



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Directorate E: Sectoral and Regional Statistics
Unit E-2: Environmental statistics and accounts; sustainable development

EU SDG Indicator set 2021

**Result of the review in preparation of
the 2021 edition of the EU SDG monitoring report**

Final version of 15/01/2021

1 Purpose of the document

The EU SDG indicator set, used to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an EU context, is open to annual reviews to incorporate indicators from new data sources and to take into account new EU policy priorities.

This paper describes the result of the review launched on 25 September 2020, in preparation of the 2021 edition of the EU SDG monitoring report (the “2021 review”). Annex 1 summarises the principles and selection criteria for the EU SDG indicators. Annex 2 shows the characteristics of the 2021 EU SDG indicator set. Annex 3 gives an annotated overview of the modifications in view of the 2021 EU SDG monitoring report, including indicators on the ‘on hold’ list.

2 Background

In 2017, the Commission developed a reference indicator framework to monitor the SDGs in an EU context, as requested by the Communication COM(2016) 739 final "Next steps for a sustainable European future"¹. The EU SDG indicator set serves as the basis for Eurostat’s annual monitoring report on progress towards the SDGs in an EU context (the “EU SDG monitoring report”)². The purpose of annual reviews of the indicator set is to provide for continuous policy relevance and to enhance the statistical quality of the indicator set.

The following principles, applied for previous reviews of the EU SDG indicator set, remain in effect:

- The key features of the EU SDG indicator set should be preserved, i.e. structured along the 17 SDGs, limited to 6 indicators per SDG and including multi-purpose indicators (MPIs) which are used to monitor more than one goal.
- The indicator set consists of at most 6 indicators per goal in order to attach equal importance to all goals and to allow a balanced measuring of progress across the social, economic, environmental and institutional dimensions of sustainability.
- As a consequence, new indicators will be added by removing indicators already included in the set within the same goal.
- Replacements of indicators should only be considered if leading to an improved measurement of progress towards the SDGs in an EU context, i.e. potential new indicators must be fully developed (“ready to use”) and should be more policy relevant and/or of better statistical quality than their predecessors.

¹ Available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52016DC0739&from=EN>. The Communication is accompanied by the Staff Working Document "[Key European action supporting the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)", which gives an overview of key European actions and policies in relation to the 17 SDGs.

² Data and metadata are available online in Eurostat’s database: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/main-tables>

- New indicators must be compliant with the selection criteria on policy relevance, admissibility requirements and quality grading used to define the EU SDG indicator set (see annex 1).

These principles are applied to ensure continuity of the EU SDG monitoring based on the most policy relevant and highest quality indicators available.

3 Process and outcome of the 2021 review

On 25 September 2020, Eurostat launched a consultation of policy DGs and Member States on the review of the EU SDG indicator set. A virtual meeting of the WG on SDG reporting was organised on 9 October 2020 to exchange views on the list of suggestions circulated by Eurostat and to inform Eurostat about on-going policy developments which might have an effect on SDG monitoring. By end of October 2020, 16 Commission Services³, the EEA and 9 Member States⁴, as well as the indicator sub-groups of the Employment and Social Protection Committees, gave input to the review; followed by bilateral and multilateral contacts between Eurostat and several DGs to clarify comments and agree on proposals, also in the light of the input received from other DGs and from Member States. Almost 100 civil society organisations were consulted as well.

3.1 Indicator modifications for EU SDG monitoring 2021

The following modifications of indicators are planned for the 2021 edition of the EU SDG monitoring report provided that final data will be available and published by 28 February 2021 at the latest⁵:

- SDG 3: New indicator “Healthy life years at birth” replacing sdg_03_10 “Life expectancy at birth”. The latter will still be used as contextual information.
- SDG 4:
 - New indicator “Share of people aged 20-24 with at least upper secondary qualification” replacing indicator 04_10, “Early leavers from education and training”.
 - New indicator “Share of adults aged 16-74 having at least basic digital skills” replacing indicator 04_50, “Employment rate of recent graduates”.
 - Updated definition for indicator 04_30, “Participation in early childhood education”: Now measures the % of children between 3 years old (instead of 4) and the starting age of compulsory education.
- SDG 9: New indicator “Air emission intensity from industry” replacing indicator 09_21, “Science and technology personnel”. It will be defined as emissions of

³ Feedback received from AGRI, CLIMA, DEFIS, DEVCO, EAC, ECFIN, EMPL, ENER, ENV, GROW, JRC, JUST, MOVE, RTD, SANTE and TRADE.

⁴ Feedback received from Estonia, Spain, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia.

