

# 2014 EDITION OF THE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GENDER INDEX (SIGI)



Social Institutions  
& Gender Index

The Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) measures gender-based discrimination in social norms, practices and laws across 160 countries. The SIGI comprises country profiles, a classification of countries and a database; it serves as a research, policy and advocacy tool for the development community and policy makers.

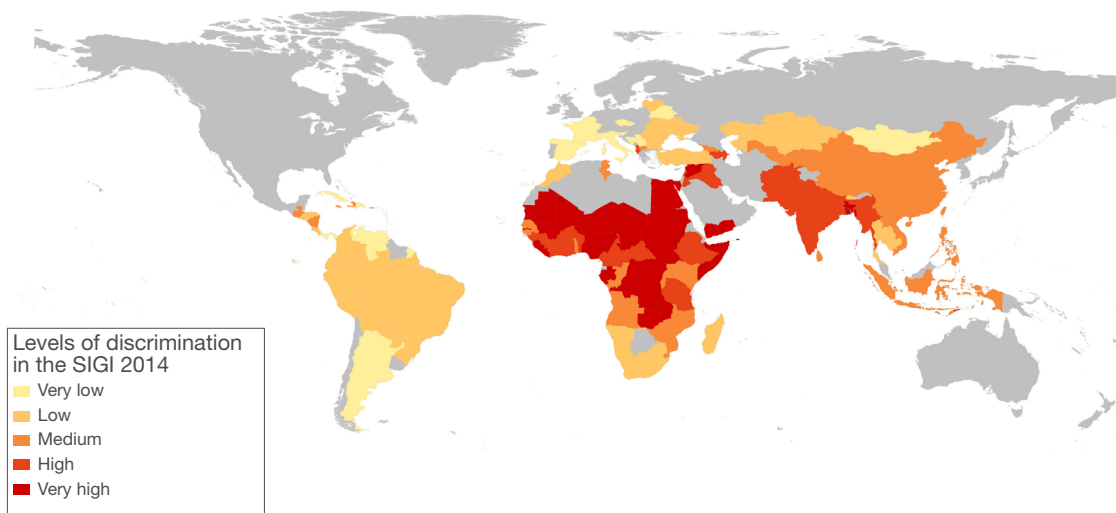
The SIGI covers five dimensions, spanning major socio-economic areas that affect the life course of a girl and woman: discriminatory family code, restricted physical integrity, son bias, restricted resources and assets, and restricted civil liberties. These dimensions look at the gaps that legislation, practices and attitudes create between women and men in terms of rights and opportunities.

The 2014 edition of the SIGI testifies to the global nature of gender inequality irrespective of levels of income or development: successfully eliminating discrimination depends on national commitments and priorities, not GDP and economic growth. Reducing disparities between women’s and men’s rights directly improves women’s well-being and empowerment opportunities across their life cycle. SIGI data reveals that gender gaps in social institutions translate into gender gaps in development outcomes such as the labour force, levels of poverty and marginalisation, and education.

Social Institutions and Gender Index				
Discriminatory family code	Restricted physical integrity	Son bias	Restricted resources and assets	Restricted civil liberties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal age of marriage</li> <li>• Early marriage</li> <li>• Parental authority</li> <li>• Inheritance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence against women</li> <li>• Female genital mutilation</li> <li>• Reproductive autonomy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Missing women</li> <li>• Fertility preferences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure access to land</li> <li>• Secure access to non-land assets</li> <li>• Access to financial services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to public space</li> <li>• Political voice</li> </ul>

### What’s new?

For the 2014 edition, the database has been reinforced with additional variables, and the country coverage has increased to include OECD countries. The Gender, Institutions and Development Database (<http://stats.oecd.org>) has six new variables on key issues in sexual reproductive health rights, decision-making authority within the family, and time use and unpaid care.



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### Key results in 2014

- **Discriminatory family code:** The number of early marriages is decreasing, but the practice remains pervasive: on average in non-OECD countries 16% of girls 15-19 years old are married (in Niger 60%). Only 55 countries in the SIGI's 160 accord women the same inheritance rights as men, both in law and in practice.
- **Restricted physical integrity:** 35% of women believe that domestic violence is justified under certain conditions (92% in Guinea); 30% of women have been victims of gender-based violence in their lifetime (almost 80% in Angola). In the 28 countries where female genital mutilation is a widespread practice, 47% of women and girls have been victims.
- **Son bias:** Over 90 million women are missing around the world; 80% of these missing women are from India and the People's Republic of China.
- **Restricted resources and assets:** The laws or customary practices of 102 countries still deny women the same rights to access land as men.
- **Restricted civil liberties:** Only one member of parliament in five is a woman. Even with legislative quotas, women occupy less than 10% of parliamentary seats in Brazil, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt and the Republic of the Congo.

The OECD Development Centre was established in 1962 as an independent platform for knowledge sharing and policy dialogue between OECD member countries and developing economies, allowing these countries to interact on an equal footing. Today, 25 OECD countries and 18 non-OECD countries are members of the Centre. The Centre draws attention to emerging systemic issues likely to have an impact on global development and more specific development challenges faced by today's developing and emerging economies. It uses evidence-based analysis and strategic partnerships to help countries formulate innovative policy solutions to the global challenges of development.

For more information on the Centre and its members, please see [www.oecd.org/dev](http://www.oecd.org/dev)

For more information about the OECD Development Centre's gender programme:

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[www.genderindex.org](http://www.genderindex.org)