



INDICATOR ANALYSIS

PROPORTION OF POPULATION SUBJECTED TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE,
PSYCHOLOGICAL VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE PREVIOUS 12
MONTHS

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Indicator: Proportion of population subjected to physical violence, psychological violence and sexual violence in the previous 12 months

<p>Overview</p>	<p><i>The proportion of the population subjected to physical violence, psychological violence, and sexual violence in the previous 12 months</i> is the total number of persons who, in the previous 12 months, were subjected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Physical violence, b) Psychological violence, and c) Sexual violence <p>expressed as a proportion of the total share of a population (1).</p> <p>Calculation of the indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P = the population proportion • x = the number of victims of physical, psychological, or sexual violence within the previous 12 months • n = the total share of the population <p style="text-align: center;">Indicator Formula: $P = x/n$</p> <p>This indicator is part of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a specific indicator for Target 16.1, which seeks to “significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere” (1). Both this indicator and Target 16.1 fall under the broader scope of SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”, whose primary objectives are to promote “peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels” (1). It should be noted that the SDG database does not currently hold data on psychological violence and has violence disaggregated as physical violence, robbery and sexual violence.</p>
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GLOBAL TRENDS	
<p>What are the global patterns for this indicator?</p>	<p>The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime’s available information regarding violent incidents suggests that, in the past two decades, there has been a “certain stability or a slight decrease” in the level of violent incidents (2). This global trend is, however, due to patterns that vary across countries at different levels of economic development (2). In particular, low-income countries and fragile states have national-level trends that may differ from global ones (2). For example, while violent incidents seemed to decrease slightly in European countries, countries in sub-Saharan Africa saw relative increases in violence (2).</p>

RELEVANCE TO UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG GENDER, HEALTH, FRAGILITY/PEACE	
<p>How could this indicator contribute to our understanding</p>	<p>This indicator provides a measure of the prevalence of victimization from physical, psychological and sexual violence within a given population (1).</p>

<p>of how gender, health and fragility and peace influence one another?</p>	<p>This indicator also provides a measure of citizens' ability to live in safe, secure conditions free from subjection to violence. Safe and secure conditions, in turn, provide the necessary basis for a healthy life. Analyses of the proportion of the population that has been subjected to violence is, in this way, important for measuring progress in advancement towards peaceful societies (1).</p> <p>As this indicator is disaggregated by sex and ethnicity, it can also provide an indication of any trends that suggest increased prevalence of gender-based and/or racially-based victimization. As certain groups, such as women, children, and racial minorities, are especially vulnerable in the face of physical, psychological, and sexual violence, analysis of this indicator can be especially helpful in reaching those who experience the greatest fragility.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">UTILITY</p>	
<p>What does the indicator measure?</p>	<p>This indicator measures the prevalence of victimization from physical, psychological, and sexual violence in the previous 12 months.</p>
<p>What does it NOT measure - what does it miss?</p>	<p>The indicator does not measure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The severity of the violence to which individuals were subjected; b) By whom the violence was perpetrated. c) The frequency at which individuals may have been subjected to physical, psychological, and sexual violence within the previous 12 months d) Whether or not individuals experienced solely physical violence, or psychological violence, or sexual violence, or a combination of each within the previous 12 months (i.e., being subjected to physical, psychological, and sexual violence simultaneously, as opposed to solely being subjected to psychological violence).

