

5 GENDER EQUALITY



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.

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Target 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Indicator 5.1.1: Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#) UN Women, World Bank, OECD Development Centre

Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

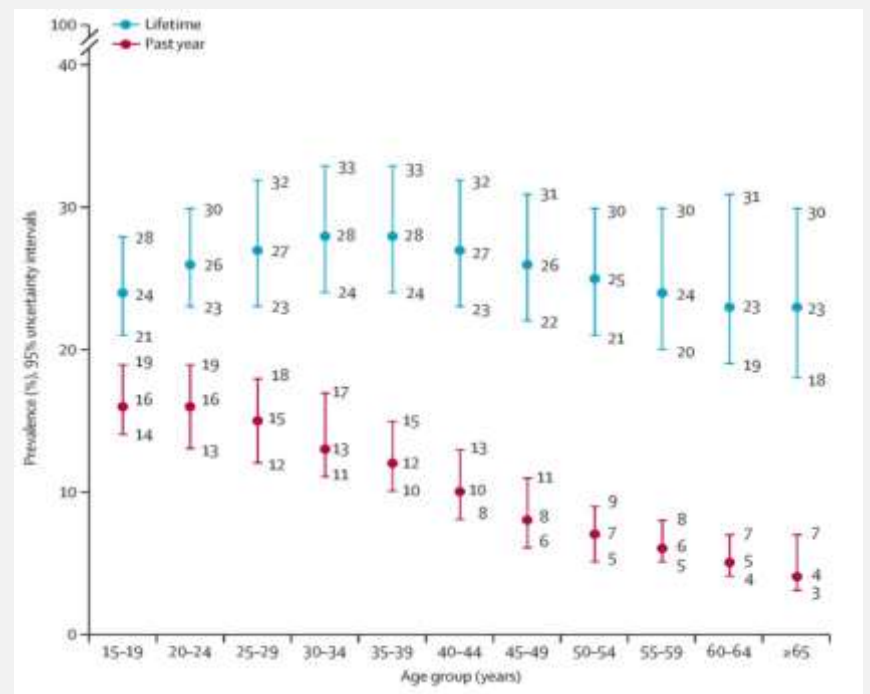
Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

Violence against older women is pervasive at all ages but data for older women remains limited

Violence against women and girls is prevalent across countries and affects women of all ages. While data is more limited for the older age groups of women, globally, close to 1 in 4 ever-partnered women aged 60 years and older have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a male partner or ex-partner in their lifetime. The wide 95% uncertainty intervals (UIs) reflect the relative lack of prevalence data for these older age cohorts. Five percent (UI: 4-7%) of women aged 60-64 and four percent (UI: 3-7%) of women aged 65 years and older were subjected to this form of intimate partner violence in the past 12 months.

While global awareness of violence against older women is growing, with less than 10% of eligible prevalence data on intimate partner violence against women for those aged 50 and older, the scale, severity and complexity of such violence may be underestimated. Data from elder abuse studies/surveys suggest that older women may be vulnerable to specific forms of violence not usually measured in violence against women surveys, such as economic exploitation, being ostracized and neglected. Also, in addition to intimate partners, perpetrators of violence against older women can include adult children and other relatives, strangers, caregivers and neighbours.

Global prevalence estimates of lifetime and past year physical or sexual, or both, intimate partner violence among ever-married or ever-partnered women, by age group, 2018



Source: Sardinha et al, 2022, The Lancet

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- World Health Organization, 2021. Violence against Women Prevalence Estimates, 2018. Global, regional, and national prevalence estimates for intimate partner violence against women and global and regional prevalence estimates for non-partner sexual violence against women. Available at: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240022256>
- Sardinha L, Maheu-Giroux M, Stöckl H, Meyer SR, García-Moreno C. Global, regional and national prevalence estimates of physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence against women, 2018. The Lancet. Available at: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(21\)02664-7/fulltext#seccestitle70](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(21)02664-7/fulltext#seccestitle70)
- Press release - THE LANCET: More than a quarter of women have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetimes, finds new study. Available at: [THE LANCET: More than a quarter of women have | EurekAlert!](https://www.thelancet.com/news-and-comment/article/S0140-6736(21)02664-7)
- Maheu-Giroux M, Sardinha L, Stöckl H, Meyer SR, Godin, A, Alexander, M & García-Moreno C. 2022. A framework to model global, regional, and national estimates of intimate partner violence. BMC Medical Research Methodology. Available at: <https://bmcmedresmethodol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12874-022-01634-5>
- Press release. Devastatingly pervasive: 1 in 3 women globally experience violence Younger women among those most at risk: WHO. Available at: <https://www.who.int/news/item/09-03-2021-devastatingly-pervasive-1-in-3-women-globally-experience-violenceGlobal>
- Database on the Prevalence of Violence Against Women. Available at: <https://srhr.org/vaw-data>
- Global Factsheet: Violence against women prevalence estimates, 2018: Available at <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240022256>

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Custodian agency(ies): WHO, UN Women, UNFPA, UNODC

Indicator 5.2.2: Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

Custodian agency(ies): WHO, UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC

Target 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Indicator 5.3.1: Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18

COVID-19 threatens global progress against child marriage

Globally, more than half a billion girls and women alive today were married in childhood. The highest rates of child marriage are found in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, where 35 per cent and 28 per cent of young women, respectively, were married in childhood. Recent data indicate that the prevalence of child marriage is generally in decline, but there is substantial heterogeneity in rates of reduction across and within regions and countries, with some high-prevalence areas seeing stagnating progress and even increases.

