

Data and information for action and accountability

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Monitoring child health and wellbeing in the SDG era

- More comprehensive view of health and development
- Data needs for children are larger: including education and protection indicators
- Reporting requires collation of diverse data sources beyond the health system and multiple levels of disaggregation



Understanding SDG monitoring for children

- Review of indicators and meta data from the UN Statistical Commission, UNICEF and other SDG databases.
- Understand gaps in information on 47 child-related SDG indicators
- Categorized countries according to data availability on child-related SDG indicators (reporting since 2015)

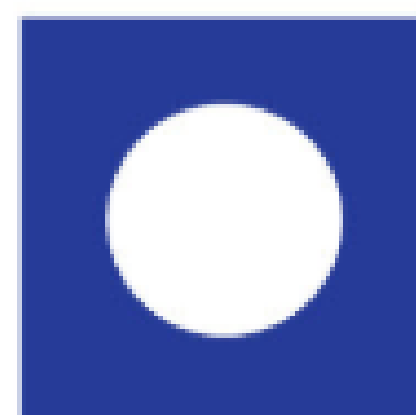
Unicef classification of child related indicators



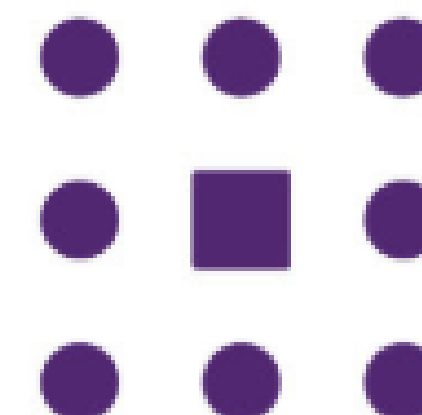
survive+thrive



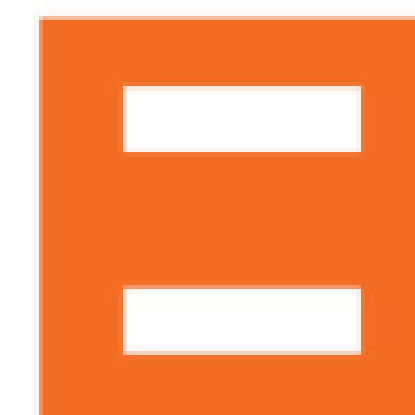
learning



protection



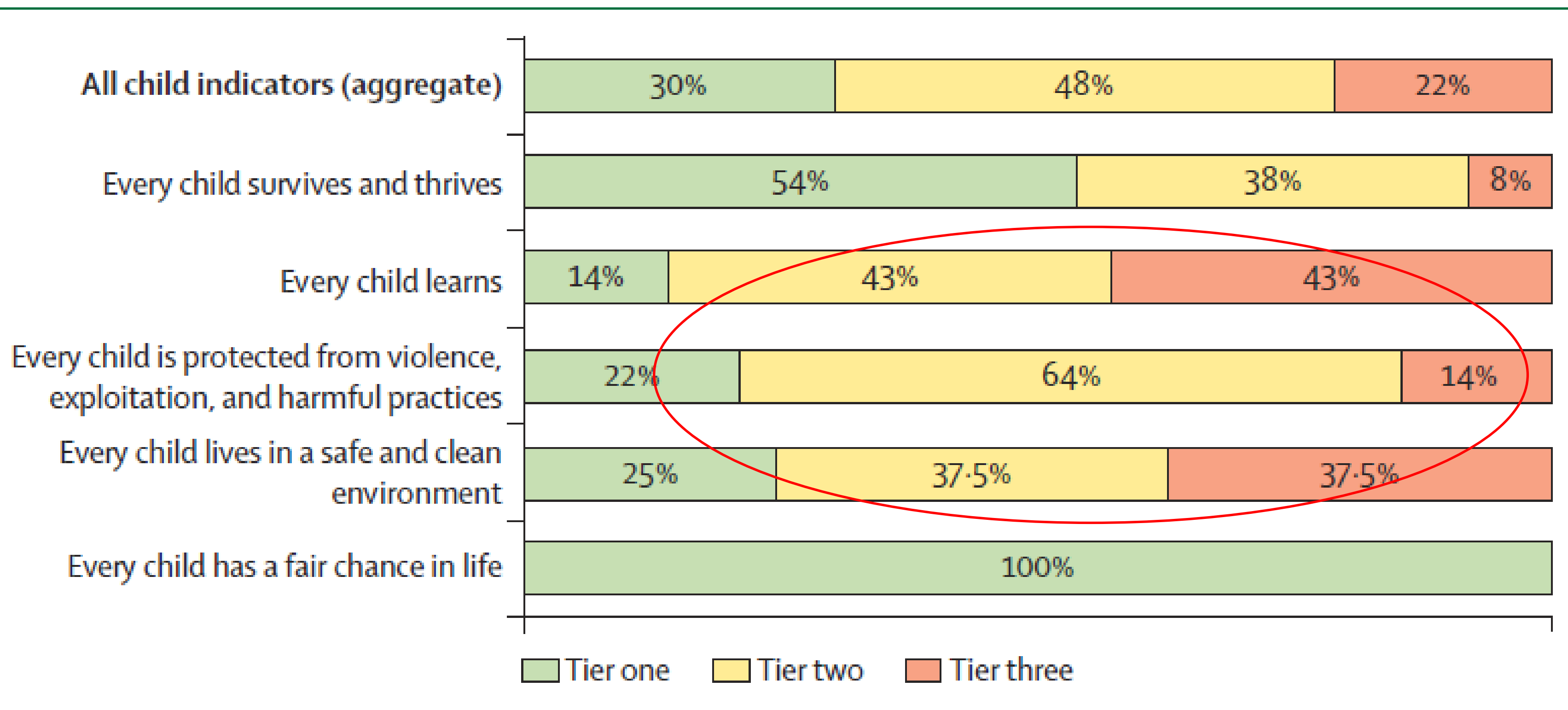
environment



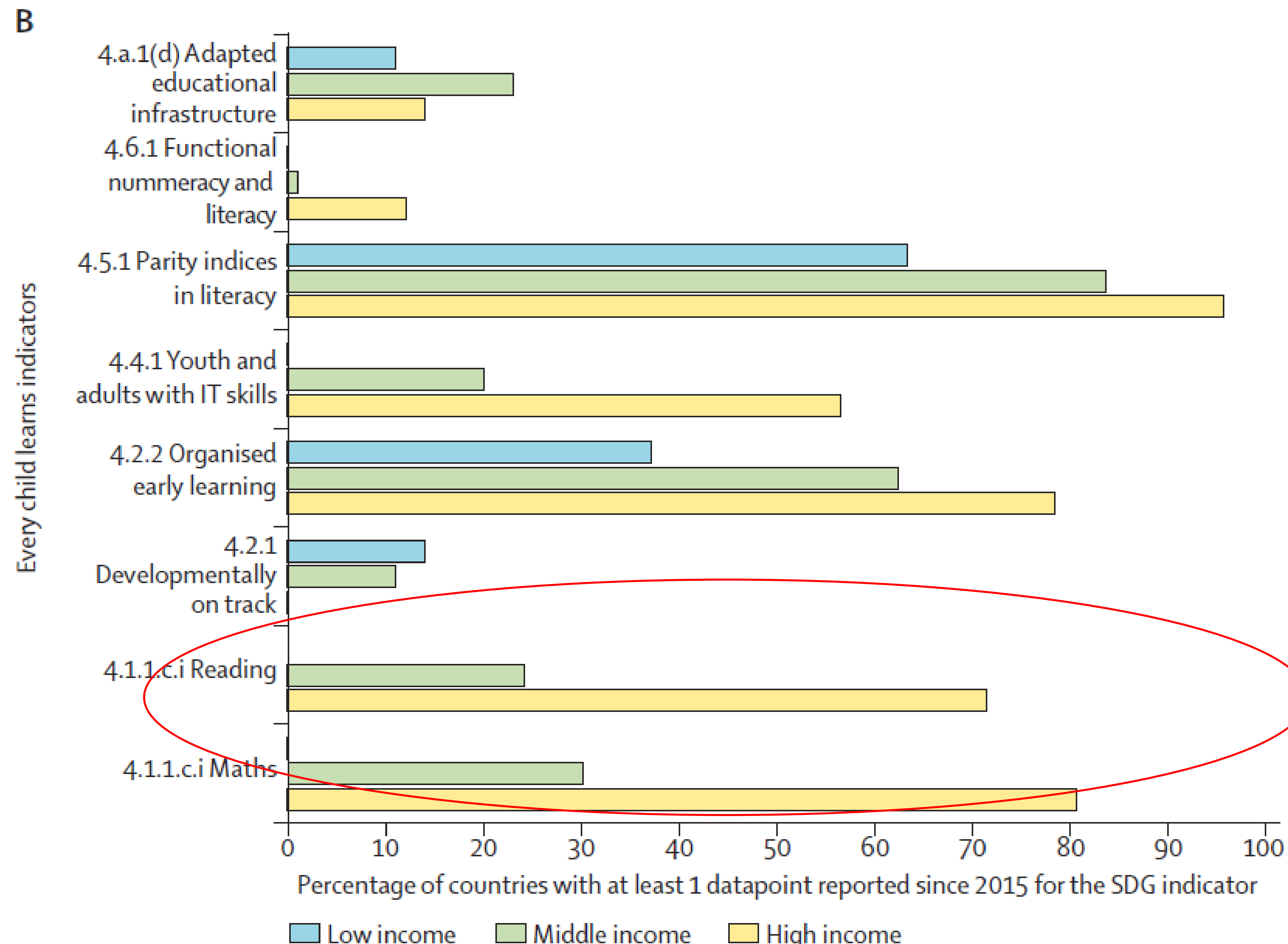
fair chance

SDG indicators relevant to children

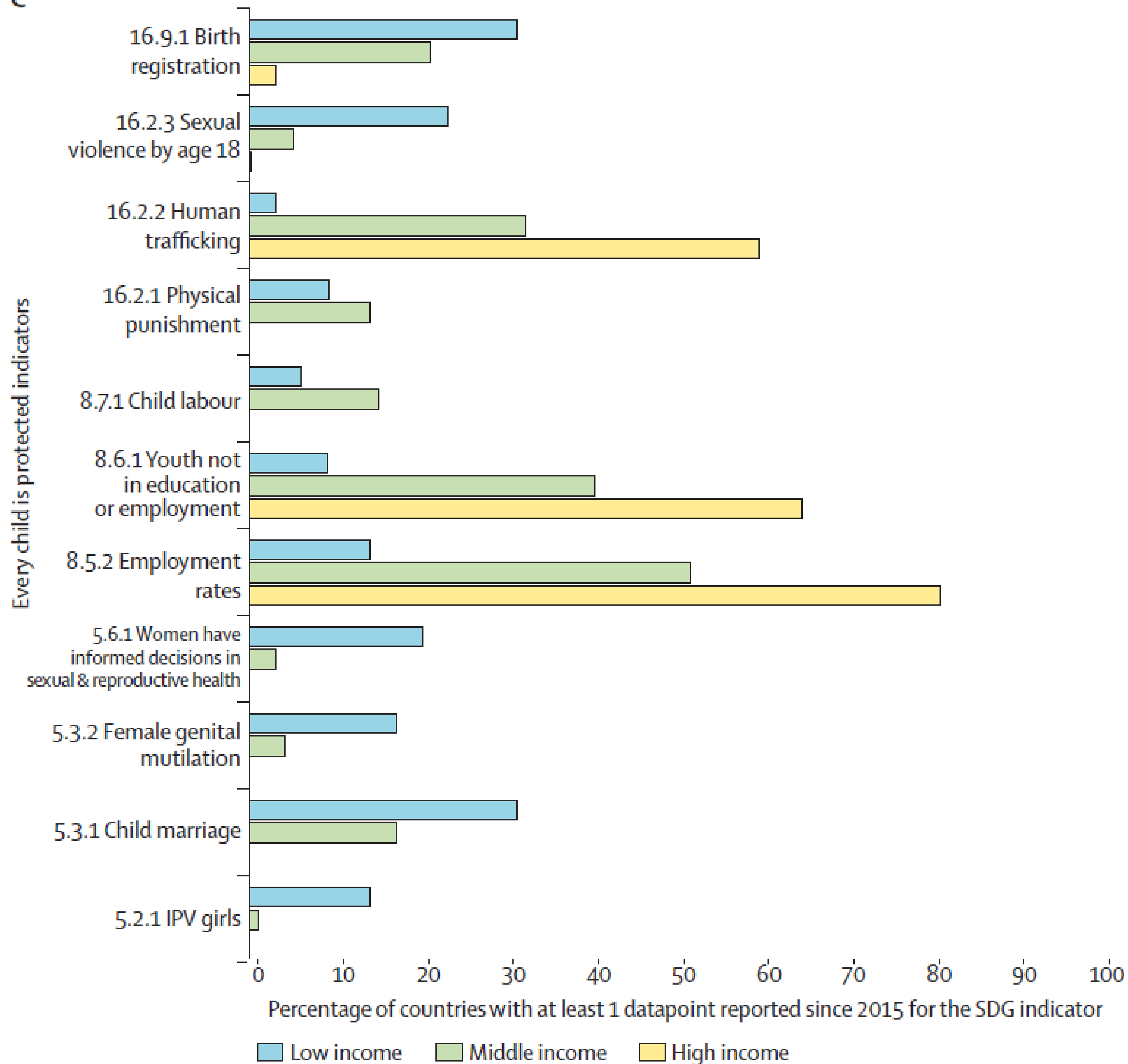
Majority of child-related indicators either not regularly produced by most countries or no established methodology for collection



