

Bridging the Gap: BOTSWANA COUNTRY PROFILE

Mapping Gender Data Availability in Africa

Bridging the Gap: Mapping Gender Data Availability in Africa traces the availability and quality of data for 104 gender-relevant indicators across six key domains: health, education, economic empowerment, political participation, human security, and environment. The study covers 15 African countries.

Botswana's Voluntary National Review and its Demographic Survey of 2017 highlight the importance of gender data. National plans exist to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems, and through a major effort, birth registration has been improved. Botswana is the one of the few countries in this study to have sex-disaggregated environmental statistics.

Like other countries in this study, Botswana lacks comprehensive gender data. Gaps in availability exist across all sectors, particularly in human security, and it faces challenges in ensuring data timeliness.

Botswana lacks data on key aspects of women's lives

Bridging the Gap assesses indicators published online between 2010 and 2018 in international databases and in national databases maintained by Statistics Botswana and other official sources. Gaps were identified in four dimensions.



AVAILABILITY

Botswana's national databases include **62 out of the 104 gender indicators**.



DISAGGREGATION

13 gender indicators lack sex disaggregation in Botswana's national databases.



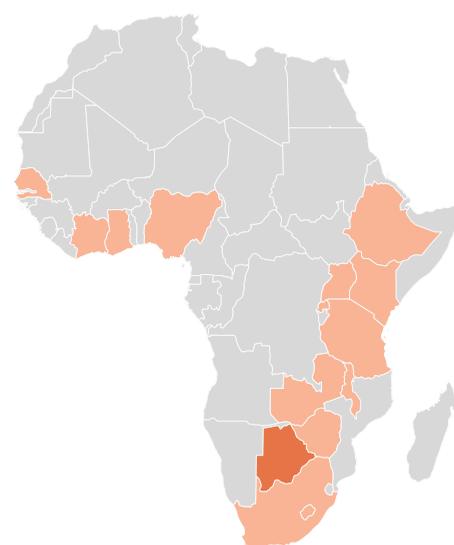
ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS

39 published gender indicators in Botswana's national databases do not conform to internationally recommended definitions.



TIMELINESS

46 gender indicators in Botswana's national databases have no published observations since 2015.



The 15 African countries included in this study.

Opportunities to improve gender data in Botswana

Closing gender data gaps requires time, resources, and capacity. But there is a path to an improved gender data ecosystem:



Integrate gender indicators available in national databases with international databases, and increase the number of indicators that include sex disaggregation and meet international standards. Among countries in this study, Botswana has the lowest availability of data at the international level.



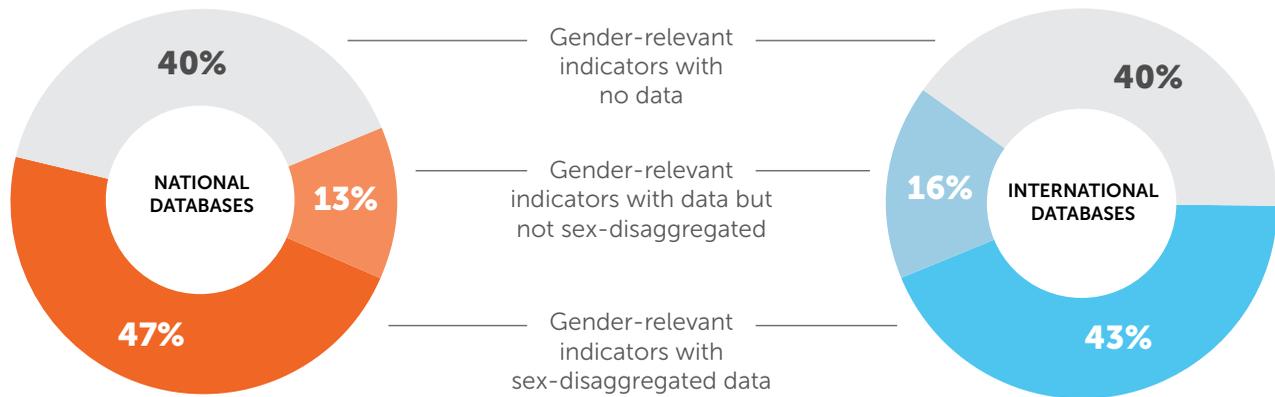
Publish indicators on human security, particularly on crime and violence, that conform to international standards with the appropriate disaggregation. While gaps exist across all sectors, the greatest data gaps at both the national and international level appear here.



