

Gender equality means that girls and boys, women and men, enjoy the same rights, resources, opportunities and protections. Investments in gender equality contribute to lifelong positive outcomes for children and their communities and have considerable inter-generational payoffs because children's rights and well-being often depend on women's rights and well-being. This snapshot shows key dimensions of gender equality during the lifecycle. It is organized around: 1) the first decade of life ( $0-9$ years of age) when gender disparities are often small, particularly in early childhood; 2) the second decade of childhood (10-19 years of age) when gender disparities become more pronounced with the onset of puberty and the consolidation of gender norms; and 3) adulthood, when gender disparities impacts both the wellbeing of women and girls and boys.

## Every Girl \& Boy Survives \& Thrives: The First Decade of Life


#### Abstract

Nutrition and a supportive environment in early childhood are among the key determinants of the health and survival of children and their physical and cognitive development. Generally, girls tend to have better biological endowments than boys for survival to age five, and thus higher survival chances under natural circumstances. However, gender discrimination against girls can affect survival, resulting in higher than expected female mortality. However, children with mothers who gave birth at a young age or who have no education may be more likely to be malnourished. Children with restricted cognitive development during early life are at risk for later neuropsychological problems, poor school achievement, early school drop-out, low-skilled employment, and poor care of their own children. Stimulation and interaction with parents and caregivers can jumpstart brain development and promote well-being in early childhood. This is also the period of development when gender socialization, or the process of learning cultural roles according to one's sex, manifests. Caregivers, particularly fathers, may respond to, and interact with, sons and daughters differently.


Malnutrition: Stunting (Moderate \& Severe) among Children Under-5, SDG 2.2.1


Stunting refers to a child too short for his or her age
Malnutrition: Overweight (Moderate \& Severe) among Children Under-5, SDG 2.2.2


Overweight refers to a child who is too heavy for his or her height

Malnutrition: Wasting (Moderate \& Severe) among Children Under-5, SDG 2.2.2


Wasting refers to a child who is too thin for his or her height
Malnutrition: Stunting and Overweight (Moderate \& Severe) among Children Under-5


[^0]Early Stimulation \& Responsive Care by Adults


Percentage of children age 2-4 years with whom adult household members engaged in activities that promote learning and school readiness during the last three days, by person interacting with child and sex of child.

Note: Activities include: reading books to the child; telling stories to the child; singing songs to the child; taking the child outside the home; playing with the child; and naming, counting or drawing things with the child.

Early Childhood Development Index, SDG 4.2.1
 following 4 domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional, and learning domains, by sex

Every Girl \& Boy Is Protected From Violence \& Exploitation: The First Decade of Life

Violent Discipline, SDG 16.2.1 Sex \& Age Disaggregate



Percentage of children age 1-14 years who experienced violent discipline in the past month, by sex
Note: The age group 1-14 spans the first and second decades of life.

Percentage of children age 1-14 years who experienced violent discipline in the past month, by age.

Investment in good quality early childhood education services prior to entering school improves learning outcomes for children. It also enhances the efficiency of the school system by reducing repetition and drop-out and improving achievement, especially among girls and marginalized groups. Primary education provides the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Considerable progress has been made in achieving universal education and closing the gender gap but gender disparities to the disadvantage of girls still exist in some countries. Further, girls still comprise the majority of the world's out-of-school population.
Note: Because children of primary school age range from 6-12 years, these indicators include some children in their second decade of life.

## Participation Rate in Organized Learning, SDG 4.2.2



Percent distribution of children age one year younger than the official primary school entry age at the beginning of the school year, by attendance to education, and attendance to an early childhood education programme or primary education (adjusted net attendance ratio), by sex and area

Children of Primary School Age Out of School


Percentage of children of primary school age not attending either primary or secondary school, by wealth quintile and area

Primary School Attendance


Percentage of children of primary school age attending primary or secondary school (adjusted net attendance ratio), by wealth quintile and urban/rural residence

Primary Completion


Percentage of children whose age are 3 to 5 years above the intended age for the last grade of primary school who have completed primary education, by sex and area

## Key Messages

- Stunting is slightly higher in girls (6\%) than boys (5\%). Also, it is higher in the rural areas (6\%) than in the urban (5\%). There is a negative correlation between stunting and mother's education, stunting decreases as the level of mother's education increases.
- Overweight is 2 percentage point higher in boys ( $7 \%$ ) than girls (5\%); Overweight significantly changes by mother's education and mother's age at birth. Overweight is higher in boys than in girls in all age groups.
- 9 out of 10 children age $3-4$ years are developmentally on track, levels are practically the same for boys and girls.