⁵ Please note that if data do not become available in time and in the required quality, the change proposed cannot be implemented. Should this happen, the current indicator has to be kept and the new indicator put “on hold”.

particulate matter (PM 2.5) in NACE sector C, “manufacturing”, as indicated by the air emission accounts, divided by the gross value added contributed by that sector.

- SDG 14:
 - New indicator “Coastal eutrophication” added. No indicator needs to be removed, as there are currently only five indicators in goal 14.
 - Updated definition for indicator 14_10, “Surface of marine sites designated under NATURA 2000”: Share of total marine area (in terms of EEZ) will be offered as an additional unit.
- SDG 17: New indicator “Share of households with fibre connections”. No indicator needs to be removed, as there are currently only five indicators in goal 17.

For updated target values, see section 3.2. For other changes that do not directly affect the indicator set, such as additional breakdowns, new multi-purpose indicators or new ‘on hold’ indicators, see Annex 3.

3.2 List of policy targets for EU SDG monitoring 2021

light grey: Target not yet operational – definitions to be finalised.

SDG	Indicator	Target	By year	Reference	Comments
2	Area under organic farming	25 %	2030	Farm-to-fork strategy	
4	Share of people aged 20-24 with at least upper secondary qualification	90 %	2030	European Education Area	
	Tertiary educational attainment	50 %	2030	European Education Area	
	Participation in early childhood education	98 %	2030	European Education Area	
	Underachievement in reading, maths and science	< 15 %	2030	European Education Area	
	Share of adults having at least basic digital skills	70 %	2025	European Skills Agenda	
	<i>Adult participation in learning</i>	50 %	2025	<i>European Skills Agenda</i>	<i>Required data on participation during last year not yet available.</i>
7	Primary and final energy	-32.5 %	2030	Directive on Energy	Targets might be

	consumption			Efficiency (2018/2002/EU)	revised in 2021
	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	32 %	2030	Renewable Energy Directive (2018/2001/EU)	Targets might be revised in 2021
9	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D	3 %	2030	European Research Area	Provisional target year.
11	Road traffic deaths	-50 %	2020	COM(2010) 389	Base year 2010
		-50 %	2030	COM(2018) 293 final	Data for base year 2020 not yet available.
	Recycling rate of municipal waste	60 %	2030	Directive (EU) 2018/851	
12	Average CO2 emissions from new passenger cars	<= 95 g/km	2021	Regulation (EU) No 333/2014	
	<i>Circular material use rate</i>	<i>double</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>Circular Economy Action Plan</i>	<i>Requires agreed definition of target</i>
13	Net Greenhouse gas emissions	-55 %	2030	2030 Climate Target Plan	Legislative process on-going; target may be revised
14	<i>Surface of protected marine sites</i>	<i>30 %</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>Biodiversity strategy</i>	<i>Requires data on nationally protected areas</i>
15	<i>Surface of protected terrestrial sites</i>	<i>30 %</i>	<i>2030</i>	<i>Biodiversity strategy</i>	<i>Requires data on nationally protected areas</i>
17	Official development assistance	0.7 % of GNI	2030	European Consensus on Development	

3.3 Alignment with UN SDG indicator list and high-level scoreboards of EU policies

The EU SDG indicator set is aligned as far as appropriate with the UN list of global indicators, noting that the UN indicators are selected for global level reporting and are therefore not always relevant for the EU. The modifications for the EU SDG monitoring 2021 (see section 3.1), together with the 2020 UN comprehensive review (see Annex II of the [report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators](#) from March 2020) of the global indicator set increased the number of EU indicators aligned with the global set to 67 out of 102 indicators.

The EU SDG indicator set includes to the extent possible also indicators from high-level scoreboards of EU policies. However, major developments in the wake of the Green Deal and other policy initiatives are still ongoing. Therefore, several scoreboards will most likely be revised or created in 2021-22.

4 Preview on the 2021 edition of the EU SDG monitoring report

The revised EU SDG indicator set will be implemented on Eurostat's website together with the release of the 2021 EU SDG monitoring report. At the same date, the indicators agreed to be replaced will be removed from the EU SDG indicator set.

