

# China

## Data Sheet: Violence against Women (VAW)



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment of Women

## Violence Against Women (VAW) in China

### Facts and Figures<sup>1</sup>

	Indicator		Analysis
<b>INTERMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE<sup>2</sup></b>	Prevalence of intimate partner physical violence (2000-2010)	24.7%	An estimate from the All-China Women's Federation Third Wave Survey on the Social Status of Women. This is an increase from previous estimates of 15%, and a low estimate compared with UNDP (30%) and other local CSOs (35%)
	% of women who have experienced serious physical violence from their spouse(2010)	Average: 5.5% Urban: 3.1% Rural: 7.8%	The domestic violence situation is not uniform across the country. Although it happens across all races, social status, economic status, and education levels, serious physical violence towards the female spouse is higher in rural areas.
	% of people who believe women belong in the home and men belong in public	Men: 61.6% Women: 54.6%	This indicator shows the traditional gender roles and male dominance that often allows violence against women to thrive. These percentages have increased for men and women, 7.7% and 4.4% respectively since 2000, showing an increase in traditional gender stereotypes.
<b>PERCEPTIONS of DOMESTIC VIOLENCE<sup>3</sup></b>	Percentage of people who think it is sometimes or always justifiable for a	25%	

<sup>1</sup> Source of all data unless otherwise specified is from the *UNDP Human Development Report 2010* (HDR 2010).

<sup>2</sup> *All China Women's Federation Third Wave Survey on the Social Status of Women 2010*.

<sup>3</sup> POWW 2011.

	man to beat his wife		
<b>VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN LAWS<sup>4</sup></b>	National Domestic violence Law	No	The Chinese People's Congress has put a domestic violence law on the legislative agenda for 2012. It has yet to be drafted.
	Sexual harassment	Yes (in women's law)	
	Marital Rape	No	
<b>VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OUTSIDE INTIMATE RELATINSHIPS<sup>5</sup></b>	% of women harassed at school or work	7.8%	
	Number of uncovered rape cases (2010) <sup>6</sup>	25,952	
<b>VIOLENCE AGAINST LEFT BEHIND RURAL GIRLS and MIGRANT GIRLS<sup>7</sup></b>	% of cases reported in media that are sexual violence against rural left behind girls	6%	Violence and especially sexual violence against rural left behind girls is on the rise. Rural left behind girls have been left by their parents in rural areas while they go search for employment in urban areas. These girls do not have proper awareness of sexual violence or how to protect themselves, and with little or no guardianship are severely vulnerable to being taken advantage of. Rural left behind girls and migrant girls are China's top two targeted groups for trafficking
	% of sexual assault against children are left behind girls in Zengdu Court in Hubei Province	94%	
<b>UN WOMEN in ACTION</b>	<p>UN Women works on several fronts towards ending violence against women and girls. This includes tackling its main root: gender inequality. Efforts are multiplied through advocacy campaigns and partnerships with governments, civil society and the UN system. Initiatives range from working to establish legal frameworks and specific national actions, to supporting prevention at the grassroots level, including in conflict and post-conflict situations. UN Women has also supported data collection on violence against women, facilitating new learning on the issue. UN Women plays an active role in supporting the UN Secretary-General's multi-year <i>UNiTE to End Violence against Women</i> campaign, launched in 2008.</p> <p>In China, violence against women and specifically domestic violence is prevalent in China. While the Chinese government and civil society have begun to recognize its adverse impacts, enforcing these policies and laws remains a big challenge. UN Women assists national partners to development domestic violence legislation and action plans,</p>		

<sup>4</sup> POWW 2011

<sup>5</sup> ACWF 2010

<sup>6</sup> NPAs for 2001-2010 Facts and Figures, 2012. UNICEF and UNFPA

<sup>7</sup> Beijing Center for Culture and Development EVAW TF Programme Annual Report 2012

strengthen the capacity of policy-makers, service providers, and civil society groups to address gender-based violence, run educational awareness raising campaigns on the issue, and implement pilot projects for upscaling.

