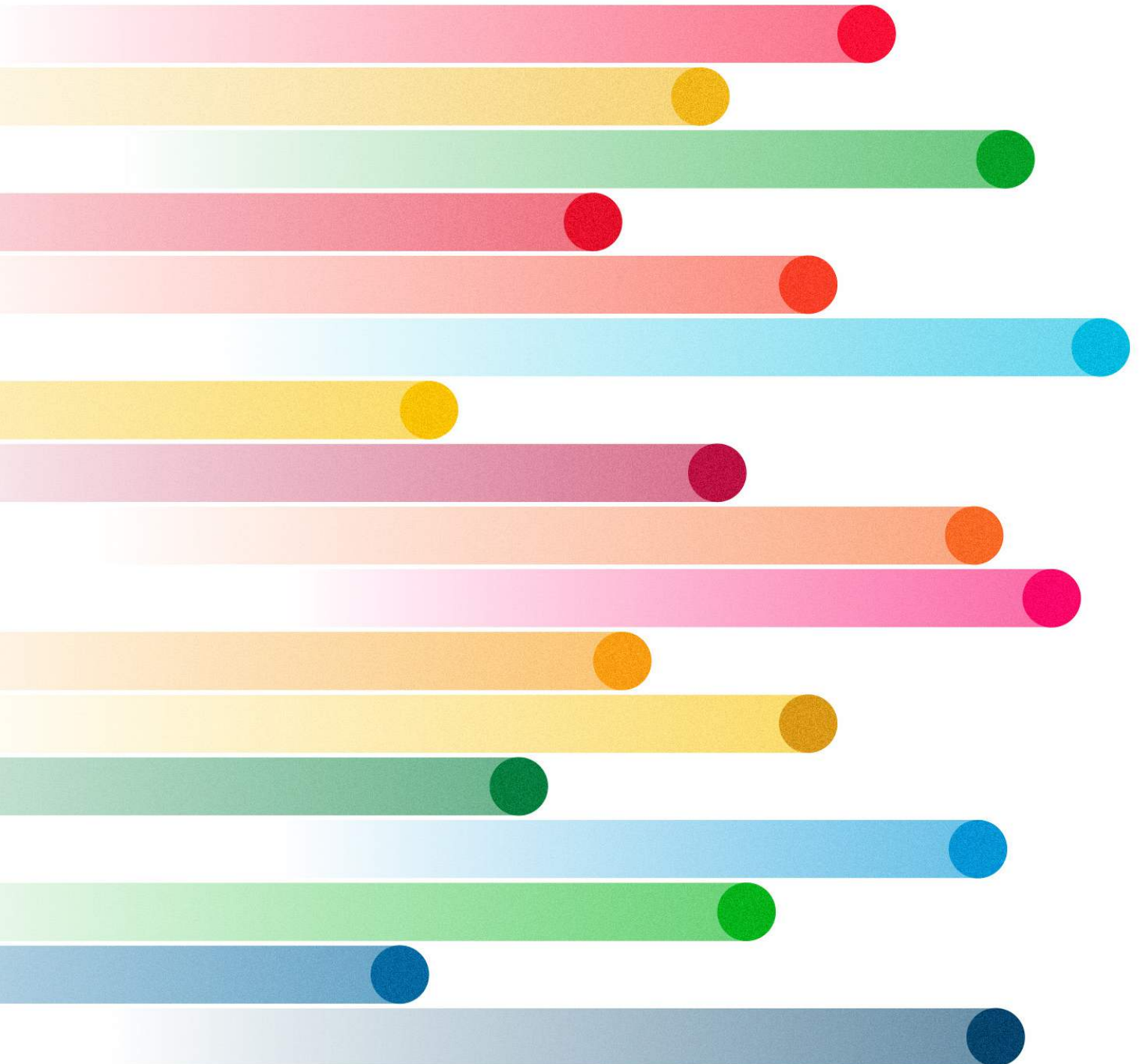


PROGRESS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THE GENDER SNAPSHOT 2021



Snapshot of gender equality across the Sustainable Development Goals



By 2030, over **150 million WOMEN AND GIRLS** could emerge from poverty if governments implement a comprehensive strategy to improve access to education and family planning, achieve equal wages and extend social transfers.



The gender gap in food insecurity has increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Women's food insecurity levels were **10% HIGHER** than men's in 2020, compared with 6% higher in 2019.



The pandemic is disrupting essential health services for women and girls.

During the first year of the crisis, an estimated **12 million WOMEN** in 115 lower- and middle-income countries experienced disruptions in family planning services, leading to an estimated **1.4 million UNINTENDED PREGNANCIES**.



Out-of-school girls are at increased risk of violence, child marriage, child labour, trafficking and early childbirth.

But only **42% OF COUNTRIES** had measures to support girls' return to school in early 2021.



Based on data collected in 95 countries in 2020, **MORE THAN HALF** lack quotas for women in national parliaments **63%** lack rape laws based on the principle of consent. **Almost half** continue to restrict women from working in certain jobs or industries.

An estimated **736 million WOMEN AND GIRLS** aged 15 years or older have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner or sexual violence by a non-partner at least once in their lifetime.

By 2030, as many as **2 million** additional cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) are projected due to COVID-19-related service disruptions.

Women with children at home say they spend about **31 hours** per week on childcare – **5 hours more** on average than before the pandemic.

Worldwide, women hold **one in four** parliamentary seats. They have **36%** of elected seats in local deliberative bodies.

In low- and middle-income countries, **234 million** fewer women than men have access to the internet on their mobile phones.

Only **19% OF COUNTRIES** and areas with data have a comprehensive system to track how budgets respond to gender priorities.



In 2020, only **26% OF 170 COUNTRIES** were actively working on gender mainstreaming in water management.



Women are underrepresented in the energy sector. Globally in 2019, women held **22%** of traditional energy jobs and **32%** of renewable energy jobs.



Female medical researchers have led advances on COVID-19 knowledge and testing techniques. But women accounted for fewer than **1 in 3 RESEARCHERS** globally in 2018.



Slum residents are at an elevated risk of COVID-19 infection and fatality rates. In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, infected women in neighbourhoods with a high concentration of slums were more than **2X** as likely to die compared with those living in neighbourhoods with no slums.



The lack of women in decision-making limits the reach and impact of pandemic and other emergency recovery efforts, and opportunities to revitalize economies and societies. Women chair only **18%** of government committees on foreign affairs, defence, finance and human rights.



Women suffered steeper job losses than men during the pandemic. The number of employed women declined by **54 million** and **45 million** left the labour force altogether.



The intersecting vulnerabilities of migrant, refugee and internally displaced women and girls have intensified in the wake of the pandemic. By the end of 2020, **26.4 million PEOPLE** had fled their countries and become refugees, the highest level ever recorded. Almost half are women and girls.



Unless urgent action is taken to reduce emissions, **global warming will exceed 1.5°C by 2040.** Women's voices and perspectives are **critical** to meeting climate and environmental sustainability challenges but often go unrecognized.



Better gender data, statistics and analysis are critical, but remain insufficient. Under Goal 5, global level assessments are unavailable for **6 indicators.*** Trend assessments are unavailable for **15 indicators.***

*including sub indicators, see pages 22-27

LEAVE NO WOMAN OR GIRL BEHIND

Global inequalities are widening as a result of COVID-19

One and a half years since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, the toll on the poorest and most vulnerable people remains devastating and disproportionate. The combined impact of conflict, extreme weather events and COVID-19 has deprived them of even basic needs such as food security. Without urgent action to stem rising poverty, hunger and inequality, especially in countries affected by conflict and other acute forms of crisis, millions will continue to suffer.

No one is safe from COVID-19 until everyone is safe. Yet access to life-saving personal protection equipment, tests, oxygen and especially vaccines remains far from equitable. Of the nearly 5.8 billion vaccine doses administered globally by mid-September 2021, 77 per cent went to high- or upper-middle-income countries. A mere 0.3 per cent went to low-income countries. Unless access is universal, the virus will continue to roam, mutate and return. Based on the latest sex-disaggregated data in July 2021, 60 per cent of women in Israel and 52 per cent in Austria had

been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, compared with just 0.9 per cent in Venezuela and 0.16 per cent in Papua New Guinea.

In 29 out of 36 countries and territories where sex disaggregated data are available from June to August 2021, women are more or equally likely as men to be vaccinated. In Asia and the Pacific, however, more men are vaccinated than women. In India, as of August 2021, 53 per cent of total administered vaccine doses went to men and 47 per cent to women. An estimated half a million people in India identify as other genders, including trans, non-binary or intersex. Vaccination rates in the country are rising, but as of August 2021 less than 20 per cent of the transgender population has received at least one dose. In the United States, women lost an estimated 1.5 years of life expectancy on average from 2018–2020 due to COVID-19. The loss is significantly higher among Hispanic women (2.9 years) and non-Hispanic Black women (2.7 years) compared with non-Hispanic White women (1.1 years).

IN FOCUS

Vaccines remain out of reach for many around the world

To cover 70% of the population

High-income countries have to increase their health spending by **0.8%**.

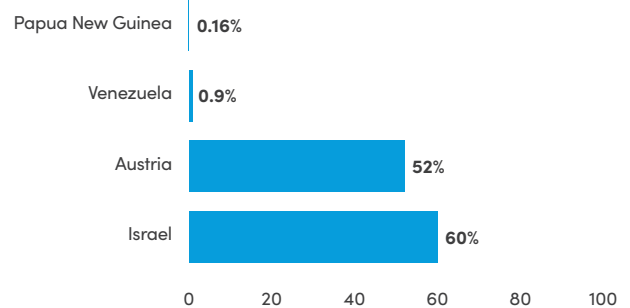
Low-income countries have to increase their health spending by **56.6%**.

