

# 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



## The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2022

**Note:** The Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNSD) prepares the annual The Sustainable Development Goals Report, also known as the glossy report, based on storyline inputs submitted by UN international agencies in their capacity as mandated custodian agencies for the SDG indicators. However, due to space constraints, not all information received from custodian agencies is able to be included in the final glossy report. Therefore, in order to provide the general public with all information regarding the indicators, this 'Extended Report' has been prepared by UNSD. It includes all storyline contents for each indicator as provided by the custodian agencies and is unedited. For instances where the custodian agency has not submitted a storyline for an indicator, please see the custodian agency focal point information linked for further information.

## Contents

Indicator 16.1.1: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age.....	2
Indicator 16.1.2: Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause .....	3
Indicator 16.1.3: Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months .....	4
Indicator 16.1.4: Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live after dark .....	4
Indicator 16.2.1: Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month.....	5
Indicator 16.2.2: Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation.....	5
Indicator 16.2.3: Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18.....	5
Indicator 16.3.1: Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms .....	6
Indicator 16.3.2: Unsensitized detainees as a proportion of overall prison population.....	6
Indicator 16.3.3: Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism .....	7
Indicator 16.4.1: Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars) .....	8
Indicator 16.4.2: Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments .....	8
Indicator 16.5.1: Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months.....	9
Indicator 16.5.2: Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months.....	9
Indicator 16.6.1: Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar).....	10
Indicator 16.6.2: Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services.....	10
Indicator 16.7.1: Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups.....	11
Indicator 16.7.2: Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group .....	12
Indicator 16.8.1: Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations .....	13
Indicator 16.9.1: Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age.....	14
Indicator 16.10.1: Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months .....	15
Indicator 16.10.2: Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.....	15
Indicator 16.a.1: Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles .....	16
Indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1: Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law .....	17

## Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

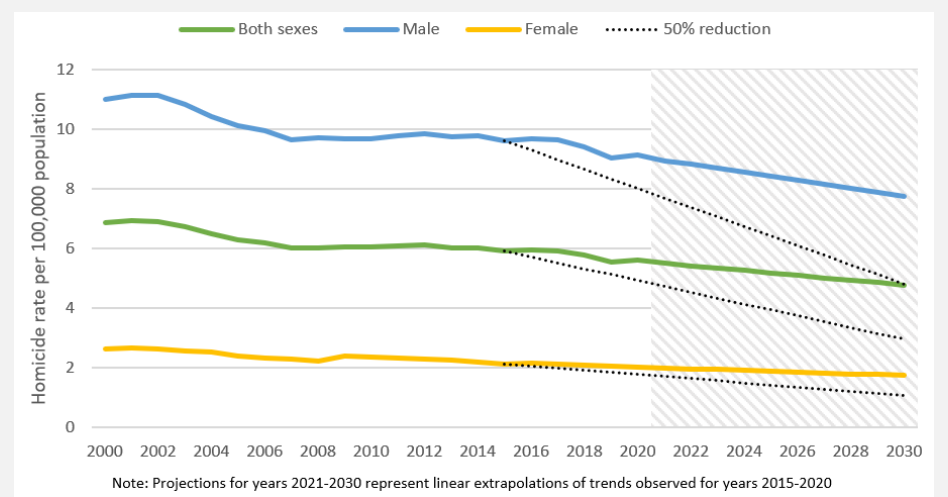
### Indicator 16.1.1: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age

Homicide rates are declining in most world regions, but gender-disaggregated data highlight significant differences in progress between men and women across regions.

In 2020, there were approximately 437 thousand homicide victims globally. This means that every hour, on average, 50 individuals were killed intentionally. Disaggregated homicide data highlight the gender dimensions of this ultimate form of criminal violence. The overwhelming majority of homicides are committed against men and boys (82%), while women and girls account for a much smaller share of homicide victims worldwide (18%). Between 2015 and 2020, the global homicide rate declined by 5.2% (from 5.9 homicides to 5.6 homicides per 100,000 population). However, the decline in the homicide rate was slightly more pronounced for women (-5.7%) compared to men (-5.1%).

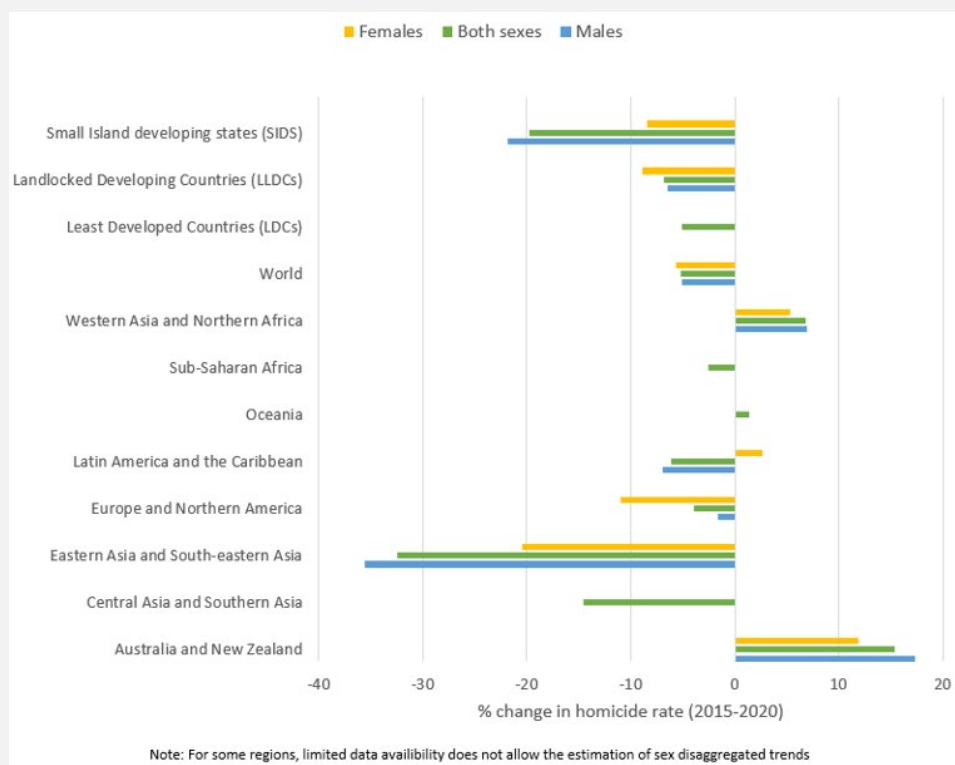
Projecting trends in the homicide rate for 2015 – 2020 to future years up to 2030, suggests that the global rate of homicides per 100,00 population would stand at around 4.8 in 2030, resulting in an overall decrease limited to 19% (Figure 1). This projected decrease in homicidal violence would fall short of a target of reducing the homicide rate by at least 50% by 2030. Projections of gender-specific trends indicate that both sexes will likely fall short of the target of a 50% reduction by 2030. While the female homicide rate is projected to decline by 18% (to 1.7 homicides per 100,000 female population), the male homicide rate is projected to decrease by 19% by 2030 (to 7.7 homicides per 100,000 male population).

Figure 1: Trends and projections of the global homicide rate by sex (2000-2030)



Differences between men and women are even more evident at the regional level (Figure 2). In Latin America and the Caribbean, the male homicide rate declined between 2015 and 2020 by around 6.9%, while the female homicide rate increased over the same period by 2.7%. In Eastern and South-eastern Asia, the male homicide rate declined by a remarkable 35%, compared with a 20% reduction for the female homicide rate (Figure 2). In contrast, in Europe and Northern America, the female homicide rate recorded a more pronounced decline (-10.9%) than the male homicide rate (-1.6%). While most regions recorded declining or stagnating homicide rates overall (i.e. for both sexes) since 2015, the two regions of Western Asia and Northern Africa, and Australia and New Zealand represent noticeable exceptions, with increases of 6.8% and 15.4% respectively.

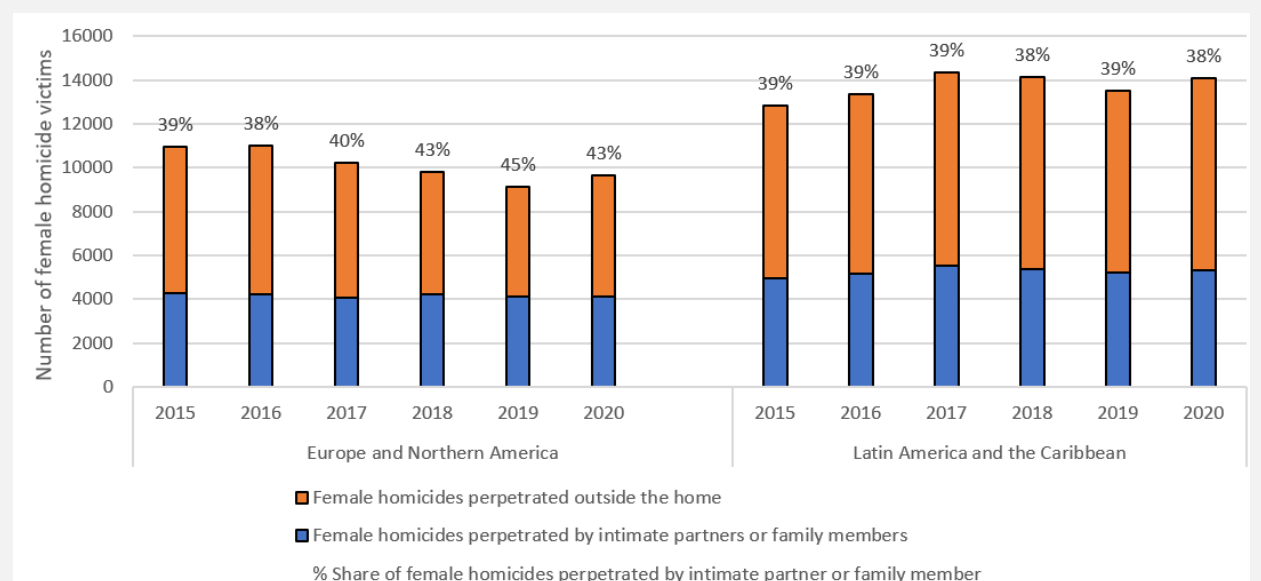
Figure 2: Percentage change in regional homicide rates between 2015 and 2020, by sex