Boys and girls almost equally experienced violent discipline, in addition, 1 out of 20 children experienced severe physical punishment.

- Almost 7 out of 10 girls as well as boys age 1-14 years experienced any violent discipline in the past month.

Psychological aggression is most often applied to children from violent discipline methods.

- Little children (1-2 and 3-4 years) also experience severe physical punishment, respectively $3 \%$ and $5 \%$; Overall, more than half of the children under 3 years experienced any violent discipline in the past month.

Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) is very high both for girls and boys; relatively low primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) observed in poorest wealth quintile, though difference is small.
1.2\% of children are out of school; higher level was observed in rural areas; also, it was highest for girls in poorest wealth quintile.

- Primary Completion rate is almost $100 \%$ for girls and boys, in urban and rural areas.
9 out of 10 children participated in organized learning; In rural areas it was 14 percentage point lower than in urban areas.

While adolescence carries new health risks for both girls and boys, girls often face gender-specific vulnerabilities, with lifelong consequences. Complications related to pregnancy and childbirth are among the leading causes of death worldwide for adolescent girls age 15 to 19. Preventing adolescent pregnancy not only improves the health of adolescent girls, but also provides them with opportunities to continue their education, preparing them for jobs and livelihoods, increasing their self-esteem and giving them more say in decisions that affect their lives. Yet, too often, adolescent girls lack access to appropriate sexual and reproductive health services, including modern methods of contraception. Additionally, despite having a higher risk of contracting HIV due to both greater physiological vulnerabilities and gender inequalities, adolescent girls are often less knowledgeable than adolescent boys about how HIV is transmitted. However, gender norms adversely impact adolescent boys as well. For example, norms around masculinity that encourage risk taking may heighten adolescent boys' use of alcohol and tobacco, increasing their likelihood of developing noncommunicable diseases later in life.

## Contraceptive Use \& Demand Satisfied



Contraceptive use and demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods among adolescent girls age 15-19 years, currently married or in union.

Data for "Demand satisfied for family planning by modern methods" are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

## Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV



Percentage of girls and boys age 15-19 years who know of the two ways of HIV prevention (having only one faithful uninfected partner and using a condom every time), who know that a healthy looking person can be HIV-positive, and who reject the two most common misconceptions, and any other local misconception.

Early Childbearing - by Age 18


Percentage of women age 20-24 years who had a live birth by age 18, by urban/rural residence and education.

## Stigma



Percentage of girls and boys age 15-19 years who report discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV, including 1) would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who is HIV-positive and 2) think children living with HIV should not be allowed to attend school with children who do not have HIV

## Every Adolescent Girl \& Boy is Protected from Violence \& Exploitation: The Second Decade of Life

Adolescence presents unique vulnerabilities to violence and exploitation for girls. In many countries, marriage before the age of 18 is a reality for girls due to the interaction of several factors that place a girl at risk, including poverty, social norms, customary or religious laws that condone the practice, an inadequate legislative framework and the state of a country's civil registration system. Child marriage often compromises a girl's development by resulting in early pregnancy and social isolation, interrupting her schooling, and limiting her opportunities for career and vocational advancement. It also often involves a substantial age difference between the girl and her partner, thus further disempowering her and putting her at greater risk of partner violence, sexually transmitted diseases and lack of agency. Attitudes about wife beating serve as a marker for the social acceptability of intimate partner violence. Acceptance of wife beating among adolescent girls and boys suggests that it can be difficult for married girls who experience violence to seek assistance and for unmarried girls to identify and negotiate healthy and equitable relationships. Gender-based discrimination may be one of the most ubiquitous forms of discrimination adolescent girls face, and it has long-lasting and far-reaching effects on their personal trajectories as well as on all aspects of social and economic development.

Child Marriage, SDG 5.3.1


Percentage of women aged 20-24 years who were first married or in union before age 15 and before age 18 , by residence, wealth quintile and education.