In India, more men are vaccinated than women



<20% of the transgender population has received at least one dose.

Proportion of women fully vaccinated by July 2021



Sources: India Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2021; ReliefWeb, 2021; UNICEF COVID-19 Vaccine Market Dashboard, 2021; United Nations Development Programme Global Dashboard for Vaccine Equity, 2021; World Health Organization COVID-19 Vaccination Data Dashboard, 2021; and World Health Organization Global Health Observatory, 2021.

Limited progress for women is being eroded by the pandemic

The pandemic is clawing back limited progress in the past 25 years on expanding women's rights and opportunities, including for economic participation and political voice. Young women have witnessed more pronounced employment losses than their male counterparts and risk long-term exclusion from labour markets. The number of young women not in education, employment or training (NEET) increased in 28 out of 48 countries with available data between the fourth quarter of 2019 and the fourth quarter of 2020. Women facing multiple forms of discrimination, including women and girls with disabilities, are especially affected.

Where women have been in leadership positions, the response to the pandemic has often been faster and more attuned to social needs, but at all levels and across sectors, women do not have the same space in decision-making as men. Globally, women comprise over 75 per cent of the health workforce, making them

indispensable to the COVID-19 response. Yet they make up only 28 per cent of health executives. While women's organizations are at the forefront of community responses to COVID-19 in many countries, they struggle with diminishing funding and shrinking civic space.

Women's effective participation in the pandemic response depends on strong support for their leadership. More broadly, stemming the erosion of progress on gender equality calls for robust laws and policies to uphold women's rights, backed by sufficient funds for implementation. Balanced gender representation in COVID-19 task forces, use of gender-responsive budgeting in response and recovery efforts, and greater awareness of the gendered effects of the pandemic are essential for advancing women's rights and equal participation. Yet an analysis of 334 COVID-19 task forces from 137 countries found that only 4 per cent have gender parity; 18 countries have no women at all.

IN FOCUS

A lost generation? COVID-19's impact on learning and skill-building



An increasing number of young women are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

The NEET rate of young women

INCREASED

in 28 out of 48 countries between the fourth quarter of 2019 and the fourth quarter of 2020.

Nearly **6 in 10** NEET youth in the last quarter of 2020 were women (57.4 per cent).

In 2019, the NEET rate among **Syrian refugee women** living in Turkey stood at **70.9%** compared to **26%** for men.



Women and girls with disabilities face an uphill battle.

Viet Nam	NEET rates among:	Cambodia
74.2%	Young women with disabilities	64.2%
70.7%	Young men with disabilities	27.1%
10.7%	Young women without disabilities	10.2%
6.1%	Young men without disabilities	6.6%

Sources: International Labour Organization, *Youth and COVID-19: Access to Decent Jobs Amid the Pandemic*, 2021; UN Women calculations based on data from the International Labour Organization, 2021 and census data from IPUMS International, 2013 and 2009 for Cambodia and Viet Nam, respectively.

1 NO POVERTY

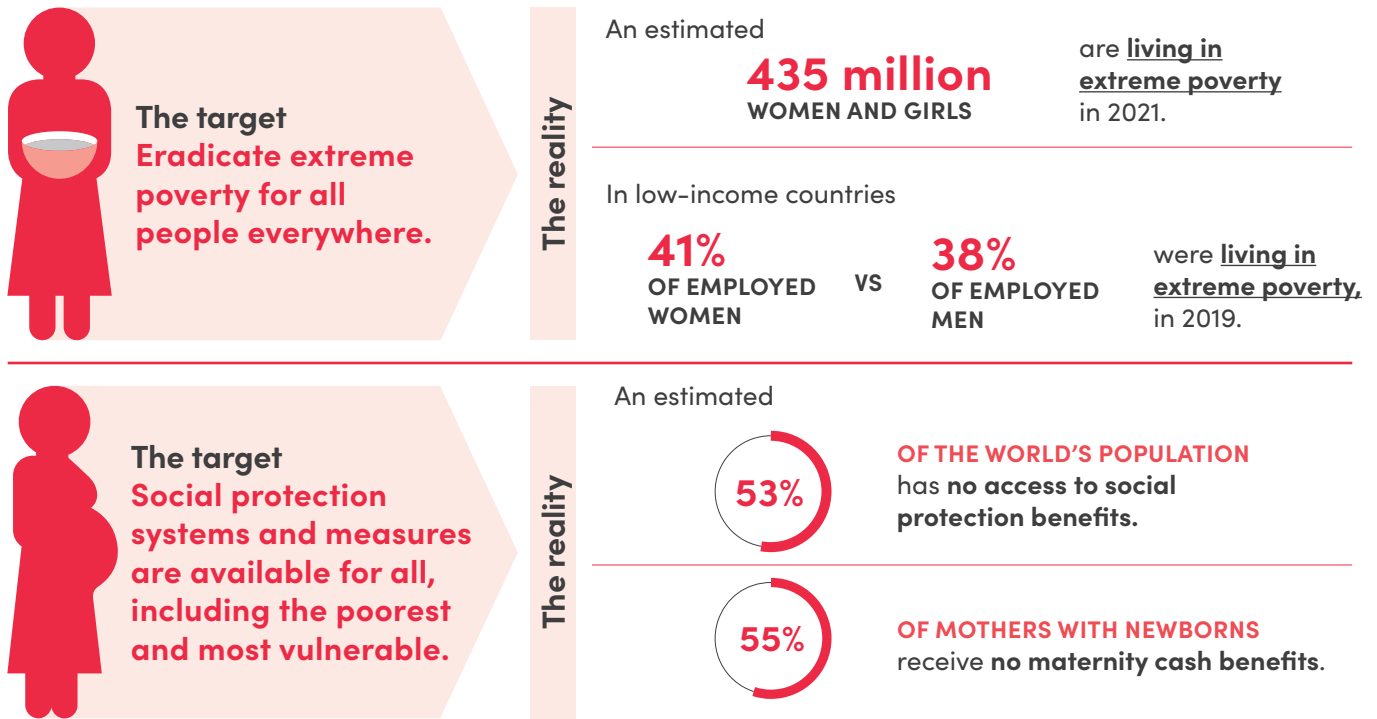
13 TOTAL INDICATORS

5 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS*

Progress in eliminating extreme poverty has reversed while holes in the social protection floor leave women even more vulnerable

Extreme poverty is on the rise. The total number of women and girls living on less than \$1.90 a day may reach 435 million in 2021, up from 398.5 million in 2019. This is heartbreaking given progress in reducing poverty over the last two decades. A simulation analysis of COVID-19 policy responses finds that over 150 million women and girls could emerge from poverty if governments implemented comprehensive strategies to improve access to education and family planning, ensure fair and equal wages, and expand social transfers by 2030. Significant action is urgent, but efforts so far have been inadequate. In 2020, only 46.9 per cent of the world’s population had access to at least one social protection benefit and only 44.9 per cent of mothers with newborns could obtain maternity cash benefits. Despite women’s greater vulnerability to poverty, only 23 per cent of social protection policy and labour market measures to respond to COVID-19 are gender-sensitive.

FIGURE 1



Sources: International Labour Organization, 2021; United Nations Statistical Division, The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021 Statistical Annex; UN Women, *From Insights to Action, Gender Equality in the Wake of COVID-19*, 2020.

* The term “gender-specific indicators” refers to indicators that explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as an underlying objective. For a full list of gender-specific indicators by Sustainable Development Goal, see pages 28–31.



14 TOTAL INDICATORS

2 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

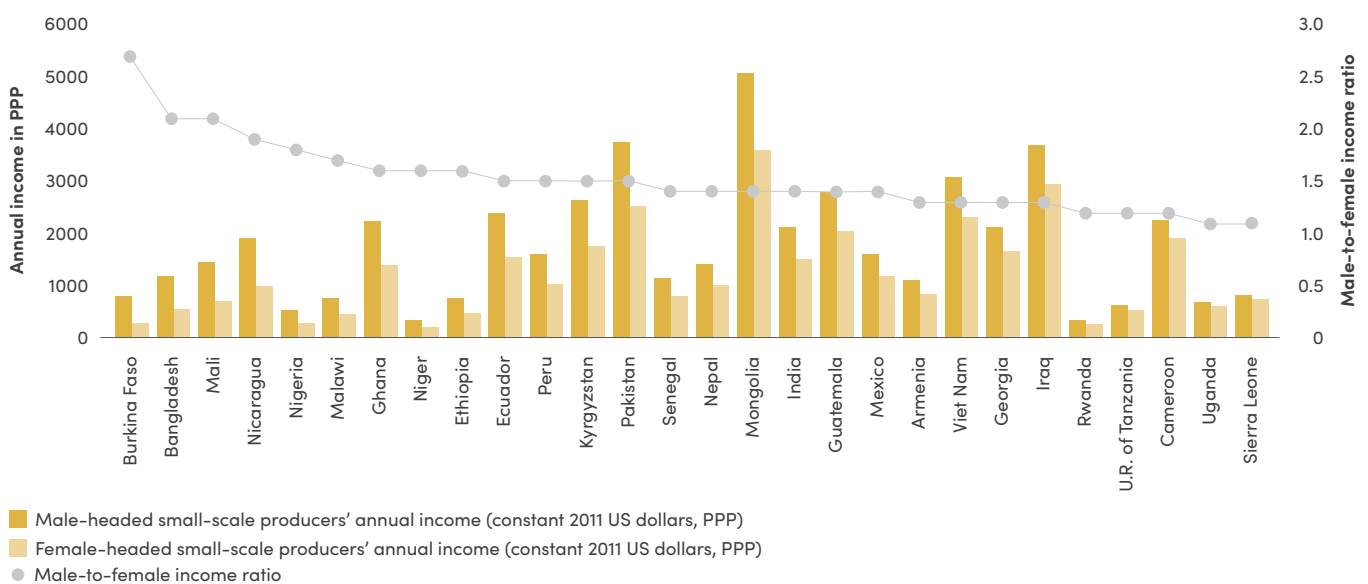
The global gender gap in food security has risen dramatically during the pandemic, with more women and girls going hungry

The COVID-19 pandemic has undermined food security globally. An estimated 811 million people went hungry in 2020, an increase of 161 million over 2019. Key nutrition services, including school-based nutrition programmes, have faced severe disruptions. Programmes providing iron and folic acid supplementation for adolescent girls, for example, declined by 45 per cent. The global gender gap in moderate or severe food insecurity increased from 6 per cent in 2019 to 10 per cent in 2020. The gaps were largest in Latin America and the Caribbean (30 per cent) and Asia (10 per cent).