Enormous data gaps exist



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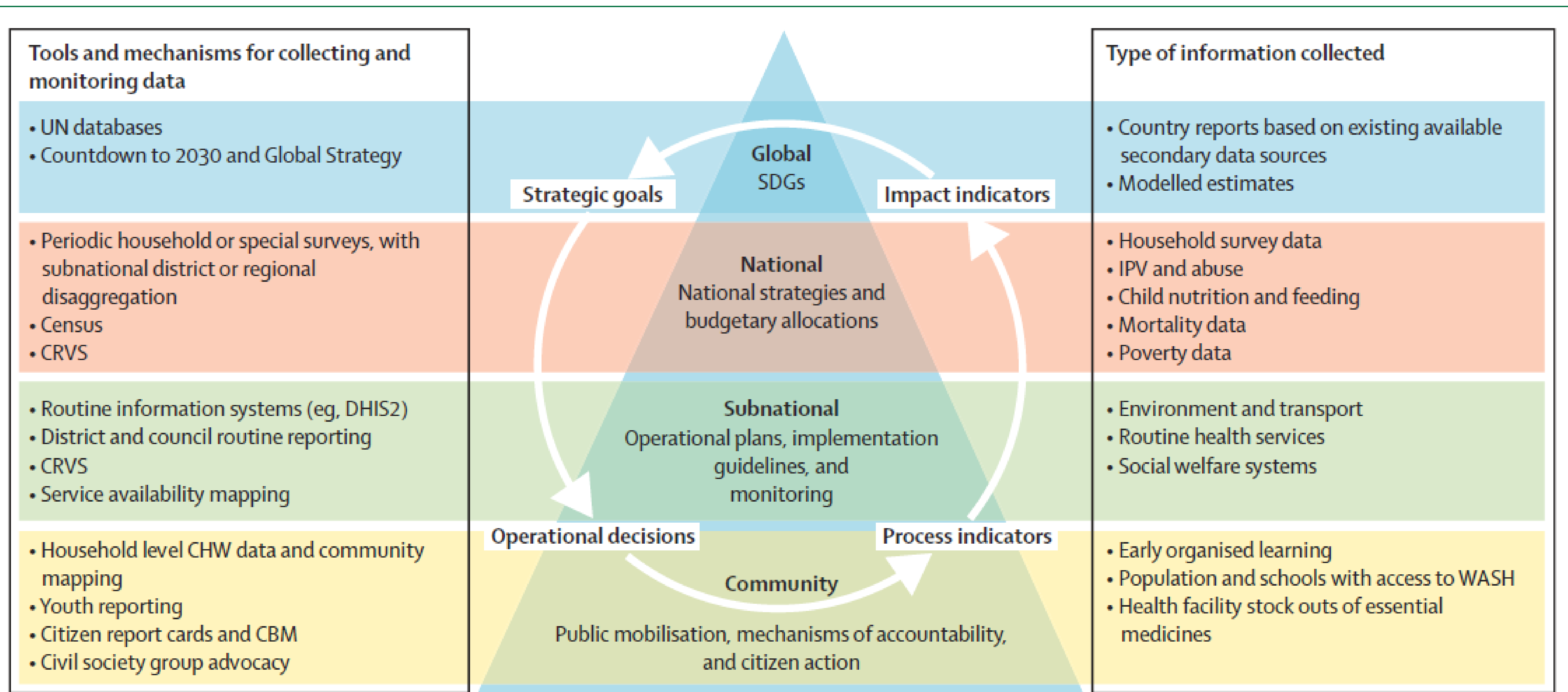
Child protection

Not a single indicator that more than half of LMICs have produced data for since 2015



- 70% of child-related indicators sourced from national household surveys
- Issues of timeliness, data availability
- 6% of indicators use data from routine country information sources
- Many indicators not suited to collection through routine systems (e.g. intimate partner violence, child poverty)
- Lack of capacity and poorly functioning routine information systems in the most vulnerable settings