However, the profound effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are threatening this progress, putting girls at higher risk of becoming child brides through various pathways including economic shocks, school closures and interruptions in services. In the next decade up to 10 million more girls will be at risk of child marriage as a result of COVID-19, in addition to the 100 million who were projected to become child brides before the pandemic. Most child marriages due to COVID-19 are expected to occur in the near term, though the impact is likely to be felt over at least the next decade, also raising the risk of early marriage for girls who are now young.

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- <https://data.unicef.org/resources/towards-ending-child-marriage/>
- <https://data.unicef.org/resources/covid-19-a-threat-to-progress-against-child-marriage/>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Claudia Cappa, UNICEF; Colleen Murray, UNICEF

Custodian agency(ies): UNICEF

Indicator 5.3.2: Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age

FGM is in decline in many places, but progress is not fast enough

At least 200 million girls and women alive today have been subjected to FGM. There are wide variations in prevalence across countries. FGM is almost universal in Somalia, Guinea and Djibouti, while it affects no more than 1 per cent of girls and women in Cameroon and Uganda. Evidence shows the practice is declining in areas where it was once universal – Egypt and Sierra Leone, for example – as well as in countries where it only occurred in a few communities, such as Kenya and Nigeria. However, progress is not happening everywhere. In many countries, the practice remains as common today as it was three decades ago. Overall, even in countries where the practice has become less prevalent, progress would need to be at least 10 times faster to meet the global target of eliminating FGM by 2030.

As the world rallies to accelerate progress against FGM, understanding what drives change in how people think about the practice and act is key to its elimination. Education is one such driver. Within communities that practise FGM, many think it should end, and in high- and low-prevalence countries alike, opposition to FGM is highest among girls and women who are educated. Furthermore, educated mothers are less likely to subject their daughters to the practice. Girls whose mothers have a primary education are 40 per cent less likely to be cut than those whose mothers have no education.

Education is an important mechanism to increase awareness of the dangers of FGM and of groups that do not practise it. Education also fosters questioning and discussion and provides opportunities for individuals to take on social roles that are not dependent on the practice of FGM for acceptance.

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- <https://data.unicef.org/resources/the-power-of-education-to-end-female-genital-mutilation/>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Claudia Cappa, UNICEF; Colleen Murray, UNICEF

Custodian agency(ies): UNICEF

Target 5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

Indicator 5.4.1: Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location



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

Target 5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Indicator 5.5.1: Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments

Gender quotas, safe political environments and gender-sensitive institutions are needed to achieve and sustain equal representation in decision-making positions

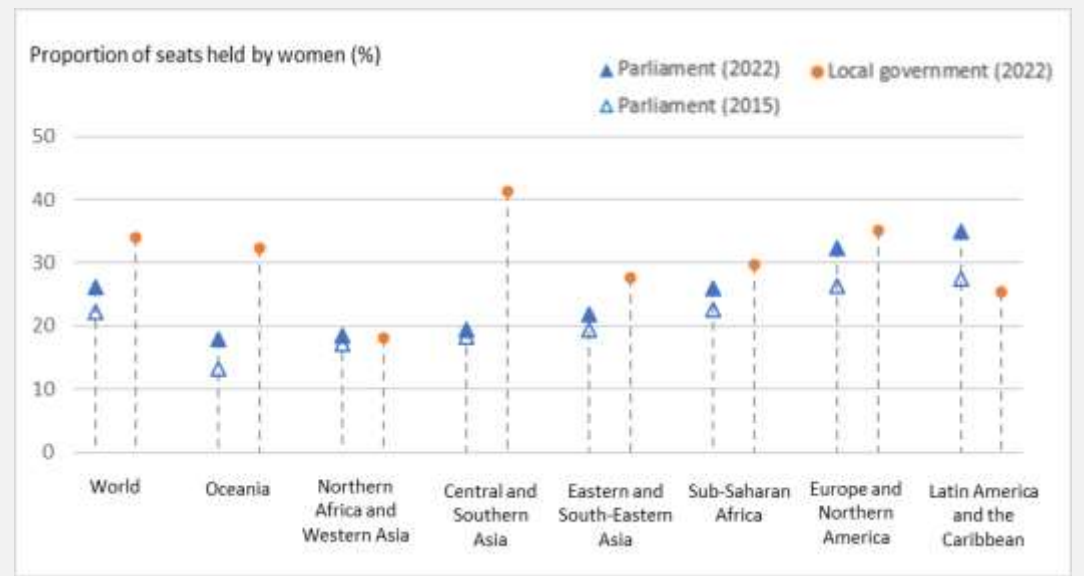
The COVID-19 crisis highlighted women's effective and inclusive leadership in response and recovery efforts. Women leaders of national and local governments acted decisively, prioritizing measures that addressed the pandemic's disproportionate social and economic impacts on societies' most vulnerable groups. Despite this widely acknowledged success, the pace of progress on women's representation in decision-making positions has remained much too slow, and some countries even saw a decline in the share of women elected. As at 1 January 2022, the global share of women in lower and single houses of national parliaments reached 26.2 per cent, up from 25.6 per cent in 2021 and 22.4 per cent in 2015. This is merely an additional 0.5 to 0.6 percentage point per year. The share of women in local government is higher than in parliament, at 34.3 per cent (based on 136 countries with data). Some countries are leading the way towards gender parity. Thirty-two countries have reached 40 per cent or more women in parliament (up from 23 a year ago) and 22 (out of 136) in local governments. In five parliaments, women occupy 50 per cent or more seats (up from only three in 2021).