Feelings of Safety, SDG 16.1.4 Age \& Sex Disaggregate


Spousal Age Difference


Percent distribution of women age 15-24 currently married or in union by age difference with their partner, education level and wealth quintile. Data for "Richest" disaggregation are based on 25-49 unweighted cases

Feeling safety while being at home alone


Percentage of adolescents age 15-19 who feel safe being home alone after dark, by sex

Percentage of adolescents age 15-19 who feel safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark, by sex

## Every Adolescent Girl \& Boy has an Equitable Chance in Life: The Second Decade of Life

To become empowered, adolescent girls and boys need to be engaged as civic participants in the decisions affecting their lives and communities. People's sense of security and freedom from the fear of crime influences how they move about those communities, access services and economic opportunities and participate in public life. Adolescent girls and boys are likely to have different perceptions of personal safety due to different gender-based vulnerabilities to sexual violence and other crimes. Life satisfaction measures an individual's perceived level of well-being or how an individual feels about their life as a whole. Measuring adolescent girls' and boy's satisfaction with their lives can provide important insights into their mental health during a stage of life when gender norms consolidate and girls and boys experience different risk factors for mental health disorders.

## Discrimination \& Harassment



Life Satisfaction


Among adolescents age 15-19, average life satisfaction score on a scale of 0 to 10 , by sex and age group

Discrimination \& Harassment


[^1]While participation in secondary education is expanding, progress lags behind primary education. Gender disparities disadvantaging girls are also wider and occur in more countries at the secondary level than at the primary level. Yet, advancing girls' secondary education is one of the most transformative development strategies countries can invest in. Completion of secondary education brings significant positive benefits to girls and societies - from increased lifetime earnings and national growth rates, to reductions in child marriage, stunting, and child and maternal mortality.

## Lower Secondary Attendance <br> Net Attendance Rate




Percentage of children of lower secondary school age attending lower secondary school or higher (adjusted net attendance ratio), by sex, wealth quintile and area

Lower Secondary Completion
 lower secondary school who have completed lower secondary education, by sex and area

Upper Secondary Attendance
Net Attendance Rate


Percentage of children of upper secondary school age attending upper secondary school or higher (adjusted net attendance ratio), by sex, wealth quintile and area

Upper Secondary Completion


Percentage of children or youth whose age are 3 to 5 years above the intended age for the last grade of upper secondary school who have completed upper secondary education, by sex and area

## Every Adolescent Girl \& Boy Learns: The Second Decade of Life

## Children of Lower Secondary School Age Out of School



Percentage of children of lower secondary school age not attending either primary or secondary school, by wealth quintile and area

## Key Messages

- $6 \%$ of women age 20-24 years have had a live birth before age 18, in rural this indicator is almost three times higher than in urban areas (11\% and 4\% respectively). In addition, early childbearing - by age 18 is significantly different by education, especially among the women with primary or lower secondary and higher education ( $26 \%$ and $1 \%$ respectively).
- Only 9\% of girls and 8\% of boys at ages 15-19 have comprehensive knowledge about HIV transmission.
- 6 out of 10 girls and boys at ages 15-19 report discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV, difference between girls and boys is not significant, though stigma is slightly higher for boys.
- $14 \%$ of women at ages $20-24$ were married before the age of 18, there is significant difference between urban and rural areas (8\% and $25 \%$, respectively).
- There is a direct correlation between child marriage and education and/or poverty. 47\% of women at ages 20-24 who obtained primary or lower secondary education were
married before the age of 18. As for wealth index, in the poorest quintile, $33 \%$ of women aged 20-24 were married before age of 18, while $4 \%$ from the richest quintile.
- There are interesting relation between spousal age difference and wealth quintile. Only 5\% of women at ages $15-24$ are older than their husbands or partners in poorest quintile, while in richest quintile it is five times higher (26\%). On the other hand, 13\% of women at ages 15-24, whose husband or partner is $10+$ years older, belong to the poorest quintile of wealth index as compared to 3\% belonging to the richest quintile.

Discrimination and harassment based on any ground during the past 12 months in girls aged $15-19$ is significantly higher than in boys ( $7 \%$ and $4 \%$ respectively). 1 out of 33 girls have felt discriminated against or harassed based on their gender.

