Bridging the Gap:

Mapping Gender Data Availability in Africa

KENYA COUNTRY PROFILE

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.

There is strong political support in Kenya to improve gender data. Kenya is undertaking capacity building on gender statistics at national and subnational levels to enhance collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data.

Like other countries in the study, Kenya lacks comprehensive gender data. Challenges exist in adhering to internationally recommended indicator definitions, ensuring data timeliness, and publishing gender data on education and economic opportunity.

Kenya 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 the Kenya Bureau of Statistics and other official sources. Gaps are identified in four dimensions.

AVAILABILITY
Kenya's national databases include **55 out of 104 gender indicators**.

DISAGGREGATION
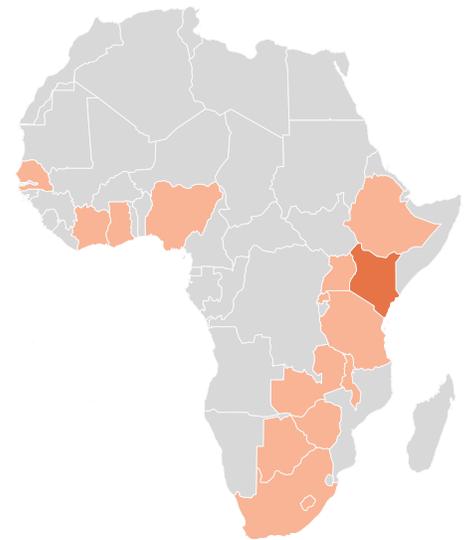**13 gender-relevant indicators** lack sex disaggregation in Kenya's national databases.

ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS
22 published gender indicators in Kenya's national databases do not conform to the internationally recommended definitions.

TIMELINESS
33 indicators in Kenya's national databases have no published observations since 2015.

The 15 African countries included in this study.

Opportunities to improve gender data in Kenya

Closing gender data gaps requires time, resources, and capacity. But there is a sustainable path to an improved gender data ecosystem. Based on Kenya's study results, opportunities to improve gender data production and use include:

▶ Conduct regular labor force surveys, including a light time-use module, to increase knowledge of women's economic role as only three of eight gender-related labor force indicators have data.