New features currently under consideration for the 2021 edition are:

- A short section on Covid-19 effects, using SDG indicators that are available at a higher frequency than annually
- An expanded coverage of spill-over effects
- Improving the presentation of the Member States overview graphs, including a digital version
- Including the gap indicators which were new in 2020 in the digital publication

Annex 1: Principles and selection criteria for EU SDG indicators

Key features of the EU SDG indicator set

The following principles are applied to frame the EU SDG indicator set:

- (1) The EU SDG indicator set is structured along the 17 SDGs and is balanced among the social, economic, environmental and institutional dimensions of sustainability as represented by the Agenda 2030's text for each goal.
- (2) The EU SDG indicator set consists of maximum 6 indicators per goal to attach equal importance to all goals and to limit the indicator set to around 100 different indicators, which is widely recognised as an upper limit for effective and harmonised reporting by experts from National Statistical Offices, OECD, Eurostat and many others⁶.
- (3) The EU SDG indicator set includes multi-purpose indicators (MPIs) which are used to monitor more than one goal. As a result, each goal is monitored through 6 to 11 indicators in total with the current set.

In order to respect the key elements of the framework and preserve the balance among the four dimensions of sustainability, new indicators will only be added by removing indicators already included in the set within the same goal.

Each selected indicator must be policy relevant, meet the admissible requirements and reach a minimum quality level according to the criteria set out below.

Requirements on policy relevance

To ensure policy relevance, indicators considered for the EU SDG indicator set should either

- be part of a high-level scoreboard of EU policies such as:
 - impact indicators for Strategic Plan 2020-2024
 - new key indicators sets (such as the CAP indicators)
 - Social Scoreboard for the European Pillar of Social Rights

or

- designed to monitor a policy or initiative as reported in the staff working document “Key European action supporting the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development” accompanying the communication on “Next steps for a sustainable European future” or new major policy initiatives such as those part of the European Green Deal.

Only for areas where no such indicators exist, other indicators are considered. All indicators should be aligned where appropriate with the UN list of global indicators.

⁶ See [Informal Note on Expert Group Meeting on the Indicator Framework for the Post-2015 Development Agenda](#), UNHQ, New York, 25-26 February 2015.

Furthermore, policy relevance implies that all selected indicators allow an unambiguous interpretation of the desired direction of change as set out in the relevant EU policies and initiatives.

Admissibility requirements

In addition to the policy relevance, indicators to be considered for the EU SDG indicator set must be produced and disseminated in line with the principles stipulated in the [Code of Practice of European statistics](#). In particular, they must meet the following requirements:

- I. Readiness of statistical production: indicators must have at least one data point ready to use and published by their producer.
- II. Sustainability of statistical production: regular data production must be ensured, preferably by an official mandate and by adequate human (including quality of staff) and financial resources.
- III. Sound methodology and procedures: indicators and their underlying data must be produced according to a well-founded methodology and procedures.
- IV. Accessibility and transparency: data on indicators must be accessible online and information on their data sources, methods of computation, etc. must be publicly available.
- V. Compliance: indicators must comply with international or EU standards where such standards exist (agreed methodology, definitions, classifications, standards and recommendations).

It is assumed that indicators provided by data producer with a strong commitment to quality, i.e. official statistics or other well established institutions having a quality policy and procedures in place to monitor and report on product quality, will fulfil the above requirements.

The admissibility requirements could only be relaxed in cases where there is a genuine lack of indicators that meet these criteria. In these cases, users will be informed as appropriate about the limitations of the affected indicators.

Requirements on data quality

To be considered for the EU SDG indicator set, indicators have to be classified at least at "low" level for each criterion as shown in the rating table below and have to attain a minimum average rating of 1.5 point. The average rating is calculated by dividing the total number of points by the number of applied criteria.

If a criterion does not apply to a proposed indicator, no weight is given for this criterion. In particular, this is the case for newly produced indicators for which only one data point is available yet and therefore the length of the time series and the comparability over time cannot be assessed.

If a criterion cannot be assessed due to a lack of information, the indicator is not considered for the EU SDG indicator set.

