



PROGRESS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THE GENDER SNAPSHOT 2019

Snapshot of gender equality across the Sustainable Development Goals



More women than men live in poverty, especially during their peak childbearing years.

Women and girls around the world are **4%** more likely than men and boys to live in extreme poverty, and the risk rises to **25%** for women aged 25 to 34.



Unequal power relations in households render women more vulnerable to food insecurity.

Globally, women had a **10%** higher risk of experiencing food insecurity than men in 2018.



Access to skilled birth attendance is strongly associated with wealth and urban residence.

In 2017, nearly **300,000** women died from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth.

In least developed countries, only **61%** of births were attended by skilled health personnel in 2018.



An estimated **15 million** girls and **10 million** boys of primary-school age are out of school.



18% of women and girls aged 15 to 49 have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner in the past 12 months.

In the 30 countries where female genital mutilation (FGM) is concentrated, **1 in 3** girls aged 15 to 19 had been subjected to this harmful practice in 2017.

Women spend **3x** as many hours as men each day in unpaid care and domestic work.

Based on 2018 data from 69 countries, only **19%** of countries have a comprehensive system to track budget allocations for gender equality.

Women comprised **39%** of the workforce in

2018, but held only **27%** of managerial positions.

Worldwide, only **1 in 4** parliamentary seats are held by women.

According to data from 51 countries, only **57%** of women aged 15 to 49 who are married or in a union make their own decisions about sexual relations and the use of contraceptives and reproductive health services.



In collecting drinking water, women and girls carry the heaviest burden.

Women and girls are responsible for water collection in **80%** of households without access to water on premises, according to data from 61 developing countries.



In 2017, an estimated **3 billion** people worldwide lacked clean cooking fuels and technologies.

Girls in households that use solid fuels for cooking spend **18 hours** a week gathering fuel, compared to 5 hours a week in households using clean fuels, according to data from 13 sub-Saharan African countries.



Wide gender gaps persist in labour force participation.

The labour force participation rate of women aged 25 to 54 is **55%** versus 94% for men in the same age group.



Globally, less than **1 in 3** of all research positions are held by women.



Women are made vulnerable by discriminatory migration policies.

An assessment of migration policies related to family reunification from 45 countries shows that **71%** impose some restrictions on spouses and partners joining migrants in the host country.

In other cases, women's migration status is tied to a resident or citizen spouse, preventing them from living autonomous lives and heightening already unequal power relations and possible exposure to violence.

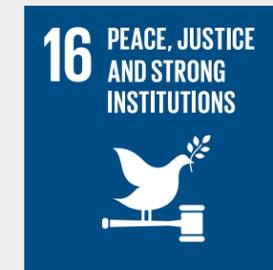


Women are overrepresented in slums in **70%** of countries where data are available.



Globally, **38.7%** of employed women are working in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, but **only 13.8%** of landholders are women.

The **lack of sex-disaggregated data** in the environment domain affects the development and implementation of effective policies and programmes to address the gender-environment nexus.



Trafficking, which tends to increase in crises, including conflict and post-conflict situations, puts women's and girls' rights in severe jeopardy. **3 in 4** human trafficking victims are women and girls.



Achieving the SDGs for women and girls requires an enabling environment and a stronger commitment to partnership and cooperation.

Of the **\$117 billion** in ODA commitments received by developing countries, only **38%** targeted gender equality and women's equality as either a significant (secondary) or principal (primary) objective.

LEAVE NO WOMAN OR GIRL BEHIND:

Why a multidimensional and multisectoral approach matters

Who is being left behind?

The 'leave no one behind' approach aims to identify not only who is left behind, but also the ways in which marginalization and exclusion are experienced. Analyses across countries of who is being left behind demonstrates that among the most disadvantaged are women and girls who face the compounded effects of gender-based and other forms of discrimination. The factors that contribute to women's and girls' disadvantage do not operate in isolation. Differences related to wealth, location and ethnicity, for instance, combine to create deep pockets of deprivation across a range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—from access to education and health care to clean water and decent work.

IN FOCUS

Inequality by wealth, location and ethnicity

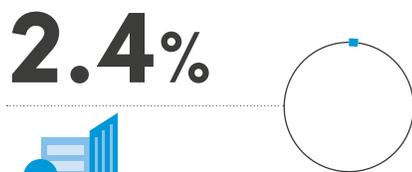
PAKISTAN



of the **poorest Sindhi** women (aged 18 to 49) living in **rural areas** are

UNDERNOURISHED

compared to



of the **richest urban Punjabi** women.