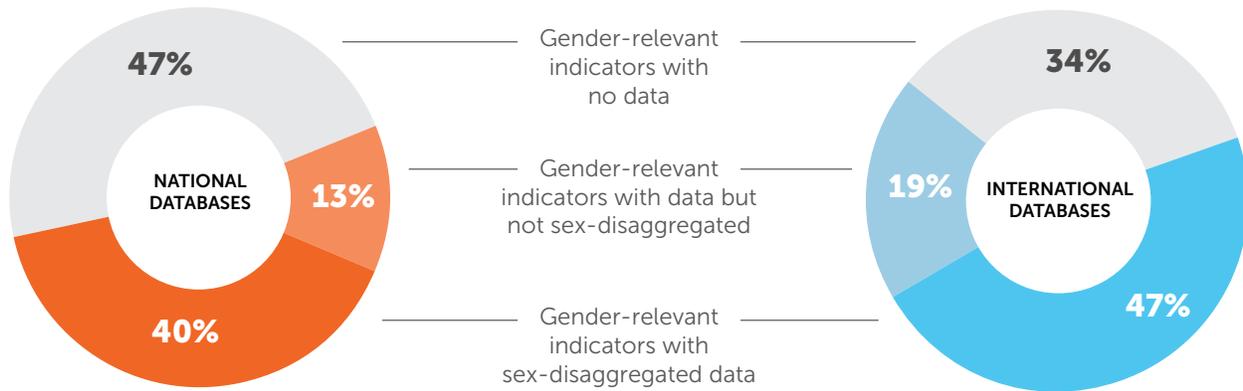▶ Publish disaggregated data on morbidity and mortality rates for chronic and epidemic diseases including HIV, malaria, cancer, diabetes, and cardio-vascular and respiratory disease.
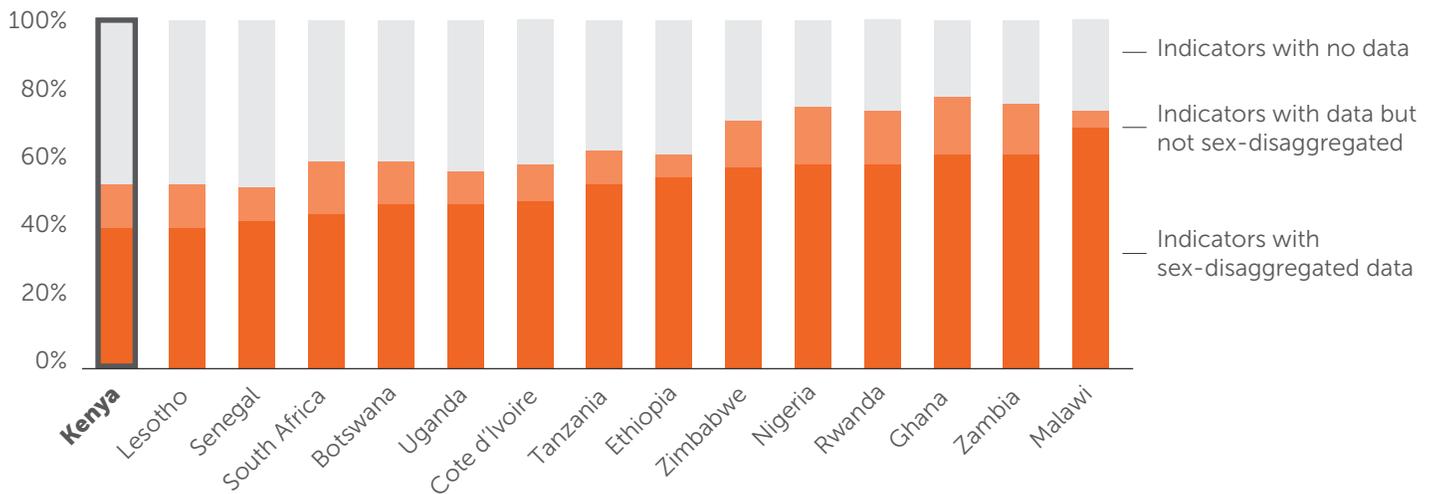
▶ Improve reporting of sex-disaggregated data from the education system, including enrollment, graduation, and transition rates. Collect and publish proficiency scores for primary and secondary pupils and literacy rates for the general population.
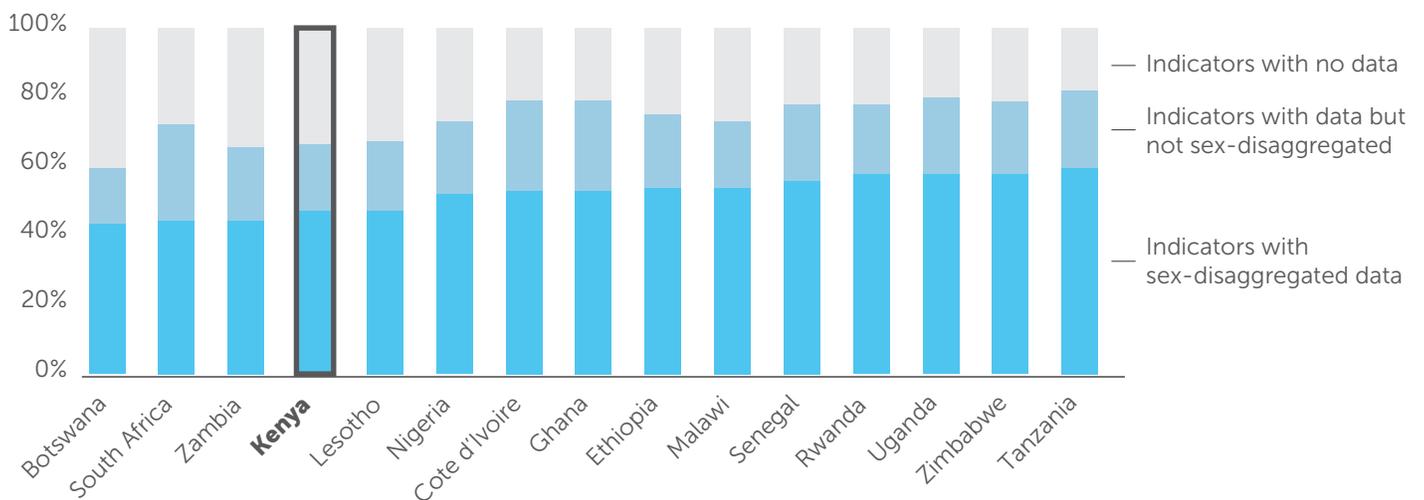
A closer look at gender data gaps

This study assesses data in both national and international databases. Kenya's national databases lack data for 47 percent of the gender indicators reviewed. Databases maintained by international organizations have better coverage of Kenya's gender data indicators, but 34 percent are still missing.