EUROSTAT QUALITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR EU SDG INDICATORS					
Quality concept	Rating			Only for selection purpose: not accepted (= 0 points)	Comments
	High (= 3 points)	Medium (= 2 points)	Low (= 1 point)		
Frequency of dissemination	Every year	Every 2 years	Every 3 years	More than 3 years or A-periodic or Not specified	Indicators based on models: applies to the statistical input data as the frequency of running the model is not decisive for rating.
Timeliness (T = reference year)	T+1 year	T+2 years	T+3 years	> T+3 years or Not specified	Indicators based on models: applies to the statistical input data as the time of running the model is not decisive for rating.
Reference area	All EU MS Data for all EU MS and EU aggregate available	> 75 % EU MS and EU-aggregate EU MS data represent at least 75% of EU total and EU aggregate available	50-75 % EU MS or no EU aggregate EU MS data represent 50 - 75% of EU total or EU aggregate not available	< 50 % EU MS or Only EU aggregate EU MS data represent less than 50% of EU total (and assumed that no EU aggregate available) or only EU aggregate but no EU MS data available	Rating based on coverage according to the most recent data points. Data on EFTA & candidate countries are also desirable. Rating does not apply to a limited number of indicators which do not refer to individual countries (e.g. "Ocean acidity").
Comparability - geographical	All EU MS Data comparable between all EU MS	> 75 % EU MS Data comparable between EU MS representing at least 75% of EU total	50-75 % EU MS Data comparable between EU MS representing 50 to 75% of EU total	< 50 % EU MS Data comparable between EU MS representing less than 50% of EU total	Rating based on comparability according to the most recent data points. Rating does not apply to a limited number of indicators which do not refer to individual countries (e.g. "Ocean acidity").
Time coverage (in years)	> 10 years	5 to 10 years	< 5 years	---	Rating based on years between first data point and most recent data point presenting EU-aggregates. Rating applies only to indicators with at least 2 data points.
Comparability - over time (number of data points)	> 4 data points	3 to 4 data points	< 3 data points	---	Rating based on number of data points from last methodological break. Rating applies only to indicators with at least 2 data points.

Annex 2: Main characteristics of the 2021 EU SDG indicator set

This table is based on the assumption that all required data will be available in time so that the modifications outlined in Annex 3 can be implemented in full.

			Selected indicators, of which			New Indicators	Indicators adjusted	Indicators on hold
	Total	MPs	Annual frequency	Provider Eurostat	In UN list			
1 Poverty	6	+ 4	6	6	6			3
2 Agriculture & nutrition	6	+ 3	5	3	1		1	1
3 Health	6	+ 5	5	5	3	1		2
4 Education	6		5	5	4	2	2	
5 Gender equality	6	+ 2	5	3	5			
6 Water	6	+ 1	4	2	5			2
7 Energy	6	+ 1	6	6	3			
8 Economy & labour	6	+ 3	6	6	3			1
9 Infrastructure & innovation	6	+ 3	6	5	5	1		1
10 Inequality	6	+ 5	6	6	4			
11 Cities	6	+ 4	5	4	4			2
12 Consumption & production	6	+ 1	5	5	2			2
13 Climate	6	+ 3	6		3			2
14 Oceans	6		6		5	1	1	
15 Ecosystems	6	+ 2	3	1	5			2
16 Institutions	6		6	3	5			
17 Global partnership	6		6	3	4	1		
Total	102	+ 37	91	63	67	6	4	17
Compared to 2020 version	+ 2	+ 1	+ 4	- 2	+ 2	---	---	---

The indicator set as presented in Eurostat's database includes breakdowns by gender, age groups, educational level, NUTS 2 region, degree of urbanisation, poverty status, disability and others as far as data are available⁷.

⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/indicators>

Annex 3: Review of the EU SDG indicators for 2021 monitoring report

The table below shows for each indicator further details, in particular:

- Frequency of data collection
- Geographical coverage
- Data provider

In addition to the indicators to be used in the 2021 monitoring report, the table also shows the ‘on hold’ indicators. Some of these indicators will however be used as contextual information.

The final publication of the 2021 EU SDG indicator set will be accompanied by an Excel table with additional details, such as the alignment with the UN indicator list and other scoreboards.

The Excel file will also be made available on Eurostat's sustainable development indicators website <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/overview> in January 2021.

Legend:

Red and bold text: Changes to the indicator set.

Red text: Changes which do not affect the indicator set, such as additional breakdowns, changes to the ‘on hold’ list, etc.

