



Addressing the Health SDGs

The Challenge of Disaggregation

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Locating those furthest behind



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for leaving no one behind, and *servicing first those furthest behind*, and includes an overarching principle of data disaggregation for the SDG indicators:

*“Sustainable Development Goal Indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by **income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics**, in accordance with the Fundamental Principle of Official Statistics (General Assembly resolution 68/261).”*

SDG 17 – Disaggregating Data to Locate the Vulnerable



Target 17.18: *By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data **disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts***

Indicator 17.18.1: *Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with full disaggregation....*

Gaps for Disaggregating SDG 3



At global level many SDG 3 indicators are based on model-based estimation – with limited disaggregation – e.g.

3.1.1 maternal mortality ratio / 3.2.1 under-five mortality rate

- Household surveys (DHS/MICS) valuable because they combine many health indicators AND strata for disaggregation (wealth, sex, age, race, ethnicity)
- **AGE** range is limited
- Sample sizes often **limited to state/provincial level**

Availability of disaggregation levels by source for select SDG 3 indicators



Indicator/Data source	Census	Household surveys	CRVS
3.7.1 Demand satisfied with modern methods	Not available	Demographic, SES, <i>higher</i> geographic location	Not applicable
3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate	Demographic, SES, <i>lower</i> levels of geographic location	Demographic, SES, <i>higher</i> geographic location	Geographic location (for numerator)

Notes: Demographic refers to disaggregation by sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, or disability. Availability of demographic disaggregation depends on the country and data source.

SDGs and Data Disaggregation (continued)



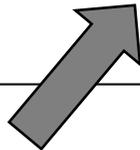
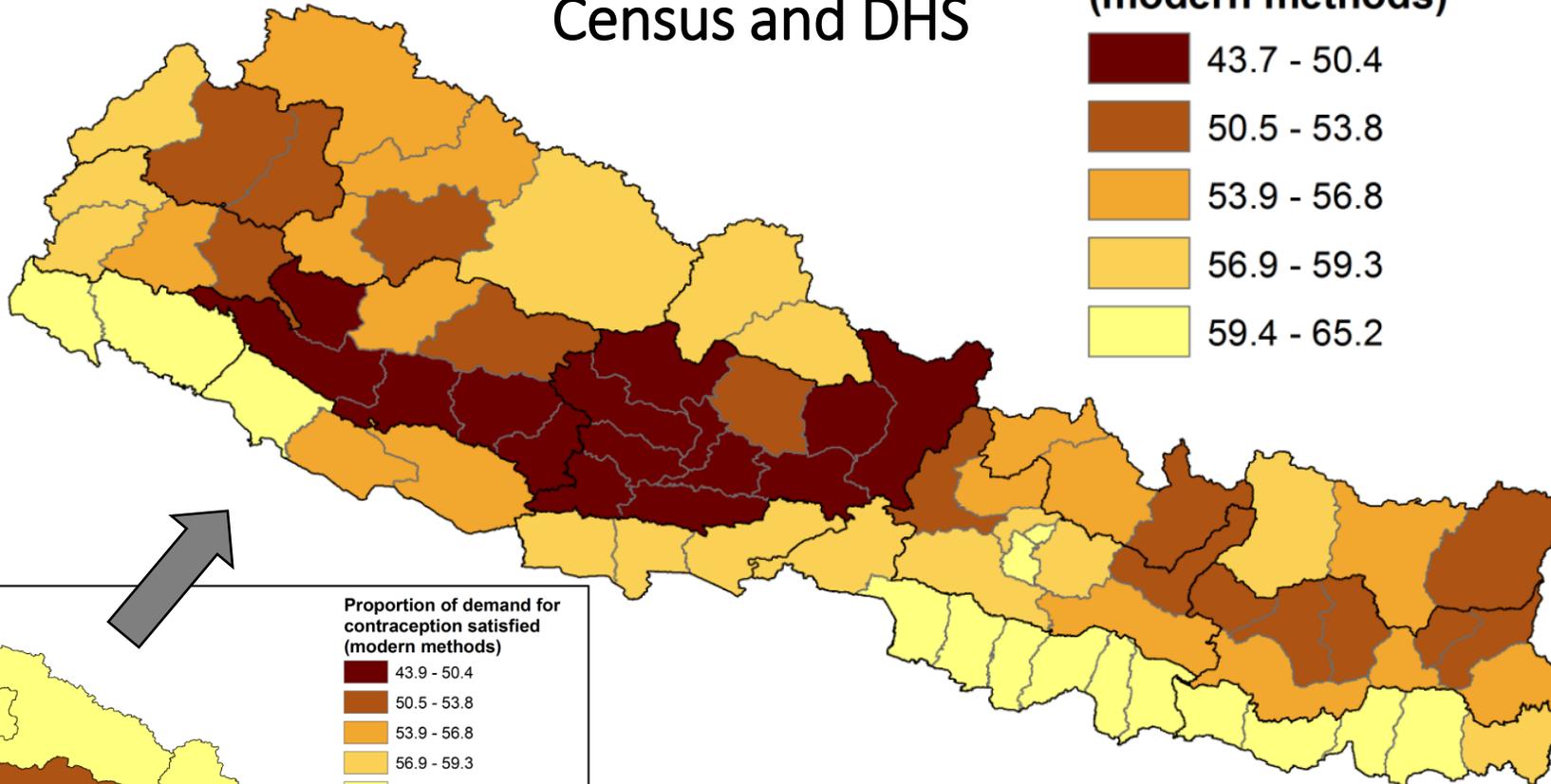
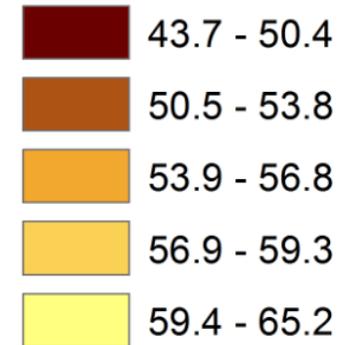
- Even for indicators with good data availability like 3.7.1, disaggregation by race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and lower geographic very challenging
- Overall, disaggregation by **migratory status, disability and lower geographic level** remain the most challenging for the majority of SDG indicators, including health SDGs