NATIONAL DATABASES
- 47% — Gender-relevant indicators with no data
- 13% — Gender-relevant indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated
- 40% — Gender-relevant indicators with sex-disaggregated data

INTERNATIONAL DATABASES
- 34%
- 19%
- 47%

Kenya has the lowest availability of gender indicators in **national databases** of any country in the study.

- Indicators with no data
- Indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated
- Indicators with sex-disaggregated data

Countries (left to right): Kenya, Lesotho, Senegal, South Africa, Botswana, Uganda, Cote d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Rwanda, Ghana, Zambia, Malawi
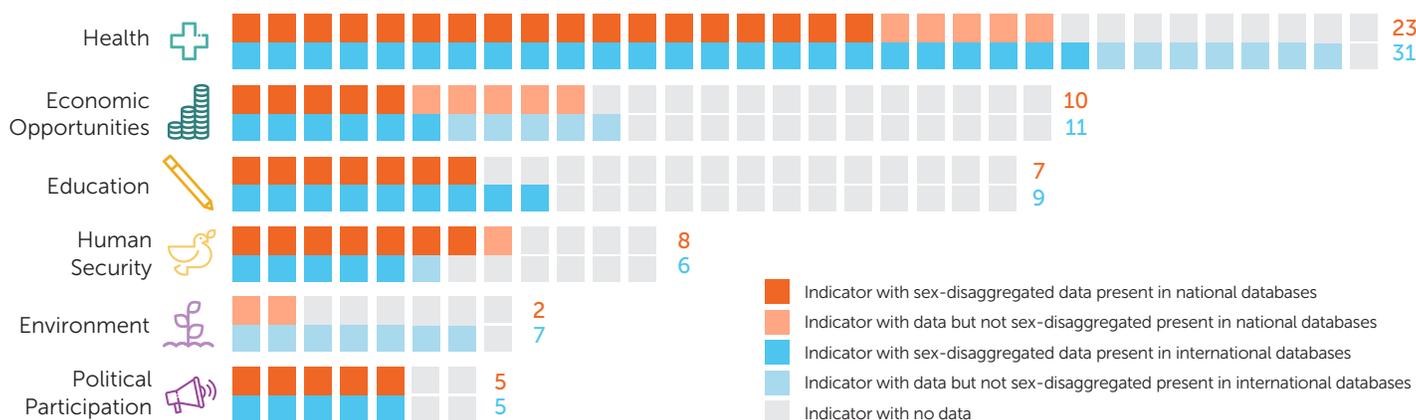
Kenya publishes fewer gender indicators in **international databases** than most countries in the study.

- Indicators with no data
- Indicators with data but not sex-disaggregated
- Indicators with sex-disaggregated data

Countries (left to right): Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Senegal, Rwanda, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Tanzania
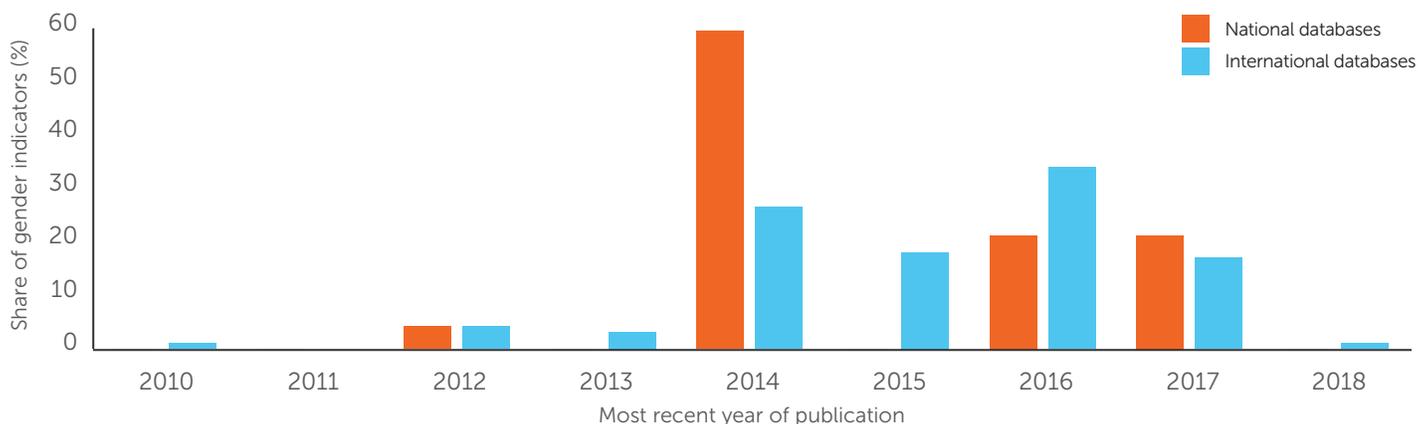
Data availability and timeliness

