

Security and Justice Indicators

Indicator	Rationale for Indicator	Definition Considerations	Possible Data Collection Strategy
<p>Percentage of individuals who are women present in designated common places*</p>	<p>To monitor changes in women and girls' mobility and movement. A sudden change, particularly a sudden decrease, in women appearing in common areas they usually frequent could signal a fear of imminent violence, conflict or insecurity.</p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define "designated common places."</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>"Designated common places" refers to locations in target states that are highly frequented by the public, such as markets, places of worship, locations for political events, public transportation, eateries, or places of leisure (e.g., parks or pools).</p> <p>These locations should be designated at the beginning of the monitoring period and should not change. For each location, the numerator will refer to the number of women present. The denominator will be the total number of people present at that location, generally ascertained by a rough count by the monitors. It is important to ensure the common place being monitored reflects local customs and norms. For example, in northern Nigeria, it is not the custom for women to go to markets, so monitoring their presence there would be ineffective.</p>	<p>It is critical for monitors to visit common places for monitoring on the same day of the week and at the same time to keep external variables as consistent as possible.</p> <p>In the reporting form, monitors should be requested to provide the following information:</p> <p>Location Type (e.g., market, townhall meeting, place of worship, political rally/event, other)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people (e.g., 0-25; 25-50; 50-100; more than 100) Percentage of women present out of total number of people (e.g., 0-25%; 25-50%; 50-75%; mostly or all women) Change in % from previous week (e.g., about the same; fewer women than previously; more women than previously; unknown) Reasons for changes to number of women (open-ended) Total number of people present (open-ended)
<p>Number of male gatherings and presence of non-local men</p>	<p>Increases in all-male gatherings and unusual movements of all-male groups are possible signs of community unrest or mobilization for the purpose of committing violence or causing conflict. In some contexts, there may be increased presence of men in a community ahead of a rally or campaign event during an election period.</p> <p>Supporters of some political parties may resort to violence and intimidation to show dominance, strength and superiority, as well as to intimidate potential voters supporting an opposing party.</p> <p>Instances of male groups descending on a community for violent purposes frequently occur around the world. For example, local women told the authors of this framework that they did not recognize the majority of hardliner Sinhalese men who were responsible for the March 2018 violence against Muslims in central Sri Lanka. It was suspected that the violence had been pre-organized with members of the group mobilizing on social media and travelling to the town for violent purposes.</p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define "male gatherings" and "non-local men."</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>Unusual gathering sizes may differ depending on the context; for example, sporting events often expectedly draw larger crowds of men, so the emphasis should be on monitoring gatherings which are out of the ordinary for the time and day that the gathering is observed.</p> <p>Non-local men can include anyone suspected of not being a local resident. This, of course, is easier to ascertain in smaller towns that it is in urban settings; however, even in urban settings an influx of men from different areas may be noticeable.</p>	<p>Incident reporting forms should include estimated number of gatherings; estimated age range of those gathering; and number of men suspected of not being local residents of that area per gathering.</p> <p>Primary sources could include observation, eyewitness accounts or reports from a community reporting phone line; secondary sources could include weekly police reports and media reports. Some gatherings that do not lead to violence or lead to only minor scuffles may not be reported officially, but should be included where there is sufficient anecdotal information available or where the incident was observed by a local monitor or another eyewitness.</p>
<p>Number of violent arrests by police or security force personnel*</p> <p><i>Disaggregated by gender of person arrested; further disaggregated by: level of violence during the arrest (some heightened level of force; excessive force; unknown)</i></p>	<p>An increase in arrests of women active in protests, activism, or political and electoral processes may be viewed as an attempt to dissuade women from participating in political processes or opposition groups. An increase in arrests of women could also indicate an increase of police or security forces interested in or ordered to reaffirm harmful gender norms (i.e., that women should not participate in protests, activism, and/or politics), which can be an indicator of future violence or conflict. This increase can also indicate broader closing of civic space and an overall decline in peace and security. For example, during 2020 protests in Belarus,¹ women protestors and activists were disproportionately the targets of violent arrests.</p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define level of violence pertaining to the violence used during arrest for the disaggregation.</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>"Heightened level of force" refers to an arrest that was heavy handed despite the individual being arrested not resisting arrest, or which resulted in a scuffle or use of verbal intimidation by arresting officer towards the individual being arrested.</p> <p>"Excessive use of force" is when the force used to arrest the individual exceeds what is necessary. It can involve the use of a weapon and result in injury to the individual being arrested.</p>	<p>For this indicator, it is important to monitor the number of arrests and violent incidents against both women and men.</p> <p>Primary sources could include observation, eyewitness accounts or reports from a community reporting phone line; secondary sources could include weekly police reports and media reports where available (though noting the possible unwillingness of police to provide such data).</p>