However, most countries continue to be dominated by male political leadership, jeopardizing global efforts to uphold women's human rights and address inequality, conflict, crises and climate-related disasters. At the extreme, 24 countries have less than 10 per cent women in parliament (three have no women members at all), and 12 countries (out of the 136 countries with data) have less than 10 per cent women in local government.

Key transformative actions are needed to achieve and sustain equal representation in decision-making positions. Legislated gender quotas continue to play a critical role, provided that they are ambitious, well designed and duly enforced. In 2021, 44 countries held elections to their lower or single houses of parliament. Women won 31.8 per cent of seats where a legislated gender quota was applied. A similar trend was witnessed in countries where quotas were voluntarily applied by political parties. When no quotas were implemented, women only gained 19.5 per cent of seats. At the local level, countries with legislated quotas have a higher representation of women than countries without quotas, by 7 percentage points.

Gender-sensitive institutions and safe political environments that prevent and address sexism, harassment and violence against women in politics are key to encourage more women to engage in political life, and new legislative and policy measures are needed to create them. Women members of parliaments and local governments face sexist comments, verbal abuse and threats, and even physical and sexual assaults, within their offices, political parties, communities and online.

Proportion of seats held by women in parliament and local government, 2015 and 2022



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- Piscopo Jennifer M. and Malliga Och, 2021. Effective, decisive and inclusive: Women's leadership in COVID-19 response and recovery. Working paper. UN Women 2021. Available at <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2021/Effective-decisive-and-inclusive-Womens-leadership-in-COVID-19-response-and-recovery-en.pdf>
- Berevoescu Ionica and Julie Ballington, 2022. Women's representation in local government. A global analysis. Working paper. UN Women 2022. Available at <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/Womens-representation-in-local-government-en.pdf>.
- Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), 2022. Women in parliament in 2021: the year in review. Available at <https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2022-03/women-in-parliament-in-2021>.
- IPU, 2019. Guidelines for the elimination of sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament. Available at: <https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reference/2019-11/guidelines-elimination-sexism-harassment-and-violence-against-women-in-parliament>
- IPU, 2012. Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments. Available at: <https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reference/2016-07/plan-action-gender-sensitive-parliaments>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Julie Ballington, UN Women; Ionica Berevoescu, UN Women; Mariana Duarte, IPU

Custodian agency(ies): IPU, UN Women

Indicator 5.5.2: Proportion of women in managerial positions

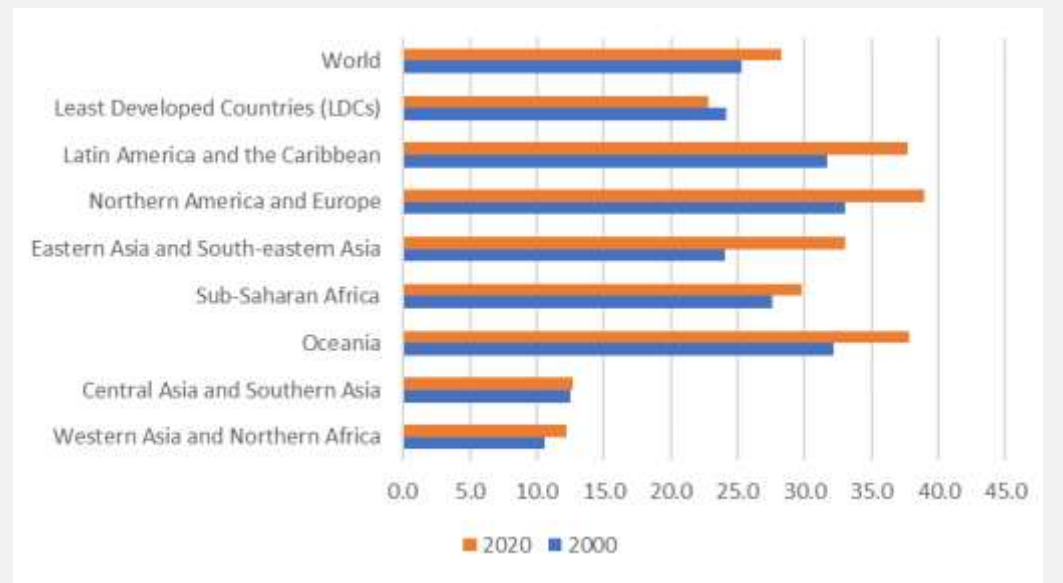
COVID-19 exacerbates longstanding labour market challenges for women

Working women have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. They accounted for 39.4 per cent of total employment before the pandemic in 2019, but for nearly 45 per cent of global employment losses in 2020. The inordinate shock of the pandemic on women's employment prospects is especially troubling given the longstanding challenges women have faced in accessing decent work, including decision-making positions. The share of women in managerial positions worldwide has shown only a slight improvement over the last two decades, rising from 25.3 per cent in 2000 to 28.3 per cent in 2019. It remained unchanged from 2019 to 2020, which is the first year without an increase since 2013. Globally, men continue to dominate decision-making positions such as legislators, senior officials, CEOs and other managerial occupations. At the current rate of progress, more than 140 years would pass before gender parity in managerial positions would be achieved.