Health has the highest availability of data in Kenya, but there are large gaps in knowledge about women's economic opportunities and education. There is no sex disaggregation for any environmental indicator.
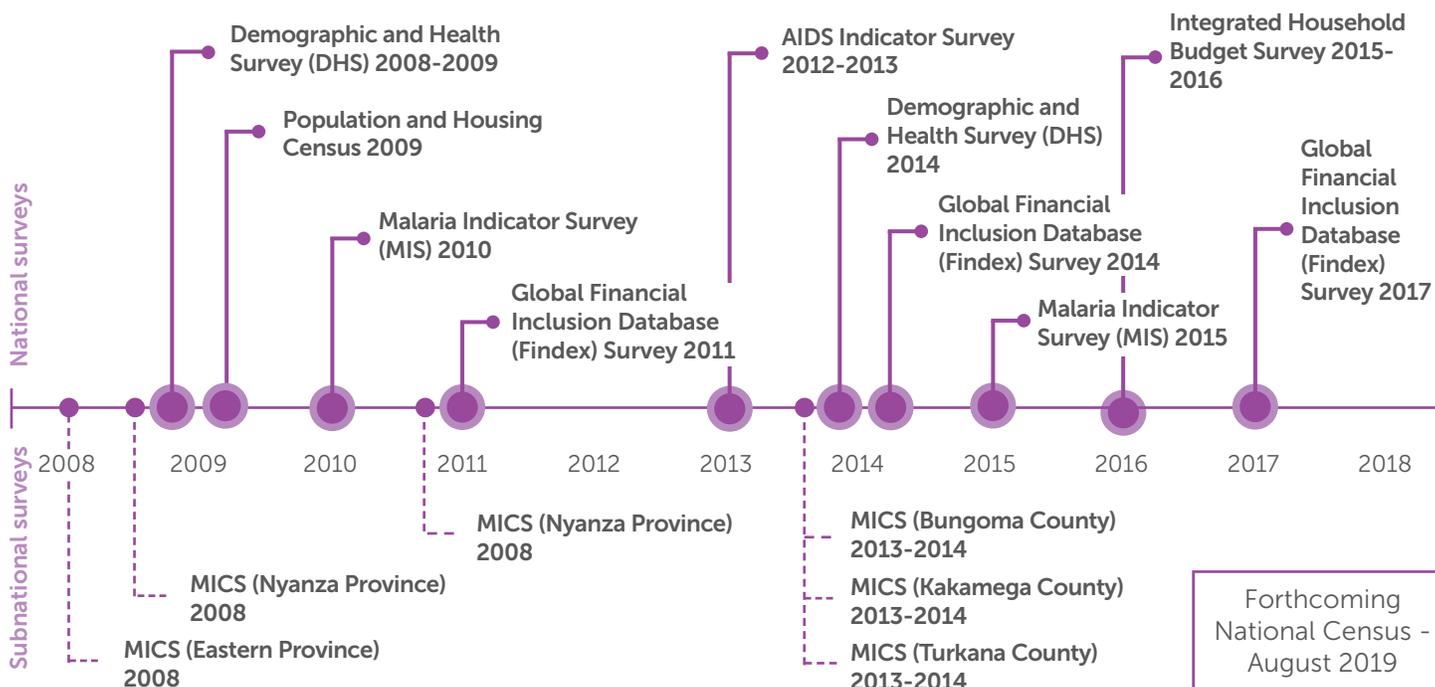

Health	23 / 31
Economic Opportunities	10 / 11
Education	7 / 9
Human Security	8 / 6
Environment	2 / 7
Political Participation	5 / 5

Legend:
- Indicator with sex-disaggregated data present in national databases
- Indicator with data but not sex-disaggregated present in national databases
- Indicator with sex-disaggregated data present in international databases
- Indicator with data but not sex-disaggregated present in international databases
- Indicator with no data

Sixty percent of gender indicators in national databases are more than three years old.

