

# Bridging the Gap: ZAMBIA 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.

The Central Statistical Office of Zambia has shown its commitment to gender data through the publication of guidelines on the analysis and presentation of gender data. National databases in Zambia contain a relatively high number of gender indicators.

Like other countries in this study, Zambia's gender data remains incomplete and lacks timeliness. Significant differences exist in the availability of gender indicators between national and international databases in Zambia and more attention is needed to improve civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS).

### Zambia 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 Central Statistical Office of Zambia and other official sources. Gaps were identified in four dimensions.



Zambia's national databases include **79 out of 104 gender indicators**.



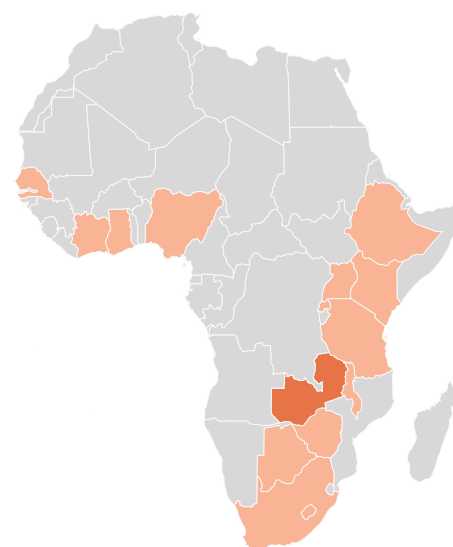
**15 gender indicators** lack sex disaggregation in Zambia's national databases.



**29 published gender indicators** in Zambia's national databases do not conform to the internationally recommended definitions.



**51 gender indicators** in Zambia's national databases have no published observations since 2015.



The 15 African countries included in this study.

### Opportunities to improve gender data in Zambia

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



Strengthen civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems to increase the proportion of children under five with registered births and increase the availability of gender indicators derived from CRVS data.



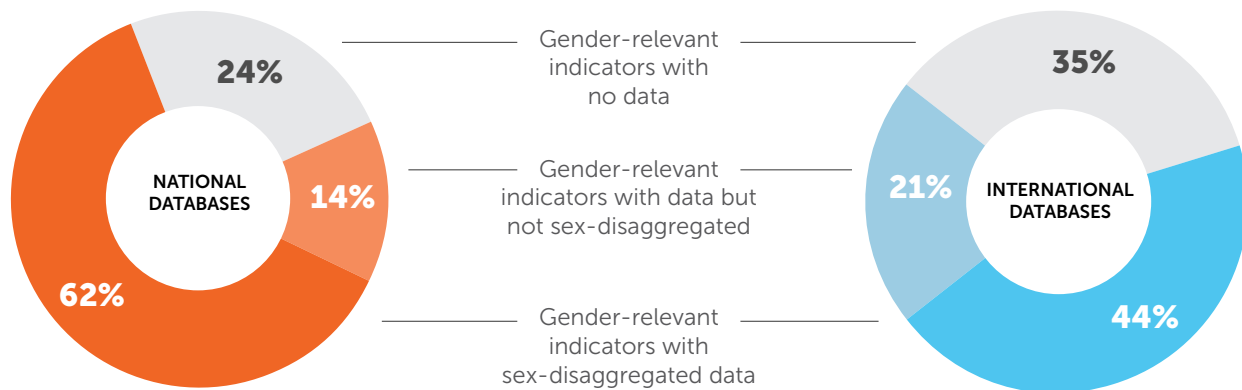
Increase the availability of political participation, education, and human security indicators in international databases. The availability of these indicators is approximately 50 percent higher in national databases than in international databases.