Many of the world’s hungry produce food themselves. In some countries, small-scale farmers account for over 90 per cent of food producers but earn two to three times less than large-scale producers. Women small-scale producers routinely earn far less than men. Data from 28 countries show that small-scale producer households headed by women earn on average 30 per cent less than those headed by men. Women can play vital roles in transforming food systems, as shown by improved nutrition outcomes when agricultural interventions focus on women’s access to and control over resources.

FIGURE 2

Annual income of small-scale food producers, by sex of household head, 2010–2019 (constant 2011 US dollars, purchasing power parity) and male-to-female income ratio, selected countries



Source: UN Women calculations based on the Global SDG Indicator Database, 2021.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

28 TOTAL INDICATORS

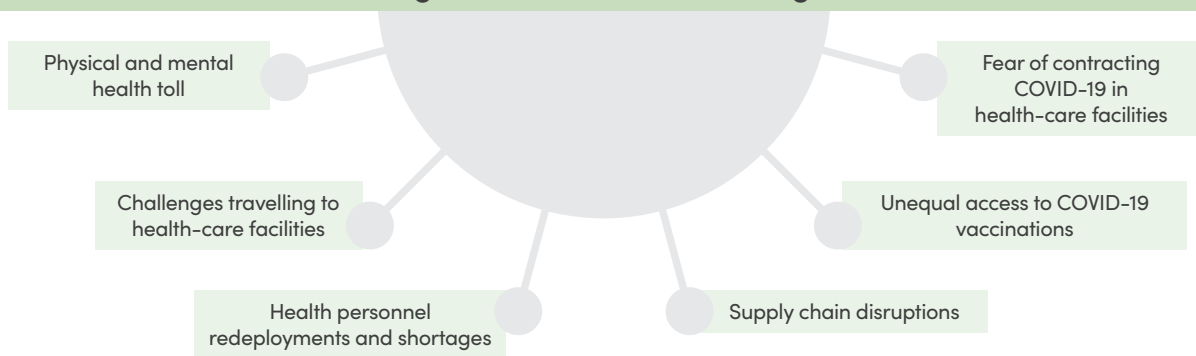
6 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

Disruptions in essential health services due to COVID-19 are taking a tragic toll on women and girls

The COVID-19 pandemic’s enormous pressure on health systems has disrupted essential services, including for maternal health and contraception. In the first year, an estimated 12 million women in 115 lower- and middle-income countries experienced gaps in family planning services, leading to 1.4 million unintended pregnancies. An estimated 113,400 additional maternal deaths occurred in the same period. In South Asia, essential sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health services declined over 50 per cent in the second quarter of 2020 compared with the same period in 2019. Antenatal HIV testing and antiretroviral therapy fell in South Africa. In Germany, between March and July 2020, women were more likely to postpone planned cancer screening than men. The pandemic thwarted critical mental health services in 93 per cent of 130 countries, yet just 17 per cent of countries allocated additional funding to mental health and psychosocial support in national COVID-19 response plans.

FIGURE 3

Barriers to women’s and girls’ health and well-being as a result of COVID-19



threaten to erode hard-won gains.

An estimated **12 million WOMEN** in low- and middle-income countries have experienced **disruptions in family planning services**, resulting in **1.4 MILLION** unintended pregnancies.

Other areas of health are being impacted.

Globally, just **17% OF COUNTRIES** have provided **additional funding for mental health and psychosocial support** in national COVID-19 response plans.

Sources: CARE, *She Told Us So Rapid Gender Assessment*, 2020; Frederiksen et al., “Women’s Experience with Health Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from the KFF Women’s Health Survey”, 2021; United Nations Population Fund, World Health Organization and International Confederation of Midwives, *The State of the World’s Midwifery*, 2021; United Nations Population Fund, *Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Mental, Neurological and Substance Use Services*, 2021; World Health Organization COVID-19 Vaccination Data Dashboard, 2021; World Health Organization, 2020; and Yost and Moffat, “Women in Supply Chains: On the Frontlines of COVID-19’s Impact”, 2020.



12 TOTAL INDICATORS

8 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

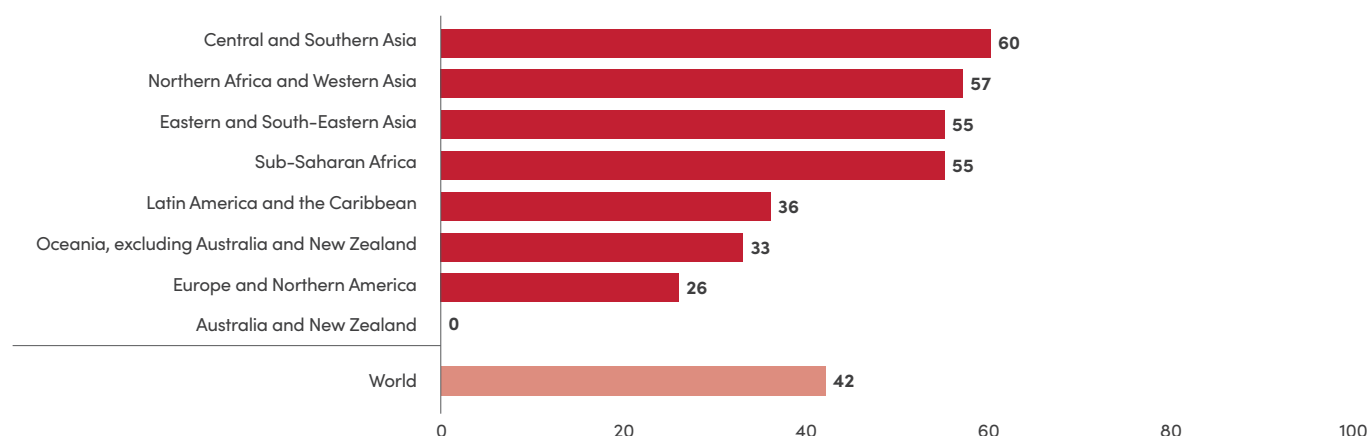
School closures spell lost opportunities for girls and an increased risk of violence, exploitation and early marriage

A year and a half into the pandemic, schools remain partially or fully closed in 42 per cent of countries and territories. New, more transmissible and potentially more deadly variants of COVID-19 may further delay schooling, especially in low- and lower-middle-income countries with limited access to vaccines. Worldwide, 128 million girls of primary or secondary school age were already out of school in 2018. The pandemic will cause another 11 million to never return to school across all education levels. Many countries have opted for distance learning, but students from the poorest communities have little access to the Internet and equipment such as tablets, or even more traditional forms of communication such as television and radio.

Out-of-school girls are at increased risk of violence, child marriage, child labour, child trafficking and early childbirth. In sub-Saharan Africa, up to 1 million girls may drop out of school due to pregnancy during the COVID-19 crisis, a risk that is higher in countries such as Equatorial Guinea, Togo and the United Republic of Tanzania, where laws and policies expel pregnant girls and ban them from returning. Among refugee girls enrolled in secondary school before the pandemic, half are expected to drop out. Lost education leads to setbacks later on. A single additional year of schooling can increase adult earnings by up to 20 per cent. Less than half (42 per cent) of 131 countries and territories are taking at least one measure to support girls in returning to school.

FIGURE 4

Proportion of countries and territories taking at least one measure to support girls in returning to school, by region, 2021 (percentage)



Source: UN Women calculations based on United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics, Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures (Third iteration), 2021.

Notes: The figure reflects the 131 countries and territories that contributed to the 2021 UNESCO UIS survey. Data for Central and Southern Asia cover 36 per cent of countries and 24 per cent of the population in the region. Data for Oceania, excluding Australia and New Zealand, cover 25 per cent of countries and 13 per cent of the population in the region. Data for Australia and New Zealand are for New Zealand only.



Women, on the front lines of the pandemic response, have been given a back seat in shaping the recovery

In 2021, alarm persists over the COVID-19 pandemic, its immediate effect on women’s well-being and the threat it poses to future generations. Women and girls remain disproportionately affected by the socioeconomic fallout, struggling with lost jobs and livelihoods, derailed education and increased burdens of unpaid care work. Women’s health services and other services such as shelters and one-stop crisis centres, already poorly funded, faced major disruptions that cut lifelines for survivors of violence and undermined sexual and reproductive health. Despite women’s central roles in responding to COVID-19, including as front-line health workers, they do not have the leadership positions they deserve. Building forward differently and better will hinge on placing women and girls at the centre of all aspects of response and recovery, including through gender-responsive laws, policies and budgeting. At the same time, the structural drivers of gender inequality must be dismantled.

Gaps in laws, policies and institutions to advance gender equality persist.