Y-axis: Share of gender indicators (%)
X-axis: Most recent year of publication

Legend:
- National databases
- International databases

Core systems to produce gender data

Many of the gender indicators in Kenya are produced through surveys.

National surveys:
- Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2008-2009
- Population and Housing Census 2009
- Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) 2010
- Global Financial Inclusion Database (Findex) Survey 2011
- AIDS Indicator Survey 2012-2013
- Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2014
- Global Financial Inclusion Database (Findex) Survey 2014
- Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) 2015
- Integrated Household Budget Survey 2015-2016
- Global Financial Inclusion Database (Findex) Survey 2017

Subnational surveys:
- MICS (Eastern Province) 2008
- MICS (Nyanza Province) 2008
- MICS (Nyanza Province) 2008
- MICS (Bungoma County) 2013-2014
- MICS (Kakamega County) 2013-2014
- MICS (Turkana County) 2013-2014
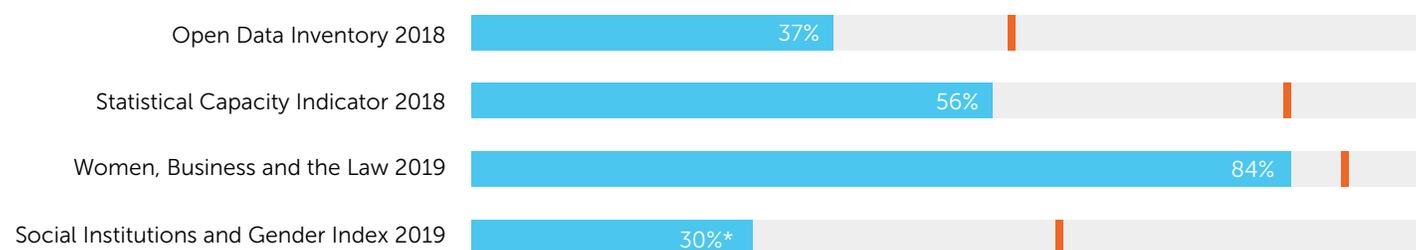
Forthcoming National Census – August 2019

Civil registration and vital statistics provide basic demographic and health information, especially important for women and children. Although Kenya is an implementing country of the World Bank's Global Financing Facility, birth registration rates remain below the SDG target of universal registration.

67% Children aged 0 to 4 years in Kenya whose **births were registered**, of which

43% Children aged 0 to 4 years were **registered without a birth certificate**

24% Children aged 0 to 4 years were **registered with a birth certificate**

Source: 2014 DHS. The DHS Program STATcompiler. **http://www.statcompiler.com**

Assessments of Kenya's data ecosystem

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

Open Data Inventory 2018	37%
Statistical Capacity Indicator 2018	56%
Women, Business and the Law 2019	84%
Social Institutions and Gender Index 2019	30%*

* Percentile rank among 120 countries worldwide with scores.   ▮ Highest score for a Sub-Saharan African country

Plans, partnerships, and political support for gender data

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

▪ The **Kenya Bureau of Statistics' 2013-17 strategic plan** allocated **31.5 million KSH out of a budget of 27.4 billion KSH (0.11 percent)** for the production of a gender data status report, a gender data sheet, and a gender data fact sheet. The next strategic plan is under development.

▪ The UN Women flagship program, **Making Every Woman and Girl Count,** has included Kenya as one of its 12 pathfinder countries and is working with the National Statistics Office to fill identified data gaps.

▪ The World Bank has awarded a **Program-for-Results Financing (2015-2020)** of **50 million USD** to Kenya, supporting "… more systematic use of evidence-based methods for policy-making and project design and implementation…[and to fill] data gaps, including those to assess progress towards eliminating extreme poverty, fostering inclusive growth, jobs, and gender equality."

▪ The **2017 Voluntary National Report** for Kenya highlights efforts to build capacity on gender statistics for "statistical officers, planning officers and gender officers both at national and subnational levels to enhance collection, collation, and analysis of sex disaggregated data."

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

OPEN DATA WATCH   data2x