In some regions, women have made noteworthy headway in gaining share among managerial workers over the past two decades, with an increase of 8.9 percentage points in Eastern and South-eastern Asia (to 33.0 per cent in 2020) and of 6.0 points in Latin America and the Caribbean (to 37.7 per cent in 2020). However, women still account for less than 39 per cent of total

management in each of the world's major geographic regions and their share in management remains below the corresponding share in total employment, a reflection of the persistent barriers faced by women to take up decision-making positions. In Western Asia and Northern Africa, women comprised only 11.8 per cent of managerial positions in 2019, an increase of only 1.6 percentage points over the past twenty years. Over the same period in Central Asia and Southern Asia, the share of women in management rose by only 0.2 percentage points to 12.7 per cent. Notably, women in LDCs faced an outright worsening in their prospects to work in managerial occupations, with their proportion declining by 1.4 percentage points, from 24.2 per cent to 22.8 per cent between 2000 and 2020. It is important to note that these aggregate data do not provide information on the levels of management (top, senior, middle or junior management), the number of staff supervised, type of economic unit, or scope and size of the economic unit, all of which are important to assess the actual decision-making power of workers holding managerial positions.

Proportion of women in managerial positions, 2000 and 2020



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Eighth edition https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms_824092.pdf
- ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Fifth edition https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms_749399.pdf
- World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2022 https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_834081.pdf

Custodian agency(ies): ILO

Target 5.6: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences

Indicator 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

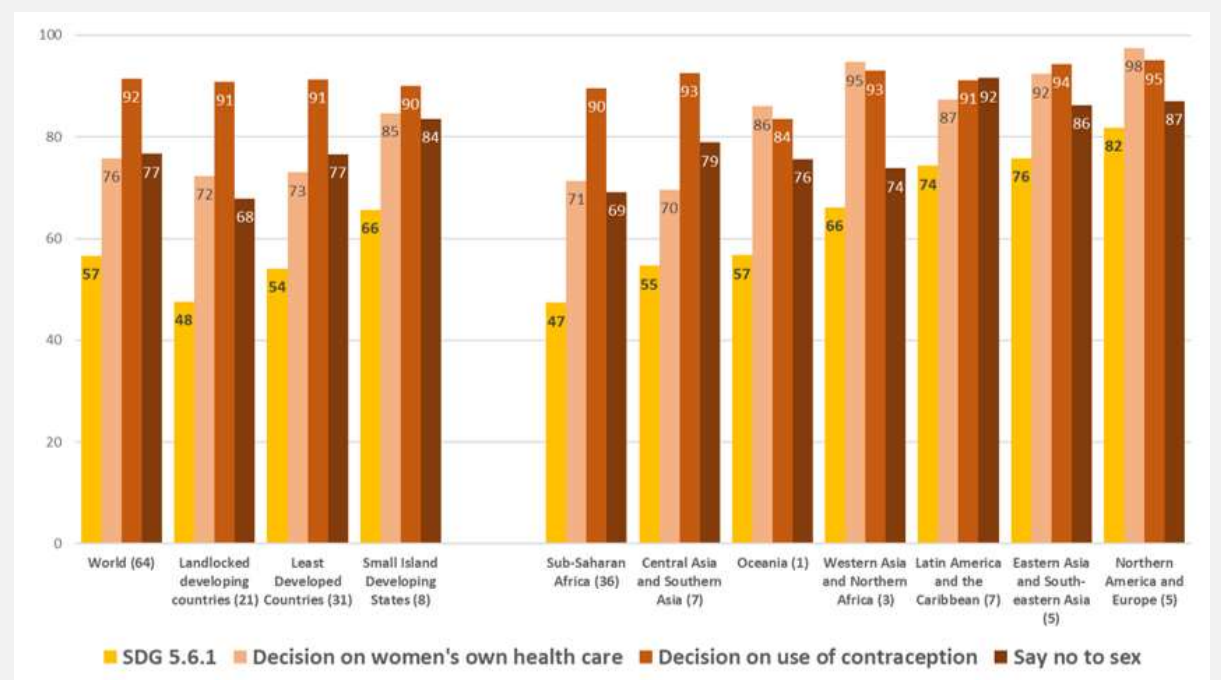
Legal restrictions to women and adolescents’ access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, combined with the denial of women's decision making on SRHR impedes full and equal enjoyment of SRHR for all.

Only 57 per cent of married or in-union women aged 15 to 49 make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), based on data from 64 countries. Data thus far reveal large disparities among regions, from less than 50 per cent empowered in sub-Saharan Africa to approximately 80 per cent in some countries in Europe, South-eastern Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Analysis of the three sub-indicators shows that while women seem to have the most autonomy in deciding to use contraception, with 92 per cent empowered, only three in four women can decide on their own health care or say no to sex.