Based on data collected in **95 COUNTRIES** in 2020, **more than half** LACKED QUOTAS for women in national parliaments;

63% LACKED RAPE LAWS based on the principle of consent.

Almost half continued to restrict women from working in certain jobs or industries.

Three quarters did not stipulate 18 years as the minimum age of marriage for women and men, with no exceptions.

Globally, countries had in place, on average,



OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

needed to guarantee the full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care in 2019 based on 75 countries with data.

Reports of violence against women and girls, a “shadow” pandemic to COVID-19, are increasing in many parts of the world.



Even before the pandemic, globally, an estimated **245 million** WOMEN AND GIRLS aged 15 years and older were subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by an intimate partner in the previous year.

During the pandemic, calls to domestic violence helplines increased. Call volume increased by

40% IN MALAYSIA,
50% IN CHINA AND SOMALIA and
79% IN COLOMBIA.

Over **200 million**
WOMEN AND GIRLS

in 31 countries have undergone **female genital mutilation**. In half of countries with available data, the majority were cut before age 5. With COVID-19 disrupting interventions to curb the practice, up to



2 million additional cases of FGM are projected by 2030.

As a result of the pandemic, up to

10 million MORE GIRLS are at risk of becoming **child brides** by 2030.



COVID-19 is intensifying women's workload at home. Even before the pandemic, women spent

3.2x
AS MANY HOURS

as men on **unpaid care work**. Data from 16 countries show that women with children at home spent 31 hours per week on childcare during COVID-19 – up from 26 hours previously.



Globally, in 2021, women held only:

A QUARTER OF SEATS IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS,

36%
OF SEATS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS,

24%
OF SEATS ON COVID-19 TASK FORCES.



Women in 2019 held only

28% **OF MANAGERIAL POSITIONS** in the workplace.



Based on a sample of 36 countries, only

33% **HAVE MANDATORY QUOTAS**

to ensure women's participation in governing land tenure systems.



In 90 countries with available data from 2015 to 2019, male mobile phone ownership was on average about

7.1 **PERCENTAGE POINTS** higher than female mobile phone ownership.



73% **OF WOMEN JOURNALISTS**

from 125 countries **reported facing online violence**; 11 per cent withdrew from online communities due to harassment.

Based on data from 69 countries and areas, only

19% have a system to **track gender budget data** and make them publicly available.

6
CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION

11

TOTAL
INDICATORS

0

GENDER-SPECIFIC
INDICATORS

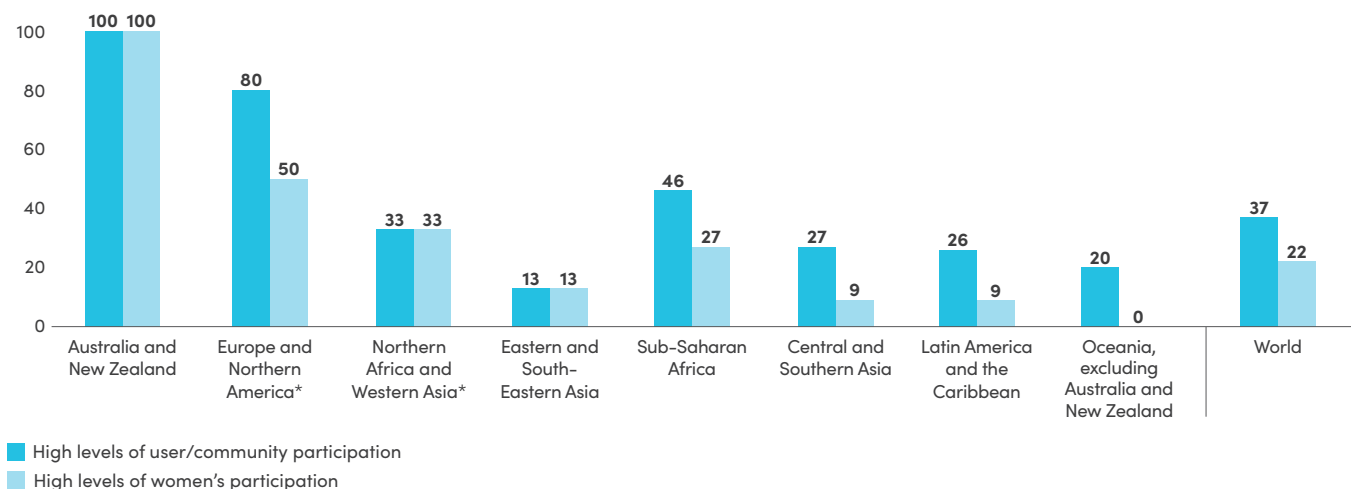
Despite the critical importance of water, women are severely underrepresented in its management

In 2018, nearly 2.3 billion people lived in water-stressed countries. Without safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and menstrual hygiene facilities, at home and in public places, women and girls find it harder to lead safe, productive and healthy lives. With the pandemic, such hardships have intensified, especially for the poorest women and girls. In many societies, women are responsible for household water supply, sanitation and health. Efforts to improve the management of water resources, however, often overlook women’s central roles.

In 2020, only 26 per cent of 170 countries were actively pursuing gender mainstreaming in water resources management. While 24 per cent had made some progress, 50 per cent had made few or no advances in achieving gender objectives. One reason for limited progress is a lack of earmarked funds and actionable plans that prioritize gender considerations. For example, while 82 per cent of 104 countries have procedures for user/community participation, only 45 per cent have specific policies for women’s participation. Similarly, only 22 per cent have high levels of women’s participation in policy and management processes, meaning women are formally represented or regularly consulted in these processes. In Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand), no country has high participation.

FIGURE 5

Participation of women in integrated water resources management, 2018–2019 (percentage of countries)



Source: UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water Survey, 2018/2019.

Notes: The figure covers 104 countries. Regions marked with (*) have lower country/population coverage than UN Women’s criteria of 50 per cent of countries and/or 66 per cent of population coverage in the region. Data for Australia and New Zealand are for New Zealand only.



6 TOTAL INDICATORS

0 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

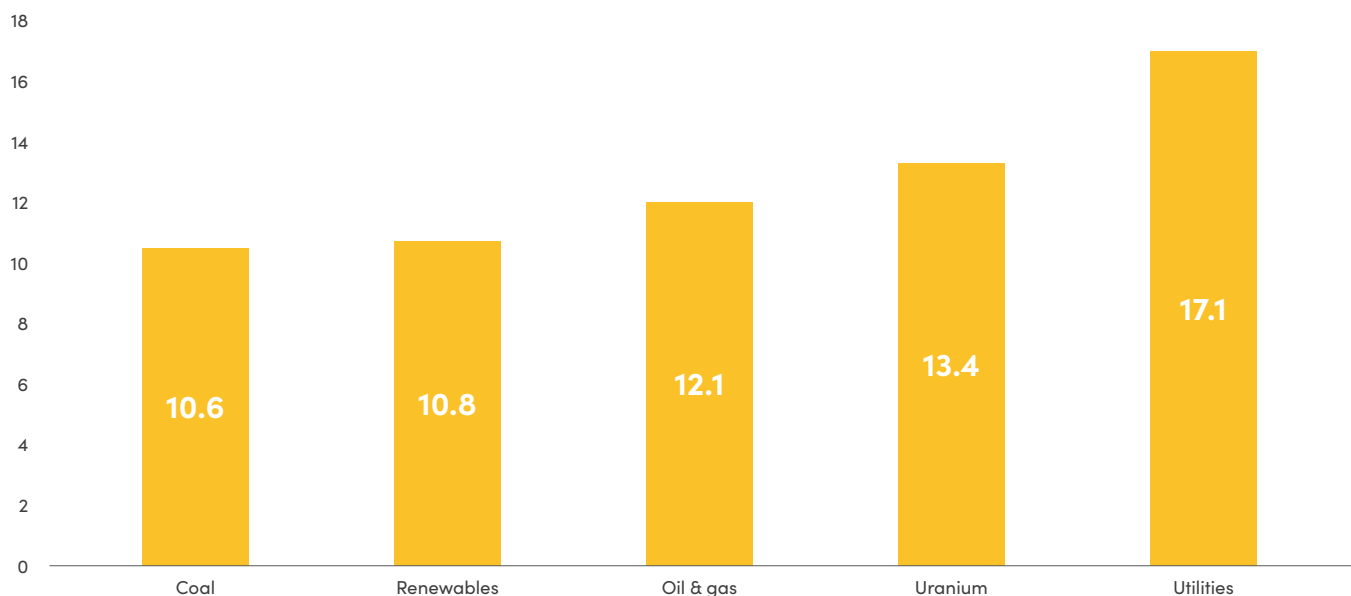
Only about 1 in 10 senior managers in the rapidly growing renewable energy industry is a woman

Increased demand for clean energy and low-carbon solutions is driving an unprecedented transformation of the energy sector. But women are being left out. In 2019, women comprised only 22 per cent of the total labour force in the traditional energy sector and held just 14 per cent of senior management roles. Female representation in senior management is highest in utilities at 17.1 per cent and lowest in the coal industry at 10.6 per cent. Women in these roles have more education than men, suggesting that they may need to work harder or show greater credentials to be promoted. Fifteen per cent hold a doctorate degree compared with 12 per cent of men; 36 per cent hold a master's degree compared with 34 per cent of men.

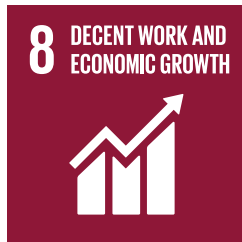
In renewable energy, women make up 32 per cent of the workforce but are concentrated in lower-paying non-technical positions. Forty-five per cent of all administrative positions are held by women, in comparison to 35 per cent of technical positions in non-STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields. Among STEM opportunities, women hold just 28 per cent of jobs. Limited participation in STEM constrains the ability to secure highly skilled roles, leaving women's voices, leadership and solutions out of the development of green energy.

