

Evidence syntheses in a global context: A systematic review of sex/gender disaggregated homicide

Elizabeth Cook
City, University of London

Homicide in a global context

Justice	Health	Civil society
<i>Crime data</i>	<i>Mortality data</i>	<i>Gender equality data</i>
<p>National Police (e.g., ONS Homicide Index; VKPP)</p> <p>International United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</p> <p>European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics (ESCCJ)</p> <p>Eurostat</p>	<p>National Coroners' reports (e.g., ONS Mortality Statistics)</p> <p>International Global Burden of Disease (GBD)</p> <p>Global Health Observatory (G/WHO)</p>	<p>National Data activism (e.g. Femicide Census; National Ugly Mugs)</p> <p>International European Observatory on Femicide (EOF)</p> <p>Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)</p>

Homicide according to the UNODC (2019) (employing the ICCS) is “**unlawful** death inflicted upon a person with the **intent** to cause **death** or serious injury”



Overview:

A systematic review on sex/gender disaggregated homicide

- Update of Stöckl et al. (2013)
- Including studies reporting prevalence data on homicide by:
 - Relationship between victim and perpetrator
 - Sexual aspects
 - Motivation

NIHR | National Institute for Health and Care Research

PROSPERO
International prospective register of systematic reviews

Print | PDF

Sex/gender-disaggregated fatal violence: a systematic review

Sylvia Walby, Heidi Stoeckl, Elizabeth Cook, Alexandria Innes, Sally McManus, Jessica Corsi, Riikka Kotanen, Estela Capelas Barbosa

Citation
Sylvia Walby, Heidi Stoeckl, Elizabeth Cook, Alexandria Innes, Sally McManus, Jessica Corsi, Riikka Kotanen, Estela Capelas Barbosa. Sex/gender-disaggregated fatal violence: a systematic review. PROSPERO 2021 CRD42021268712 Available from: https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display_record.php?ID=CRD42021268712

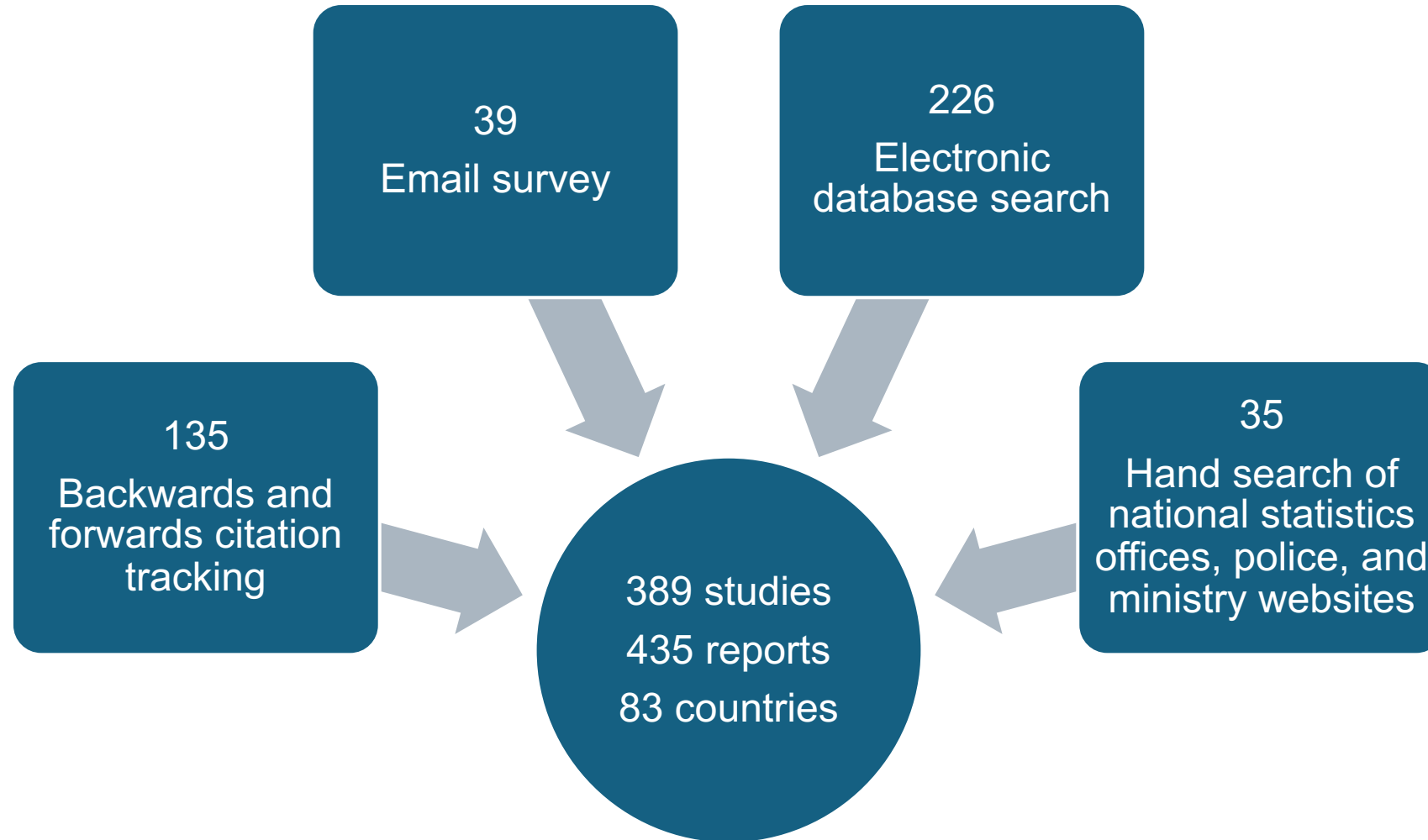
Review question
What is the estimated sex/gender disaggregated prevalence of fatal violence nationally, regionally, and globally?

