

Bridging the Gap:

Mapping Gender Data Availability in Asia and the Pacific

PHILIPPINES COUNTRY PROFILE

Bridging the Gap: Mapping Gender Data Availability in Asia and the Pacific traces the availability and quality of data for 98 gender indicators across six key domains: health, education, economic opportunity, political participation, human security, and environment. The study covers five countries in Asia and the Pacific.

The Philippines lack comprehensive gender data. Many human security, economic, and environmental indicators are unavailable or lack sex-disaggregated data in both national and international databases.

The Government of the Philippines acknowledge the potential of gender data or other disaggregated data for the implementation of national policies, strategies, and plans.

The Philippines lacks data on key aspects of women's lives

Bridging the Gap assesses indicators published online between 2010 and 2020 in international and national databases maintained by the Philippine Statistics Authority and other official sources. Gaps were identified in four dimensions.



AVAILABILITY

The Philippines' national databases include **81 out of the 98 gender indicators**.



DISAGGREGATION

20 gender indicators in the Philippines' national databases lack sex disaggregation.



ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS

23 published gender indicators in the Philippines' national databases do not conform to internationally recommended definitions.



TIMELINESS

9 gender indicators in the Philippines' national databases have no published observations since 2015.



The Philippines is among the five countries in Asia and the Pacific that are included in this study.

Opportunities to improve gender data in the Philippines

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



Use the Philippine Bureau of Statistics' **OpenSTAT** database as the main repository to publish national SDG indicators in machine readable formats with detailed metadata accompanying the indicator.



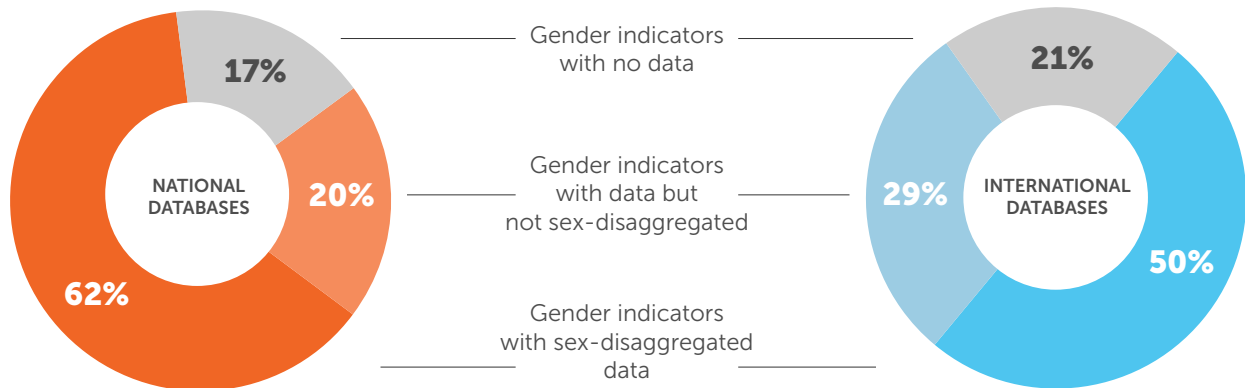
Provide more sex-disaggregated data from the economic domain in national databases, particularly on poverty, social protection, income, and expenditure.



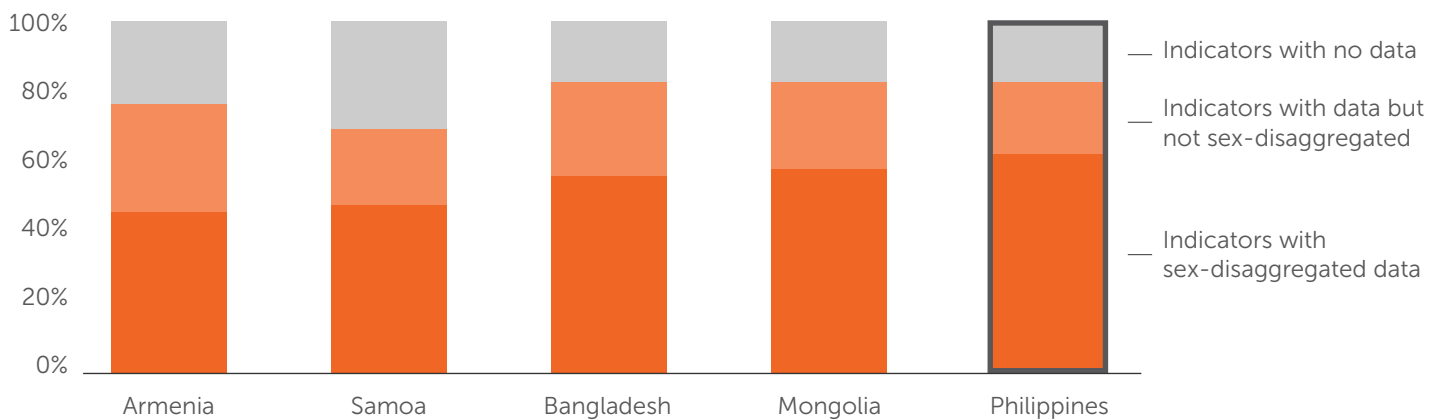
Provide more sex-disaggregated data from the environment domain or conduct further analysis of household data to show how women and girls are affected by environmental conditions.