FIGURE 6

Share of women in senior management roles, by energy industry type, 2019 (percentage)



Source: International Energy Agency, 2021.



16 TOTAL INDICATORS

6 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

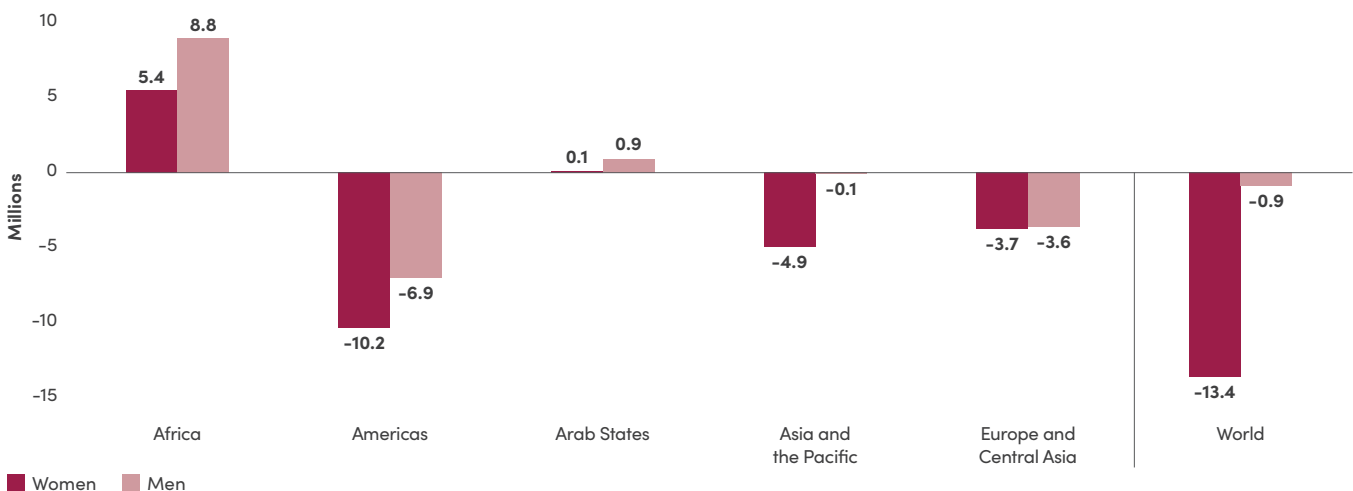
Women have suffered steeper job losses than men, along with increased – and unpaid – care burdens at home

As economies recover from the pandemic, gendered impacts on labour markets are unquestionable. Between 2019 and 2020, women, who were already underrepresented in employment and the labour force, suffered steeper job losses than men. Women’s employment fell by 4.2 per cent globally compared with 3 per cent for men. The number of employed women declined by 54 million in 2020 and 45 million women left the labour market altogether. Women’s higher projected employment growth rate in 2021 compared to men’s (3.3 vs. 3.0 per cent) will still be insufficient to bring women back to pre-pandemic employment levels. In 2021, the number of employed women is projected to be 13 million less than in 2019, while the number of employed men is projected to be about the same as the previous year.

The pandemic has reinforced gender inequalities at home and in labour markets. Women aged 25–54 with children saw increased unpaid care and domestic work burdens as schools closed under lockdowns. Between the fourth quarters of 2019 and 2020, the gender gap in labour force participation among partnered working-age women and men living with children under age 6 widened in 7 out of 11 countries with data, including Ecuador, Italy and the Republic of North Macedonia. Women in the informal sector have been more severely affected by the triple crisis of care burdens and job and income losses. In June 2020 earnings of women in informal employment with increases in direct care responsibilities fell to 42.4 per cent of pre-COVID-19 levels. Earnings of their male counterparts declined less, to 61.8 per cent.

FIGURE 7

Employed population, by sex and region, persons aged 15 and older, 2019–2021 (absolute change)



Source: UN Women calculations based on data from International Labour Organization, 2021.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 TOTAL INDICATORS

0 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

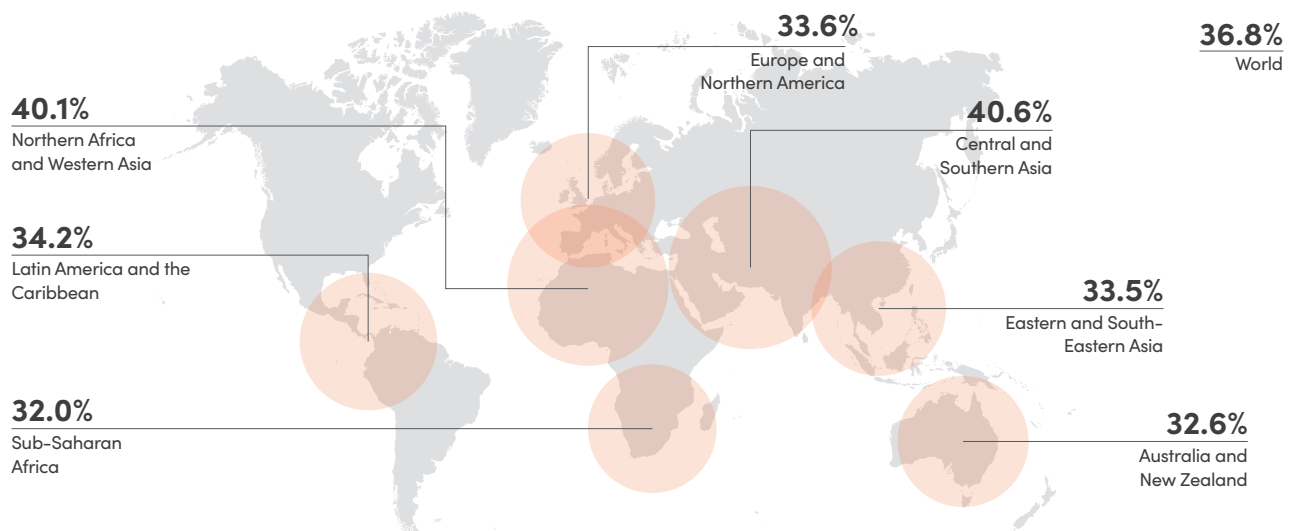
Women represent only a third of the world's researchers, but have been at the forefront of COVID-19 innovations

The COVID-19 crisis has spurred striking achievements in medical research and innovation. Women's contribution has been profound. Hungarian biochemist Katalin Kariko's work on mRNA led to two vaccines to fight the virus. A female Sudanese molecular biologist led an initiative to make ventilators using 3D printers. These contributions occurred despite the fact that women comprise less than a third of all researchers globally. Women's health-related research and gender-disaggregated medical data are routinely underfunded. In Canada, women's health research received just 1 per cent of health funding between 2008 and 2018. Globally, between January 2020 and January 2021, just 4 per cent of clinical studies on COVID-19 treatments reported a plan to consider sex and/or gender. Only 1 of 4,420 studies addressed COVID-19 impacts on transgender people.

Gender gaps among researchers may partly reflect women's lower presence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, where just over a third of graduates are female. Even in regions such as Central and Southern Asia and Northern Africa and Western Asia, where the proportion of female STEM graduates is relatively high (40.6 and 40.1 per cent, respectively), barriers remain to employment in STEM fields. In Oman, 56 per cent of STEM graduates are women yet they account for just 23.3 per cent of researchers in natural sciences and 15.5 per cent of researchers in engineering and technology.

FIGURE 8

Proportion of female graduates in STEM, by region, 2013–2018 (percentage)



Source: UN Women calculations based on United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics, 2019.

Notes: The figure covers 107 countries. Estimates for sub-Saharan Africa should be interpreted with caution as only 44 per cent of countries and 43 per cent of the region's population are covered. Estimates for Oceania, excluding Australia and New Zealand are not available, and are hence not shown.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



14 TOTAL INDICATORS

1 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATOR

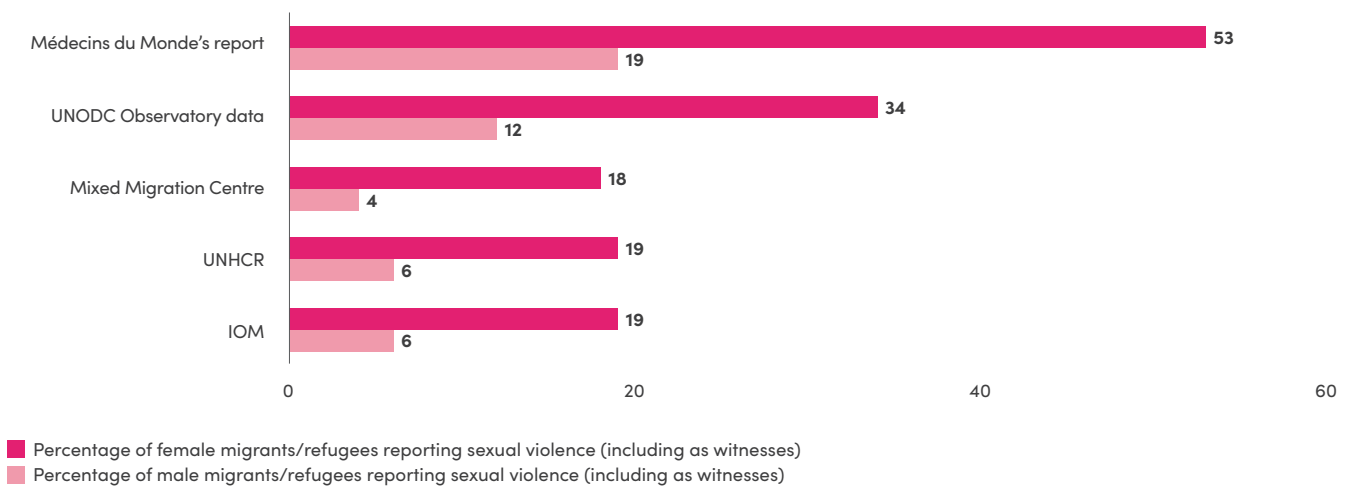
Migrant women make substantial contributions to host communities but struggle with acute risks of violence and discrimination

Migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons are among the most vulnerable populations in the world. By the end of 2020, 26.4 million people had fled their countries and become refugees, the highest level ever recorded. Nearly half are women and girls. Among international migrants, women make up 48.1 per cent of the total. Migrant women contribute substantially to the social and economic fabric of host communities, including as front-line health-care workers. Long-term care centres, which saw the worst outbreaks of COVID-19, rely heavily on them. In Australia, more than one in five long-term care workers is a migrant.