Methodological work: small area estimation

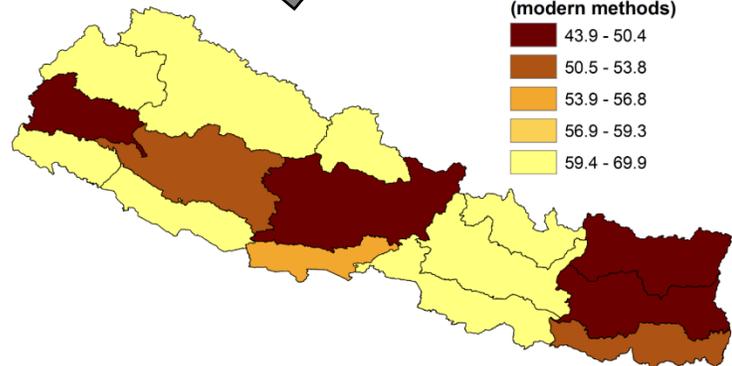
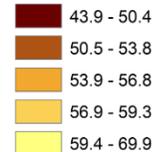


Estimation using
Census and DHS

Proportion of demand for
contraception satisfied
(modern methods)



Proportion of demand for
contraception satisfied
(modern methods)



Combining
Census and
DHS for lower
geographical
level

Example:
Nepal family
planning
indicators
using SAE

Use of Census: Disaggregation by disability

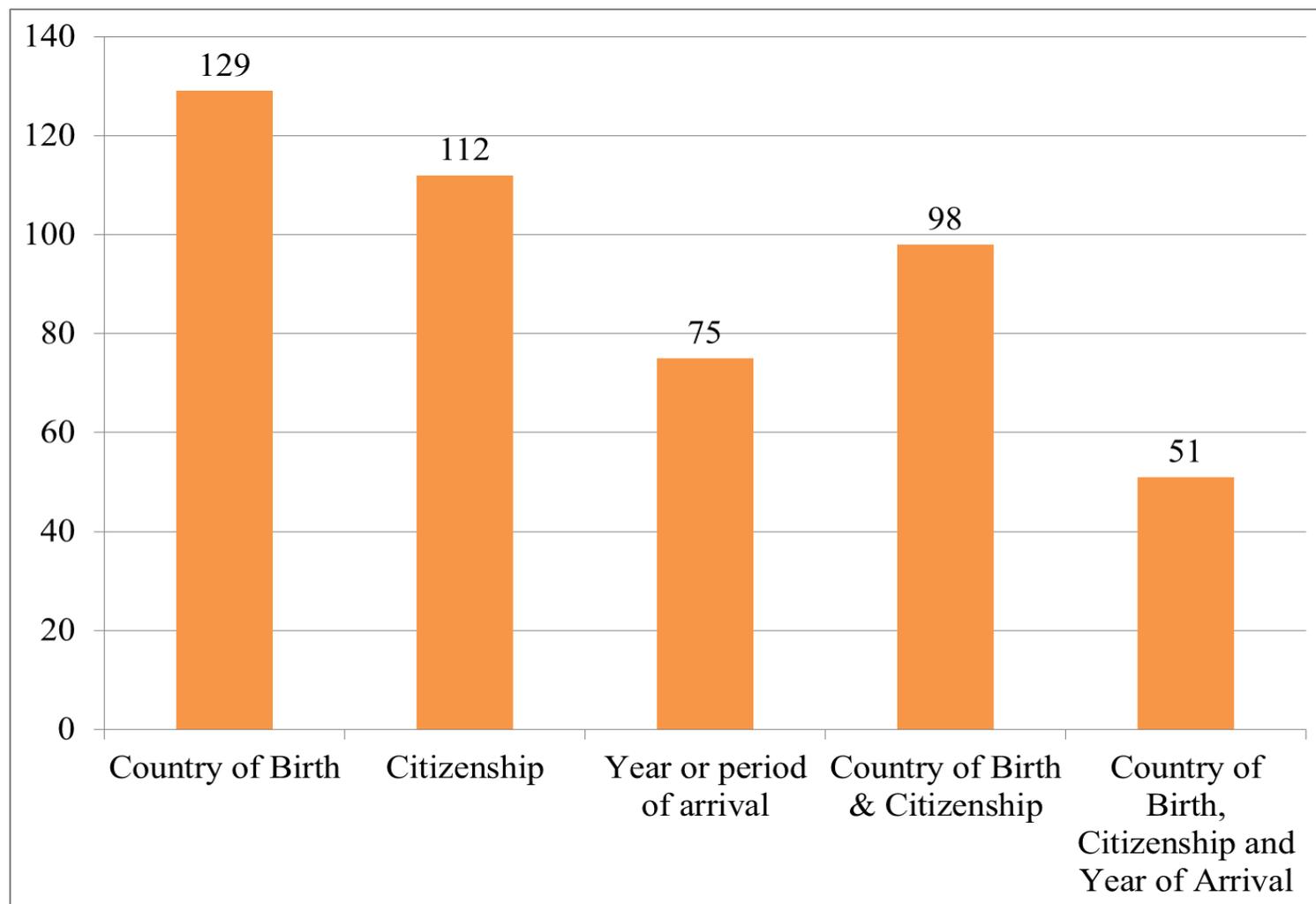


Washington Group Questions recommended for census by UNSD

- 1. Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?*
- 2. Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?*
- 3. Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?*
- 4. Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?*
- 5. Do you have difficulty (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?*
- 6. Using your usual (customary) language, do you have difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood?*

Not easily linked to health data – But can inform targeted surveys

Use of Census: disaggregation by migratory status



Summary of the availability of migration questions in national censuses

Source: UNFPA (2016)

Can inform targeted surveys – and modeling

Priority issues



- **Household surveys:**
 - Dedicated surveys for different **age** group
 - Systematically include questions on **race and ethnicity**
 - **Targeted Surveys** (informed by census data)
- **Census:**
 - Systematically include questions on **migratory status** and **disability**.....for targeted surveys, modeling
- **Integrate surveys and census for small area estimation, modeling**
- ***Vastly improve national registry-based data***

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