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere						
No modification of indicators for 2021 monitoring report, except one additional breakdown.						
01_10	mpi → 10	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion	Additional breakdown by age in order to monitor child poverty. Age group used will be 0-17. Additional breakdown by tenancy status (owner, renter) will be offered on the website.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_20	mpi → 10	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_30		Severely materially deprived people	No modification. Potentially to be replaced by indicator "Material and social deprivation rate (MSD)".	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_40		People living in households with very low work intensity	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_41	mpi → 8	In work at-risk-of-poverty rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_60	mpi → 11	Population living in households with poor housing conditions (such as leaking roof, damp walls or foundation, etc.)	No modification. Potentially to be replaced by Social Scoreboard indicator "Severe housing deprivation rate".	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
03_60		Self-reported unmet need for medical care	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
06_10		People living in households without basic sanitary facilities (such as bath, shower, indoor flushing toilet)	No modification. Potentially to be dropped from the set if Social Scoreboard indicator "Severe housing deprivation rate" is included under SDG 1.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_60		Population unable to keep home adequately warm	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
11_10		Overcrowding rate	No modification. Potentially to be dropped from the set if Social Scoreboard indicator "Severe housing deprivation rate" is included under SDG 1.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Material and social deprivation rate (MSD)	Indicator to consider as replacement of sdg_01_30 "Severely materially deprived people"	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
on hold		Severe housing deprivation rate	Social Scoreboard indicator to consider as replacement of sdg_01_60 "Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor". Composite indicator including also sdg_06_10 "Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household" and sdg_11_10 "Overcrowding rate" as calculation elements; hence these two indicators would become obsolete in the set.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
on hold		Extent of homelessness in the EU	Thematic placeholder – we are not aware of any ongoing indicator developments.			
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture						
New target for 02_40, "Area under organic farming" and slight modification of 02_60, "Ammonia emissions from agriculture".						
02_10	mpi → 3	Obesity rate	No modification.	More than 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
02_20		Agricultural factor income per annual work unit (AWU)	No modification.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat; DG AGRI
02_30		Government support to agricultural research and development	No modification.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
02_40		Area under organic farming	New target: Will be monitored against the 25 % target foreseen in the Farm-to-fork strategy.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
02_51		Harmonised risk indicator for pesticides (HRI1)	HRI1 is based on weighted sum of sales in four risk groups; to improve transparency, report will also show indexed sales by these risk groups.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	DG SANTE
02_60		Ammonia emissions from agriculture	Slight modification of definition to ensure alignment with CAP indicator C46. Indicator will now include emissions from manure and soil (NFR 3B1-4, 3D).	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
06_40		Nitrate in groundwater	No modification.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA
15_50		Estimated soil erosion by water	No modification.	a-periodic	EU aggregate & all MS	JRC
15_60		Common farmland bird index	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & some MS	European Bird Census Council
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Share of animal products in food supply	Defined as calories from animal products divided by total calories. New proposal based on FAO's Food Balance Sheets for the subtheme 'Nutrition'. It would reflect the aim of the Green Deal and Farm-to-Fork Strategy of creating healthy and sustainable food system. Additionally, the proposed indicator could potentially be connected to the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as livestock farming is a strong emitter. The proposal came quite late in the process and will benefit from additional discussion and refinement. We will reopen the discussion for the next review process.	Every year	EU aggregate & all MS; Plus UK	FAO
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages						
New indicator "Health life years at birth" replacing indicator 03_10, "Life expectancy at birth".						
03_10	-	Life expectancy at birth		every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!		Healthy life years at birth	Was always considered more relevant than life expectancy but breaks in the time series prevented a meaningful evaluation. Evaluation now possible using a shorter time series (4 years). Life expectancy will still be used as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
03_20		Share of people with good or very good perceived health	No modification	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
03_30		Smoking prevalence	No modification.	every 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS	DG SANTE
03_41		Standardised death rate due to tuberculosis, HIV and hepatitis	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
03_42		Standardised avoidable mortality	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
03_60	mpi → 1	Self-reported unmet need for medical care	No modification. Share of out of pocket payments in total health expenditure will be used as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
02_10		Obesity rate	No modification.	more than 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_60		People killed in accidents at work	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
11_20		Population living in households considering that they suffer from noise	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
11_40		People killed in road accidents Road traffic deaths	Indicator name changed to increase clarity.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	DG MOVE
11_50		Exposure to air pollution by particulate matter	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)	UN indicator 3.d.2, added in the UN 2020 review, covers AMR. The European Centre for Disease Control has data on the percentages of invasive isolates that are resistant against certain antibiotics and could also publish mortality rates per 100,000 and per Member State from 2021 onwards, if required. Either data could form the basis for an EU SDG indicator.			
on hold		Household out-of-pocket payments	Indicator could complement unmet needs indicator with objective data. Is on the Social Scoreboard. Limited time series available.			