A lack of dedicated policies for migrant women, however, means that their needs go unrecognized in host communities. Emerging data show that compared to non-migrants, migrants are at increased risk of infection and death from COVID-19 for reasons including poor living and working conditions and limited access to health care. Migrant women, overrepresented in domestic work, face other challenges such as greater vulnerability to exploitation and discrimination, which are rising during the pandemic. Data on trafficking victims, most of whom are women, show that nearly 20 per cent of trafficking for forced labour involves migrants. Women migrants report high rates of sexual violence in transit to their destination. In 2020, up to 53 per cent of women travelling along Western and Central Mediterranean routes reported experiencing or witnessing violence, compared to 19 per cent of men.

FIGURE 9

Prevalence of sexual violence among migrants by sex, 2020 (percentage)



Sources: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Abused and Neglected: A Gender Perspective on Migrant Smuggling Offences and Response*, 2020.
 Note: Figures from the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Mixed Migration Centre are sourced from the 4Mi survey; Médecins du Monde's questions were limited to abuses committed in Libya.



14 TOTAL INDICATORS

3 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

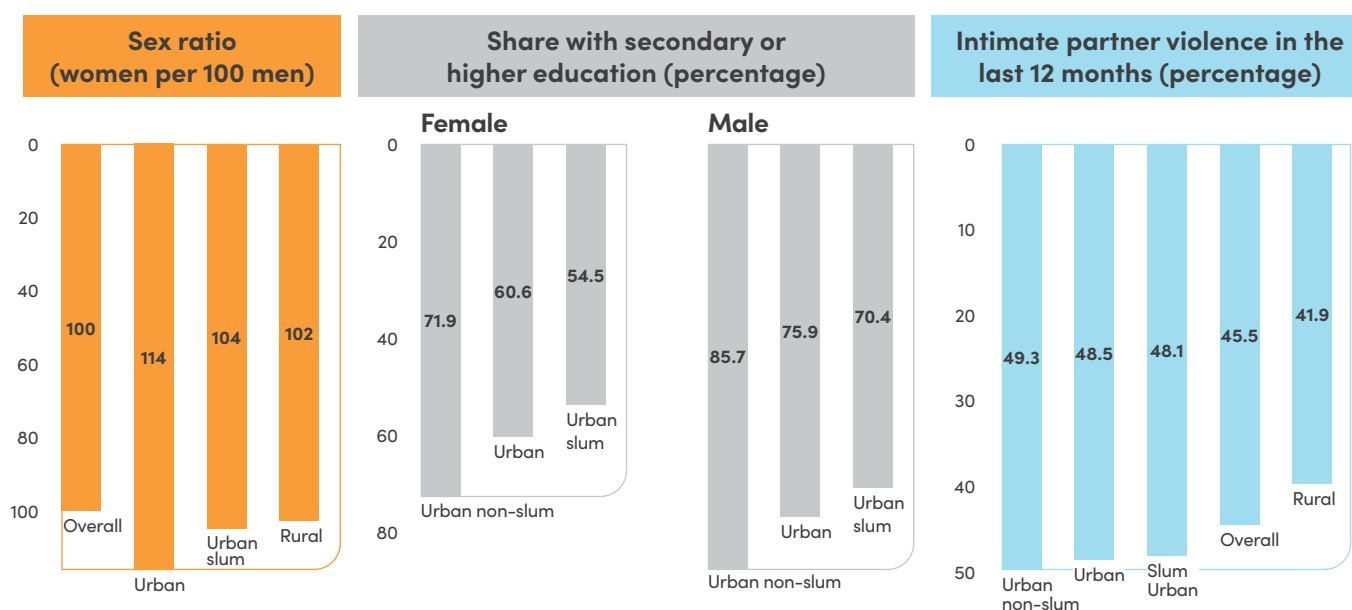
Precarious living conditions in slums can lead to higher rates of COVID-19 infection and death among women

Globally, more than 1 billion people live in informal settlements and slums. Women and girls, often overrepresented in densely populated areas, suffer from inadequate water and sanitation, health care and transportation. Overcrowding, poor housing and tenure insecurity are added concerns. Women and girls in slums and slum-like settings in Liberia are less likely to progress to secondary or higher education compared with male counterparts and urban women in non-slum settings. In 2018–2019, 48.1 per cent experienced physical, sexual or emotional violence at the hands of a husband or partner compared with 45.5 per cent of women overall.

Precarious living conditions are associated with higher COVID-19 infection and fatality rates. In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, infected women in neighbourhoods with a high concentration of slums were more than twice as likely to die compared with those in neighbourhoods with no slums. Additionally, service disruptions disproportionately affect slum-dwelling women. In Bangladesh, Kenya, Nigeria and Pakistan, pregnant women living in slums have less access to antenatal programmes and pregnancy care.

FIGURE 10

Gender and well-being profile of urban areas and slums in Liberia, population aged 15–49, 2019–2020, selected indicators



Source: UN Women calculations based on data from ICF International for Liberia, 2019–2020.

Note: Intimate partner violence refers to ever-partnered women who have been subjected to physical, sexual or emotional violence committed by a husband or a partner in the last 12 months.



45 TOTAL INDICATORS

1 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATOR

Women are finding solutions for our ailing planet but without the platforms and recognition they deserve

Life below water and above land is under immense peril. Humanity is to blame. Unsustainable production and consumption levels are depleting the earth’s natural resources; increasing pollution, including of the world’s oceans, and pumping an alarming amount of carbon dioxide and other harmful greenhouse gases into the earth’s atmosphere. Without urgent action to reduce emissions, global warming will exceed 1.5°C by 2040, crossing a threshold where consequences could be catastrophic.

Female activists, scientists and researchers are working hard to solve these issues but often without the same platforms that men have to share their knowledge and skills. Globally, women constitute only 39 per cent of ocean scientists, for instance. Between 2011 to 2018, women comprised only 29 per cent of featured speakers at international ocean science conferences. The voices of women from marginalized communities, including youth and indigenous women, are mostly absent, even as they have contributed little to the climate crisis and are especially vulnerable to its effects. Women’s participation in climate and development planning at all levels is essential to climate justice and environmental sustainability.

FIGURE 11

Spotlight on young female environmental advocates making a difference

Sophia Kianni
is the youngest adviser on climate change to the UN Secretary-General and founder of Climate Cardinals, an international youth-led non-profit working to make the climate movement more accessible to non-English speaking audiences.

Asha de Vos
is a marine biologist, ocean educator and pioneer of long-term research on the blue whales of the Northern Indian Ocean. She founded Oceanswell, a Sri Lankan non-profit organization that works to change the trajectory for the world’s oceans by educating the next generation of diverse ocean heroes, equipping students from underrepresented nations to conduct marine conservation research and engaging everybody in conversations about the magic of our oceans.

Kristal Ambrose
is a youth educator and marine plastic pollution researcher and founder of the Bahamas Plastic Movement, a youth-led initiative to educate young people about plastic pollution and its impact on marine ecosystems. Her work led the Bahamian Government to commit to banning single-use plastics.

Source: UN News, “First Person: Turning ‘Apathetic People into Climate Activists’; A Young Person’s View”, 2020 and Togetherband, “Five Female Ocean Activists to Follow Right Now”, 2019.



24 TOTAL INDICATORS

6 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

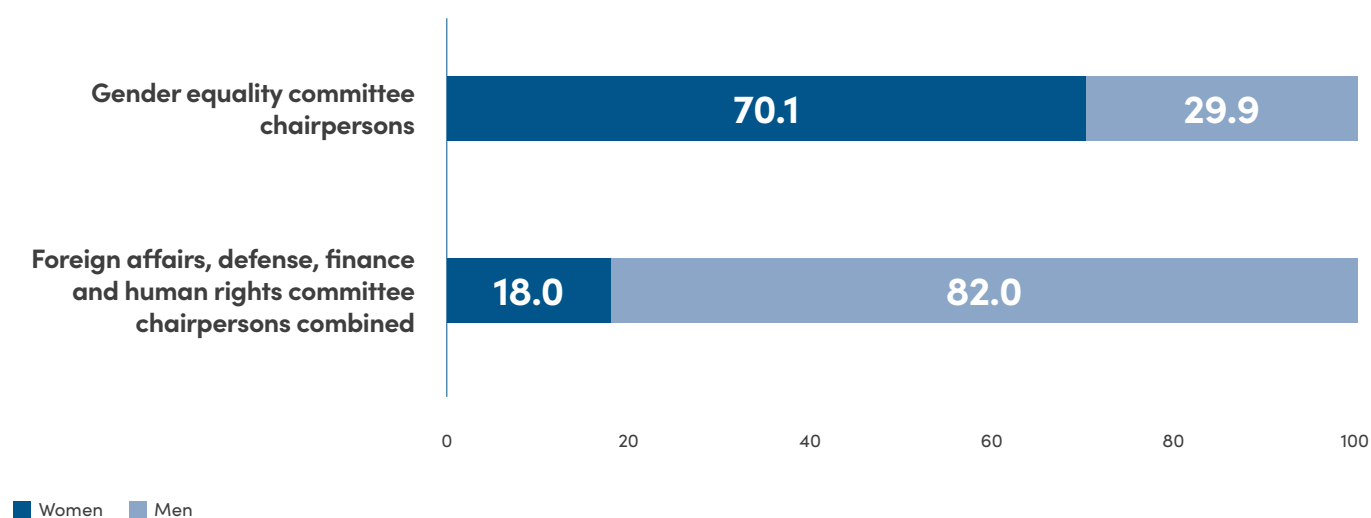
Women's unequal decision-making power undermines development at every level

Achieving peaceful, just and inclusive societies is an aspiration that is increasingly difficult to reach, given pervasive inequalities, conflict, violence against women and pandemic fallout. Women's representation in political and other positions to resolve these issues remains constrained. They hold only 18.9 per cent of parliamentary seats in conflict-affected countries, for example, well below the global average of 25.6 per cent. Globally, female parliamentarians are twice as likely as male parliamentarians to face violence and ill-treatment.