<p>Number of reported incidents of gender-based violence, including sexual violence*</p> <p><i>Disaggregated by gender of victim</i></p>	<p>Levels of gender-based violence are known to rise in times of crises, including economic downturns, humanitarian emergencies and conflict, as well as during pandemics as has been observed during COVID-19 lockdowns. An increase in gender-based violence can signal rising insecurity. It can also indicate growing political instability and be used as a strategy to discourage women from participating in politics.</p> <p>For instance, in late 2015 in Burundi, there was a surge in sexual assaults committed against women living in neighborhoods with strong support for the opposition.²</p> <p>Research undertaken in Indonesia, Bangladesh and the Philippines in 2018-2019³ also found that individuals who support violence against women are three times more likely to support violent extremism and that support for violence against women predicted support for violent extremism more than any other factor, including degree of religiosity.</p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define the types of violations covered under "gender-based violence" for the monitoring effort.</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>"Gender-based violence" is an umbrella term which covers a broad spectrum of gendered sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or violence including rape; attempted rape; sexual exploitation; domestic violence; trafficking; forced sex work; female genital mutilation (in some contexts); and reproductive coercion.</p>	<p>While most cases of gender-based violence are perpetrated against women and girls, men and boys also experience this type of violence. It is therefore important to measure the number of reported instances of sexual violence against women and girls, men and boys (i.e., disaggregate the number of incidents based on gender). It is also important to note that reporting on instances of sexual violence against men and boys tends to be low due to the associated stigma.</p> <p>While monitoring changes in the number of incidences of gender-based violence is frequently included in lists of gender-sensitive early warning indicators, it is challenging to collect reliable data because cases of gender-based violence are systematically underreported, and monitors may encounter bureaucratic resistance to gathering this information on a regular basis from local police stations and hospitals.</p> <p>Secondary data sources can be used for this indicator, though accurate reporting of gender-based violence at the sub-national level and on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis is rare. The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) collects data on conflict related sexual violence targeting women, men and children but does not track sexual violence outside of the political/public sphere.⁴</p> <p>Implementors could also disaggregate by type of gender-based violence, but this decision would depend on the local context and availability of data.</p>
<p>Number of threats against/ incidents of intimidation of/ attacks on women in public roles</p> <p><i>Disaggregated by physical threats/ attacks and threats received online</i></p>	<p>In highly patriarchal societies, women in public roles, such as politicians and journalists or high-profile gender equality campaigners, can be seen as challenging gender norms and threatening the narrowly defined roles and rules for women and men. As with the sexist or homophobic propaganda indicator below, attacks or threats against women in public life can signal a growing intolerance for individuals not seen to be subscribing to strict gender roles or coming from minority groups.</p> <p>In February 2019, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders reported that women and gender-nonconforming human rights activists are facing increased repression and violence and that a rise in misogynistic, sexist and homophobic speech by political leaders in recent years has normalized violence against women human rights defenders.⁵</p> <p>In September 2020, the U.S. embassy in Kabul warned that Afghan women, in particular female government employees, teachers, and human rights activists, were at increased risk of attack by extremist groups following a wave of assassinations and assassination attempts of women.⁶</p> <p>In light of rising rates of online violence against women, it is also necessary to consider all forms of online harassment, intimidation and threats against women in public roles. For instance, a 2020 report by the UN Special Representative on Violence Against Women found that women journalists are increasingly and disproportionately targeted online.⁷</p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define "threats," "intimidation," "attacks," and "women in public roles."</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>The UN defines threats/intimidation and attacks on women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."⁸</p> <p>Online violence refers to the use of mobile phones, the internet, social media platforms or email used to harass, intimidate, bully or threaten individuals. A newer form of online violence also includes "doxing," whereby an individual's personal details, including phone number, address and email, are published online.</p>	<p>Primary sources could include observation, eyewitness accounts or reports from a community reporting phone line; secondary sources could include media reports where available.</p> <p>Data collection could also rely on social media monitoring. IFES experience collecting data on online violence and harassment against women highlights how challenging these efforts are, however. IFES has used data mining software, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to collect and sort online violence and harassment against women, but none of these techniques provided sufficient data quality to recommend this strategy. If resources allow, implementors could select a certain number of social media accounts or pages on one or multiple widely used social media platforms to monitor at regular intervals to record the number of threats against women in public roles. The selection of accounts/pages to monitor should be based on identified women in public roles (as is most relevant for the context) in addition to political party pages and other popular pages that might be associated with political or civic activism. The selection of social media platforms should be based on what the most popular platforms are in the context.</p>