

FAQ

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This page provides information and answers to frequent questions we receive from users.

- [Can I substantively change an indicator?](#)
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Can I change an indicator definition?

No. Any substantive change to an indicator's definition will require creating a new indicator. Substantive changes include any revisions to:

- Data Source
- Indicator Type
- Disaggregation
- Geographic Disaggregation
- "Results are reported separately for each activity"

Changing any of these fields will delete all existing indicator results for that indicator.

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Should I add unknown as a disaggregation category?

This is up to you and the way your organization collects data. In cases where you have several teams reporting on a single indicator despite not sharing the same disaggregations, adding an "unknown" category would help capture detailed information where it's available.

E.G: Every project reports on **# people trained**, but not everyone captures the information disaggregated by gender.

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Can I add or edit disaggregation categories?

Unlike deleting disaggregations or disaggregation categories (which will delete associated data), DevResults will allow you to add new categories to an existing disaggregation, as well as edit the name of an existing disaggregation category. However, care must be taken to avoid changing the nature of the indicator or the definition of the data. Whether a change is methodologically valid depends on how you've defined your categories in documentation and in practice.

For instance, if you had a disaggregation for age with categories named '<18' and '18+', you could change the names to 'Youth' and 'Adults' respectively, assuming that you've clearly defined 18 years of age as the threshold of adulthood. All of the data previously associated with the '18+' category would now be associated with the 'Adults' category.

Similarly, if you disaggregate your training participants by the type of trainings you offer — e.g. 'finance', 'administration', 'advocacy' — and you intend to begin offering a completely new training — 'data collection' — there's no risk that any of the previous training participants would have ever completed this newly available training, and so your data integrity is maintained.

However, if you disaggregate "Household size" by the categories "1, 2, 3, 4+" and decide that going forward you want to add more granularity by using additional categories such as "1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6+," you would be making a fundamental change to the original '4+' category. DevResults will allow you to make this change, but you must either re-enter data for all '4+' households to ensure accuracy, or create a new indicator with a new disaggregation to collect more granular data going forward.

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