- Average life satisfaction score among adolescent girls and boys at ages $15-19$ is almost the same and equals to the score of 7 or 8 on a scale of 0 to 10.
- Lower secondary school net attendance ratio is very high (more than 94\%), regardless of wealth quintiles and urban/rural areas.
- Upper secondary school attendance ratio is slightly higher among girls than among boys ( $87 \%$ and $83 \%$, respectively) in general, in urban and rural areas as well as among the wealthiest and poorest households.

The percentage of boys of lower secondary age not attending either primary or secondary school is two times higher in all disaggregation, except the richest wealth quintile.

To survive and thrive, all children require care and support from women and men. Care and support can be substantively improved by fostering gender equality, an important goal in its own right, and by reducing the gender-related barriers. Gender-related barriers include women's and girls' disproportionate lack of information, knowledge and technology, resources, and safety and mobility, as well as the gender division of labour and gender norms. For example, a mother's lack of mobility, due to prohibitive norms or lack of transportation, may impede birth registration, nutrition, and other child outcomes. The internalization of gender norms around masculine and feminine expectations and behaviours may influence women's and men's attitudes toward intimate partner violence and physical punishment of children as well as self-perceptions of well-being, including life satisfaction and expectations for the future.

## Literacy



Percentage of adults age 15-49 who are literate, by sex

## Health Insurance Coverage



Percentage of adults age 15-49 with health insurance, by sex, wealth quintile and area

## Time on Household Chores: Water Collection

Who collects water?


Percent distribution of household members without drinking water on premises by person usually collecting drinking water used in the household

Time spent on water collection


Percent distribution of average amount of time spent collecting water per day by sex of person primarily responsible for water collection in households without drinking water on premises

## Safety \& Security

Feeling safe while walking alone, SDG 16.1.4 sex disaggregate


Percentage of adults age 15-49 who feel safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark, by sex and area

## Victimisation



Percentage of adults age 15-49 who experienced physical violence of robbery or assault in the last year, by sex, wealth quintile and area

## Discrimination \& harassment



Percentage of adults age 15-49 who have ever personally felt discriminated or harassed in the last 12 months based on their gender, by sex and area

Feeling safety while being at home alone


Percentage of adults age 15-49 who feel safe being home alone after dark, by sex and area

Reporting of victimization to police, SDG 16.3.1


Percentage of women age 15-49 for whom the last incident of physical violence of robbery and/or assault in the last year was reported to the police

## Key Messages



Feminine \& masculine attitudes \& expectations
Attitudes toward physical punishment


Percentage of caretakers who believe that physical punishment is needed to bring up, raise, or educate a child properly, by sex of caretaker

Life satisfaction


Among adults age 15-49, average life satisfaction score on a scale of 0 to 10 , by sex, wealth quintile and marital status. Higher scores indicate higher satisfaction levels.

Perceptions of a better life


Percentage of adults age 15-49 who expect that their lives will get better in one year, by sex, wealth quintile and marital status.

## Key Messages

- $8 \%$ mothers/caretakers and only $2 \%$ of fathers/caretakers believe that physical punishment is necessary to bring up, raise or educate a child properly. It is noteworthy that 99\% of caretakers are women.
- Average life satisfaction score among women and men aged $15-49$ is almost the same and is equal to the score of 6 or 7 on a scale of 0 to 10 .
- Generally, women tend to have a higher perception of better life compared to men regardless of their wealth quintiles and marital status.

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The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the Georgia MICS 2018 related to Gender Equality. Data from this snapshot can be found in table TC8.1, TC 10.1, TC 11.1, PR 2.1, LN 1.2, LN 2.3, LN 2.4, LN 2.6, LN 2.7, TM3.1, TM 2.2W, TM3.3CS, TM11.1W, TM11.1M, TM11.3W, TM11.3M, SR6.1W, SR6.1M, PR2.2, PR 4.1W, PR4.3CS, PR7.1W, PR7.1M, PR6.1W, PR6.1M, PR6.4W, EQ.3.1W, EQ.3.1M, EQ4.1W, EQ4.1M, EQ4.2W, EQ4.2M, EQ.2.1W, EQ.2.1M, WS1.3 and WS.1.4.

Further statistical snapshots and the Summary Findings Report for this and other surveys are available on mics.unicef.org/surveys.


[^0]:    Stunting and overweight among children under 5 by age (age in month)

[^1]:    Percentage of adolescent girls and boys age 15-19 who have felt discriminated against or harassed in the last 12 months on the basis of