Searches
This review will utilize a four-step search strategy:

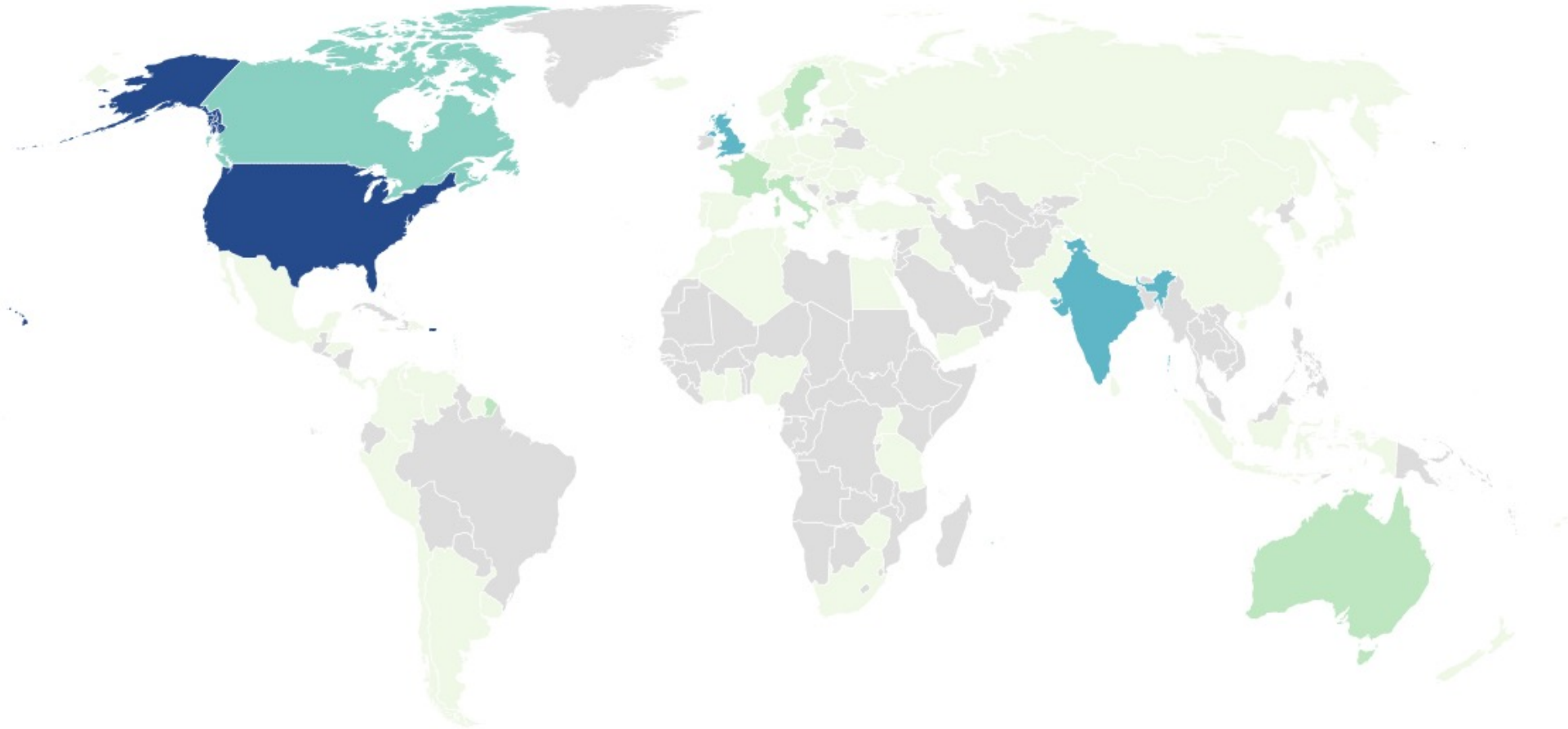
1. Electronic database searches:
The following databases will be searched: MEDLINE, Global Health, EMBASE, Social Policy and Practice, and Web of Science. These databases will be searched to identify sources up to the search date that report



