

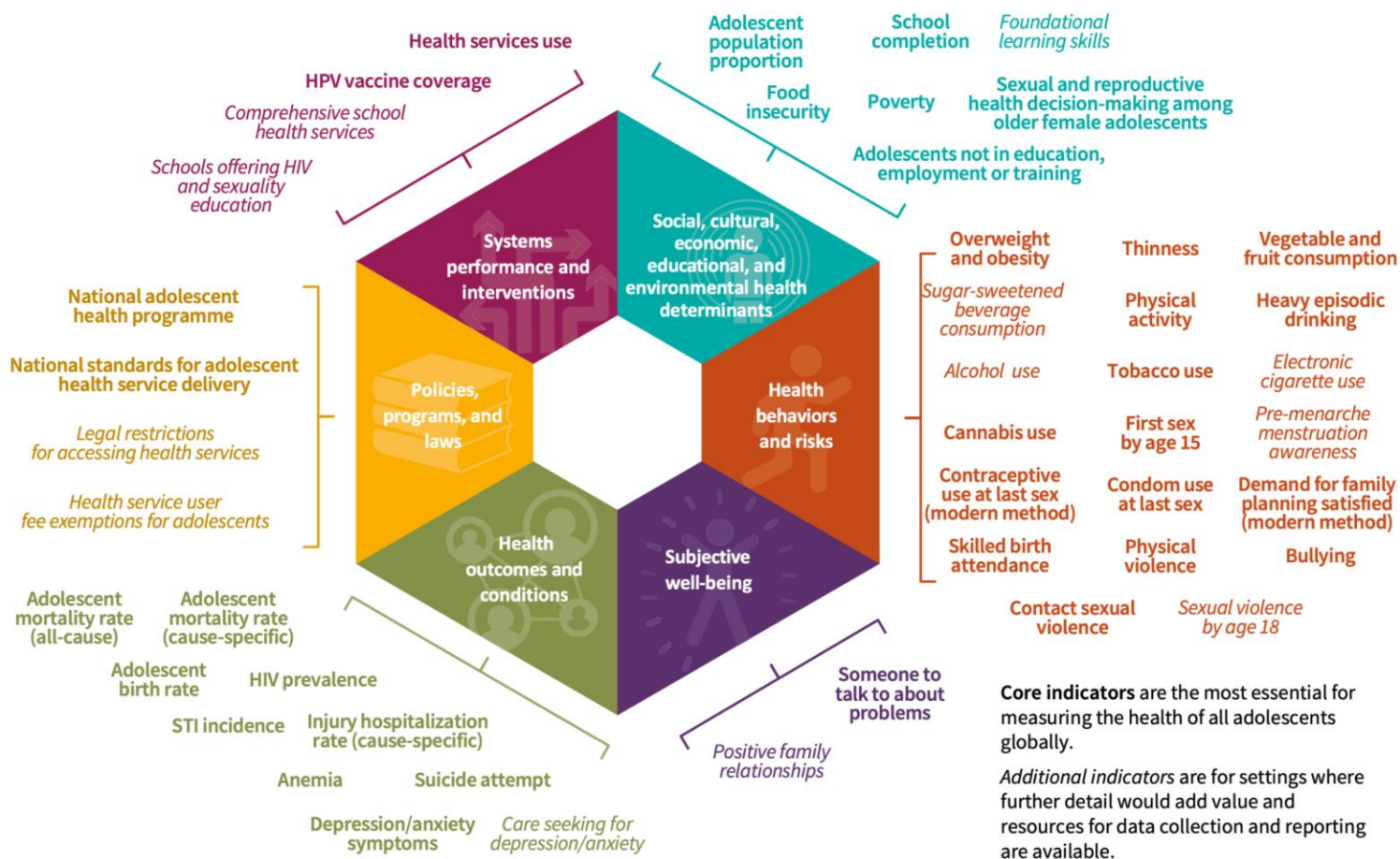
# GLOBAL MEASUREMENT UPDATE

## Adolescent Health Indicators

### WHAT ARE THE INDICATORS?

To improve adolescent health measurement globally, the World Health Organization (WHO)—in collaboration with UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, the World Bank Group, and the World Food Programme—has established the [Global Action for Measurement of Adolescent Health \(GAMA\) Advisory Group](#). GAMA has undertaken a five-year structured and participatory process to select a set of 47 indicators recommended for global, regional, and national adolescent health measurement. Figure 1 shows the indicators organized into six domains reflecting the multisectoral approach needed to address and monitor progress for adolescent health. The 47 indicators help illustrate a comprehensive picture of adolescent health and provide a foundation for identifying priorities for action, allocating adequate resources, monitoring and evaluating programs, and advocating for this critical population.

**Figure 1. Recommended Adolescent Health Indicators**



## WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE INDICATORS?

The health of adolescents aged 10–19 years is important because it significantly influences their development and well-being, setting the foundation for a healthy adulthood. Healthy adolescents are better equipped to form positive social connections and contribute to society. Investing in adolescent health ensures young people can reach their full potential, benefiting both current and future generations.

Strong and consistent measurement is important when designing, building, and monitoring adolescent health programs. National and subnational stakeholders benefit from strengthened adolescent health measures since improved data can be used to better determine priority programs and resource allocation and dispel myths and misconceptions around adolescent health and well-being. Global stakeholders also benefit from consistent and harmonized data to guide global actions toward improving adolescent health and tracking progress across the globe.

## WHO SHOULD USE THE INDICATORS AND HOW?

Almost all countries have existing data for many of the 47 GAMA-recommended adolescent health indicators. The starting point for implementation is understanding what data are already available at the country level and where gaps exist. This can be completed with support from WHO and its partners to:

1. Identify all relevant data sources and their coverage of adolescents by sex, age, and subpopulation.
2. Populate the available data for the corresponding adolescent health indicators.
3. Use the available data to prioritize actions to improve adolescent health.
4. Determine data gaps and take steps to fill them.

The [Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents \(AA-HA!\)](#) provides the evidence-based foundation for using the data to systematically plan and implement adolescent health and well-being programs.

**Ministries of Health and program implementers** can use the indicators to make informed decisions. Likewise, **health program evaluators and researchers** can implement these indicators in studies assessing intervention effectiveness and impact.

This fact sheet was prepared in collaboration with the [WHO GAMA Secretariat](#).

### RESOURCES



Provides description, rationale, and measurement details for each indicator



Searchable database for the indicators



Describes methods and results of the indicator selection

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