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all						
Indicator set was revised to ensure coherence with European Education Area (EEA) targets for 2030. This includes updates of several target values, and replacement of indicator 04_10 “Early leavers from education and training”.						
Indicator “Share of adults aged 16-74 having at least basic digital skills” replacing indicator 04_50 “Employment rate of recent graduates”, which is not an EEA target.						
04_10	mpi → 5, 10	Early leavers from education and training		every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!	mpi → 5, 10	Share of people aged 20-24 with at least upper secondary qualification	This replaces indicator 04_10 to align with EEA targets. Will be assessed against target of 90 % to be reached by 2030.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_20	mpi → 5, 9	Tertiary educational attainment	New target: 50 % by 2030.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_30		Participation in early childhood education	New target and updated definition: 98 % of children between 3 years old and the starting age of compulsory education by 2030.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_40		Underachievement in reading, maths and science	No modification.	every 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	OECD
04_50	mpi → 5	Employment rate of recent graduates		every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!		Share of adults aged 16-74 having at least basic digital skills	Will be evaluated against target of 70 % by 2025 foreseen in the European Skills Agenda and the Digital Europe programme. Results from the International Computer and Information Literacy Study will be presented as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_60		Adult participation in learning	No modification. New target and definition taking into account the last year instead of the last four weeks to be implemented once data become available.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls						
Some modifications in the list of multipurpose indicators to reflect the changes in SDG 4.						
05_10		Physical and sexual violence to women	No modification.	a-periodic	EU aggregate & all MS	DG JUST; EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
05_20		Gender pay gap in unadjusted form	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
05_30		Gender employment gap	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
05_40	mpi → 8	Inactive population due to caring responsibilities	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
05_50		Seats held by women in national parliaments and governments	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EIGE
05_60		Positions held by women in senior management	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EIGE
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
04_40		Early leavers from education and training		every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!		Share of people aged 20-24 with at least upper secondary qualification	See change in SDG 4.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_20		Tertiary educational attainment	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_50		Employment rate of recent graduates	Indicator removed from SDG 4.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all						
No modification of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
06_10	mpi → 1	People living in households without basic sanitary facilities (such as bath, shower, indoor flushing toilet)	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
06_20	mpi → 11	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment	No modification.	every 2 years	No EU aggregate but many MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
06_30	mpi → 15	Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
06_40	mpi → 2; 15	Nitrate in groundwater	Coverage will be improved by adding a graph on the share of measuring stations above the 50mg/l threshold.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Comments	Frequency of data collection	Geo coverage	Data provider
06_50	mpi → 15	Phosphate in rivers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
06_60		Water exploitation index (WEI+)	No modification.	every 2 years	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA, Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
14_40		Inland water bathing sites with excellent water quality	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Ecological status of surface waters	Could improve and broaden coverage of SDG 6. The existing EEA indicator is only updated every six years and is therefore unsuitable for SDG monitoring.			
on hold		Extent of water related ecosystems	Could be based on Copernicus data. Unclear whether there is a clear desired trend.			
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all						
Updated the targets for indicators 07_10, "Primary & final energy consumption", and 07_40, "Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption", in line with the new "Energy Union 2030" targets.						
07_10		Primary & final energy consumption	New targets: 32.5 % by 2030, in line with "Energy Union 2030" targets. Note that these targets might be revised in 2021. Progress against 2020 targets will still be indicated as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_20		Final energy consumption in households per capita	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_30	mpi → 12	Energy productivity	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_40	mpi → 13	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	New target: 32 % by 2030, in line with "Energy Union 2030 targets". Note that these targets might be revised in 2021. Progress against 2020 targets will still be indicated as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_50		Energy import dependency	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
07_60	mpi → 1	Population unable to keep home adequately warm	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
13_20		Greenhouse gas emissions intensity of energy consumption	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA; Eurostat
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all						
No modification of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
08_10		Real GDP per capita	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_11		Investment share of GDP	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_20	mpi → 10	Young people neither in employment nor in education and training	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_30		Employment rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_40		Long-term unemployment rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_60	mpi → 3	People killed in accidents at work	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
01_41		In work at-risk-of-poverty rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
05_40		Inactive population due to caring responsibilities	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
12_20		Resource productivity and domestic material consumption (DMC)	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Precarious jobs	An indicator on the quality of jobs. The Social Scoreboard indicator on the share of involuntary temporary employees could be used.			
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation						
New indicator “Air emission intensity from industry” replacing indicator 09_21, “Science and technology personnel”. New MPI “Tertiary educational attainment”, to partially cover the lost information.						
New indicator “Share of electric vehicles” put on hold to be considered either here or in SDG 12.						
Provisionally updated the target year for indicator 09_10, “Gross domestic expenditure on R&D”.						
09_10	mpi → 2	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D	New target: Assessment against 3 % target will be retained, with a provisional target year of 2030.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
09_21	-	Science and technology personnel	New MPI (see below) will partially replace this.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
09_30		R&D personnel	Add breakdown by sex.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
09_40		Patent applications to the European Patent Office	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EPO
09_50	mpi → 11	Share of busses and trains in total passenger transport	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
09_60		Share of rail and inland waterways activity in total freight transport	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!		Air emission intensity from industry	Added in order to improve coverage of the sustainable industry subtheme, replacing indicator 09_21 “Science and technology personnel”. Important in the context of the “Zero pollution action plan”. The indicator will use PM2.5 emissions in NACE sector C, “manufacturing”, divided by gross value added in the same sector.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
12_30		Average CO2 emissions per km from new passenger cars	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
04_20		Tertiary educational attainment	New MPI to partially replace “Science and technology personnel”.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