As of 2020, around 58% of all female homicides committed globally were perpetrated by intimate partners or other family members – people whom they would normally be expected to trust. In contrast, only 10% of all male homicides were committed in the private sphere. This means that women and girls are disproportionately affected by homicidal violence committed at the hands of intimate partners or other family. Europe and Northern America as well as Latin America and the Caribbean are currently the only two SDG regions where data availability allows for estimation of over-time trends. Between 2015-2020 the yearly number of female homicides perpetrated by intimate partners or other family members has increased by around 7% in Latin America and the Caribbean while it has decreased by around -3% in Europe and Northern America (Figure 3). In contrast, there have been more significant changes over the same period in the yearly number of female homicides committed outside the home (-17% in Europe and Northern America and +11% in Latin America and the Caribbean). These trends suggests that contextual developments or policy interventions that can have an impact on lethal violence in the public sphere may not influence to the same extent levels of gender-based killings within the family.

Global data on the impact of COVID-19 confinement measures on the killing of women and girls at the hands of intimate partners or other family members remain patchy and inconclusive. The average annual number of these killings showed a slight increase from 2019 to 2020 in Western and Southern Europe, and in Northern, Central and South America, although the increases were similar in size to previous annual changes recorded in the past decade. No change was detectable in Northern Europe and there was a slight decrease in Eastern Europe. Due to the limited availability of data on killings of women and girls at the hands of intimate partners or other family members, it is not yet possible to identify time trends in other regions.

Figure 3: Share of female homicides perpetrated by intimate partners or other family members in selected regions, 2015-2020



Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Maurice Dunaiski, UNODC; Enrico Bisogno, UNODC; Natalia Ivanova, UNODC

Custodian agency(ies): UNODC,WHO

## Indicator 16.1.2: Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause

### Significant loss of life and threats to civilians continue despite the decrease in the number of recorded conflict-related deaths in 2021

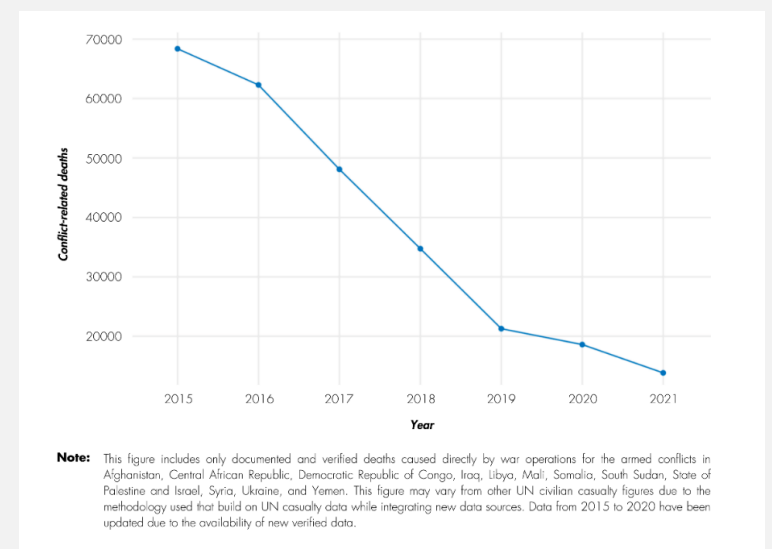
The fluctuation in the number of civilian deaths seen in several armed conflicts since 2015 points to the continued and ongoing risks of escalation and associated violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law, as seen in early 2022. Unless and until armed conflicts are ended, they will continue to affect all segments of society and hit the most vulnerable the hardest. They will also continue to disrupt already stretched supply chains and lead to scarcity of essential goods and services, including food, medication, fuel and transportation. The Secretary-General called for all parties to armed conflicts to find alternative solutions to fighting and get on the path of diplomacy and peace to prevent destabilization around the globe.

According to the latest available data, the UN recorded at least 11,075 civilian conflict-related deaths in 12 of the world's deadliest armed conflicts in 2021. In two of these armed conflicts, the UN also recorded 2,109 non-civilian deaths (The term non-civilian is used as a factual category that covers persons that are members of armed forces, persons directly participating in hostilities or other protected persons within the meaning of IHL.) and 658 individuals whose status is unknown. This translates to 4.1 conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population; one in eight of those deaths was a woman or child.

Most of these deaths were caused by small arms and light weapons (28%), followed by heavy weapons and explosive munitions (15%), and planted explosives and unexploded ordnance (UXO) (14%).

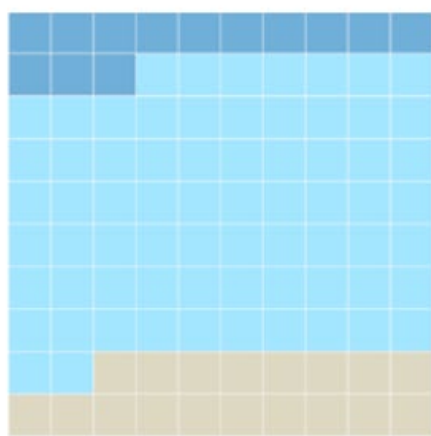
Compared to 2020, civilian deaths decreased by 17% and, compared to 2015, by 69%.

Number of conflict-related deaths (2015-2021)



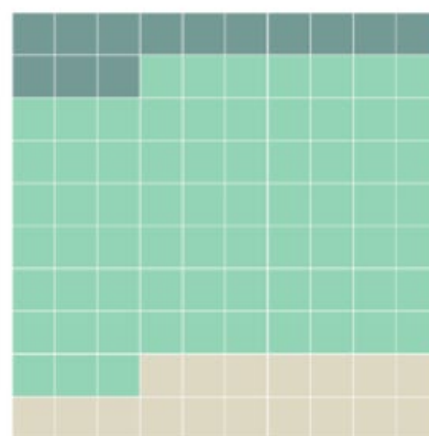
### Conflict-related deaths (disaggregation)

#### Sex



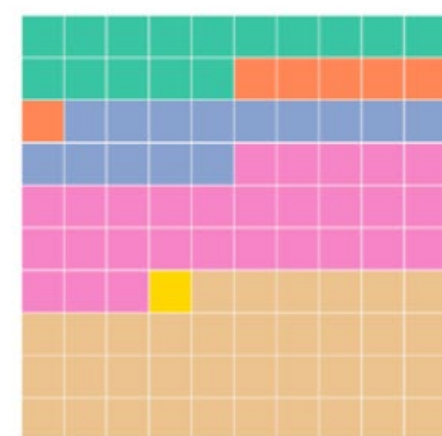
Female  
Male  
Unknown

#### Age



Child  
Adult  
Unknown

#### Cause of death



Heavy weapons and explosive munitions  
Multiple weapons  
Planted explosives and unexploded ordnance (UXO)  
Small arms and light weapons  
Others  
Unknown

#### Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- Press briefing notes on Yemen, <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=28031&LangID=E>
- Ukraine: Civilian casualties as of 3 May 2022, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/05/ukraine-civilian-casualty-update-3-may-2022>
- Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to the Human Rights Council, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/document/report-of-the-special-representative-of-the-secretary-general-for-children-and-armed-conflict-to-the-human-rights-council-4/>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Grace Sanico Steffan, OHCHR; Sonia Mueller-Rappard, OHCHR; Guilherme Miranda Dutra, OHCHR

Custodian agency(ies): OHCHR

Indicator 16.1.3: Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months

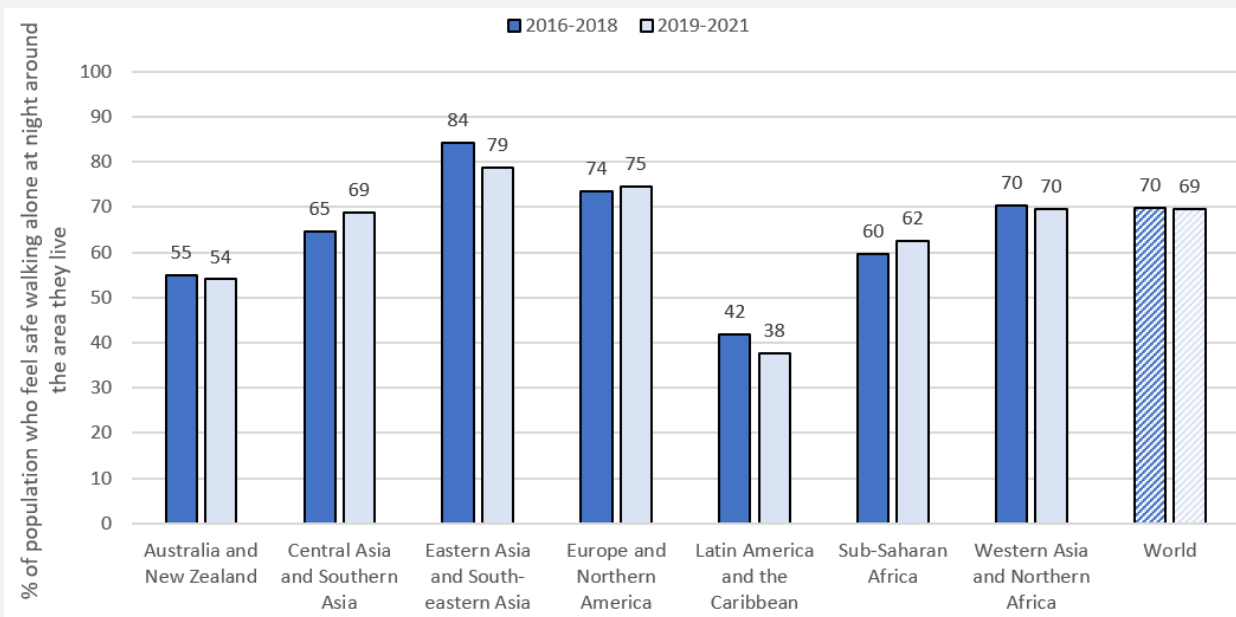
Custodian agency(ies): UNODC

Indicator 16.1.4: Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live after dark

