SDGs for Children in Indonesia

Provincial snapshot: Riau Islands

Introduction
This provincial snapshot highlights priority child-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators, based on national household surveys and other data sources. It complements the national SDG Baseline Report on Children in Indonesia produced by BAPPENAS and UNICEF, to support monitoring and evidence-informed policy making.

The Riau Islands (Kepulauan Riau) are a youthful province. Its 680,000 children represent 35 per cent of the total population. More than eight in 10 children live in urban areas. Increased strategic investments in children are required to fast-track achievement of the SDGs for the province.

GOAL 1  NO POVERTY

Some 53,000 children (7.7 per cent) were living below the official poverty line in 2015 (Rp 14,750 per person per day). However, many more families are insecure and live on incomes that are only marginally higher. In addition, 41 per cent of children experienced deprivations in two or more non-income dimensions of poverty, with persistent disparities between urban and rural areas.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per cent</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population below national poverty line</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &lt; 18 below national poverty line</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &lt; 18 below twice the poverty line</td>
<td>46.7</td>
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</tbody>
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GOAL 2  ZERO HUNGER

Adopting optimal feeding practices is fundamental to a child’s survival, growth and development. Yet, only one in three infants in the Riau Islands is exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, which is far below the national average.

The prevalence of malnutrition is relatively high, including among those in urban areas. Some 8 per cent of newborns have a low birthweight, and more than one in four children under five were stunted (low height for their age) in 2013.

Geographic disparities in child feeding and nutrition outcomes

¹ Adopting optimal feeding practices is fundamental to a child’s survival, growth and development. Yet, only one in three infants in the Riau Islands is exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, which is far below the national average.
Despite progress, child mortality remains a challenge. For every 1,000 live births, 21 newborn babies died in their first month of life and 42 before their fifth birthday.

Most women have access to delivery care and 95 per cent of births occurred with assistance from a skilled attendant. However, there is scope to further improve the coverage of reproductive health services, including scaling up access to modern family planning methods.

Eighty-five per cent of infants received the recommended three doses of DTP vaccine and 92 per cent were vaccinated against measles in 2015. Continued efforts are needed to reach and sustain high immunisation coverage both in urban and rural areas.

Children’s school readiness can be improved through early childhood development programmes. The participation rate in organised learning among 6-year-olds was 95 per cent in 2015, with most pre-school children enrolling early in primary school.

The Riau Islands have achieved near-universal access to primary education. However, children from the poorest households are less likely to complete secondary school compared with their affluent peers.

Quality of education remains a key concern. The province performs well above the national average, but a quarter of primary school children did not achieve the minimum national benchmark in reading and two thirds did not reach those for mathematics.

**Geographic disparities in maternal and child health**

**GOAL 4 QUALITY EDUCATION**

**Wealth disparities in school completion rates**

**Percentage of children attending school, by age**
GOAL 5  GENDER EQUALITY

The Riau Islands have the lowest child marriage rate in the country. Some 4 per cent of women aged 20–24 years were married or in union before the age of 18 in 2015. Levels of child marriage are higher among girls from the poorest households.

No representative data are available on violence against girls and women at provincial level. Evidence from a national survey indicates, however, that such violence is widespread: 28 per cent of ever-partnered women and girls experienced physical, sexual and/or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner.

4% of women are married before 18

GOAL 6  CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Achieving universal access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene is crucial to further progress in health, education and poverty eradication. Seven out of ten people used a basic sanitation facility at home in 2015, while only 2 per cent practised open defecation. Nearly two thirds of schools have sex-separated toilet facilities. Access to improved drinking water sources is much higher, both in households and schools.²

Disparities based on wealth and place of residence are pronounced, pointing to the importance of integrating equity considerations into policy and practice. Progress is being made through the implementation of the community-based total sanitation programme.

GOAL 16  PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Progress is ongoing in improving levels of birth registration. In 2015, nearly nine in 10 children under 5 years of age had a birth certificate. There are differences between urban and rural areas and based on households’ wealth status, due to financial and supply-side barriers.

Deprivation of liberty remains a common form of punishment for juvenile offenders, in violation of the principle that this should be a measure of last resort. In the Riau Islands, 9 per cent of all children in detention were unsentenced, which is below the national average.

Little or no data is available on other child protection issues, such as violence against children and trafficking.
The scorecard summarises the Riau Islands’ performance for a selection of SDG indicators compared to other provinces in the country. For each indicator, the graph shows the Riau Islands’ average value as well as the provinces with the highest and the lowest data value.

On the right side of the scorecard the Riau Islands’ rank for each indicator is shown, ranging from 1 for the highest performer to 34 for the lowest. Provinces are divided into four quartiles (blue for the highest ranking and red/orange for the lowest ranking provinces).

Notes

Sources: National household surveys (SUSENAS, RISKESDAS, IDHS) and administrative data (Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Health). Detailed information on data sources and indicator definitions is available online at: https://sdg4children.or.id

1 Multidimensional child poverty is defined as children who experience deprivations in at least two of the following dimensions: food and nutrition; health; education; housing; water and sanitation; and protection.

2 Indonesia does not yet have nationally representative data on water quality that can be used to calculate the SDG indicator on the use of safely managed drinking water services. Instead, a nationally-defined proxy measure is used to set a baseline for SDG 6.

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