Bridging the Gap: Mapping Gender Data Availability in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Eric Swanson
Director of Research
Open Data Watch
ericswanson@opendatawatch.com
What is true for all of these women?

We lack data about key aspects of their lives.
Assessing four types of gender data gaps:

- Availability
- Timeliness
- Disaggregation
- Adherence to standards
Gender-relevant indicators available for five countries in Latin America and the Caribbean

- **National Databases**
  - 32% Gender indicators with no data
  - 21% Gender indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated
  - 47% Gender indicators with sex-disaggregated data

- **International Databases**
  - 25% Gender indicators with no data
  - 30% Gender indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated
  - 45% Gender indicators with sex-disaggregated data
Share of data gaps in national databases

- **Colombia**: 33% of gaps due to gender indicators with no data.
- **Costa Rica**: 22% of gaps due to gender indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated.
- **Dominican Republic**: 31% of gaps due to gender indicators with sex-disaggregated data.
- **Jamaica**: 35% of gaps due to gender indicators with no data.
- **Paraguay**: 37% of gaps due to gender indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated.

**Notes:**
- 41% of gaps in Colombia are data gaps.
- 58% of gaps in Costa Rica are data gaps.
- 51% of gaps in the Dominican Republic are data gaps.
The 93 gender indicators were classified into 6 development domains:

- **Health**: 28 indicators
- **Economic opportunities**: 20 indicators
- **Education**: 12 indicators
- **Environment**: 11 indicators
- **Human security**: 15 indicators
- **Political participation**: 7 indicators
National gaps in 6 development domains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Indicators with sex-disaggregated data present</th>
<th>Indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated present</th>
<th>Indicators with no data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Opportunities</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Security</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Participation</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lack of timely data impedes use and quality

Most countries experience a lag of at least two to three years.
Adherence to Standards

Non-conforming indicators:

- On average: 13.4 non-conforming indicators with sex disaggregation
- On average: 9.4 non-conforming indicators with no sex disaggregation
Snapshot of Gender Policies:

**Colombia:** The National Development Plan 2018–2022 (Plan Nacional de Desarrollo)

**Costa Rica:** The National Policy for Effective Equality between Women and Men 2018–2030 (PIEG: Política Nacional para la igualdad efectiva entre mujeres y hombres)

**The Dominican Republic:** National Plan on Gender Equality and Equity 2020-2030 (Plan Nacional de Igualdad y Equidad de Género)

**Jamaica:** 2011–2015 National Policy for Gender Equality and Vision 2030

**Jamaica:** National Development Plan

**Paraguay:** IV National Equality Plan 2018–2024 (IV Plan Nacional de Igualdad 2018–2024)
What have we learned:

- Gaps in indicators are caused by gaps in their underlying sources: surveys and administrative data from which the indicators are built.
- Over half the gender indicators included in the SDGs are missing or lack sex disaggregation.
- Data are most complete for the health indicators, although a slightly higher proportion of economic and education indicators are available with sex disaggregation.
- Even where gender indicators are available, many are four or more years out of date.
- The gender policies and plans examined during the study point out the need for more and better gender data, but few contain substantive plans with time-bound targets for addressing data gaps.
Key Deliverables from Bridging the Gap

Major outputs from Bridging the Gap LAC

- Technical Report
  - bit.ly/BridgingtheGapLAC
- Methodology Report
- Country Profiles
  - bit.ly/BridgingtheGapCountryProfiles
- Indicator Summary Sheets:
  - TBD
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