

World statistics icebreaker



Aim

Young people learn about the reality of injustice in the world using statistics sourced October 2022.

You will need

- 20 minutes.
- 20 cards with a statistic or statement on each one. You could print and cut up the ones below.
- A prop to represent each statistic. Use anything that is to hand, some examples below.
- A timer: eg. stopwatch on phone, Countdown timer audio.



Activity

1. The group sits in a circle.
2. Mix up the cards and props and spread out.
3. Check the group's understanding of the statements. For example, persecution is "mistreatment due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion or being a member of a social group. For example, threat to life, freedom or other human rights" ([UNHCR](#), paragraph 51).
4. Divide the group into two and ask for a volunteer from each team.
5. The volunteers have 30 seconds to match each statistic with a statement and a prop - as many as they can in the time limit. Encourage the team to call out advice.
6. After 30 seconds, check and give points for correct matches. Spread out incorrect matches again.

7. Discuss the correct statistics as you go - what are their responses? How do the statistics make them feel? Can they relate the statistics to their life? What questions do these statistics raise?
8. Invite two more volunteers to play, proceeding as before until all statistics are matched up.
9. Declare the winning team!
10. Make sure you have discussed each of the statistics and the young people's reactions to them. The statistics sheet has hyperlinks to all the facts and figures for further information.



Pray

Use the props and a candle as the focal point for prayer at the end of the session. Search 'prayers for young people' on our website.





Taking it further



Ask the group to choose the most surprising/worrying/hard-to-solve statistic. Ask individuals to stand next to the one they choose, then feed back, or come to a group decision through discussion.



Challenge the group to make a human pie chart for each statistic. If your group represented the seven billion people in the world, how many would, for example, have no access to clean water? (This will require some maths!)



Explore some Catholic social teaching or scripture, for example the parable of the sheep and goats, Matthew 25:31-46 (PowerPoint on cafod.org.uk/secondary). How does our faith call us to respond to inequality in the world?



Use this icebreaker for a session on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): 17 global goals to end poverty. (Animation and factsheet at cafod.org.uk/secondary)

Check out cafod.org.uk/secondary for our latest games and global justice resources for young people.

Icebreaker statistics

Leader: use the table to link the statistics and props.

The Sustainable Development Goals are 17 global goals to end poverty and protect the planet, adopted in 2015 by all 193 countries of the UN. Find out more at cafod.org.uk/secondary

Statistic & source	Statement	Prop	Relevant Sustainable Development Goals
658 million UNstats	People living on less than £1.60 a day. The poverty rate increased sharply from 2019 to 2020, from 8.3 per cent to 9.2 per cent, the first rise in extreme poverty since 1998. It erased more than four years of steady gains. The pandemic pushed 93 million more people into extreme poverty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £1.60 cash 	<p>1: No poverty 2: Zero hunger 8: Decent work and economic development</p>
5 million UNICEF	Children who will die this year before their fifth birthday. More than 20,000 <u>fewer</u> children died every day in 2020 than in 1990. However, that is slow progress. And, in 2020, 5 million children under 5 years of age died. That's a shocking 13,800 children per day from causes such as malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cake with five candles or a picture of a cake 	<p>1: No poverty 2: Zero hunger 3: Good health and well-being 6: Clean water and sanitation</p>
64 million UNICEF	Children not in primary school this year. This figure has risen for the first time since 2010, threatening years of progress. Schools worldwide closed or partly closed for approx. 41 weeks due to Covid. Many children did not return to school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercise book Text book Pen 	<p>1: No poverty 4: Quality education 5: Gender equality</p>
798 million UNstats	People who were without even basic drinking water Up from 771m last year. Eight out of 10 people who lack even basic drinking water service live in rural areas. The proportion of the global population using safely managed drinking water services increased from 70 per cent in 2015 to 74 per cent in 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cup of water 	<p>3: Good health and well-being 6: Clean water and sanitation</p>
958 million UNstats	People who were without even basic sanitation. From 2015 to 2020, the world population using safely managed sanitation services increased from 47 per cent to 54 per cent, and the population practicing open defecation decreased by a third, from 739 million people to 494 million. The world is on track to eliminate open defecation by 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll of toilet paper 	<p>3: Good health and well-being 6: Clean water and sanitation</p>
733 million UNstats	People with no access to electricity. The global electricity access rate increased from 83 per cent in 2010 to 91 per cent in 2020, and those without electricity shrank from 1.2 billion to 733 million. But the pace of progress has slowed in recent years, due to COVID-19 and the increasing complexity of reaching those hardest to reach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone charger 	<p>7: Sustainable energy for all 12: Sustainable consumption and production</p>
100 million UNHCR	People forced from their home by conflict or persecution. Up from 82.4 million and expected to rise further due to war in Ukraine. The world has the largest number of violent conflicts since 1946. A quarter of the global population lived in conflict-affected countries at the end of 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House keys 	<p>10: Reducing inequalities 16: Peace and justice</p>
828 million UNstats	People without enough nutritious food Up from 768 million. We are on the verge of a global food crisis. Rising numbers experienced hunger even before the pandemic. Causes include climate change, conflict, economic shocks and a broken food system. 1 in 10 people worldwide are suffering from hunger.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some vegetables 	
Statistics for comparisons			
8 billion worldometer	People in the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globe or map 	
68.7 million worldometer	People in the UK.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union Jack UK souvenir 	
1.31 billion Vatican	Catholics in the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romero cross 	

All statistics accurate as of July 2022. CAFOD is not responsible for the content of external websites.



5 million



**Children who will
die this year
before their 5th
birthday**



100 million

**People forced
from their home
due to conflict or
persecution**



64 million

**Children not in
primary school
this year**



68.7 million

**People who
live in the UK**



798 million



**People who
were without
even basic
drinking water**



1.31 billion

**Catholics in the
world**



658 million

**People who live
on less than
£1.60 a day**



8 billion

**People living
on Earth**



733 million

**People who
have no access
to electricity**



958 million

**People who
were without
even basic
sanitation**



828 million



**People without
enough
nutritious food**