Feeling unsafe in public can negatively influence well-being and hinder development. While perception of safety has remained quite stable at the global level over the last 6 years, women continue to feel significantly less safe – compared to men – when wa

Feeling unsafe in public can negatively influence well-being and lead to fewer contacts with others, reduce trust and engagement in the community, and thus represent an important obstacle to development. The public perception of safety is shaped by various factors. While the personal experience of crime is undoubtedly influencing perceptions, other factors such as media coverage and public discourse on crime also affect perceptions of safety. Based on available survey data from 114 countries across all world regions, on average, approximately 69% of the population report feeling safe or very safe walking alone around the area they live<sup>1</sup>. This global average has remained stable over time in the period 2016-2021 (Figure 1). Stark differences in perceptions of safety are observable across regions. On average, Australia and New Zealand, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean are the regions where respondents feel least safe (Figure 1). In Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia, Europe and Northern America, and Western Asia and Northern Africa respondents feel comparatively safer (Figure 1).

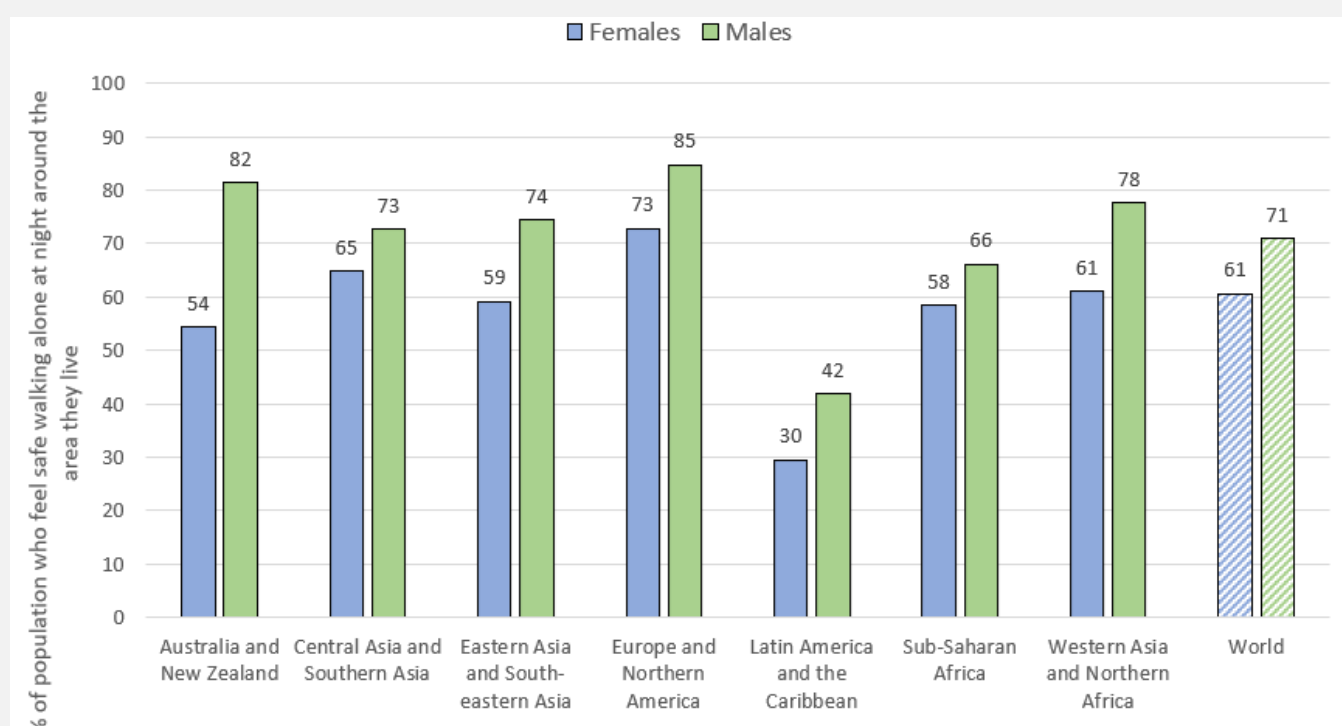
Figure 1: Proportion of the population that feel safe walking alone at night around the area they live, by region (2016-18, 2019-21)



Source: National data collected via the United Nations Crime Trends Survey and the Gallup World Poll. Note: Regional aggregates refer to 3-year averages weighted by countries' population size. Specific question wordings differ somewhat across surveys. Data coverage: Australia and New Zealand (2), Central Asia and Southern Asia (12), Eastern Asia and South-eastern Asia (13), Europe and Northern America (25), Latin America and the Caribbean (13), Sub-Saharan Africa (33), Western Asia and Northern Africa (16). No data are available for Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand).

Perceptions of safety also differ markedly between women and men. At the global level, based on 106 countries with sex-disaggregated data for the period 2019-2021, the proportion of women who report feeling safe walking alone around the area they live was on average 10 percentage points lower (at 61%) compared to men (71%) (Figure 2). This pattern is observable across all world regions, but it is particularly pronounced in Australia and New Zealand (at 27 percentage points), as well as Western Asia and Northern Africa (at 17 percentage points) (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Proportion of the population that feel safe walking alone at night around the area they live, by sex (2019-2021 average)



Source: National data collected via the United Nations Crime Trends Survey and the Gallup World Poll. Note: Regional aggregates refer to 3-year averages weighted by countries' population size. Specific question wordings differ somewhat across surveys. Data coverage: Australia and New Zealand (1), Central Asia and Southern Asia (12), Eastern Asia and South-eastern Asia (12), Europe and Northern America (21), Latin America and the Caribbean (11), Sub-Saharan Africa (33), Western Asia and Northern Africa (16). No data are available for Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand).

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Maurice Dunaiski, UNODC; Enrico Bisogno, UNODC; Fatma Usheva, UNODC

Custodian agency(ies): UNODC

<sup>1</sup> Most surveys include the qualifications "after dark" or "at night" in the question wording.

Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

Indicator 16.2.1: Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNICEF

Indicator 16.2.2: Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNODC

Indicator 16.2.3: Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNICEF

## Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

### Indicator 16.3.1: Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms

Custodian agency(ies): UNODC

### Indicator 16.3.2: Unsented detainees as a proportion of overall prison population

In 2020, for the first time in the last two decades, there were significantly fewer persons held in detention worldwide compared to the previous year. However, the share of prisoners who are held in detention without being sentenced for a crime has remain

By the end of 2020, for the first time in the last two decades, there were significantly fewer persons held behind bars worldwide compared to the previous year: between 2019 and the end of 2020, the global prison population declined by around 4.7%, from just under 11.8 million to 11.2 million (Figure 1).<sup>2</sup> This represents a dramatic trend reversal, as the global prison population had grown steadily over the period 2000-2019 by approximately 1.2% on average (roughly in line with global population growth).<sup>3</sup> In relative terms, the global reduction in the prison population was more pronounced for women (-10.3%) than for men (-4.2%). However, in absolute terms, the male prison population recorded a much more dramatic reduction (-466,000) than the female prison population (-81,000). The reduction in the global number of prisoners between 2019 and the end of 2020 can be attributed to various reasons, including the emergency release of prisoners, which were implemented by most Member States in the months following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic,<sup>4</sup> reduced admissions of new detainees due to court delays or as a COVID-19 measure, or reduced crime and/or law enforcement activities during the lockdown measures. Cross-national evidence on the specific drivers of the dramatic decline in the global prison population in 2020 remains limited.