new! (SDG 17)		Share of households with fibre connections	To cover target 17.6 of the UN agenda to “enhance...access to science, technology and innovation...”, could be based on OECD data, but further research is needed.			OECD
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold	mpi <- 12	Share of zero emission vehicles	See comments in goal 12.			
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries						
Citizenship gap indicator on early leavers from education was replaced in line with the change in SDG 4.						
10_10		Disparities in GDP per capita	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
10_20		Disparities in household income per capita	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
10_30		Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap	No modification	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
10_41		Income distribution	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
10_50		Income share of the bottom 40 % of the population	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
10_60		Asylum applications	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
01_10		Urban-rural gap for risk of poverty or social exclusion	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
01_20		Citizenship gap for risk of income poverty after social transfers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
04_10		Citizenship gap for early leavers from education and training	Indicator in SDG 4 discontinued.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!		Citizenship gap for people aged 20-24 with at least upper secondary qualification	Added to reflect change in SDG 4.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

08_20		Citizenship gap for young people neither in employment nor in education and training	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
08_30		Citizenship gap for employment rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable						
Minor modifications of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
11_10	mpi → 1	Overcrowding rate	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
11_20	mpi → 3	Population living in households suffering from noise	Noise exposure data from the EEA will be added as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
11_31		Settlement area per capita	No modification.	every 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS	Eurostat
11_40	mpi → 3	People killed in road accidents Road traffic deaths	Indicator name changed to increase clarity. New breakdown by type of road.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	DG MOVE
11_50	mpi → 3	Exposure to air pollution by particulate matter	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
11_60		Recycling rate of municipal waste	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
01_60		Population living in households with poor housing conditions (such as leaking roof, damp walls or foundation, etc.)	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
06_20		Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment	No modification.	every 2 years	No EU aggregate but many MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
09_50		Share of busses and trains in total passenger transport	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
16_20		Population reporting occurrence of crime, violence or vandalism in their area	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Share of population with access to public transport by service level	No data at MS level or EU aggregate can be expected in the short-term. As alternative, data such as consumer satisfaction with urban transport services (available every 2 years) coming from the Consumer Markets Scoreboard might be explored in view of future monitoring.			
on hold		Share of urban population without green urban areas in their neighbourhood	So far, a single data point 2012 related to cities is available. Eurostat investigates using Copernicus and Voluntary Geographical Information for the calculation of this indicator.			
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns						
Minor modifications of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
12_10		Consumption of toxic chemicals	No modification.	every year	Only EU aggregate; no MS data	Eurostat
12_20	mpi → 8	Resource productivity and domestic material consumption (DMC)	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
12_30	mpi → 9; 13	Average CO2 emissions from new passenger cars	No modification, but report will also show (1) the CO2 emissions of ALL passenger cars and (2) the share of zero emission passenger cars (see on hold suggestion) as contextual information.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
12_41		Circular material use rate	No modification. Could potentially be assessed against the target of doubling the rate laid out in the Circular Economy Action Plan, but this requires an agreed definition of that target.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	Eurostat
12_50		Generation of waste excluding major mineral wastes	No modification.	every 2 years	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
12_61		Gross value added in the environmental goods and services sector	Will be changed to an index-based presentation and contrasted with overall GDP growth to clearly show increased weight of this sector.	Every year	EU aggregate & most MS, plus UK, CH	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
07_30		Energy productivity	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat

On hold indicators:						
on hold		Share of zero emission vehicles	Could be used to complement or replace existing indicator 12_30 on CO2 emissions from new passenger cars. Would also be relevant in goal 9. Relevant both from the production side ("green industry") and from the consumption side (less air pollution, noise, etc.). Potential data sources EAFO and/or ACEA. Will already be used as contextual information within the scope of SDGs 9 and 12 in the 2021 MR.			
on hold		Food waste	Currently, modelling estimates at EU-level are available. To consider as new topic once indicator is fully developed and data becomes available (also potential multipurpose indicator for SDG 2). Will be mentioned as contextual information for indicator 12_50 in the 2021 report.			
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts						
New target for indicator 13_10, "Greenhouse gas emissions".						
13_10		Greenhouse gas emissions	New target of 55 % reduction in line with 2030 Climate Target Plan. The target value may be revised depending on the outcome of the legislative process.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA
13_20	mpi → 7	Greenhouse gas emissions intensity of energy consumption	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	EEA; Eurostat
13_30		Mean near-surface temperature deviation	No modification.	every year	Not applicable	EEA
13_40		Climate-related economic losses	No modifications.	every year	Only EU aggregate, no MS data	EEA
13_50		Contribution to the international 100bn USD commitment on climate related expenditure	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	DG CLIMA; EIONet
13_60		Population covered by the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy signatories	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	JRC