COLOMBIA



women (aged 18 to 49) living in **rural areas** are



12 times

more likely as those in **urban areas** to lack skilled health care during childbirth.



NIGERIA



of **women and girls** aged 15 to 49 have completed six or fewer years of education compared to **38.3% of men and boys**.



99.4% of Fulani women and girls living in the poorest rural households fail to complete more than six years of education,



compared to 5.5% of **Igbo women and girls living in the richest urban households**.

Why is data disaggregation across multiple dimensions important?

As the previous examples show, disaggregation by sex alone fails to adequately reflect the groups of women and girls who are most deprived. Identifying those furthest behind requires simultaneous disaggregation of data by multiple dimensions, including income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant to national contexts. Descriptive statistics for each of the subgroups should be accompanied by qualitative work to understand root causes—the ‘why’—for the inequalities observed. Only after assessing the full effects of multiple discrimination and clustered deprivation can policies be tailored to meet the needs of the target population.

What are the main challenges?

The socio-demographic characteristics of as many as 350 million people worldwide are not captured in traditional data sources. They include, for example, the homeless, people in institutions, nomadic populations, migrants and people living in areas hard to reach because of conflict or natural disaster. In many countries, little or no information is collected on persons with disabilities, on racial, ethnic and religious minorities or on gender identity. Even when these subgroups are included in surveys, the sampling may not be stratified. This can make it unsuitable for capturing information about various groups and challenging to draw robust conclusions. Fulfilling the principle of leaving no one behind will require expanding the data on these and other vulnerable groups that have traditionally been invisible in official statistics.

HOW CAN THESE CHALLENGES BE ADDRESSED?

Countries have committed to identifying marginalized populations and to reporting baseline statistics and progress among these groups. Doing so on a regular basis and disseminating these findings widely is essential for ensuring that this information is used by advocates and policymakers to inform political discourse and bring about needed change.

INVESTING IN DATA: Investment is urgently needed to ensure that high-quality, timely and disaggregated data are available to inform decision-making on all aspects of the SDGs. Increased flows of domestic and international resources and political commitment to national data and statistical systems are imperative.

GATHERING DATA: Given that deprivations tend to co-produce and ‘cluster’ together, identifying the ways in which groups and subgroups are left behind requires a multisectoral approach. Multi-layered disaggregated data should be collected and used across sectors to assess if the same groups and subgroups are being consistently left behind across different SDG-related dimensions of well-being. Modular/multi-topic household surveys are useful resources for this important type of sectoral/multidimensional analysis. Designing data collection instruments, using new and alternative data sources, and collaborating with multiple stakeholders while ensuring ethical standards are of utmost importance to adequately capture the realities of disadvantaged groups, including hidden or hard-to-reach populations.

USING THE DATA: More effort is needed to map existing data sources, develop inventories of sex-disaggregated statistics and gender-specific indicators, and utilize existing data to track progress over time. Moreover, from a policy point of view, it is vital that strategies to leave no one behind, including those related to measurement, do not contribute to further social fragmentation, stigmatization and/or other forms of harm or abuse of vulnerable groups. Inclusive evidence-based development strategies that increase access to decent employment options as well as public services for historically excluded groups while building universal systems that create a sense of solidarity through risk-sharing, redistribution and universal service provision are vital.

1 NO POVERTY



14 TOTAL INDICATORS

6 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS*

More women than men live in poverty, especially during their peak childbearing years

Women and girls globally are 4 per cent more likely than men and boys to live in extreme poverty. Gender gaps are widest among those aged 25 to 34: Women in this age group are 25 per cent more likely than men to live in extreme poverty.

Gender disparities in rates of extreme poverty can be partially attributed to the disproportionate share of women and girls performing unpaid care and domestic work. Typically, such responsibilities mean that they have less time and fewer opportunities to develop their capabilities and access decent work. Moreover, research shows that women aged 25 to 34 with dependent children (below 5 years of age) are 4.8 percentage points more likely than those who have no young children to live in extreme poverty.

FIGURE 1

Proportion of people living in extreme poverty (less than US\$1.90 a day), by age group and sex, 2011–2016 (percentage)



Source: UN Women and World Bank (forthcoming), based on the World Bank’s Global Monitoring Database.
 Note: The analysis is based on the latest data from 91 developing countries, covering 78 per cent of the world’s population.

