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Title: The Big (data) Bang: opportunities and challenges for compiling SDG indicators

Official statisticians around the world are faced with the herculean task of populating the Sustainable Development Goals global monitoring framework. As traditional data sources appear to be insufficient, statisticians are naturally asking whether big data can contribute anything useful. While the statistical possibilities appear to be theoretically endless, in practice big data also present enormous challenges and potential pitfalls: legal; ethical; technical; and reputational. This paper examines the opportunities and challenges presented by big data for compiling indicators to support Agenda 2030.