<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
07_40		Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
12_30		Average CO2 emissions per km from new passenger cars	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
14_50		Global mean ocean acidity	No modification.	every year	Not applicable	Mercator Ocean
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Green spending / Green investment	Thematic placeholder for a potential future indicator, e.g. an indicator based on the forthcoming EU taxonomy for environmentally sustainable activities. When mature, this could replace 13_50.			
on hold		Carbon sinks	Thematic placeholder for a potential future indicator. Carbon sinks will be relevant contribution to reach the 55 % (or 60 %) target. Could be based on Copernicus data or on the LULUCF inventory item of GHG emissions reporting to the UNFCCC.			
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development						
New indicator on "Coastal eutrophication".						
New unit for indicator 14_10, "Surface of marine sites designated under NATURA 2000".						
14_10		Surface of marine sites designated under NATURA 2000	Additional unit: NATURA 2000 sites as a share of total area of the exclusive economic zones.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	DG ENV
14_21		Estimated trends in fish stock biomass	No modification.	every year	No EU aggregate; for MS not applicable	JRC (STECF)
14_30		Assessed fish stocks exceeding fishing mortality at maximum sustainable yield (Fmsy)	No modification.	every year	No EU aggregate; for MS not applicable	JRC (STECF)
14_40	mpi → 6	Coastal bathing sites with excellent water quality	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
14_50	mpi → 13	Global mean ocean acidity	No modification.	every year	Not applicable	Mercator Ocean
new!		Coastal eutrophication	Chlorophyll-a deviations from Copernicus data as proxy. Definition similar to UN indicator 14.1.1.a.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Mercator Ocean
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss						
No modifications of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
15_10		Share of forest area	No modification.	every 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS	Eurostat

15_20		Surface of terrestrial sites designated under NATURA 2000	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA / DG ENV
15_41		Soil sealing index	No modification. However, methodological changes in the source data might lead to shorter time series or changes in indicator definition.	every 3 years	EU aggregate & all MS	EEA
15_50	mpi → 2	Estimated soil erosion by water	No modification.	a-periodic	EU aggregate & all MS	JRC
15_60	mpi → 2	Common bird index	No modification.	every year	Only EU aggregate, no MS data	European Bird Census Council
15_61	mpi → 2	Grassland butterfly index	No modification.	every year	Only EU aggregate, no MS data	EEA (Butterfly Conservation Europe)
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>						
06_30		Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
06_50		Phosphate in rivers	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & most MS; plus other countries	EEA
<i>On hold indicators:</i>						
on hold		Species and/or habitats of European interest (SEBI003 & CSI057/SEBI005)				
on hold		Topsoil organic carbon content	Thematic placeholder to complement monitoring of land degradation. Alternative proposals could be– e.g. indicators from Copernicus land monitoring service (CLMS)			
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels						
No modifications of indicators for 2021 monitoring report.						
16_10		Standardised death rate due to homicide	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
16_20	mpi → 11	Population reporting crime, violence or vandalism in their area	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
16_30		General government total expenditure on law courts	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
16_40		Perceived independence of the justice system: very or fairly good	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	DG COMM

16_50		Corruption Perceptions Index	No modification.	every year	No EU aggregate, but all MS; plus other countries	Transparency International
16_60		Population with confidence in EU institutions	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	DG COMM
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development						
New indicator "Share of households with fibre connections".						
New breakdown for indicator 17_10, "Official development assistance".						
17_10		Official development assistance	New breakdown by recipient country group in line with indicator 17_20. ODA to least developed countries to feature separately in a graph in the 2021 MR.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	OECD (DAC)
17_20		EU financing to developing countries	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	OECD (DAC)
17_30		EU imports from developing countries	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	Eurostat
17_40		General government gross debt	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS	Eurostat
17_50		Shares of environmental taxes in total tax revenues	No modification.	every year	EU aggregate & all MS; plus other countries	Eurostat
new!	mpi → 9	Share of households with fibre connections	To cover target 17.6 of the UN agenda to "enhance...access to science, technology and innovation...", could be based on OECD data, but further research is needed.			OECD