Figure 1: Year-on-year change (%) in total persons held in detention, by region

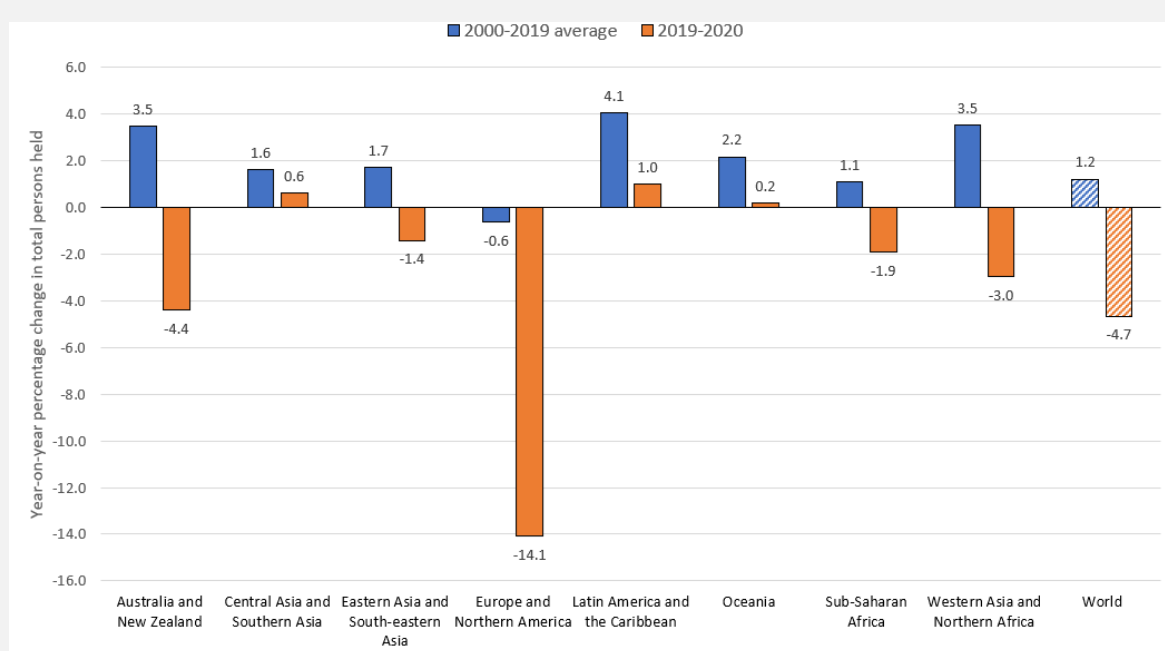
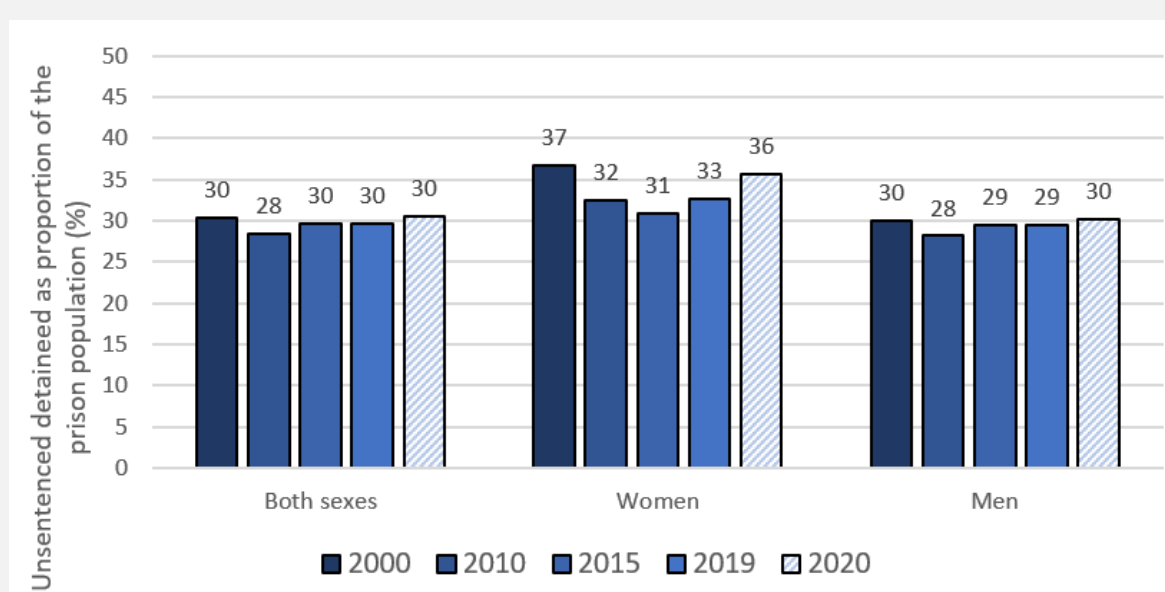


Figure 2: Unsented detainees as a proportion of the global prison population, by sex



The global picture hides substantial differences between regions. While Europe and Northern America (-14.1%), Australia and New Zealand (-4.4%), Western Asia and Northern Africa (-3%) recorded a significant decline between 2019 and the end of 2020 in the number of persons held in detention, other regions such as Latin America and the Caribbean (+1%), Central Asia and Southern Asia (+0.6), and Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand (+0.2) recorded fluctuations that were not very different from the year-on-year changes observed in previous years (Figure 1).

Despite the dramatic reduction in the global prison population recorded during the Covid-19 pandemic, the share of prisoners who are held in detention without being sentenced for a crime (the "unsentenced detainees") has remained relatively unchanged at the global level. The emergency release mechanisms adopted by most Member States focused primarily on convicted persons. This is likely because instruments that were commonly used to release prisoners were pre-existing constitutional or executive powers (e.g. presidential or royal pardons), which typically are applied to convicted prisoners. At the end of 2020, roughly 1 in every 3 prisoners worldwide was held in detention without having been sentenced for a crime, which is about the same level as it has been throughout the last two decades (Figure 2). Gender-disaggregated data suggest that the share of unsentenced detainees was slightly higher in the female prison population (36% as of 2020) compared to the male prison population (30%). In absolute terms, however, the global number of male unsentenced detainees (3.2 million) far outweighs the number of female unsentenced detainees (252 thousand). The slight increase in the unsentenced share of the female prison population between 2019 and the end of 2020 (from 33% to 36%, see Figure 2) appears to be driven by a drop in the total number of sentenced female detainees (by -14% between 2019 and the end of 2020) rather than a significant change in the number of unsentenced female detainees (-2%). These figures highlight that, despite significant reductions in the global prison numbers brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been very limited progress in improving access to justice for both male and female prisoners, with many still being denied a fair trial within a reasonably short period of time, despite the international legal obligation that persons awaiting trial should not be automatically detained in custody.

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Maurice Dunaiski, UNODC; Enrico Bisogno, UNODC; Natalia Ivanova, UNODC; Jee Aei Lee, UNODC;

Custodian agency(ies): UNODC

<sup>2</sup> Due to an improvement in the coverage of national data, the 2019 estimate of 11.77 million is slightly higher than the 2019 estimate of 11.75 million published by UNODC in July 2021: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/DataMatters1\\_prison.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/DataMatters1_prison.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW>

<sup>4</sup> From Mar 2020 to Feb 2021, UNODC collected data on emergency release mechanisms adopted by Member States in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The compilation of data collected from publicly available sources had revealed that "at least 700,000 persons around the globe ... have been authorized or considered eligible for release through emergency release mechanisms adopted by 119 Member States". The difference in figures can be attributed to the fact that not all announcements of release materialized into practice and that some release mechanisms were temporary in nature.

Indicator 16.3.3: Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism

[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNDP,OECD,UNODC



**Target 16.4: By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime**

**Indicator 16.4.1: Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)**



**Custodian agency(ies):** UNODC, UNCTAD

**Indicator 16.4.2: Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments**

**Countries still face significant challenges when establishing the illicit origin of firearms**

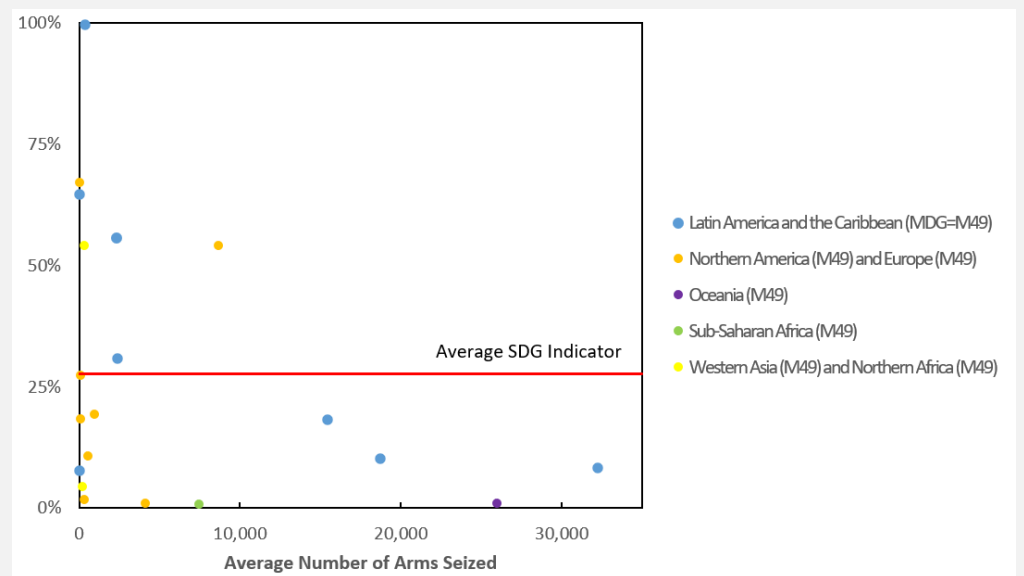
The establishment of the illicit nature of weapons seized, found, and surrendered in the context of conflict, armed violence and crime is crucial in preventing and combatting the illicit trade in small arms and constitutes a key step towards reducing illicit arms flows. National authorities undertake tracing of these weapons to identify their origin as well as their point of diversion to the illicit market. However, tracing remains a challenge for many States due to the lack of resources and capacity, and of effective international cooperation.

Based on data from 55 States, on average around 83% of firearms seized are potentially traceable, and consist mainly of firearms that have unique markings that can be used for identifying their illicit origin. Based on tracing data from 20 countries, 28% of all seized and marked weapons were successfully traced between 2016 and 2020. Levels of successful tracing (SDG indicator) vary widely between and within regions and are partly influenced by the volume of arms seized. In States where the yearly average number of firearm seizures exceed 10,000 - the majority of which are in Latin America and the Caribbean - the indicator value falls below the global average of 28 per cent, potentially highlighting the burden of establishing the illicit context of seized arms. By contrast, countries with low levels of arms seized exhibit great variability in the proportion of their successful tracing. In Northern America and Europe, a relatively low success rate of firearms tracing was reported for six out of eight countries.

