The indicator portfolio

The aim with the indicators was to properly cover multiple dimensions of child well-being. Requirements with the whole set were as follows:

- Having a balanced and a coherent portfolio of indicators across dimensions and across main phases of childhood
- Keeping the structure of the portfolio as simple as possible
- Relying as much as possible on the already agreed Social OMC indicators and EU2020 indicators
- Distinguishing between resource-based measures and forward-looking indicators of child outcomes
- Reflecting the policy need of breaking the intergenerational transmission of poverty

The indicators cover five dimensions:

- Income
- Material Deprivation
- Education
- Health
- Exposure to Risk Behaviour

...while further works should aim to complete this list with:

- Family relationships, social participation
- Local environment

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How the policy marker report cards look like?

Overall country picture based on main indicators

Figures for children
Figures for overall pop.
EU-27 average figures
Unweighted EU-average

Trends

Research Highlights

- There are no countries in the European Union where the situation of children is perfect. Even in those countries where positive performances predominate (such as the Nordic countries, Luxembourg and the Netherlands), there are some shortcomings. By the same token, even the least well performing countries (like Romania and Bulgaria) have some positives.

- At the level of Member States, education and health show a clear and strong correlation with material well-being, but no country-level correlation has been found between material well-being and socially risk behaviour.

- Despite the wealth of available datasets, there are serious data gaps in child well-being measures. The capture of difficult to reach groups and vulnerable groups is in great need. In addition, micro datasets are of crucial importance to monitoring processes.

- Policy marker report cards, provide the never before advantage of EU-wide country comparison, but it is a process that needs continual upgrading.

- Countries must commit themselves to improve their own data gaps, if child well-being monitoring is to move forward.


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