



United Nations
Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence
against Women

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□ Outline

- Why new Guidelines
- Content of the Guidelines
- UNSD activities to strengthen capacity in measuring VAW



Measuring Violence Against Women (VAW)

- VAW
 - Obstacle to achieving objectives of equality, development and peace
 - Violation of Human Rights
 - Affecting all societies, regardless of income, class and culture

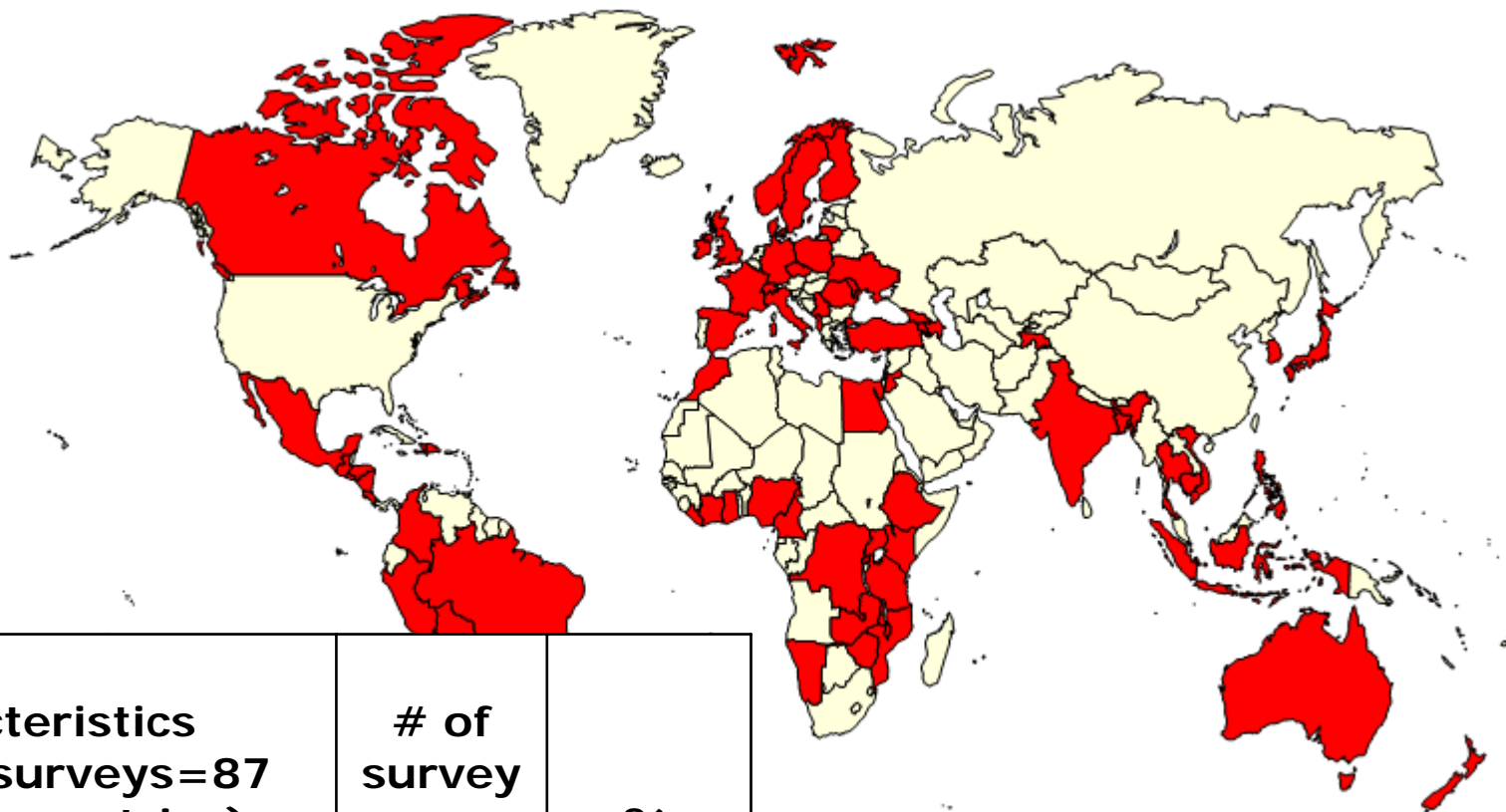
- Statistics on various forms of violence are needed to inform/monitor policy development and to eradicate VAW

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Map 1: Countries which have conducted a survey on Violence Against Women since 2000 (in red)