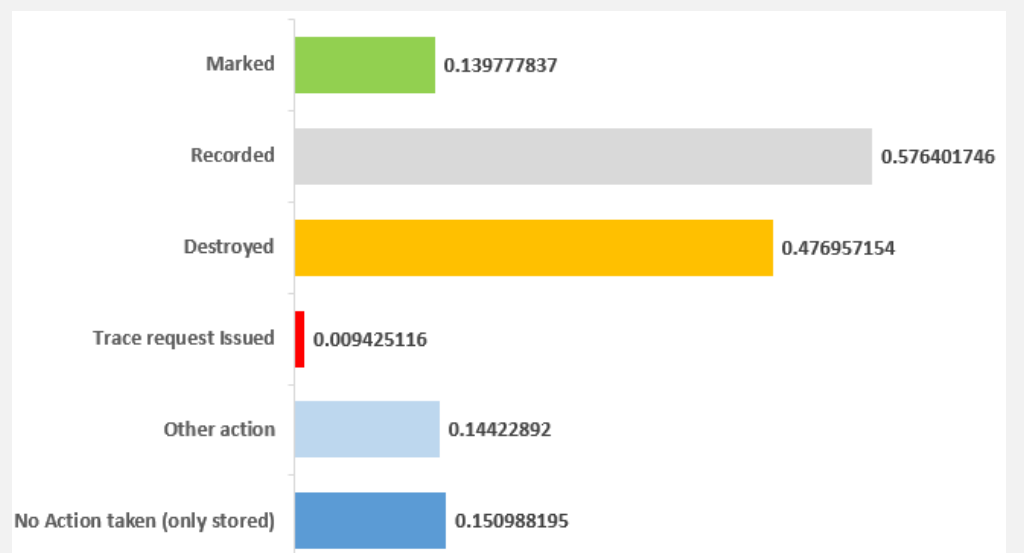
In the majority of successful tracing cases, firearms are traced domestically to a national registry (16 out of 28%) but a significant share are traced internationally to a foreign registry (11 out of 28%), meaning that cooperative practices at the international level are very important, though not yet sufficient. Data from 18 countries for the period 2018-2019 also show the insufficient level of international cooperation in tracing. Based on these data, if all seized weapons are included (irrespective of weapons traceability), 9% of weapons seized in the period were traced internationally.

The destruction of weapons also constitutes an effective method of reducing the number of small arms on the illicit market and preventing potential diversion of weapons to the illicit market and should therefore be considered as a critical measure towards reducing arms flows in accordance with SDG Target 16.4. In 2018 – 2019, according to available data, national authorities destroyed on average 48% of the weapons seized, found, and surrendered in that period. Overall, considering also weapons collected in previous years and obsolete weapons from national stockpiles, more than 473,000 weapons were destroyed in 2018 – 2019. Northern American and European countries accounted for more than 65% of the reported global destructions, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (28%).

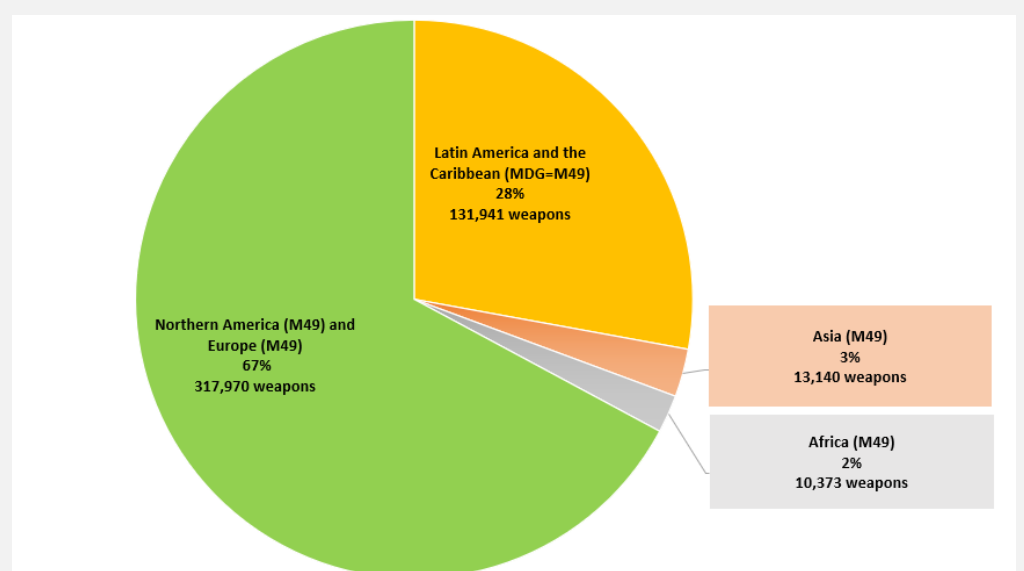
Average value of SDG Indicator 16.4.2, in comparison with average arms seized (2016 – 2020)



Percentage of follow-up actions taken by national authorities with respect to the weapons seized, found and surrendered (2018 – 2019)



Percentage and number of weapons destroyed by national authorities, by region (2018 – 2019)



**Storyline author(s)/contributor(s):** Hernan Epstein, UNODC; Camelia Abdelgelil, UNODC; Takashi Mashiko, UNODA

**Custodian agency(ies):** UNODC, UNODA

## Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

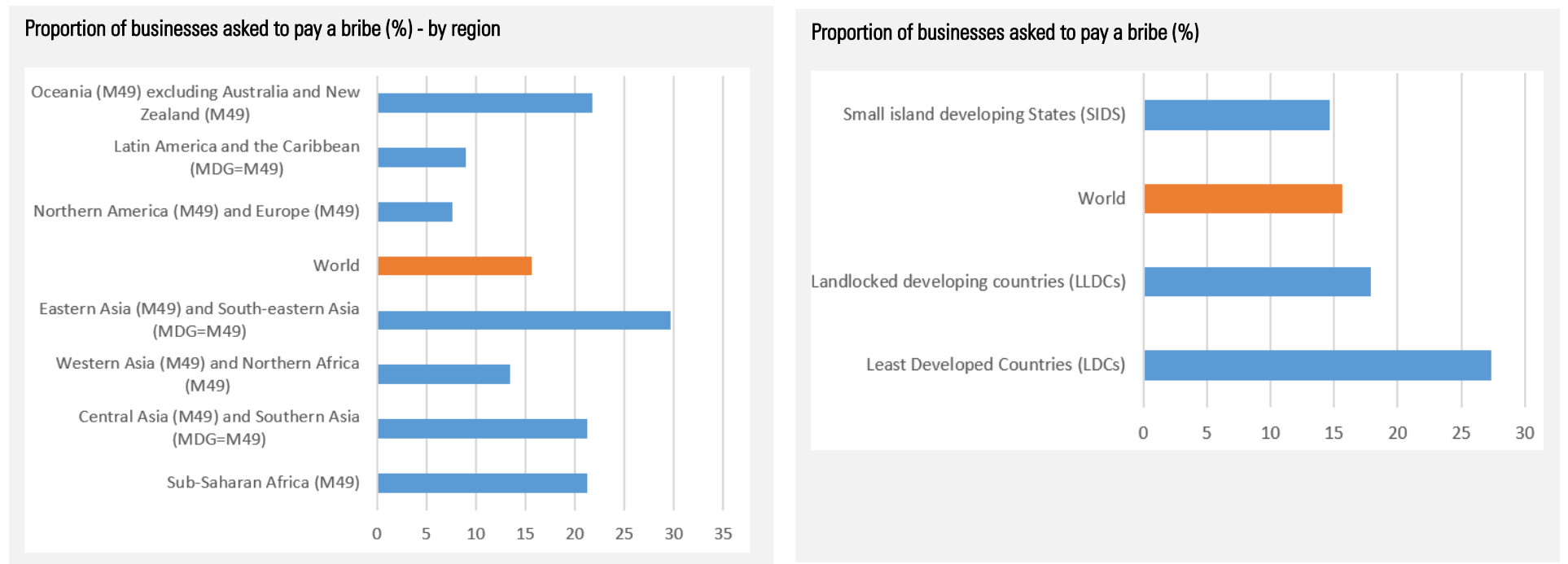
Indicator 16.5.1: Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months

[Custodian agency\(ies\)](#): UNODC

Indicator 16.5.2: Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months

### Corruption increases the costs of conducting business for entrepreneurs

Globally, almost one in six businesses face requests for bribe payments by public officials; this is based on establishment-level surveys that collect data on what businesses experience on a day-to-day basis. The six transactions under consideration are obtaining electrical connections, water connections, construction-related permits, import licenses, operating licenses, and meetings with tax officials. The incidence of bribery varies across the world. Asian countries (Eastern and Southeast) and Least Developed Countries have the largest bribery incidence- approximately 30% of businesses, whereas businesses in the Latin America and the Caribbean and Northern America and Europe regions have the lowest incidence- 9% and 8% of businesses respectively. Policymakers can reduce the prevalence of bribery by making business processes, such as applications and payments for permits and licenses, both online and fully transparent.