Although in Eastern Asia and South-eastern Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean over 86 per cent of women are able to make at least one of the three types of decisions, only three in four can make decisions for all of them. Inequalities are found at the national level for each type of decision. In some countries, older women are more likely to have the ability to say no to sex; while in other countries, the opposite is observed. On the other hand, older women are more likely to make their own decisions on their health care in almost all of the countries with data available. More consistent disadvantages among less educated women, women living in poorer households, and women living in rural areas are found in the vast majority of the countries across all three components of the indicator. In summary, certain women, because of their age, education, location and wealth face particular challenges in exercising their bodily autonomy.

COVID-19 is likely to have a significant impact on women’s ability to make their own decisions on sexual and reproductive health care, although the specific impact is yet to be assessed. The pressure on the health care systems could put at risk the ability of health facilities to provide affordable, accessible, and good quality health care to women, including for sexual and reproductive health care and contraception. Potential financial hardship could prevent women from making their own decision to seek health care and the use of contraception. Taken together these issues will make it harder for women to exercise their bodily autonomy. During the lockdown periods, women may find it harder to say no to sex to their husbands or partners due to increased tensions in the household related to health, finance, and social isolation. Disruption or suspension of sexual and reproductive health services during lockdown periods makes these essential services inaccessible to women.

Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights (including deciding on their own health care, deciding on the use of contraception; and can say no to sex); most recent data 2007-2021



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- For more information, please visit <https://www.unfpa.org/sdg-5-6>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Mengjia Liang, UNFPA; Emilie Filmer-Wilson, UNFPA

Custodian agency(ies): UNFPA

Indicator 5.6.2: Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education

Legal restrictions to women and adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, combined with the denial of women's decision making on SRHR impedes full and equal enjoyment of SRHR for all.

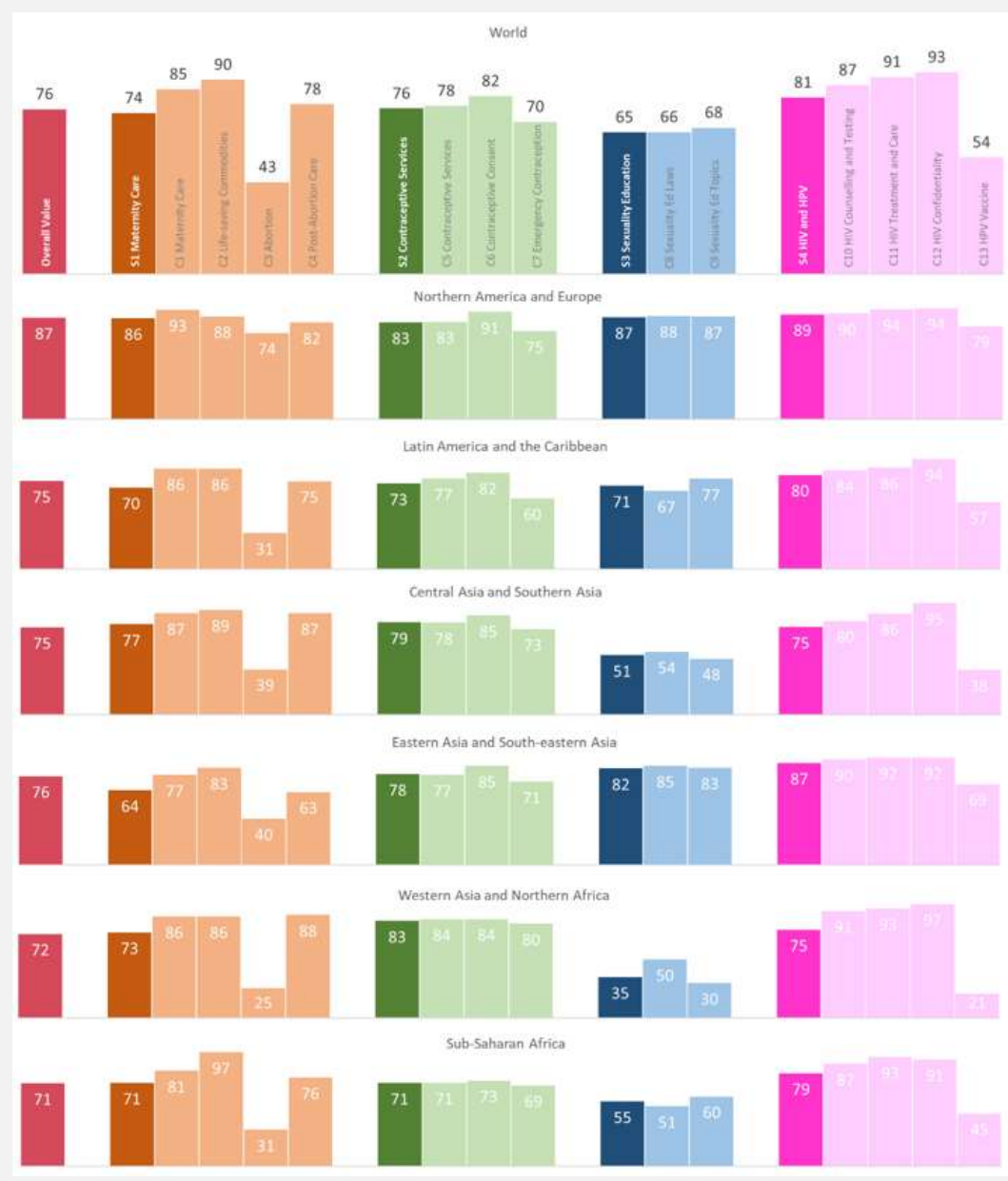
Critical to individuals' ability to decide freely on their sexual and reproductive health and rights is the extent to which laws prevent or enable access to relevant sexual and reproductive health care and information. Among the 115 countries with complete data on 5.6.2, countries have in place, on average, 76 per cent of the laws and regulations needed to guarantee full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. The section that is strongest in terms of enabling laws and regulations is HIV and HPV (81 per cent), followed by contraceptive services (76 per cent), maternity care (74 per cent), and sexuality education (65 per cent).