Women's insufficient participation in decision-making limits the reach and impact of pandemic and other emergency recovery efforts along with opportunities to revitalize economies and societies. Countries with more women in the national legislature are more likely to pass laws that support rights and well-being, notably on sexual harassment, rape, divorce and domestic violence. Despite agreement on inclusive governance as critical for human progress, women chair only 18.0 per cent of government committees on foreign affairs, defence, finance and human rights, compared with 70.1 per cent of committees on gender equality. Young people are also underrepresented in key governance positions, even as they are leading the fight for broader economic, social and environmental justice and systemic transformation. People aged 45 and under chair only 20.2 per cent of committees.

FIGURE 12

Chairpersons of permanent committees, by sex and committee focus, 2021 (percentage)



Source: IPU Parline Database, September 2021.

Note: Data presented are for all chambers.

17
PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS

24
TOTAL
INDICATORS

0
GENDER-SPECIFIC
INDICATORS

Strengthening gender perspectives in finance and other means to achieve sustainable development is more urgent than ever amid persistent gaps and escalating challenges

Global partnership and cooperation, including around finance, fair and equitable trade, and support for technological progress and innovation, is essential for sustainable development. Fulfilling the promise of Goal 17 to “revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development” is more imperative than ever given the economic devastation of the pandemic, assaults on women’s rights and the looming climate crisis. Women and girls must be front and centre in the pandemic recovery and actions to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Yet as one indication of the disparities at work, in the first round of Nationally Determined Contributions to climate goals, only 64 out of 190 contributions referred to women or gender. Only 22 countries considered women’s or gender issues as a cross-cutting issue mainstreamed across multiple sectors.

Large gender gaps remain in other targets and indicators under Goal 17, including target 17.8 on enhancing the use of information and communications technology and target 17.18 on increasing availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data, including gender data. Women and girls are the majority of the 3.7 billion people who are still unconnected to the online world. Only 15 per cent of women in the least developed countries had access to the Internet in 2019. Internet access gaps have large implications for women attempting to engage in an increasingly online world and for information flows during the pandemic. Only 37 per cent of women used the Internet and social media to access information on COVID-19, compared with 42 per cent of men.

Information and data gaps are impede progress in monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals from a gender perspective. Where data are available, global assessment of distance to targets paints a complex picture, in nine areas distance to target is moderate, in two the current levels are far from the target. In six areas data gaps make global assessments of current levels impossible. Almost all the indicators lack sufficient data to assess the pace of progress.

FIGURE 13

Global assessment of current progress under Goal 5 (number of indicators)



Source: UN Women calculations based on the SDG 5 Tracker in this publication, see pages 22-27.
 Note: SDG 5 has 14 official indicators but 18 are included in the chart given 5.1.1 and 5.5.1 have multiple sub-indicators.

SDG 5 TRACKER: CHARTING THE WAY FORWARD

Unless progress is accelerated, the global community will fail to achieve SDG 5

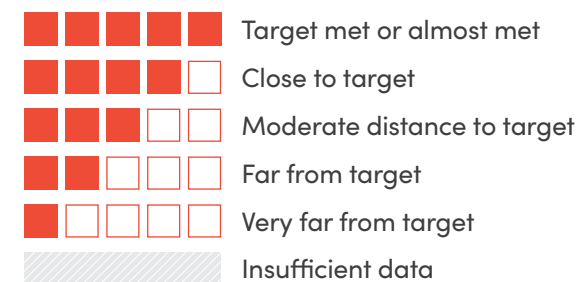
For the first time, the annual Gender Snapshot brings together the latest data for each indicator under Goal 5 to track global and regional progress towards gender equality. The chart that follows assesses two measures of progress. A *level assessment*, which gauges the current level of development in relation to achievement of the target, and a *trend assessment*, which measures the pace of progress from a baseline year to the current level.

The assessment to date reveals a long road ahead. Globally, only 1 of the 18 indicators (including sub indicators) is assessed as being “close to target”. Where data are available over time, they reveal limited or

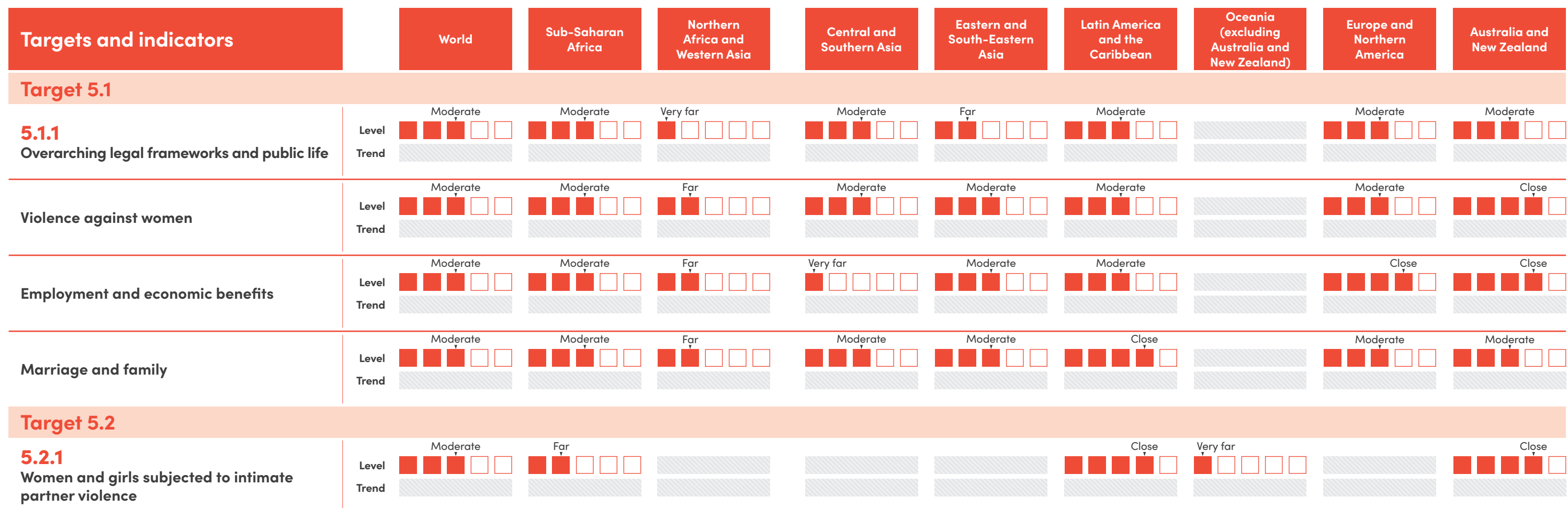
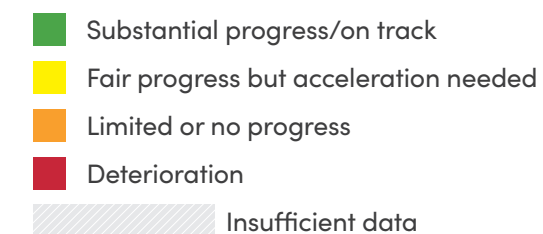
no progress across regions and in at least one case a deteriorating outlook. The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is not yet known but is expected to further erode progress. Strong legal and policy action as well as resources for implementation are critical to stem the tide and get back on track.