**Storyline author(s)/contributor(s)**: Arvind Jain, World Bank

[Custodian agency\(ies\)](#): World Bank, UNODC

## Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

### Indicator 16.6.1: Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)

#### SDG indicator 16.6.1 speaks how budgets are affected by COVID-19 pandemic

What does the collected data for SDG 16.6.1 tell us about the budget execution for the period 2010 -2021? From the 152 countries with available data for the period 2010-2021, half of the countries show less than 5% deviation in the budget execution compared to the approved budget, while one third of the countries' budgets deviate within 5-10 %, and the budgets of 18 % of the countries show deviation more than 10%.

The regional breakdown confirms Sub-Saharan Africa as the poorest performer with 11 out of 43 countries assessed, showing budget deviations more than 10%, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean.

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted primary government expenditures as a proportion of the original approved budget, whether through revenue-financed expenditures, externally financed ones, and/or special funds or suspense accounts. Fewer countries were able to maintain credible budgets during COVID when compared to preceding five years period. Due to the shock additional investments were needed to be planned over a multi-year period and funded through the annual budgets.

#### Comparison of 31 sampled countries for the period 2015-2021

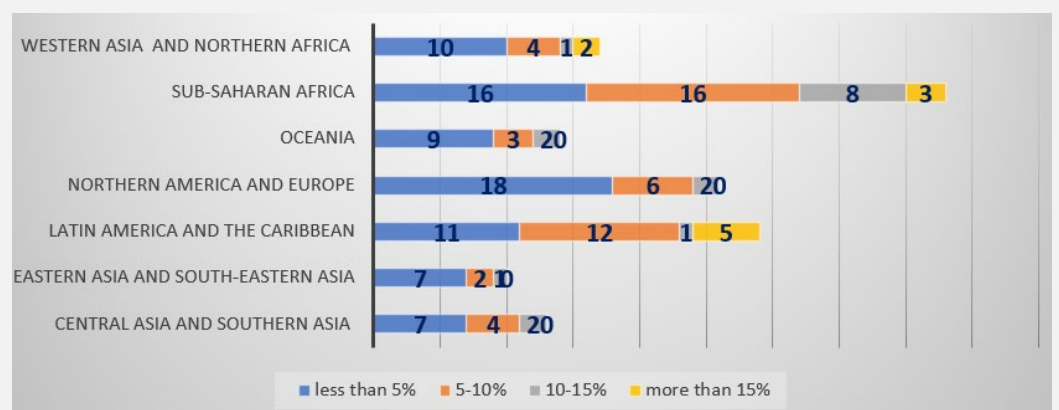
The average budget deviation according regions shows that for 2015-2019 the maximum deviation was up to 6% in underspending in Latin America and the Caribbean Region and Oceania, while during COVID-19 period 2020-2021 most of the regions had a significant average budget deviations mainly in underspending: Oceania with more than 10% (11.2 %), Central Asia and Southern Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean within 5-10% (CASA with 8.98 %; SAR with 8.67%; LAC with 5.76 %), but few countries in LAC reaching a peak of 40.67%. In overspending the noticed deviations were in Northern America and Europe with average of 8.49%, that is within 5-10%, but some countries deviating up to to 41%.

#### Examples of massive action by governments to mitigate the economic and financial effects of the pandemic on their budget expenditures

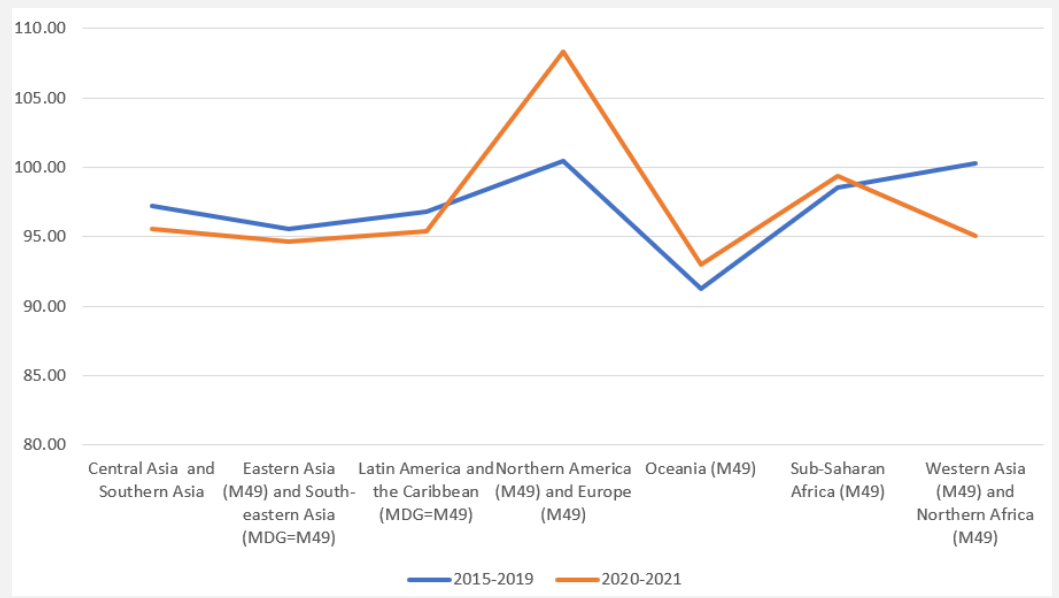
Most countries around the world introduced measures in health, education, public services and in improving tax compliance. Other areas included construction projects for medical posts and hospitals in Bolivia and strategic infrastructure projects in Mexico. Additional budgets were planned for Environmental Sustainability and Climate resilience in Grenada and for projects related to renewable energy to provide permanent electricity for hospitals in West Bank and Gaza. In Chile and Turks and Caicos Islands the measures included recovery of work and support for small and medium-sized businesses, while In Samoa assistance was provided for youth employment opportunities. Belize and Albania established funds for reimbursement of the medications for COVID treatments, covering the cost of vaccines and critical care supplies, while in Fiji financial resources were redirected for ventilators, scanners, fever clinics and raising health awareness.

Jamaica and Mexico took actions in reinforcement of human and physical resources and social programs. At the same time expenditures for support of vulnerable groups were planned in Suriname and for recovery of tourism, wholesale, and retail sectors in Cambodia.

Number of Countries According Deviations in UN Regions



Comparison of Budget Deviations Before and During COVID-19



**Storyline author(s)/contributor(s):** Srinivas Gurazada, World Bank; Silvia Kirova, World Bank; Richard Allen, IMF; Ashikur Rahman, World Bank; Nouf Alazmi, World Bank

**Custodian agency(ies):** World Bank

### Indicator 16.6.2: Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services

**Custodian agency(ies):** UNDP

## Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

Indicator 16.7.1: Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups

### Male parliamentarians aged 46 and above continue to dominate leadership positions in parliament

Parliaments and their leaders have become younger and more gender-diverse in the past five years. However, progress towards greater representativeness continues to be slow and uneven. Women and young people remain acutely underrepresented in leadership positions. Youth representation (MPs aged 45 or below) stood at 28.1 per cent in 2018, climbed to 31.1 per cent in 2021, and then dropped 0.9 points to 30.2 per cent in 2022. The proportion of women Speakers rose gradually each year (from 17.3 per cent in 2018 to 22 per cent in 2022), yet continues to be below the global average of women in parliament (26.1 per cent; chart 1).

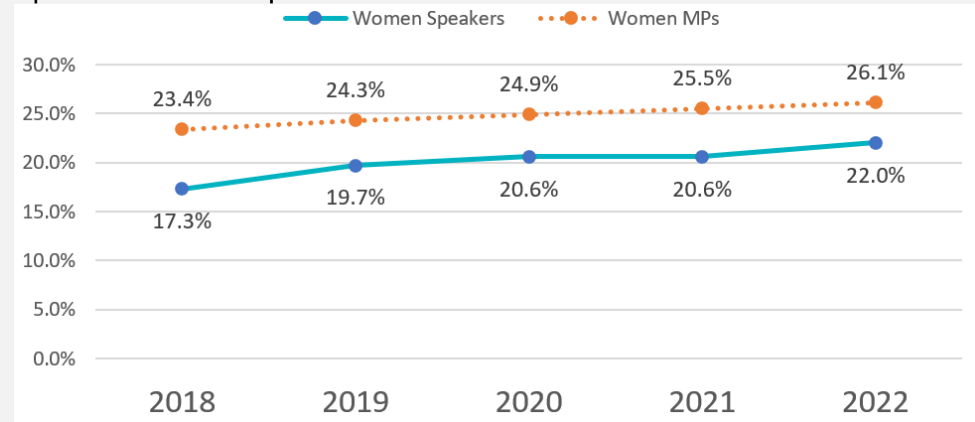
Male parliamentarians aged 46 and over continue to dominate leadership positions in parliament, holding 71.8 per cent of Speaker posts and 60.5 per cent of committee chairs covered by this indicator (chart 2).

Young MPs (those aged 45 or under) account for a small fraction of Speakers and committee chairs, with male MPs faring better than their female counterparts. Young men account for 13.3 per cent of committee chairs and 6.1 per cent of Speakers, while young women make up 5.6 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively. Last year, the average age of Speakers was 61 for both men and women. In 2022, the same average for men is 62.3 years old, and 57.8 for women.

There is a clear asymmetry between the proportion of young parliamentarians in legislatures and the proportion of young people in national populations. Youth representation tends to be disproportionately low at the country, regional and global levels, although Europe and a handful of subregions are more balanced (chart 3). The average representation of young MPs in Europe is almost exactly equal to the age group's representation within national populations. The ratios of young MPs in the lower chambers or unicameral parliaments of Austria, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden are all directly proportional to their populations (chart 3).