The findings from these data are particularly encouraging when it comes to the components of HIV and life-saving commodities: on average, countries have achieved 93 per cent for HIV confidentiality; 91 per cent for HIV treatment and care services; and 90 per cent for the 13 life-saving commodities for women and children on the national list of essential medicines. Meanwhile, countries have an average of 82 per cent of relevant enabling laws and regulations that stipulate full, free, and informed consent of individuals before they receive contraceptive services, including sterilization. This indicates a mostly supportive protection framework from coerced or forced practices.

Although laws and regulations exist to guarantee access to maternity care in 95 per cent of reporting countries, 7 per cent of these countries require a woman to be married to access those services. Access to contraceptive services is also restricted for a number of groups. In 12 per cent of reporting countries where laws protect access to contraceptive services, plural legal systems contradict the positive laws and regulations. Moreover, 31 per cent of the countries have contraceptive restrictions based on a minimum age, 22 per cent have restrictions based on a requirement for third-party authorization and 6 per cent have restrictions based on marital status.

Barriers are most prevalent regarding legal access to abortion. Although abortion is legal on some or all grounds in 96 per cent of the 147 reporting countries, a husband's consent is required for married women to access the service in 28 per cent of these countries, and judicial consent is required for minors in 36 per cent. Furthermore, women can be criminally charged for an illegal abortion in 63 per cent of the countries.

Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education, including Section (S1-S4) and Component (C1-C13) values, 2022 (per cent).



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- For more information, please visit <https://www.unfpa.org/sdg-5-6>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Mengjia Liang, UNFPA; Emilie Filmer-Wilson, UNFPA

Custodian agency(ies): UNFPA

Target 5.a: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

Indicator 5.a.1: (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure

Gender equality is yet to be achieved in ownership and secure tenure rights over agricultural land

The ability to access land is a key to improve socio-economic conditions of individuals that earn their livelihoods from agriculture, which directly affects their income, food security and nutrition. While data on access to land remains scarce at the global level, existing information shows that many men and women involved in agricultural production lack ownership and/or secure tenure rights over the agricultural land.

Owning or bearing rights to land reduces women’s reliance on male partners and relatives, thus increasing their bargaining power in the economy and within households. In addition, access to land improves women’s chances of accessing extension services and credit, and it encourages them to undertake and expand their investments and join producer organizations. However, significant gender disparities persist among the agricultural population, with women being less likely than men to hold secure tenure rights in most countries with available data.

Available data from 36 countries show that, in 30 countries, less than 50 percent of women have ownership and/or secure tenure rights over agricultural land, and in only 16 countries, little more than 30 percent. This means that women are in a disadvantaged position compared to men within the agricultural population, as land plays a key role in individuals’ empowerment. Indeed, in 18 out of 36 countries, the share of men in agriculture having ownership and/or secure tenure rights over land was twice as much compared to women.

Furthermore, in 28 out of 36 countries assessed, a smaller proportion of women own or hold secure tenure rights in the agricultural population compared to men. In fact, the share of women in total owners of land or secure right holders ranges from 6.6 percent in Pakistan in 2017 to 57.8 percent in Malawi in 2020. In addition, the share of men among landowners reaches over 70 per cent in 9 countries and; in only 8 countries, women had a higher share among the landowners with a maximum of 57.8 percent in Malawi 2020. Therefore, although it is not always the case that male landowners are the majority, gender equality is yet to be achieved in ownership and secure tenure rights over agricultural land.

The latest data in Uganda and Nigeria show that 40 percent of agricultural population had a legally recognized document or the right to sell or right to bequeath over their agricultural land in 2019. In both countries, while the share of males having secure tenure rights exceeded 50 per cent, the share of females did not exceed more than 30 percent. Moreover, among those with secure tenure rights, only one-third are women in Nigeria and this is close to the 39 percent in Uganda.