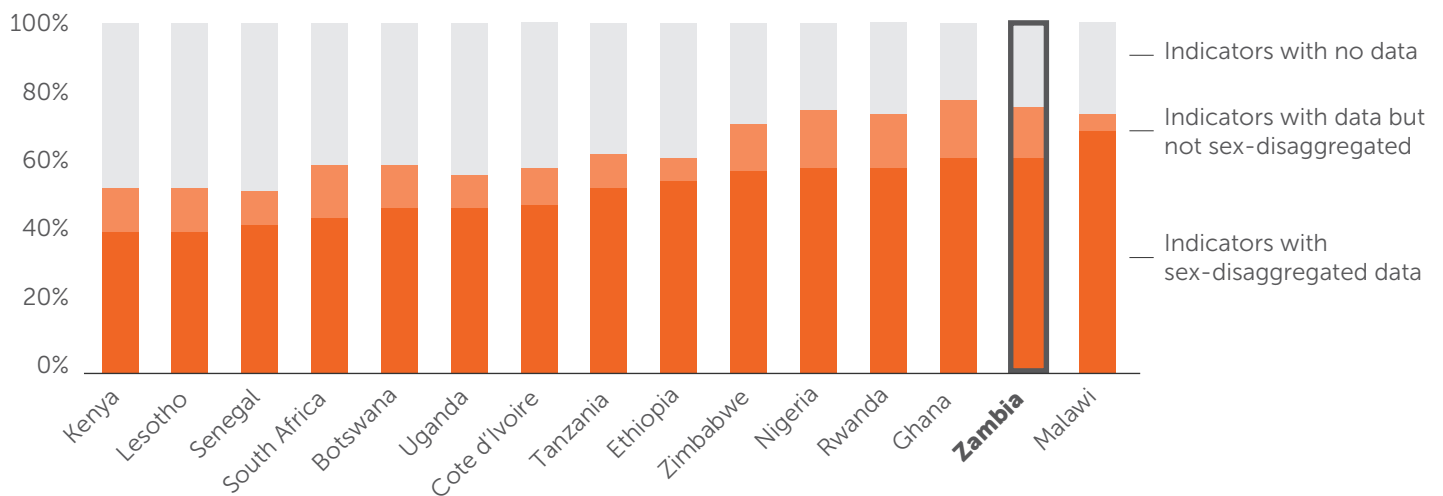
Publish more data on education from administrative sources that conform to international standards. Some indicators are available, but many others are missing or do not conform to international standards.

## A closer look at gender data gaps

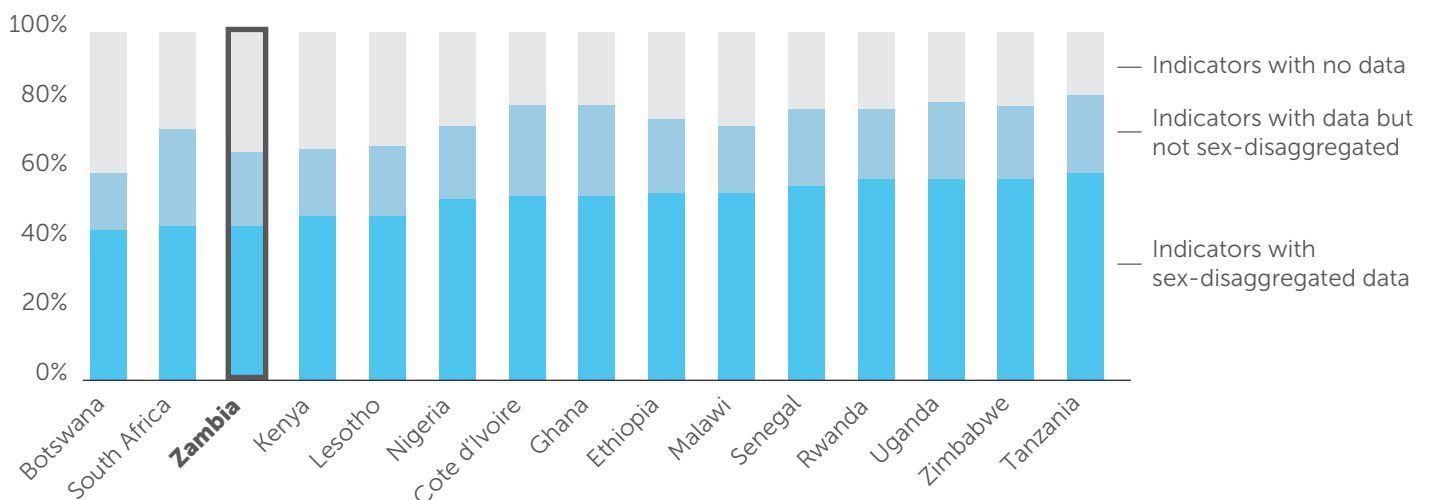
This study assesses data in both national and international databases. Zambia's national databases lack data for 24 percent of the gender indicators reviewed. Databases maintained by international organizations have less coverage of Zambia's gender indicators, with 35 percent missing.