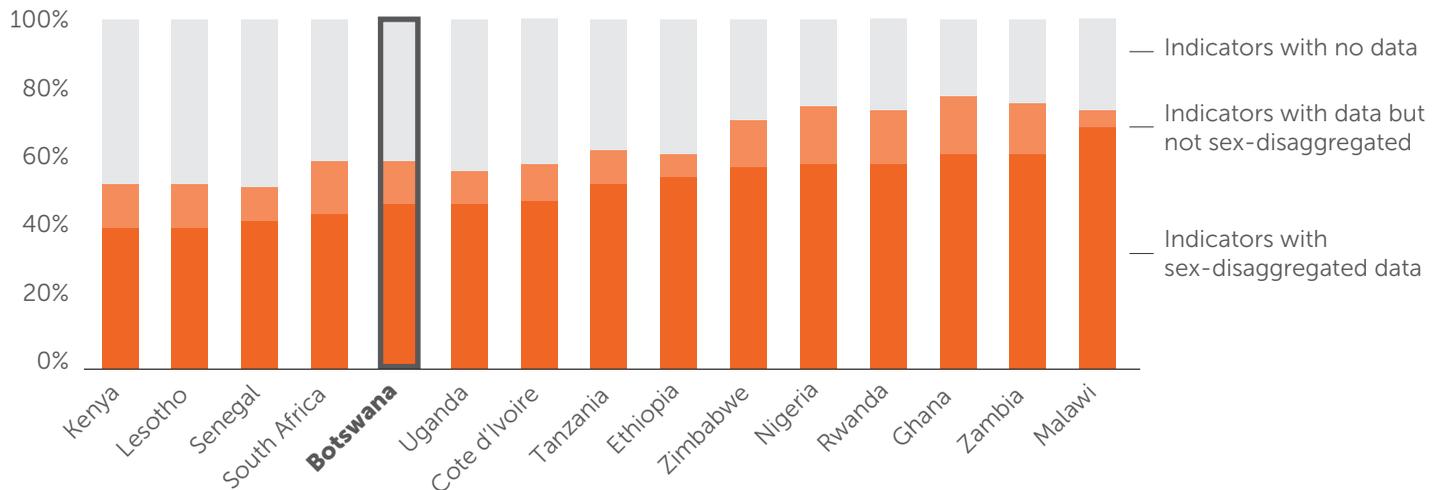
Include more recent data in national databases. Few indicators have available observations since 2015, which corresponds with a low number of surveys conducted in Botswana. Though data can be collected from administrative sources, surveys remain a key source of official statistics.