* The term ‘gender-specific indicators’ is used here and in subsequent sections of the Gender Snapshot to refer 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 Goals, see pages 21–23 of this publication.



13 TOTAL INDICATORS

1 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATOR

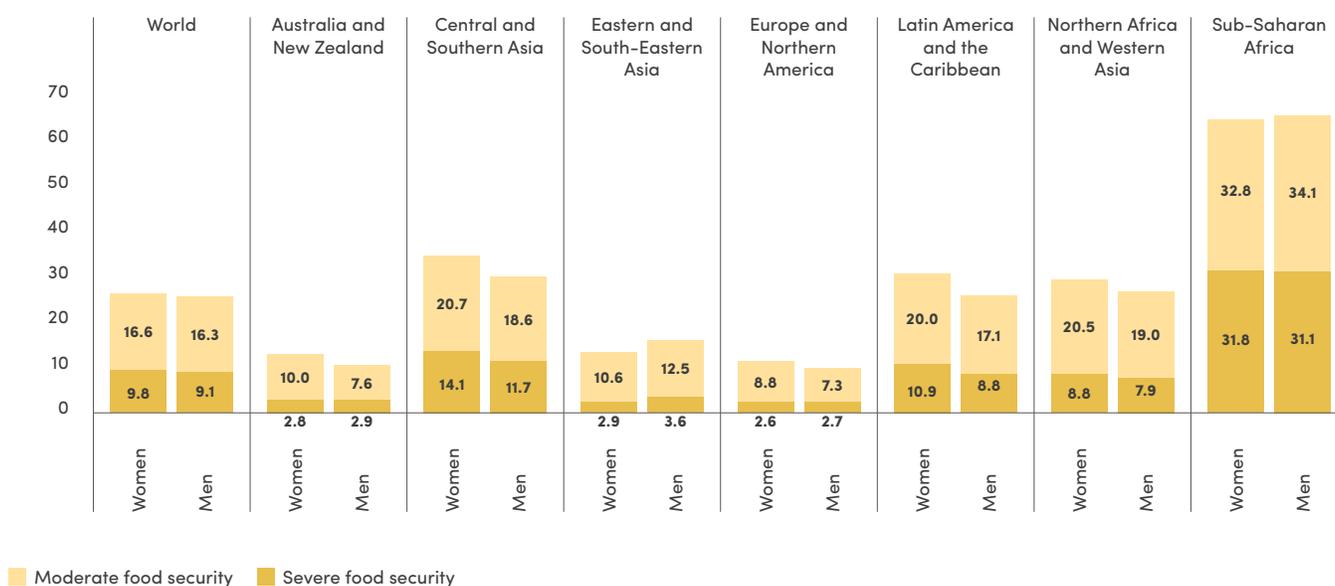
Food insecurity affects more women than men

Unequal power relations at the household level render women more vulnerable than men to food insecurity. Particularly when crises hit or food prices rise, women and girls often become ‘shock absorbers’, consuming less nutritious food themselves in order to support their families. They also tend to spend more time and energy than men and boys in securing and processing food for domestic consumption.

In 2018, an estimated 9.2 per cent of the world population (more than 700 million people) were exposed to severe levels of food insecurity. The prevalence was slightly higher among women (9.8 per cent) than men (9.1 per cent), with the largest differences found in Latin America and the Caribbean. The gender gaps are larger among those who are less educated, poor and living in urban areas. Controlling for place of residence, poverty status and education, the chances of being food insecure are about 10 per cent higher for women than for men.

FIGURE 2

Proportion of people who are moderately and severely food insecure by sex and region, 2018 (percentage)



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2019.

Note: Estimates for Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) are not presented due to insufficient sample size. Data are for individuals 15 years and older.



