Gender Gap in Upper Secondary Completion Rates

Definition
The difference in upper secondary completion rates between females and males.

Purpose
Indicator SDG 4.5.1 seeks to measure equity in educational outcomes, and gender equality is critical to the SDG agenda. The purpose of the gender gap indicator is to provide an easy-to-interpret measure of gender inequity in completing upper secondary education. The gender gap provides a clear understanding of the difference in completion rates between females and males and how much progress in completion rates is needed for the lagging sub-population to catch up with the leading sub-population.

Calculation method
To calculate the value of the indicator, the difference between the female and male completion rates in upper secondary is computed:

$$GGCR_3 = CR_{3,f} - CR_{3,m}$$

where $GGCR_3$ denotes the indicator, and $CR_{3,f}$ and $CR_{3,m}$ denote female and male upper secondary completion rates.

Interpretation
A difference of zero indicates no gender gap in completion rates. Positive values indicate that completion rates among females are higher than males while negative values indicate the opposite, that completion rates among females are lower than males.

Data sources

Completion rates for females and males for upper secondary are obtained from the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEMR) database[1]. Completion rates reported in the GEMR database are estimated using a modelling method to take into account multiple sources of data including Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), other country-specific household surveys, and population censuses.

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[1] see: https://education-estimates.org/completion/data/