A closer look at gender data gaps

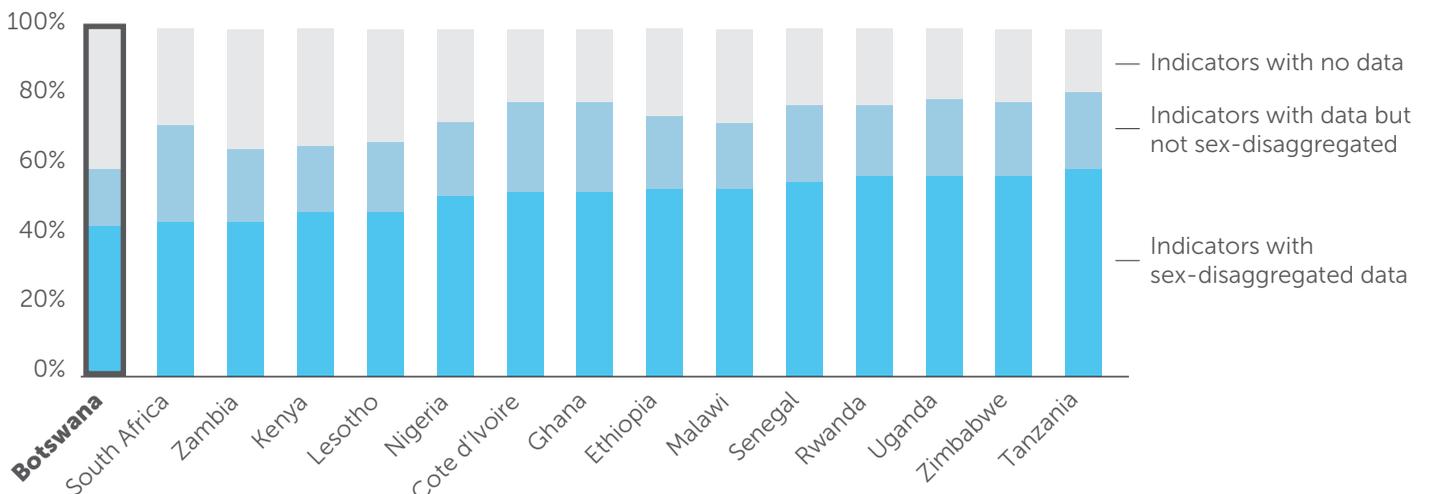
This study assesses data in both national and international databases. Botswana's national databases lack data for 40 percent of the gender indicators reviewed. Databases maintained by international organizations have similar coverage of Botswana's gender indicators, with 40 percent missing as well.



Botswana publishes a lower number of gender indicators in **national databases** compared to other countries included in the study.

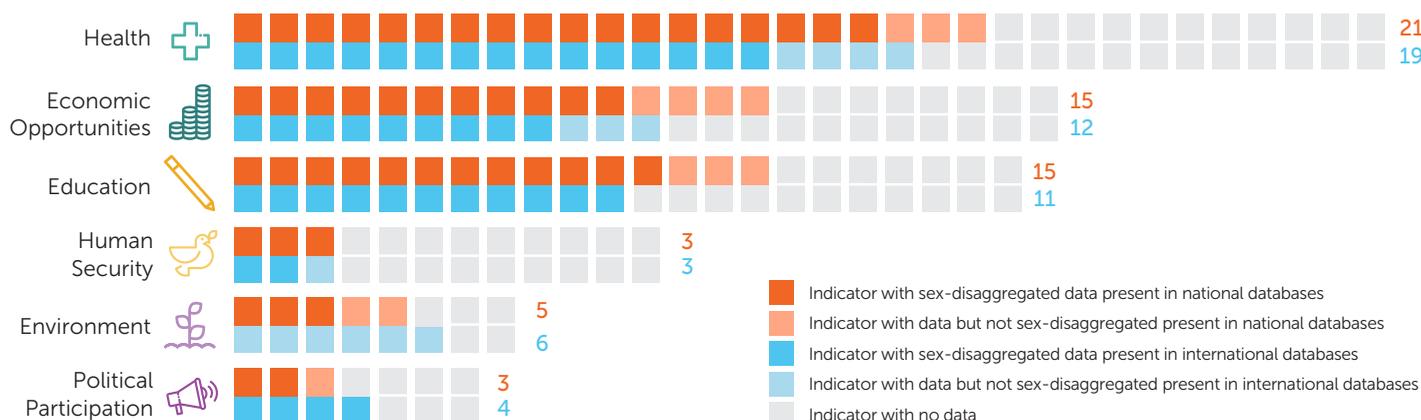


Botswana also publishes the lowest number of gender indicators in **international databases** compared to other countries included in the study.