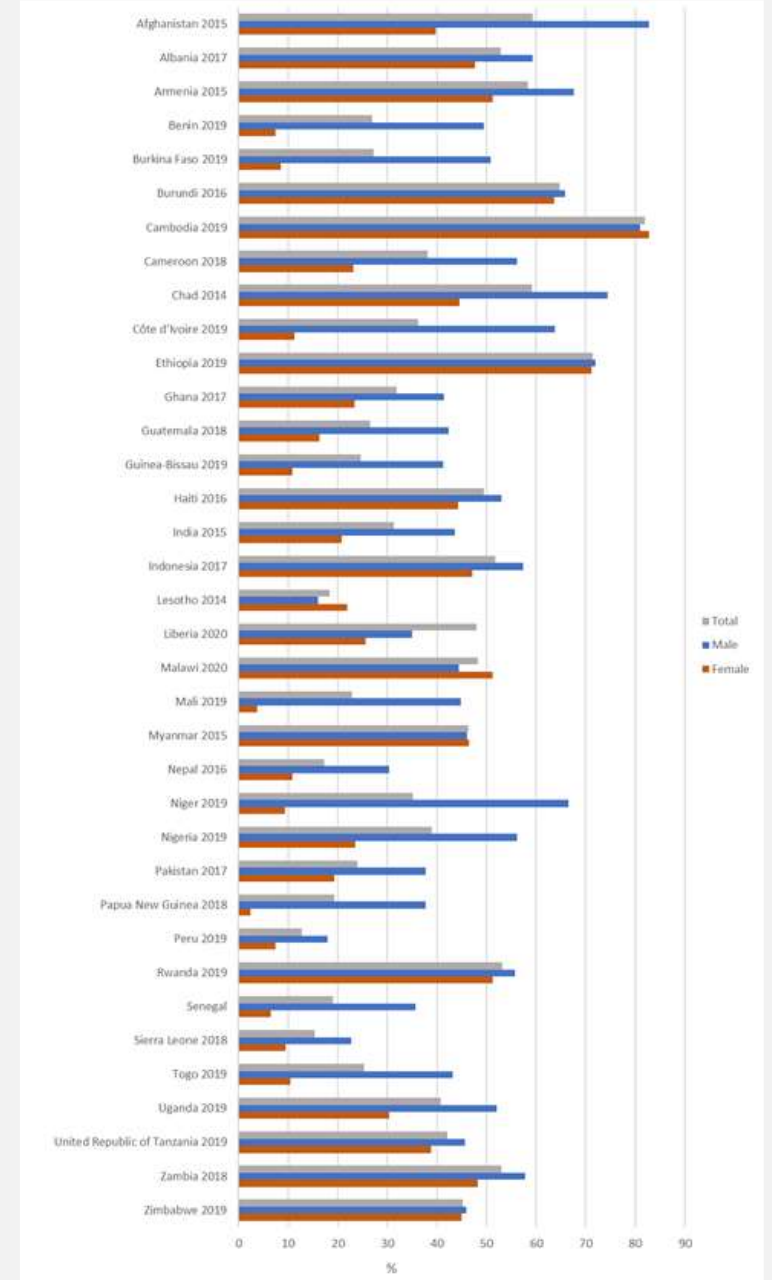
Among the countries assessed, Malawi (2020) and Cambodia (2019) are the only countries with a higher proportion of women than men who held secure tenure rights over the agricultural land. However, in Malawi while men had more chance to have their name on a legal document; women had a higher chance to have the right to sell and/or bequeath the land. In Cambodia, the difference between women and men with ownership rights is smaller and disaggregated data by different proxies does not show any significant difference among women and men.

In Zimbabwe, around 45 per cent of males and females engaged in agriculture had secure tenure rights over the agricultural land in 2019. Furthermore, women constituted more than half of the agricultural land owners in Cambodia, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

The data shows a slight improvement in agricultural land tenure rights over time both for males and females in Ethiopia, Malawi and Uganda. In Peru, estimates remain rather stable during 2014-2019 and the share of population who have ownership rights over agricultural land as estimated by having a document for the parcel among the holders is around 13 per cent of total agricultural population. In Tanzania, although the latest year estimates (2019) are slightly lower than previous data point in 2015, the data shows that 42 per cent of agricultural population had ownership rights over the agricultural land as compared to 39 per cent in 2009.

In general, the breakdown of data by different proxies used to compute the indicator shows that the incidence of women having their name on a legally recognized document is much lower as compared to their male counterparts. Overall, alienation rights’ contribution to the computation of indicator 5.a.1(a) is significant and men are more likely to hold simultaneously a documented tenure and an alienation right compared to women who are likely to hold only the latter.

Share of women and men in the adult agricultural population with ownership or secure tenure rights



Share of women among owners/ holders secure tenure rights over agricultural land



Indicator 5.a.2: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

Significant reforms are still needed to remove discriminatory legal provisions and/or to fill the gender gaps in land and property rights

Gender responsive policy and legal frameworks are fundamental for establishing the basis for advancing women's rights to land. At the same time, there is an increasing recognition that women's ownership of and/or control of land is critical for poverty reduction, food security, and overall sustainable development. However, evidence collected from 52 reporting countries representing various regions and different religious and cultural contexts and legal systems reveals that women's land rights are frequently less protected than those of men in national laws. More specifically, about 46 percent of legal frameworks offer limited protection of women's land rights, while nearly 25 percent medium levels of guarantees. Only 29 percent of the reporting countries include enough provisions in their legal framework offering good protection of women's rights to land.

Noticeable progress has been achieved in succession law. About 64 percent of the countries provide equal inheritance rights for spouses and children, albeit women's rights in informal unions or polygamous households often are not protected. In countries where customary and/or religious laws govern family matters, women's and girls' inheritance rights tend to be unprotected.