27 TOTAL INDICATORS

6 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

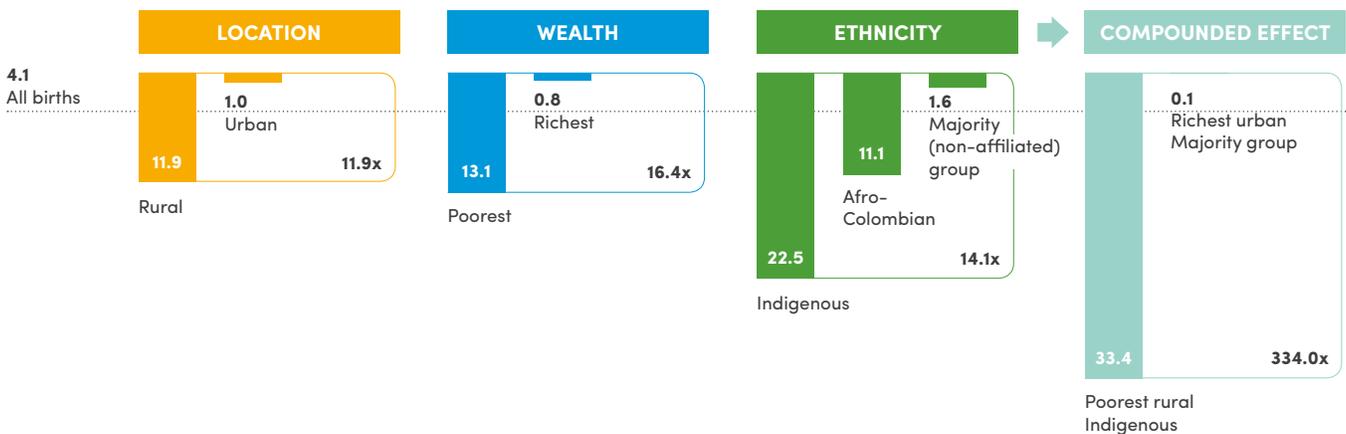
Access to skilled birth attendance is strongly associated with wealth and urban residence

In 2017, nearly 300,000 women died from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. The chances of delivery-related complications and maternal death are reduced significantly when a skilled health professional is present at childbirth.

Analysis of the latest available data from 64 developing countries indicates large inequalities in access to skilled care during childbirth among women and girls in rural areas and in the poorest households. In Niger, 83 per cent of births in urban areas are attended by a skilled health worker compared to 21 per cent in rural areas. In Guinea, 90 per cent of births in the richest 20 per cent of households are assisted by skilled birth attendants versus 10 per cent in the poorest quintile. When data are simultaneously disaggregated, the compounded effects of various deprivations reveal even starker inequalities. In Colombia, for example, over a third (33.4 per cent) of indigenous women living in the poorest rural households deliver without the assistance of a skilled health professional, compared to 0.1 per cent of women who do not identify with any ethnicity and live in the richest urban households.

FIGURE 3

Proportion of births in Colombia not attended by skilled health personnel (births in the last five years), by location, wealth and ethnicity, 2015



Source: UN Women calculations based on microdata from Colombia’s Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) (MINSALUD and Profamilia, 2015).
 Note: For full details regarding this analysis, see UN Women’s *Turning Promises into Action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* 2018 report.



11 TOTAL INDICATORS

8 GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS

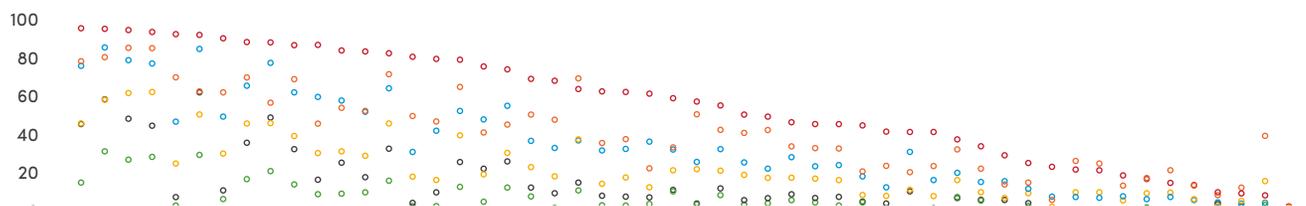
Illiteracy rates are highest among women in the poorest households

More girls are enrolling in primary education. Nevertheless, 15 million girls of primary-school age will likely never learn to read or write compared to about 10 million boys. Poverty plays a key role in exclusion from education.

Analysis of illiteracy data among women and men aged 15 to 49 across 53 developing countries shows that women living in the poorest households are consistently the most disadvantaged. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the illiteracy rate is close to zero among women from the richest 20 per cent of households and among most men. Yet the corresponding figure among women in the poorest 20 per cent of households is 23 per cent. The figure goes up to 29 per cent for Bolivian women from the Quechua indigenous group. In Nigeria, nearly all (99.4 per cent) of Fulani women and girls living in the poorest rural households have less than six years of education. High rates of illiteracy also contribute to deprivations in other areas, including employment opportunities.

FIGURE 4

Illiteracy rate among population aged 15 to 49, by sex and wealth quintiles, latest available year, 2007–2017 (percentage)



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/reportId=5_21924