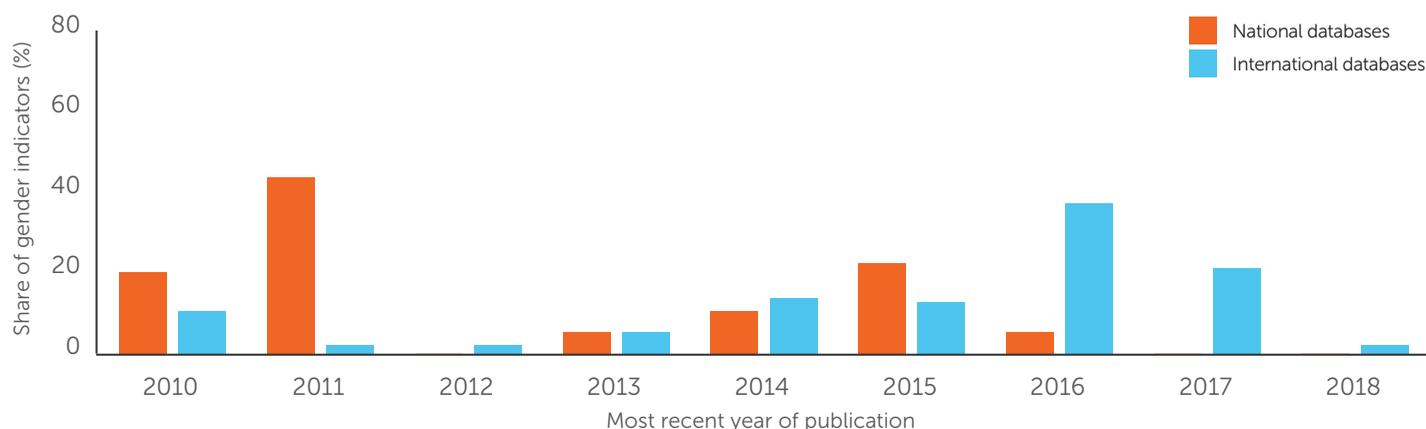


Data availability and timeliness

Gaps exist across all sectors, although Botswana is among the few countries to provide any sex-disaggregated environmental indicators. Human security has the fewest number of indicators.