Levels of information collection and utilization

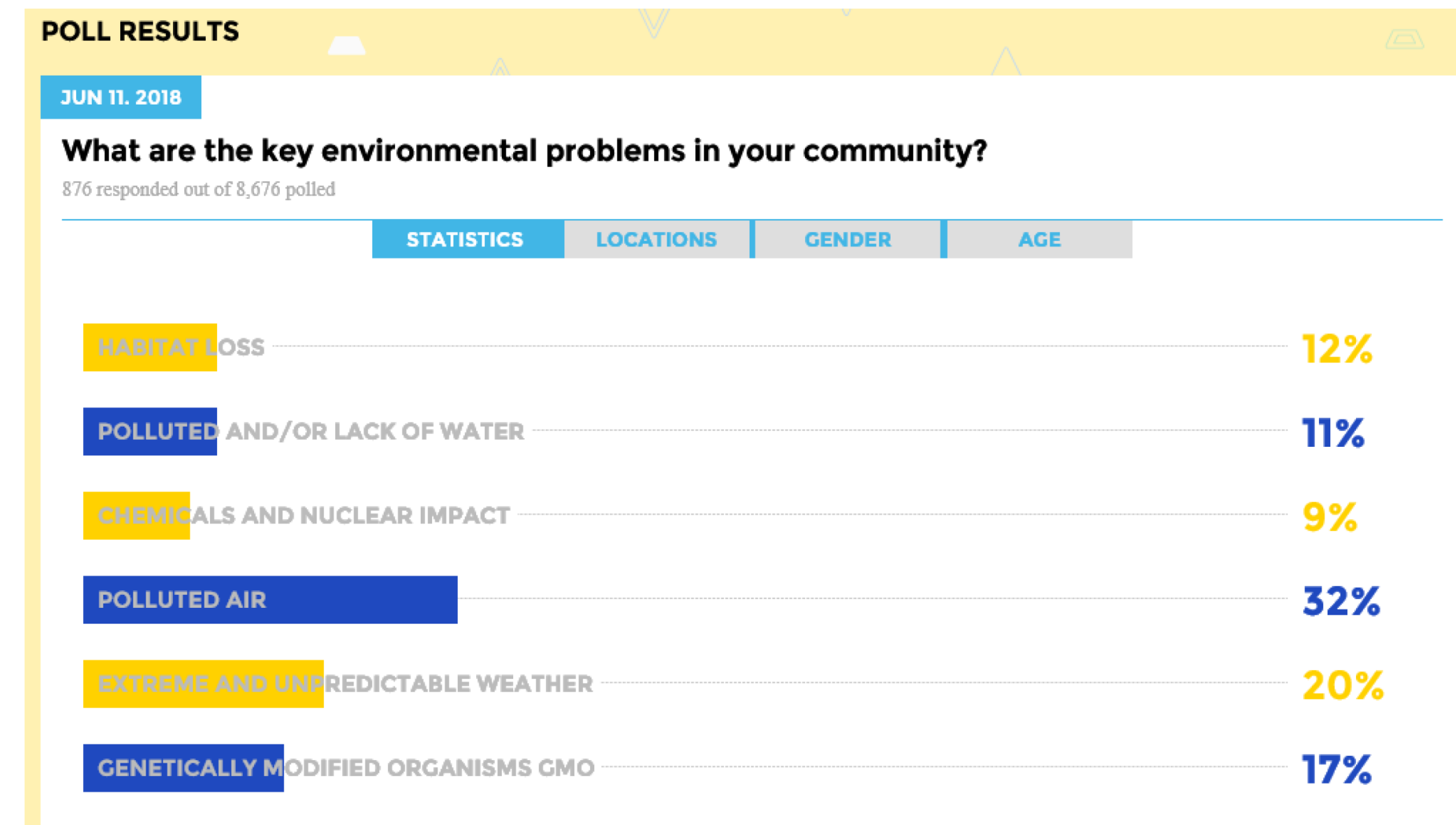


How to ensure that lack of data doesn't lead to lack of action by 2030

- Recognizing that progress on many of the SDGs for children requires transformational change at the level of households and communities
- Rights-based approach to data and information is required, that places citizens at the center of monitoring efforts
- Covid-19 has increased the urgency for monitoring and reporting approaches. Currently DHS data collection activities in 13 low income countries are paused due to the pandemic.

How to ensure that lack of data doesn't lead to lack of action by 2030

- Case studies of large-scale initiatives (community-based monitoring in Maharashtra, UNICEF U-Report)
- Potential in social media and mobile communication for youth monitoring and reporting



Conclusion

- Scarce data about the situation of children constrain efforts to achieve the SDGs.
- Investment in and strengthening of global health metrics initiatives has not been matched with similar investments in national information systems and capacities.
- Vast data gaps necessitate different approaches to ensure continued progress