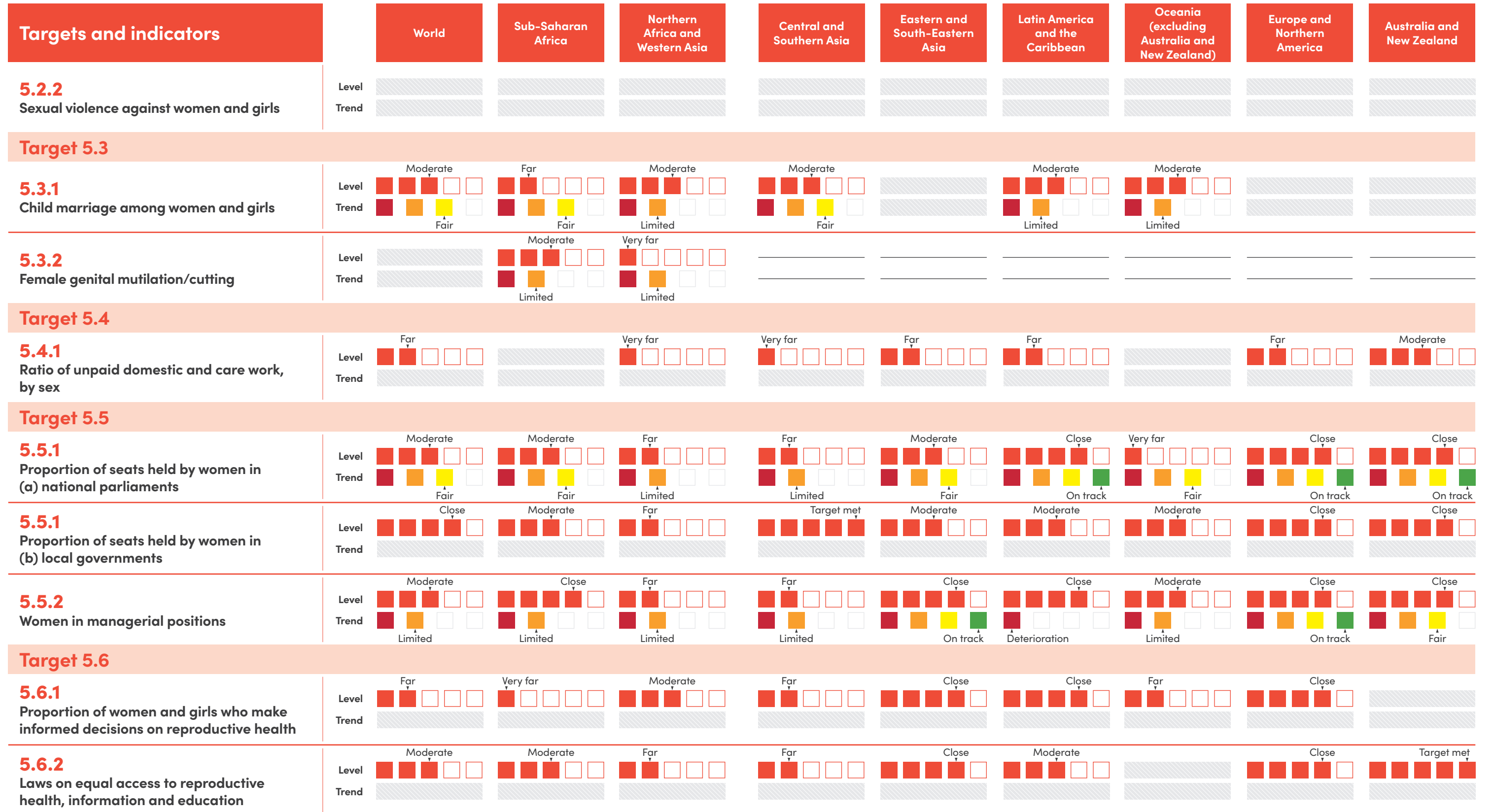
Moreover, data gaps need to be urgently addressed. In 6 out of 18 indicators global data remain insufficient to assess current levels. Trend data are even more sparse. Only 2 of the 18 indicators have sufficient data to assess progress over time across all regions. Without a bold commitment to fill these gaps, the picture of progress will remain incomplete.

Level assessment (latest available)



Trend assessment (if available)





Targets and indicators	World	Sub-Saharan Africa	Northern Africa and Western Asia	Central and Southern Asia	Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	Latin America and the Caribbean	Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand)	Europe and Northern America	Australia and New Zealand
Target 5.a									
5.a.1 Ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex	Level Trend								
5.a.2 Laws that guarantee equal land rights	Level Trend								
Target 5.b									
5.b.1 Women who own a mobile phone	Level Trend		Moderate		Moderate				
Men who own a mobile phone	Level Trend		Close		Close				
Target 5.c									
5.c.1 Countries with system to track gender equality	Level Trend	Very far					Very far		

Sources: UN Women and United Nations Statistics Division, based on the latest available data and estimates as of 2021 provided by: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Labour Organization, Inter-Parliamentary Union, International Telecommunication Union, International Union for Conservation of Nature, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund and UN Women.

Notes: Official SDG indicator names have been condensed for the purposes of this depiction given space limitations. Global and regional averages as reported in *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021* Statistical Annex, unless otherwise specified. For full indicator names and descriptions, see list of gender-specific indicators below.

SDG 5 has 14 official indicators but 18 are assessed in the tracker given 5.1.1 and 5.5.1 have multiple sub indicators.

5.2.1: The average for World is based on 157 countries with 90 per cent population coverage, Sub-Saharan Africa is based on 39 countries and 94 per cent population coverage, Latin America and the Caribbean is based on 26 countries and 99 per cent population coverage, Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) is based on 9 countries and 96 per cent population coverage and Australia and New Zealand is based on 2 countries and 100 per cent population coverage.

5.3.1: Covers women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 18. Trend assessment uses a baseline year around 2010. The average for World is based on 98 countries with 79 per cent population coverage, Sub-Saharan Africa is based on 34 countries with 93 per cent population coverage, Northern Africa and Western Asia is based on 13 countries with 77 per cent population coverage, Central and Southern Asia is based on 11 countries with 95 per cent population coverage, Latin America and the Caribbean is based on 15 countries with 50 per cent population coverage, and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) is based on 5 countries with 89 per cent population coverage.

5.3.2: The average for Sub-Saharan Africa is based on 25 countries with 69 per cent population coverage. The average for Northern Africa and Western Asia covers Northern Africa only (2 countries and 65 per cent population coverage) since data coverage is limited for Western Asia. □ means estimates not produced as the practice is marginal in the given region.

5.4.1: Simple averages of the female-to-male ratio of time spent in unpaid care and domestic work for 92 countries and areas based on the latest available data in the Global SDG Indicator Database (2001 or later). Data for India were added using the 2019 time use survey report and for Madagascar using the ILO 2018 care report. Regional aggregates are presented only if 50 per cent of countries and/or 66 per cent of the region's population are covered except for Northern Africa and Western Asia where the population coverage is 65.5 per cent.

5.5.1(b): 135 countries in the world are covered including 29 in Sub-Saharan Africa, 17 in Northern Africa and Central Asia, 11 in Central and Southern Asia, 11 in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, 21 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 7 in Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand), 37 in Europe and Northern America and 2 in Australia and New Zealand.

5.6.1: The average for world is based on 64 countries with 16 per cent population coverage, Sub-Saharan Africa is based on 36 countries and 97 per cent population coverage, Central and Southern Asia is based on 7 countries and 20 per cent population coverage, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia is based on 5 countries and 6 per cent population coverage and Latin America and the Caribbean is based on 7 countries and 10 per cent population coverage and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) is based on 1 country and 79 per cent population coverage. The average for Northern Africa and Western Asia covers Western Asia only (3 countries and 5 per cent population coverage). The average for Europe and Northern America covers Europe only (5 countries and 9 per cent population coverage).

5.6.2: Based on 75 countries with complete data.

5.b.1: UN Women calculation based on the SDG indicator database, 2021. Includes latest available year during period 2015–2019. Covers 89 countries and areas. Regional averages are presented only if 50 per cent of countries and 66 per cent of the region's population are covered.

5.c.1: In 2018, 69 countries and areas in the World reported data. In two regions, a threshold of 50% of countries and/or two-thirds of the regional population were covered: Sub-Saharan Africa (27 countries) and Oceania, excluding Australia and New Zealand, (10 countries). For all other regions, additional data will be presented when threshold levels of coverage are available, expected in 2022.

LIST OF GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Gender-specific indicators (5)

1.1.1 Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)

1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age

1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Gender-specific indicators (2)

2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15 to 49 years, by pregnancy status (percentage)

2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Gender-specific indicators (6)

3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio

3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations

3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods

3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10–14 years; aged 15–19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group

3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Gender-specific indicators (8)

4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex

4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex

4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex

4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex

4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated

4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex

4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

4.a.1 Proportion of schools offering basic services, by type of service

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Gender-specific indicators (14)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions

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

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

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

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

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

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

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Gender-specific indicators (6)

8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex

8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities

8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age

8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status

8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

Gender-specific indicator (1)

10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Gender-specific indicators (3)

11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Gender-specific indicators (1)

13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

No gender-specific indicators

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Gender-specific indicators (6)

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

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

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

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

16.7.1 Proportions of positions in national and local public 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

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

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

No gender-specific indicators

Total

Total indicators: 231

Gender-specific indicators: 51

Note: The total number of indicators listed in the global indicator framework is 247. However, since some indicators repeat under different targets, the actual number of unique indicators is 231. Similarly, the total number of gender-specific indicators listed above is 52, but the total number of unique gender-specific indicators is 51.

Acknowledgements

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Copy editors: Gretchen Luchsinger, Lois Jensen

Photo credits:

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e-ISBN: 9789210010399

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PROGRESS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THE GENDER SNAPSHOT 2021

The pandemic has tested and even reversed progress in expanding women's rights and opportunities. Women have not recovered lost jobs and income, hunger is on the rise, and school closures threaten girls' educational gains. Women's participation in government, research and resource management remains far from equal. Vulnerable groups of women, including migrants, those with disabilities and those affected by conflict, are frequently left behind. Disparities between rich and poor countries are preventing equal access to lifesaving COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, putting women in poorer countries at disproportionate risk. Moreover, despite women's central roles in responding to COVID-19, including as front-line health workers, they do not have the leadership positions they deserve. Building forward differently and better will require placing women and girls at the centre of all aspects of response and recovery, including through gender-responsive laws, policies and budgeting.

Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2021 presents the latest evidence on gender equality across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, highlighting the progress made since 2015 but also the continued alarm over the COVID-19 pandemic, its immediate effect on women's well-being and the threat it poses to future generations.



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