### Additional Statistics

	Indicator		Analysis
<b>POPULATION</b>	Population of China	1,354,100,000	China currently has the highest sex ratio at birth (SRB) in the world. Other countries with high SRB levels include Armenia (116.5), Azerbaijan (115.6), South Korea (110), and India (108.5).
	Sex ratio at birth (male births per 100 female births) (2010)	121.2	
	Life expectancy for women <sup>8</sup>	75 yrs	
	Life expectancy for men <sup>9</sup>	72 yrs	
<b>DEVELOPMENT INDICES</b>	Human Development Index (HDI)	Rank 89 (Value 0.663)	China's HDI ranks in the middle of the 169 countries scored. China's GII has remained stagnant for many years now.
	Gender Inequality Index (GII)	Rank 101 (Value 0.208)	
<b>SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS and GENDER INDEX (SIGI)</b>	SIGI	Rank: 42 out of 86 Value: .2388	The SIGI measures the level of gender discrimination found in a country's social institutions that prevent women and girls from accessing equal opportunities in labor, health, education, politics, etc. While China ranks in the middle of the 86 countries analyzed, its 2012 rank is a drop from 31 out of 102 in 2009.
<b>POVERTY and EMPLOYMENT</b>	Total population living on less than USD \$1.25 per day (2005) <sup>10</sup>	15.9%	The total population living below \$1.25 and \$2 per day continues to decrease significantly. For instance, the total population living on less than \$1.25 per day was 28.4% in 2002 and decreased to 15.9% by 2005. In addition, the total
	Total population living on less than USD \$2 per day (2005) <sup>11</sup>	36.3%	
	Employed people living on less than	18.3%	

<sup>8</sup> World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development (WDR 2012).

<sup>9</sup> WDR 2012.

<sup>10</sup> WDR 2012.

<sup>11</sup> WDR 2012.

	USD \$1.25 per day (2000-8)		population living on less than \$2 per day has decreased from 51.1% in 2002 to 36.3% in 2005.
	Population under national poverty line	2.8%	
<b>EDUCATION and EMPLOYMENT</b>	Female population with at least secondary education (2010)	54.8%	The percentage of women completing secondary or higher level education is lower than their male counterparts in China. Obtaining a higher education enables individuals to have greater access to employment opportunities, and gender inequitable educational systems create disadvantages within the labour market.
	Male population with at least secondary education (2010)	70.4%	

### Explanation of Indices and Data

#### **Gender Inequality Index:**

The new Gender Inequality Index (GII) reflects women's disadvantages in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity. Reproductive health is measured by maternal mortality and adolescent fertility rates; empowerment is measured by the share of parliamentary seats held by each gender and attainment at secondary and higher education by each gender; and economic activity is measured by the labour market participation rate for each gender. The GII shows the loss in human development due to inequality between female and male achievements in the three GII dimensions.

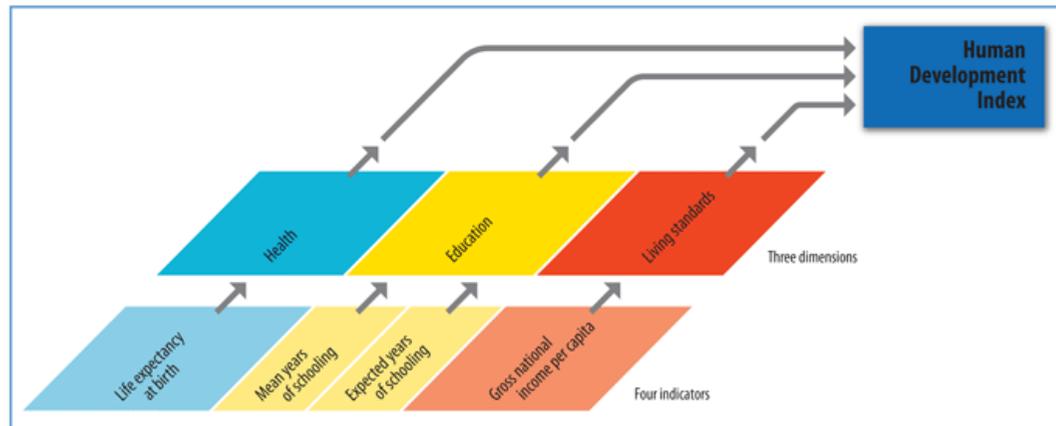
A composite index measuring loss in achievements in three dimensions of human development—reproductive health, empowerment, and labour market, due to inequality between genders.

#### **Human Development Index:**

The HDI sets a minimum and a maximum for each dimension, called goalposts, and then shows where each country stands in relation to these goalposts, expressed as a value between 0 and 1.

## Components of the Human Development Index

The HDI—three dimensions and four indicators



Note: The indicators presented in this figure follow the new methodology, as defined in box 1.2.

Source: HDRO.