Included reports

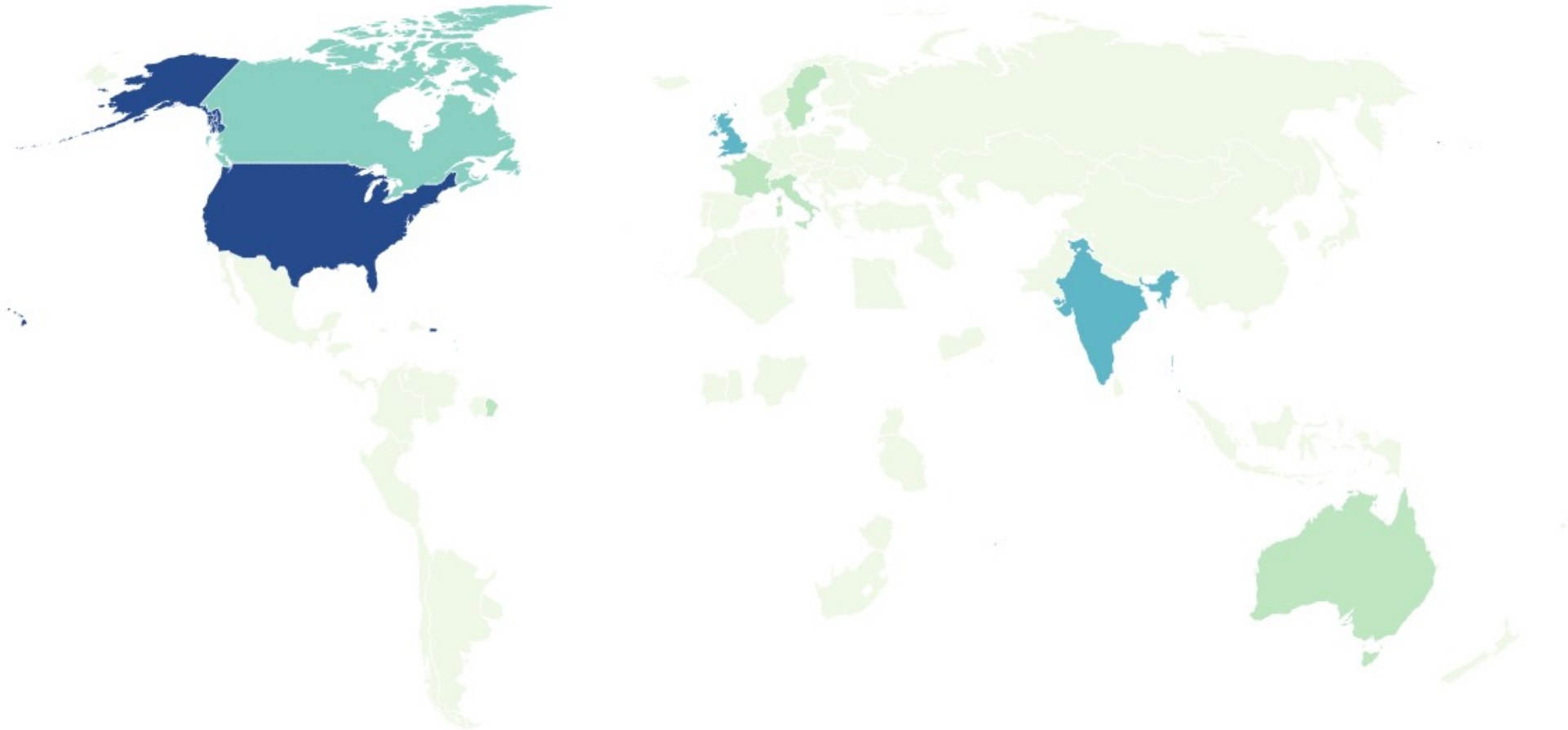


Included reports by country



Included reports by country

< 10 10-20 20-30 30-40 40-50 50-60 60-70 ≥ 70



Geographical region (WHO)	All Countries With Data	
	%	n
African Region	12%	10
Eastern Mediterranean Region	7%	6
Region of the Americas	23%	19
South-East Asia Region	5%	4
European Region	43%	36
Western Pacific Region	10%	8
Total	100%	83

Income classification (World Bank)	All Countries With Data	
	%	n
Low Income	5%	4
Lower Middle	22%	18
Upper Middle	29%	24
High	43%	36
Unclassified	1%	1
Total	100%	83



The problems?

1. *Missing data*

- *e.g., problematic categories of motive, amplified transnationally*
- *e.g., lost dimensions of gender not captured by administrative data*

2. *Costs of sex/gender-disaggregation?*

- *e.g., wealth of data on femicide/feminicide which was excluded*

3. *Under-representation of particular countries and regions/context of inequalities in data production and infrastructures*

- *e.g., only four countries from low-income countries represented; USA presented with 92 reports out of 435*



Conclusion

- Data do their work in relation to one another (Dourish and Gomez Cruz, 2018)
- Breadth over depth – the need for a contextual global sociology? (Abraham, 2019)
- Need for ethnography of measurement (Merry, 2016)



Questions

- How do we avoid ‘reduction’ or replacement, but amplification?
- What can be done to support those working on evidence synthesis on trauma, violence and abuse?