The picture is mixed regarding the management and control of property rights in matrimonial regimes. From one side, 56 percent of the reporting countries protect the spouse from being disposed of marital property, requiring spousal consent for land transactions. On the other, while 60 percent of the countries have the full or partial community as the default matrimonial property regime, only 39 percent encourage joint land registration by either mandating it (85 percent) or offering financial incentives (15 percent). Therefore, women's rights in marital property remain essentially insecure in case of widowhood and divorce. Moreover, the rights of women living in informal unions are only protected in 23 percent of countries, mainly in Latin America and Europe.

Moreover, in countries where customary law is recognized (65 percent), only half prioritize the principle of non-discrimination in case of conflict. It is also worth noting that while 35 percent of countries do not recognize customary law, including customary institutions or land tenure, in many of them often, land matters are governed by customary practices. In these cases, particularly in contexts where patriarchal systems prevail, women's land rights remain insecure.

Moreover, while some countries have adopted temporary special measures in line with CEDAW to support the realization of women's rights to land in the law and in practice, such measures remain uncommon or even scarce. For instance, mandatory quotas to foster women's participation in relevant institutions and the allocation of financial resources to increase their land ownership and/or control have been identified in respectively 38 percent and 20 percent of the reporting countries.

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

Target 5.b: Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

Indicator 5.b.1: Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

World moving to greater gender equality in mobile phone ownership

Ownership of mobile phones has been shown to be an important tool to empower women, and it appears that the world is moving to greater gender equality in this regard. In 30 of the 70 countries for which data are available for the 2017-2021 timeframe, gender parity in mobile phone ownership has been achieved, and in 13 more countries, more women than men own a mobile phone. Nevertheless, in 14 countries, women considerably lag behind in mobile phone ownership. In most of these countries, a large gender gap in Internet usage can be observed as well (indicator 17.8.1).

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- ITU, Measuring digital development: Facts and Figures 2021, see <https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/statistics/facts-figures-2021/>
- ITU, Digital Development Dashboard, available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/Digital-Development.aspx>

Storyline author(s)/contributor(s): Martin Schaaper, ITU

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

Target 5.c: Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

Indicator 5.c.1: Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment

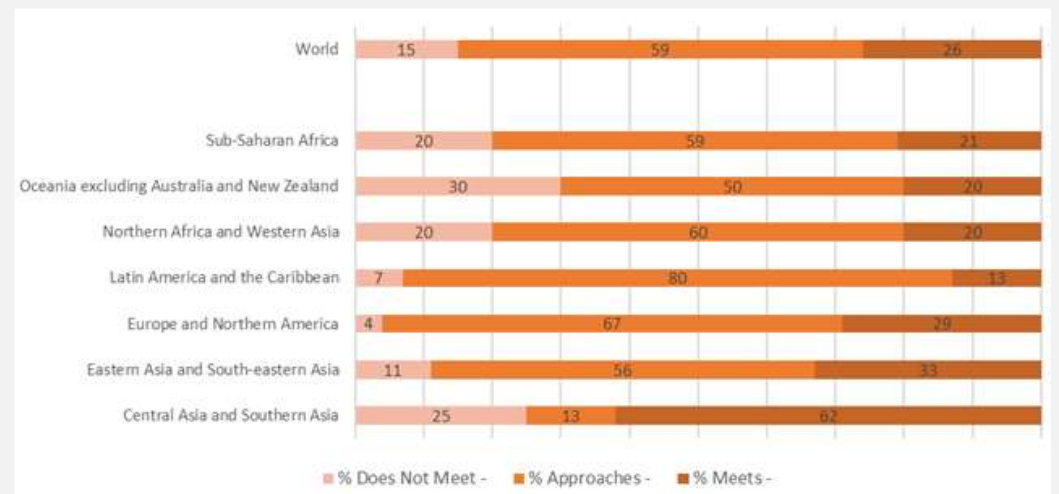
Expanded Global GRB Dataset Highlights Areas of Progress & Need to Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation of GRB Results

Gender responsive budgeting (GRB) has gained momentum with several countries integrating gender analysis into fiscal policy and public finance management (PFM) systems and administration. There is growing recognition that integrating gender analysis, monitoring and evaluation tools into policy setting and PFM can support stronger alignment of public budgets with gender equality objectives, including as part of COVID-19 recovery measures. This is part of overall efforts to budget for the Sustainable Development Goals based on strong evidence and analysis.

Data has been collected from 105 countries and areas, including 17 OECD countries that reported on this indicator for the first time, and provides a globally representative estimate of the proportion of countries with systems to track gender budget allocations. The global aggregate shows that 26% of countries have tracking systems, with regional averages ranging from 13 to 62 per cent. Additionally, 59% countries approach the indicator requirements, with some features of a system in place. 15% of countries have not met the minimum threshold of having any part of a system yet in place to track gender budget allocations. Importantly, 33% of countries with two data points [2018 and 2021] have shown progress in improving their systems over time.

While progress has been made in expanding data coverage and the introduction of GRB globally, greater efforts are needed to expand and strengthen measures to assess the impact of gender budget allocations. Globally, 39% of countries conduct ex-post gender impact assessments (an analysis of the potential effects of a policy or programme on different groups) and 23% perform independent gender budget audits. This points to the need to strengthen the full accountability loop to monitor and evaluate whether resources allocated to gender responsive laws, policies and programmes achieve intended results.

Proportion of Countries with Systems to Track Gender Budget Allocations



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Custodian agency(ies): UN Women, OECD, UNDP