A closer look at gender data gaps

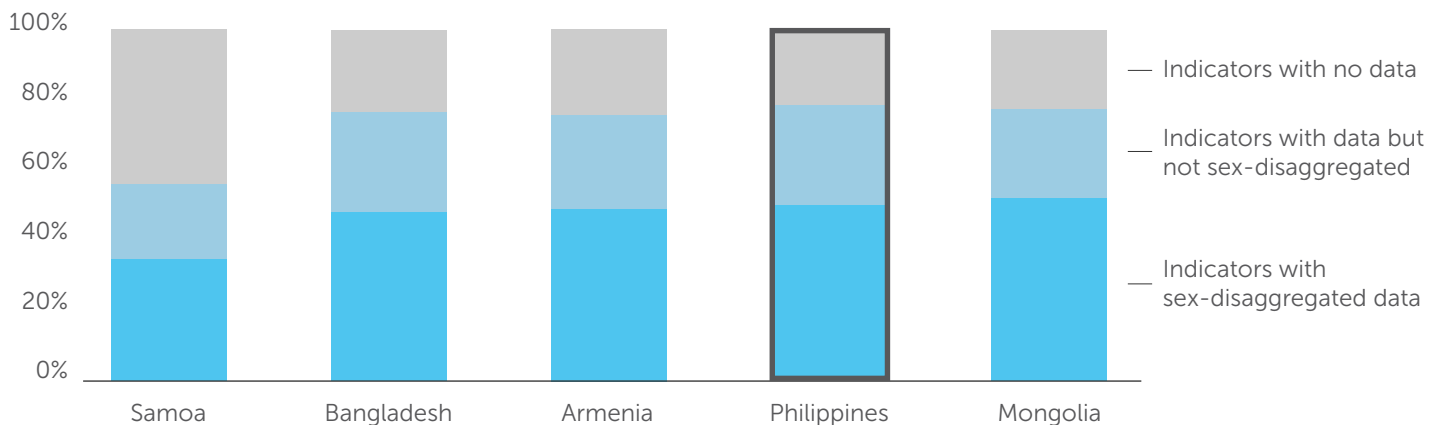
This study assesses data in both national and international databases. Philippines' national databases lack data for 17 percent of the gender indicators reviewed. Databases maintained by international organizations are slightly worse, lacking data for 21 percent of the gender indicators reviewed.



The Philippines publishes the largest number of sex-disaggregated gender indicators in **national databases** among countries included in the study.

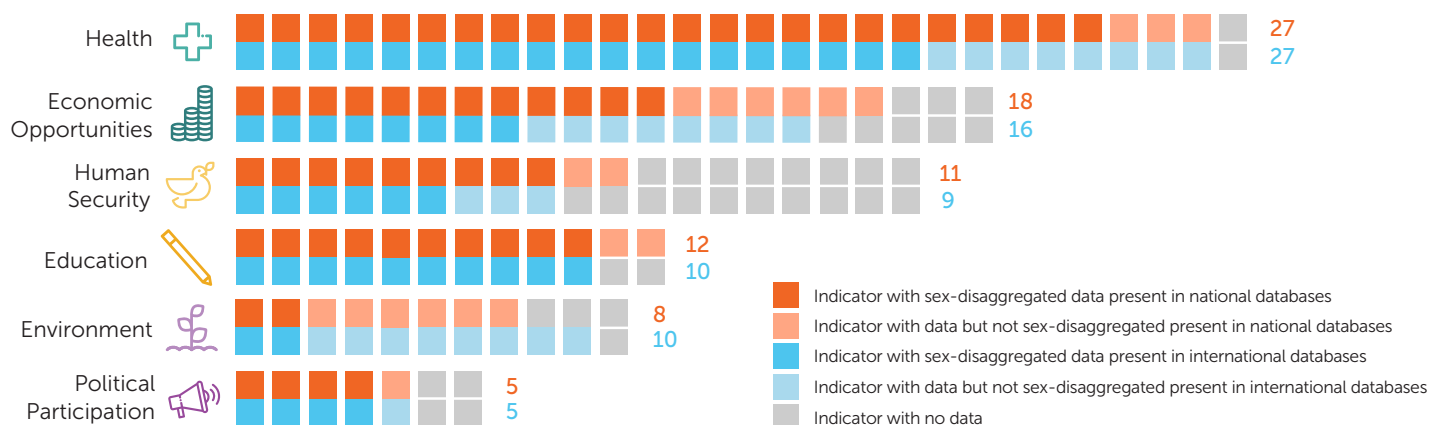


The Philippines also publishes the second-largest number of sex-disaggregated gender indicators in **international databases** compared to other countries included in the study.