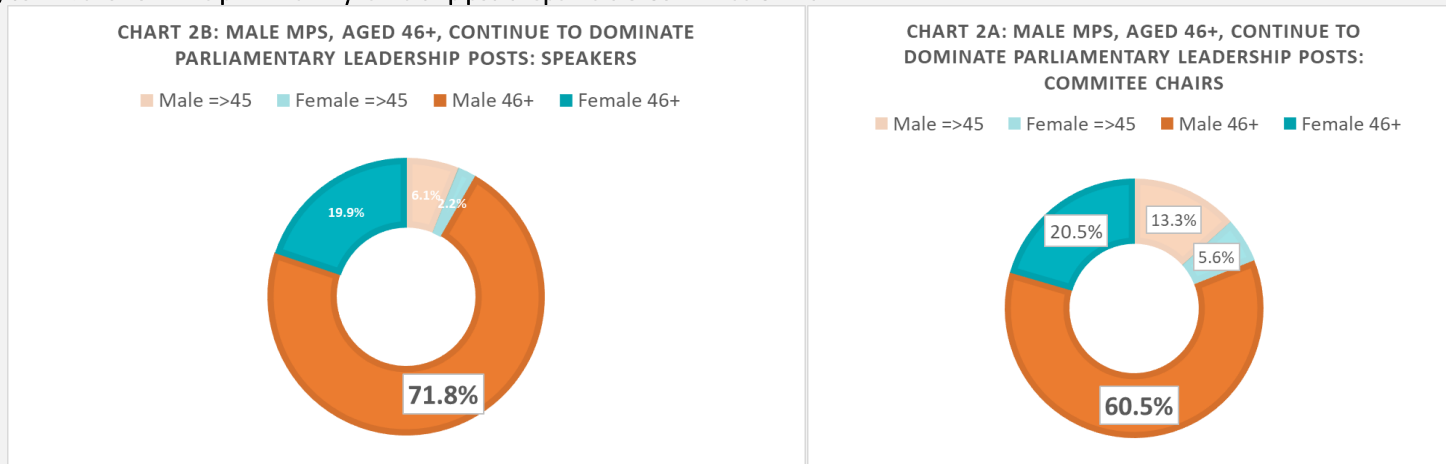
The proportion of women committee chairs across the five parliamentary committees fell from 26.8 per cent last year to 26.2 per cent in 2022. However, this aggregate figure masks deeper gendered disparities: 67.2 per cent of committees focused on gender equality are chaired by women (slightly down from 69.1 per cent last year). If leadership of gender equality committees is taken out of the equation, women only chair a combined total of 17.4 per cent of the committees focused on defence, foreign affairs, finance and human rights (no change from last year).

Five years in review: Proportion of women Speakers rises each year, but remains below women's representation in national parliaments

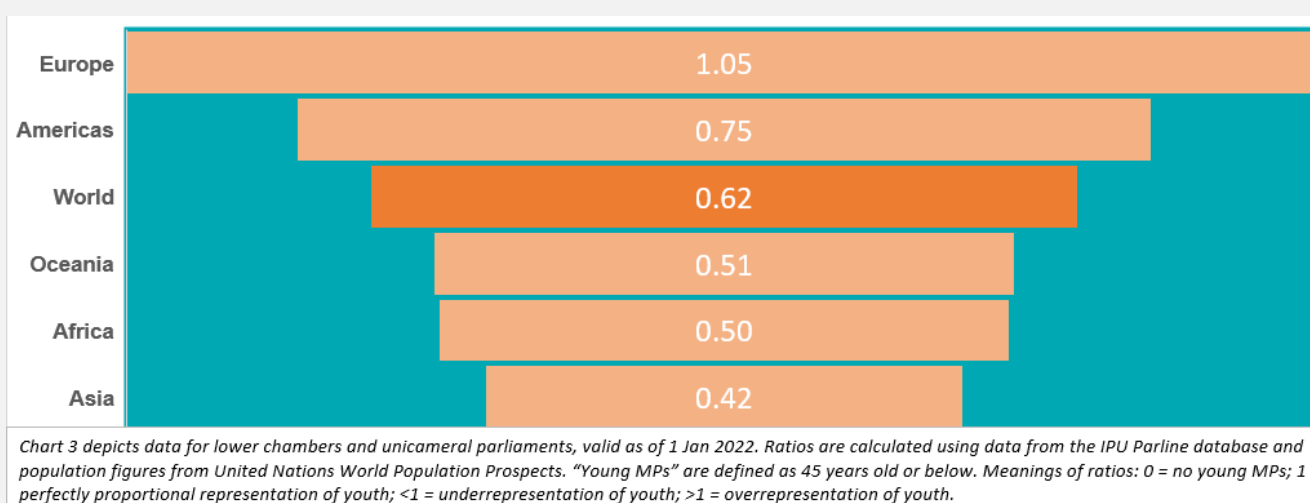


Male MPs, aged 46+, continue to dominate parliamentary leadership posts: Speakers & Committee Chairs

### Male MPs, aged 46+, continue to dominate parliamentary leadership posts: Speakers & Committee Chairs



### IN EUROPE - THE RATIO OF MPS AGED 45 OR UNDER IS ALMOST EXACTLY PROPORTIONATE TO THE NATIONAL POPULATION



#### Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- IPU. Parline: the database on national parliaments, <https://data.ipu.org>.
- IPU (2022). Women in parliament in 2021, [www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2022-03/women-in-parliament-in-2021](http://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2022-03/women-in-parliament-in-2021).
- IPU (2021). Women in parliament in 2020, [www.ipu.org/women-in-parliament-2020](http://www.ipu.org/women-in-parliament-2020).
- IPU (2020). Women in parliament: 1995–2020 – 25 years in review, [www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2020-03/women-in-parliament-1995-2020-25-years-in-review](http://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2020-03/women-in-parliament-1995-2020-25-years-in-review).
- IPU (2018). Women in parliament in 2018: The year in review, [www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2019-03/women-in-parliament-in-2018-year-in-review](http://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2019-03/women-in-parliament-in-2018-year-in-review).
- IPU (2018). Youth participation in national parliaments, [www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2018-12/youth-participation-in-national-parliaments-2018](http://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2018-12/youth-participation-in-national-parliaments-2018).
- IPU (2017). Women in parliament in 2017: The year in review, [www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2018-03/women-in-parliament-in-2017-year-in-review](http://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2018-03/women-in-parliament-in-2017-year-in-review).

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Addie Erwin, Inter-parliamentary Union; Andy Richardson, Inter-parliamentary Union

Custodian agency(ies): IPU, UNDP

Indicator 16.7.2: Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNDP

Target 16.8: Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

Indicator 16.8.1: Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations



<p><a href="#">Custodian agency(ies):</a> DESA/FFDO</p>
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Target 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

Indicator 16.9.1: Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UNSD, UNICEF

## Target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

### Indicator 16.10.1: Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months

#### Continued killings of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists mar rebuilding and recovery from the pandemic

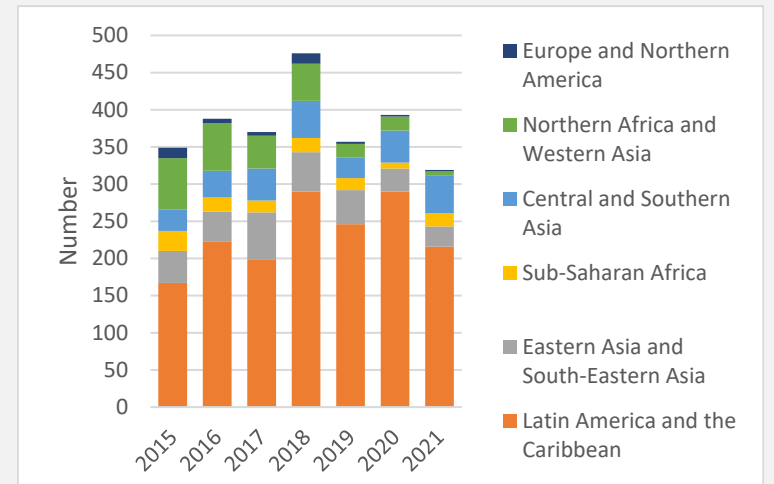
In 2021, as vaccines started to be rolled out and countries began to chart a path out of the pandemic, 320 deadly attacks against human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists occurred in 35 countries, while 9 cases of enforced disappearance were observed in 6 countries worldwide.

According to United Nations data, killings of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists have happened in over 1/3 of UN member States from 2015 to 2021. Over half of human rights defenders killed or disappeared worldwide were leaders of peasant communities and land and environmental defenders. 2021 also saw an increase from 11% in 2020 to 16% in the proportion of women human rights defenders and journalists killed. The proportion of cases of killings of human rights defenders in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, compared to the global total, has been steadily rising: the LAC region now accounts for nearly 3 in 4 HRD killings (74%) globally, up from 1 in 2 (47%) killings in 2015. Just three countries in this region account for over 77% of globally recorded cases.

There were 55 killings of journalists in 2021, compared to 62 in 2020. The region that saw the most killings of journalists was Asia and the Pacific (42%), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (26%), Africa (18%), Central and Eastern Europe (5%), Western Europe and North America (5%), and the Arab Region (4%). Just over 36% of journalists were killed in countries experiencing conflict, continuing the trend of a growing proportion of killings taking place outside of conflict zones.

Data from ongoing armed conflicts and violence flaring up in countries across the world foreshadows elevated figures for killings and enforced disappearances in 2022.