<p>AVAILABILITY</p>

<p>Sources for indicator (CRVS, DHS etc.);</p>	<p>At the national level, “victimization surveys” provide direct information on this indicator, as they collect information on the number of persons subjected to physical, psychological, and sexual violence (1). Surveys conducted on an annual basis are preferred, as they address this indicator’s “previous 12 months” timeframe.</p> <p>In the United States, for example, data is generated via the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ annual National Crime Victimization Survey. This is a “self-report” survey administered to persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of households (3).</p> <p>At the international level, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime gathers data on the prevalence of violent crime via its annual “United Nations Crime Trends Survey” (UN-CTS) (4).</p> <p>To collect data, the UNODC sends its UN-CTS questionnaire to UN member states. Member states’ national institutions then provide their own data for the UN-CTS. Member states’ results are then compiled and disseminated through UNODC crime and criminal justice statistics (4). Countries who are not member states of the United Nations do not have their data represented in the UN-CTS, but may nonetheless collect national data.</p> <p>Indicator data are available from the following source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Global SDG database <i>indicator data</i> (country level 2003-2018): https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/ 2. UNODC database <i>data on various forms of violence</i> (country level 2003-2018): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Data from the database homepage: https://dataunodc.un.org/ b) Data from Crime victimization surveys: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/crime-and-criminal-justice.html. Under the “Special Data Collection” heading select “Data and Metadata from Crime Victimization Surveys”.
<p>Most recent data available;</p>	<p>The most recent available data is from 2018.</p>
<p>Availability across geographic areas;</p>	<p>Data is largely concentrated in Europe but also widely available in Asia and the Americas.</p>
<p>Availability in conflict affected settings;</p>	<p>Not widely available in conflict settings: Afghanistan (No data); DRC (No data); Libya (No data); Somalia (No data); South Sudan (No data); Yemen (No data).</p>

GRANULARITY

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<i>Disaggregation at national level</i>	
Data disaggregated by sex;	Yes (not all countries).
Data disaggregated by identity group (race, ethnicity);	No.
Data disaggregated by income	No.
Data disaggregated by citizenship;	No.
Data disaggregated by migration background;	No.
<i>Disaggregation at sub-national level</i>	
Data disaggregated by geographic region;	No.
Data disaggregated by identity group (race, ethnicity);	No.
Data disaggregated by income.	No.

SOURCES OF BIAS	
What bias can exist with this data?	<p><i>Selection bias:</i> the selected respondents may not be an accurate representation of the entire population;</p> <p><i>Recall bias:</i> surveys ask respondents about a violent incident that could have occurred up to 12 months previously, and therefore respondents might not accurately remember the date the incident occurred/if it was within the 12-month timeframe;</p> <p><i>Social desirability bias:</i> respondents may seek to gain the approval of the person/institution conducting the survey. Thus, individuals may provide an answer that does not accurately reflect their experiences;</p> <p><i>Social Desirability bias (continued):</i> this indicator concerns subject matter that may be highly sensitive or stigmatized. Thus, respondents may not answer truthfully, and some victims may not come forward as respondents at all.</p>

VALIDITY	
Clear and accepted international standards for indicator;	The indicator is widely published when victimization surveys are undertaken. While there are international standards on measuring physical and sexual violence through survey instruments, there is currently no international standard on the measurement of psychological violence (1).
Validity of measurement of indicator generally accepted;	Potential issues regarding bias in survey response may undermine the validity of the data. Furthermore, differing interpretations of respondents regarding what exactly constitutes physical, psychological, and sexual violence may also undermine the validity of the data.

RELIABILITY	
Reliability of indicator generally accepted;	There are often discrepancies in data between international-level surveys and national surveys.

COMPLEXITY	
Enables analysis across time and location.	Since data for this indicator is collected on an annual basis in many countries, it does provide an opportunity for comparisons across time and location.

OTHER REFLECTIONS	
Are indicator values imputed/modelled?	No.

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References

1. United Nations Statistics Division. Indicator 16.1.3- Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months [Internet]. United Nations Statistics Division; 2016. Available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-16-01-03.pdf>
2. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. State of Crime and Criminal Justice Worldwide. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; 2019. (Reports on World Crime Trends).
3. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) [Internet]. Bureau of Justice Statistics. [cited 2021 Sep 22]. Available from: <https://bjs.ojp.gov/data-collection/ncvs>
4. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Crime and criminal justice [Internet]. United Nations : Office on Drugs and Crime. [cited 2021 Sep 21]. Available from: [//www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/crime-and-criminal-justice.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/crime-and-criminal-justice.html)