Main characteristics	# of surveys	%
Tot # surveys=87 (in 76 countries)		
National Coverage	54	62%
Include intimate partner violence	87	100%
Include non-partner violence	63	72%



Need for international Guidelines

- Several initiatives aiming at standardizing VAW measures and methods across countries
 - UN Statistical Commission – FOC Group in 2008
 - Core set of indicators (requested in 2006 GA res.)
 - UN Development Account project – UN regional commissions
 - survey module (model questionnaire) + related material
 - E-learning course
 - Training of trainers workshops
 - **International surveys**
 - WHO-Multi country study
 - International VAW Surveys
 - DHS and MICS module

 - Guidelines as a tool for NSSs to produce statistics on VAW from statistical surveys, incorporating/referencing to previous/current initiatives in a single methodological resource
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Overview of Guidelines

- Provide detailed methodological advice on:
 - What to measure
 - core and additional topics, (prevalence, severity, impact of VAW)
 - How to measure
 - population-based surveys, steps required to plan/organize and execute, recommended tabulations, data analysis and dissemination of results
 - Special features of surveys on VAW
 - All other relevant issues for NSOs to conduct statistical surveys on VAW
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Overview of Guidelines

- What to measure



Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission Friends of the Chair group (FOC)

s Division

Physical violence

- I. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency

- II. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency

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Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission FOC

Sexual violence

- III. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency

- IV. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency



Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission FOC

Intimate partner violence – sexual/physical

- V. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner in the last 12 months by frequency

- VI. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner during lifetime by frequency



Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission FOC

Intimate partner violence – psychological/economic

- vii. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner

- viii. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner



Core indicators - Summary

- ❑ Selected forms of violence (that can be measured through household sample surveys) - Any act of:
 - Physical
 - Sexual
 - Psychological*
 - Economic*violence perpetuated on women by intimate partners and other perpetrators (* =only intimate partners)

- ❑ Prevalence
 - Percentage of women aged 15 and older

- ❑ Reference time
 - Last 12 months
 - Lifetime experience

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Topics/variables required to compute inds.

- ❑ Core
 - Type of violence
 - Severity of violence
 - Frequency
 - Relationship to perpetrator
 - Age
 - Marital/relationship status



Additional topics

- For respondents
 - Ethnicity
 - Economic activity status
 - Religion
 - Language
 - Educational attainment and Literacy
 - Age at first marriage or co-habitation
 - Place of residence (U/R)



Additional topics

- ❑ For violence
 - Female Genital Mutilation
 - Experience of violence in childhood
 - Attitude towards violence against women
 - Reporting to authorities/seeking help

- ❑ For perpetrator
 - Age
 - Substance abuse
 - Economic activity status
 - Educational attainment
 - Witnessing violence in childhood
- ❑ For perpetrator (non-partner)
 - Sex
 - Location of the violence

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How to measure

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How to measure 1.

- Dedicated Surveys (preferred approach)
 1. To measure phenomena in all its complexity through a detailed range of questions
 2. To facilitate disclosure of sensitive topic through properly designed questionnaire
 - Introductory questions to prompt respondents to think of violence
 - Wording and Sequence of questions



How to measure 2.

3. To ensure the essential features of Surveys on VAW are considered
 - Importance of appropriate sampling design (not to systematically exclude important population sub-groups)
 - Special training of interviewers
 - Ethical considerations
 - Confidentiality
 - Safety of respondents and interviewers
 - Support to victims



How to measure 3.

- Alternatively,

- Use a Module in women's health type of surveys
 - When dedicated survey is not feasible

 - Only as long as previous principles are followed



Annexes – Additional resources

- Proposed tabulations for core indicators
- Model questionnaire (DA inter-regional project)
- International instruments and conventions on VAW
- Countries that undertook VAW surveys
- Examples of questions for additional topics

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UNSD Capacity Building activities on VAW

- Guidelines
 - Finalized in 2012
 - Submitted to 44th Statistical Commission session for endorsement

- Training workshops to improve countries' capacity in collecting/analysing/disseminating and using statistics on VAW

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Conclusion on Guidelines

- ❑ Focusing on measuring FOC indicators on VAW through a population-based survey
- ❑ Highlighting special features of VAW surveys
- ❑ Underlying the need to strengthen administrative records (health, justice..) to gather information on other forms of violence
- ❑ Stressing the importance of involving national mechanisms for the advancement of women, relevant ministries, other stakeholders to:
 - Ensure consistency of concepts
 - Relevance of statistics for policies and programme development
 - Use of information produced