Number of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists killed, by region, 2015-2021



#### Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- United Nations, "Human Rights Defenders", <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-human-rights-defenders>
- <https://en.unesco.org/themes/safety-journalists/observatory>
- <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379589.locale=en>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Marc Titus Cebreros, OHCHR; Theresa Chorbacher, UNESCO

Custodian agency(ies): OHCHR

### Indicator 16.10.2: Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information

#### More countries have adopted legal frameworks on access to information, but some challenges remain in their implementation during the pandemic

Progress has been recorded in the past years in terms of the adoption of legal guarantees giving individuals a right to access information held by public authorities, but the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down their implementation.

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015, at least 30 countries have passed access to information (ATI) laws, reaching 135 in total as of today. During the COVID-19 period in between 2020 and 2021, six countries\* passed new ATI laws.

In some countries where the ATI laws are in place, the pandemic has disrupted normal administrative procedures, such as the processing of requests for information and ensuring that records of such requests are maintained. This was evident from UNESCO's latest research\*\*, which suggested that out of the 91 countries and territories with ATI laws, only 44% (40) had data in 2020 on the number of requests for information received, while the remaining 56% (51) only had data from either 2018 or 2019, or no data at all.

The low number of data availability was also recorded on the number of appeals processed by ATI oversight institutions. Out of the 102 countries and territories, only 57% (52) had data in 2020, while the remaining 43% (39) only had data from either 2018 or 2019, or no data at all.

These low figures in 2020 might indicate some difficulties faced by public bodies to treat and follow up ATI requests during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the limitation of the ATI oversight institutions in performing their duties due to temporarily suspended ATI guarantees in their countries.

However, it is worth noting that many countries had shown they could make available data on the pandemic, such as on virus infections, contracting of emergency equipment, and allocation of rescue package and relief financing. The UNESCO's research also showed from the data available in 2020 as reported by the 40 countries, the majority of ATI requests were granted (75% of cases) and only 13% were denied, with the remainder being dismissed as ineligible (8%) and pending (4%). In addition, 52 countries reported that the majority of appeals were granted (48% of cases) and only 15% were denied, with the rest being dismissed as ineligible (15%) and pending (22%). All these demonstrated the potential to improve access to information in other areas of life.

The low level of data availability for 2020 also reinforces the need for the ATI oversight institutions to improve their recordkeeping systems. Fortunately, as the UNESCO's research also revealed, ATI oversight institutions in some countries have provided good examples in reorganizing their working methods during the pandemic, which can be replicated by other countries and territories.

\*The six countries are Andorra, Gambia, Guinea, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela

\*\* LINK: To Recovery and Beyond: 2021 UNESCO Report on Public Access to Information: <https://www.unesco.org/reports/access-to-information/2021/en>

#### Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- To Recovery and Beyond: 2021 UNESCO Report on Public Access to Information: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000380520>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Dian Kuswandini, UNESCO

Custodian agency(ies): UNESCO-UIS



**Target 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime**

**Indicator 16.a.1: Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles**

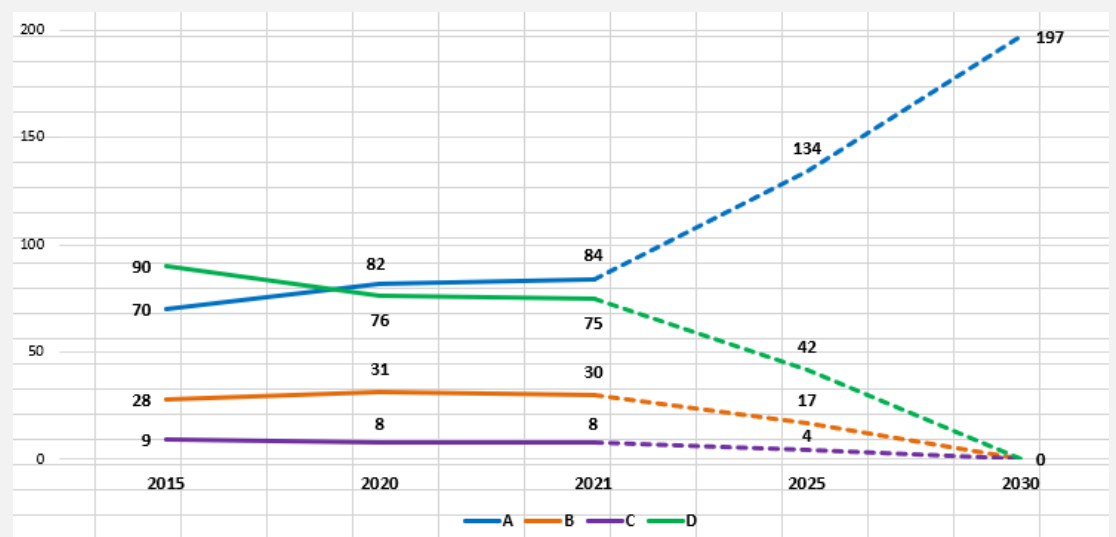
**Decelerating progress in the number of independent NHRIs endangers rights-based pandemic recovery**

National human rights institutions (NHRIs) are independent bodies mandated to promote and protect human rights. When in compliance with the Paris Principles, NHRIs are cornerstones of effective national human rights promotion and protection systems.

Progress in establishing or strengthening national human rights institutions (NHRIs) decelerated in 2021. The number of independent NHRIs increased only by 2, while 1 NHRI previously considered as fully compliant (A) and 1 previously non-compliant NHRI (D) were recognized as being in partial compliance with the Paris Principles (B). Compared to the period 2015-2017, when on average 4 new NHRIs applied for the first time to be accredited annually, from 2018 to 2021, only 1 new NHRI has been seeking accreditation per year.

To meet the 2030 target, 13 NHRIs, which corresponds to annual average growth of 10%, must attain full compliance with the Paris Principles annually. While Sub-Saharan Africa, and Northern America and Europe registered average growth rates of 6.3% and 4.3% from 2015, zero or negative growth has been observed in the rest of the world. With only 43% of countries benefiting from independent NHRIs, durable, sustained and rights-based recovery from the global pandemic will be difficult to achieve.

**Number of countries by type of status of NHRIs (2015-2021), and required progress to meet the target (2020-2030)**



**Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:**

- Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, "Reports of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation" (webpage), <https://ganhri.org/accreditation/sca-reports/>
- United Nations, Accreditation of National Human Rights Institutions (map), [https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/HRIIndicators/NHRI\\_map.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/HRIIndicators/NHRI_map.pdf)
- United Nations, Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/76/246), <https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2F76%2F246&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False>

**Storyline author(s)/contributor(s):** Marc Titus Cebreros, OHCHR; Poleth Vega, OHCHR

**Custodian agency(ies):** OHCHR

## Target 16.b: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

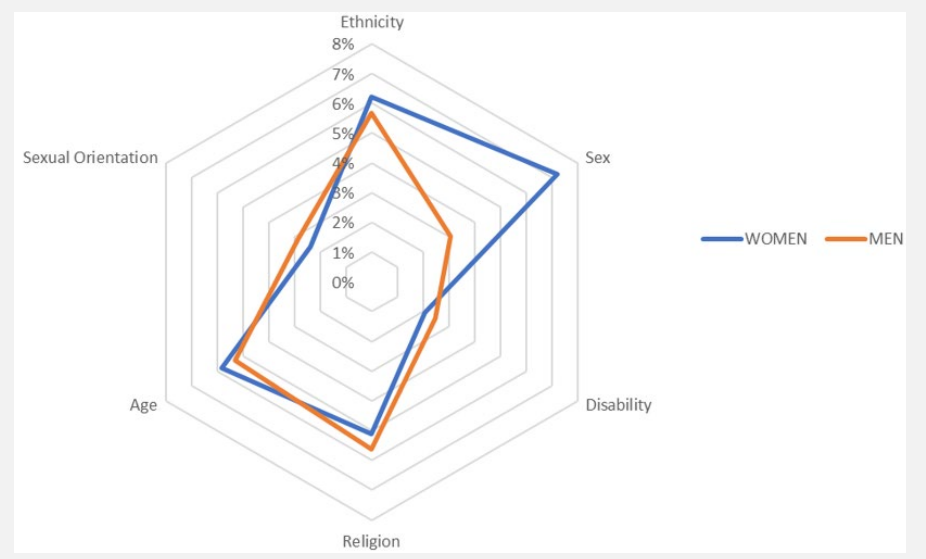
Indicator 10.3.1/16.b.1: Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

### Human rights must be at the heart of transformative change to address intersecting discrimination exacerbated by the pandemic

The spread of COVID-19 has intensified existing structural and systemic discrimination and pervasive inequalities, which harm millions of people and hold back every society. Addressing discrimination and inequality through evidence-based policies allows societies to transform into a more inclusive, equal, resilient, just, and sustainable system anchored in human rights.

Data from 49 countries and territories, between 2017 and 2021, show that roughly 1 out of 5 persons reported having experienced discrimination on at least one of the grounds prohibited under international human rights law. In countries where data is available for women and men, women are likely to report discrimination more than twice than men on the grounds of sex. Moreover, women living in urban areas are slightly more likely to experience discrimination than their rural counterparts. Discrimination against persons with disabilities persists. Among persons with disability, one-third have reported having personally experienced discrimination.

Prevalence of discrimination (%), by selected grounds, 2017-2021



#### Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- OHCHR Annual Appeal 2022, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/AnnualAppeal2022.pdf>
- The Magnitude and Scope of Inequalities Created and Exacerbated by COVID-19 Is Truly Shocking, High Commissioner Tells Human Rights Council, 28 September 2021 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/2021/09/magnitude-and-scope-inequalities-created-and-exacerbated-covid-19-truly-shocking-high>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Fatma Sine Tepe, OHCHR; Grace Sanico Steffan, OHCHR

Custodian agency(ies): OHCHR