Zambia publishes a higher than average number of gender indicators in **national databases** compared to other countries included in the study.

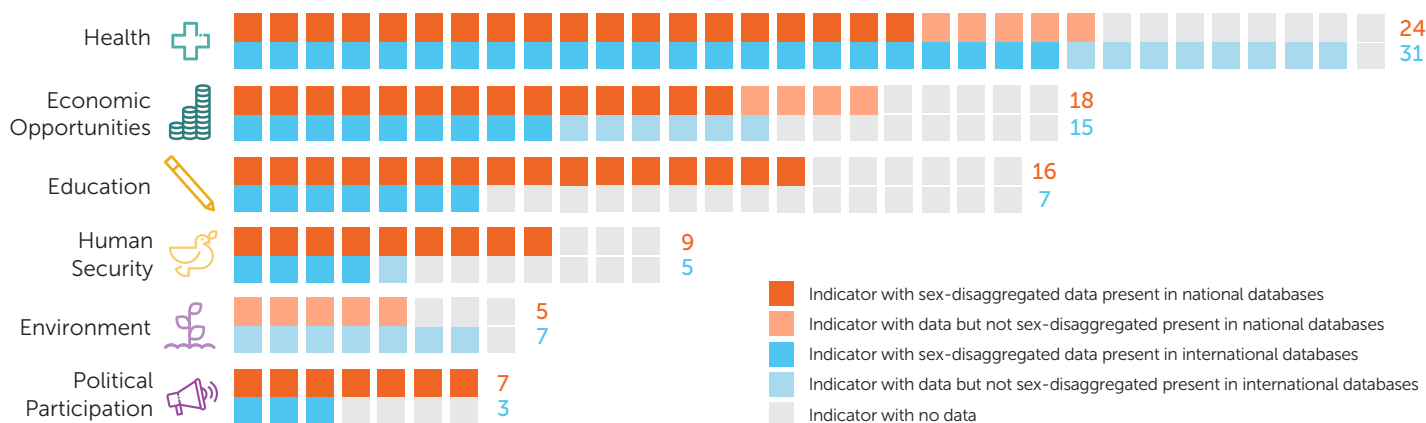


Zambia publishes a lower than average number of gender indicators in **international databases** compared to other countries included in the study.