- How can positionality and reflexivity be accounted for in evidence synthesis more routinely? (Bird et al., 2023)

Contact

- Elizabeth.cook@city.ac.uk



References

- Abraham, M. (Ed.). (2019). *Sociology and social justice*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Bird, K., Stokes, N., Tomlinson, M. and Rivas, C. (2023) 'Ethically Driven and Methodologically Tailored: Setting the Agenda for Systematic Reviews in Domestic Violence and Abuse', *Journal of Family Violence*, 38, 1055-1069.
- Bhuta, N., Malito, D. V. and Umbach, G. (2018) 'Introduction: Of numbers and narratives – indicators in global governance and the rise of a reflexive indicator culture', in Malito, D.V., Umbach, G. and Bhuta, N. (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook of Indicators in Global Governance*. Cham: Palgrave.
- Dourish, P. and Gomez Cruz, E. (2018) Datafication and data fiction: Narrating data and narrating with data. *Big Data & Society*, 5(2): 1-10
- Merry, S.E. (2016) *The Seductions of Quantification: Measuring Human Rights, Gender Violence, and Sex Trafficking*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press
- Stöckl, H., Devries, K., Rotstein, A., Abrahams, N., Campbell, J., Watts, C and Garcia-Moreno, C. (2013) 'The global prevalence of intimate partner homicide: A systematic review', *The Lancet*, 382(9895): 859-865
- UNODC (2019) *Global Study on Homicide*. Vienna: UNODC

