.uk/International/access/micro.asp

Other resources on Education:

OECD Education at a Glance www.oecd.org/edu/eag2004 provides internationally comparable data on key aspects of education systems.

World Bank GenderStats <http://devdata.worldbank.org/genderstats/> a database of gender indicators including education statistics.

World Bank EdStats www1.worldbank.org/education/edstats/ the World Bank's database of education statistics.

UNESCO Institute for Statistics > Education www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=6100_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC

EuroDice www.eurydice.org/ - the information network on education in Europe

Global Education Statistics <http://gesdb.cdie.org/ged/index.html> - a repository of international education statistics compiled from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics and the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)

National Center for Education Statistics <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/international/> provides information on international comparisons in education.