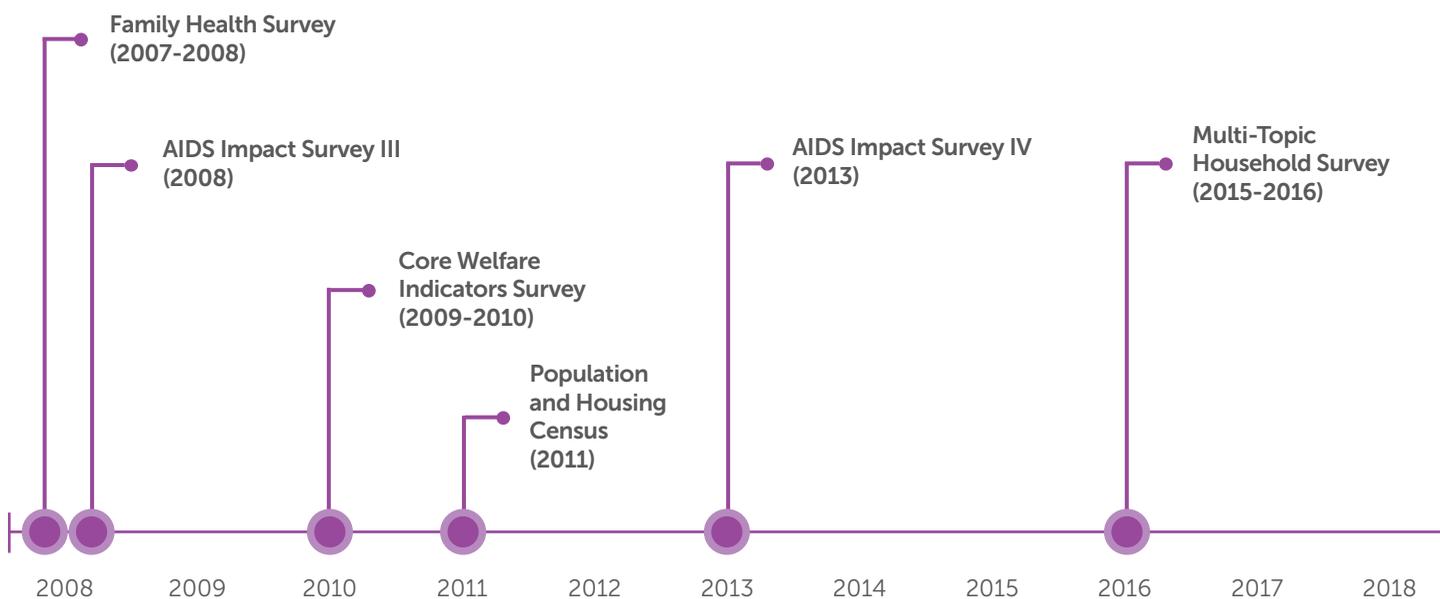


Seventy-four percent of gender indicators in Botswana's national databases have no published observations since 2015.



Core systems to produce gender data

Many of the gender indicators in Botswana are produced through surveys. As Botswana does not participate in DHS and MICS surveys, these are not available. However, the Family Health Survey is based on MICS tools. The next population and housing census is planned for 2021.



Civil registration and vital statistics provide basic demographic and health information. This is especially important for women and children as the data are foundational and help to unleash opportunities and combat discrimination and exclusion.

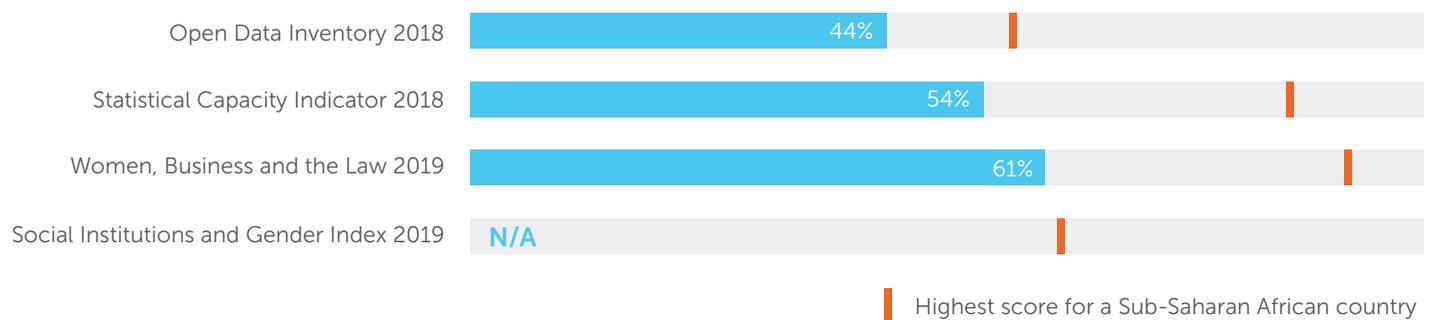
National sources in Botswana provide birth registration rate data. The most recent rate of 95 percent in 2017 shows great improvement from the previous rate of 73 percent in 2012. No data on birth registration are available at the international level for Botswana, as it does not participate in DHS surveys.

95% Birth registration rate in Botswana

Source: Department of CNR of the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs (MNIGA). 2019. <http://bit.ly/BotswanaVitalStatisticsReport2017>.

Assessments of Botswana's data ecosystem

Indexes of open data, statistical capacity, and gender equality provide a more complete picture of Botswana's statistical and legislative environment.



Plans, partnerships, and political support for gender data

Botswana is taking steps to improve data availability by mainstreaming gender data into national plans, engaging in partnerships, and mobilizing finances.

- The **Botswana Voluntary National Review on Sustainable Development Goals 2017** identifies the use of reliable disaggregated data by gender, income, and geographic location as necessary for enhancing development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Botswana's **Strategy for the Development of Statistics (BSDS) 2015-2020** does not mention gender data or sex-disaggregated data. However, it does highlight plans to strengthen the civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system and allocates a budget of 3.1 million BWP to such efforts.
- Statistics Botswana published the **Botswana Demographic Survey of 2017** to update census figures and publish open data on population and demographic characteristics. One of the objectives of the survey was to estimate the population distribution by gender and age groups and to assess the trends in demographic indicators. The next population and housing census is planned for 2021.

To access the full report, please visit bit.ly/BridgingtheGapTechnicalReport



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