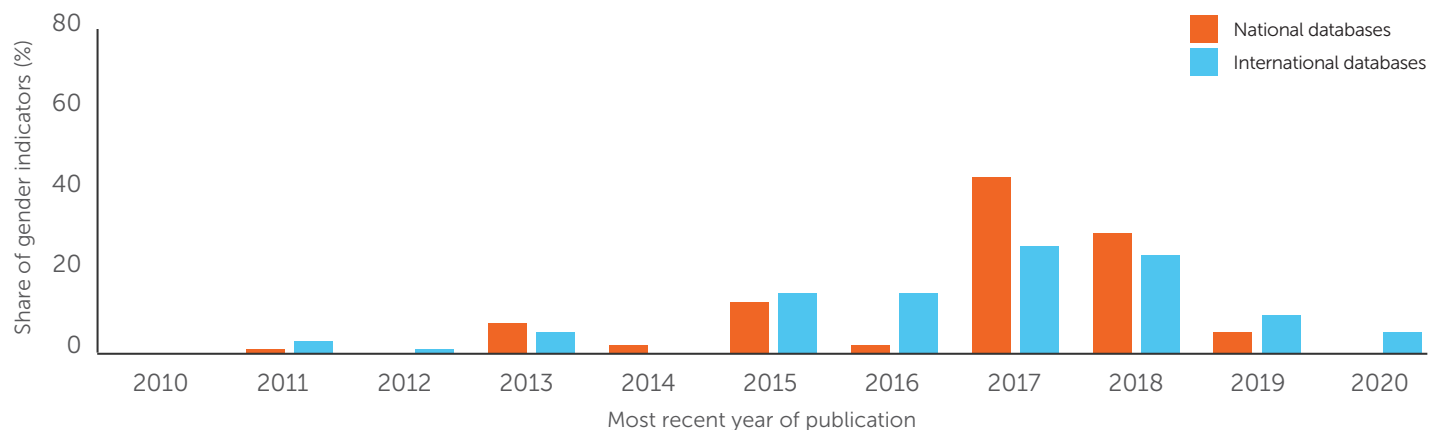


Data availability and timeliness

The health domain has the largest proportion of indicators in the Philippines' databases, but gaps remain in the availability of sex-disaggregated data in all domains, particularly in the economic and environmental domains.



Eleven percent of available gender indicators in the Philippines' national databases have had no published observations since 2015.



Core systems to produce gender data

Many of the gender indicators in the Philippines are produced through surveys. Since 2010, the Philippines has conducted ten labor force surveys, one Family Income and Expenditure Survey, and two Demographic and Health Surveys.



Civil registration and vital statistics systems provide basic demographic and health information and confer legal rights of great importance for women and children. Complete registration of vital events opens opportunities for women and combats discrimination and exclusion. The SDG Global Database provides birth registration rate data based on Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data for 2017.

92% Birth registration rate in the Philippines

Source: SDG Global Database <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/>

Assessments of the Philippines' data ecosystem

Indexes of open data, statistical capacity, and gender equality provide a clearer picture of the Philippines' statistical and legislative environment.



* Score converted to percentile rank among 120 countries worldwide with scores.

Highest score for an Asia and Pacific country

Plans, partnerships, and political support for gender data

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

- In 2010, the Philippines enacted the **Magna Carta for Women**, a human rights law that focuses on eliminating gender-based discrimination and to promote the rights of women across intersectional groups. The law acknowledges the importance of gender data and sex-disaggregated data.
- In 2018, ESCAP **organized a workshop** on data and policy integration in the Philippines as part of the Gender Policy-Data Integration Initiative (GPDI). The purpose of GPDI is to strengthen data for policies based on gender equality and empowerment.
- In 2019, the Philippines conducted a **national review** of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. According to the review, government agencies will be “encouraged to maximize the use of evidence-based sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics for the formulation of and implementation of gender responsive policies, programs and projects.”
- The government of the Philippines is currently implementing the **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Plan 2019-2025**, which has detailed objectives and measurable targets in the domains of social, economic, and human development.

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