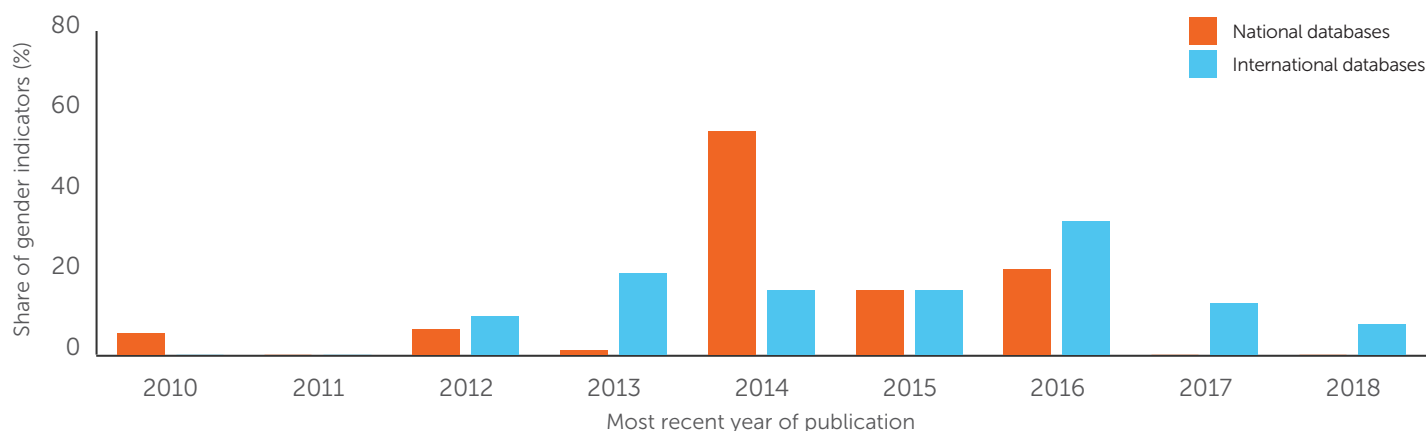


## Data availability and timeliness

Economic opportunities and health indicators have the highest overall availability of data in Zambia. Significant differences in the availability of data in national and international databases exist for education, human security, and political participation. There is no sex-disaggregated data for any environmental indicator.



Sixty-five percent of gender indicators in Zambia's national databases have no published observations since 2015.



## Core systems to produce gender data

Many of the gender indicators in Zambia are produced through surveys, and a relatively low number of surveys has resulted in low availability of data for gender indicators and a lack of timeliness.



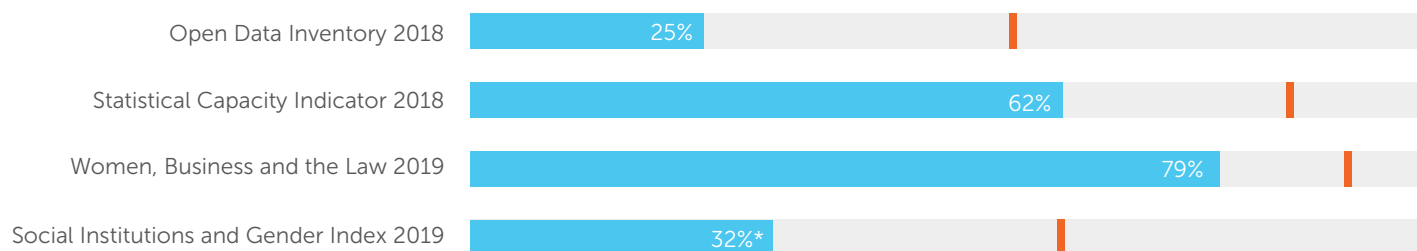
**Civil registration and vital statistics** provide basic demographic and health information. This is especially important for women and children as the data are foundational and helps to unleash opportunities and combat discrimination and exclusion. Birth registration rates in Zambia remain far below the sustainable development goal (SDG) target of universal registration.

- 11%** Children aged 0 to 4 years in Zambia whose **births were registered**, of which
- 7%** Children aged 0 to 4 years were **registered without a birth certificate**
- 4%** Children aged 0 to 4 years were **registered with a birth certificate**

Source: 2013-14 DHS. The DHS Program STATcompiler. <http://www.statcompiler.com>

### Assessments of Zambia's data ecosystem

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



\* Percentile rank among 120 countries worldwide with scores.

■ Highest score for a Sub-Saharan African country

### Plans, partnerships, and political support for gender data

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

- Zambia's **National Gender Policy 2014** highlights the importance of collecting sex-disaggregated data to address gender inequality across a broad range of sectors. Data responsibilities have been assigned to the Central Statistical Office of Zambia and other specific ministries.
- The Central Statistical Office of Zambia has published a resource, **Analysing and Presenting Statistics with a Gender Lens**, that provides guidelines and examples of how to best analyze and present gender statistics.
- Zambia's **National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2014-2018** does not include any explicit reference to gender data or sex-disaggregated data. Future strategies should incorporate greater emphasis on these data to reflect their importance.
- Zambia has implemented **Sample Vital Registration with Verbal Autopsy (SAVVY)**, which helps strengthen CRVS systems by directly measuring births, deaths, and causes of death in selected locations. The implementation of SAVVY will help to fill gaps in a weak CRVS system.

To access the full report, please visit [bit.ly/BridgingtheGapTechnicalReport](http://bit.ly/BridgingtheGapTechnicalReport)

