

# CONTROLLING BEHAVIOUR OF AN INTIMATE PARTNER

Impact indicator, Outcome indicator

---

## Indicator Phrasing

**English:** % of women aged 15 - 49 who experienced controlling behaviour from an intimate partner in the past 12 months

**French:** % de femmes âgées de 15 à 49 ans ayant subi le contrôle et des restrictions excessives de la part d'un partenaire intime au cours des 12 derniers mois

**Spanish:** % de mujeres de 15 a 49 años que han experimentado un comportamiento controlador por parte de su pareja en los últimos 12 meses

**Portuguese:** % de mulheres com idades entre 15 e 49 anos que sofreram de controlo de comportamento por um parceiro íntimo nos últimos 12 meses

**Czech:** % žen ve věku 15 - 49 let, které během posledních 12 měsíců zažily nadměrnou kontrolu a omezování ze strany svého partnera

## What is its purpose?

This indicator measures the proportion of women who in the past 12 months experienced controlling behaviour from their current or previous intimate partner. Considering how sensitive the collection of the required data is, this indicator should be used only in interventions that specifically address the prevention and response to controlling behaviour.

## How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

Collect the following data by conducting individual interviews with a [representative sample](#) of women aged 15 - 49 years:

### RECOMMENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS (Q) AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS (A)

**Q:** *Have you ever had an intimate partner? By intimate partner, I mean someone whom you married or with whom you lived together at any point in your life.*

**A:** yes / no / did not respond

(ask the following questions only if the previous answer is YES)

**Introduction:** *I am now going to ask you about some situations that are true for many women. The*

*questions will relate to any intimate partners you had in the course of your entire life. Please be so kind and give me honest answers – I assure you that I will not share them with anyone living in this area. If anyone comes near us I will change the topic of our interview. In the case you do wish to answer some of the questions, you do not have to. May I continue?*

**A0:** the respondent provided consent / the respondent refused to continue

**Q1:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner tried to keep you from seeing your friends?*

**A1:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q2:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner tried to restrict your contact with your family?*

**A2:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q3:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner insisted on knowing where you are at all times?*

**A3:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q4:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner ignored you and treated you indifferently?*

**A4:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q5:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner gotten angry if you speak with another man?*

**A5:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q6:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner been suspicious that you are unfaithful?*

**A6:** yes / no / did not respond

**Q7:** *In the past 12 months, has your current or previous partner expected you to ask his permission before seeking health care for yourself?*

**A7:** yes / no / did not respond

In all instances where the answer is YES, it is recommended (though not required) that you also ask the

following question:

**Q:** *In the past 12 months, would you say that this has happened once, a few times or many times?*

**A:** once / a few times / many times

To **calculate the indicator's value:**

- 1) exclude those respondents who did not report any incidence of controlling behaviour but refused or could not respond to one or more questions
- 2) divide the number of the remaining respondents who replied "yes" to one or more of the questions (Q1-7) by the total number of respondents (do not count those you excluded in step 1)
- 3) multiply the result by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

## Disaggregate by

[Disaggregate](#) the data by the respondent's age group, marital status, ethnicity, and other factors depending on the local context.

## Important Comments

- 1) Collecting data about gender-based violence is sensitive and can cause serious harm. **Take advantage of IndiKit's Rapid Guide** to Collecting Survey Data on GBV (see below) to know how to minimize the risk of any harm and ensure the desired quality of collected data.
- 2) Consider including an additional question **assessing whether the woman that suffered from controlling behaviour has told someone** about it and if so, to whom (use general categories, such as "a friend" – do not ask about specific people or names).
- 3) Ensure that the enumerators and respondents understand that the questions are trying to capture the proportion of women who have experienced abuse from an intimate partner in the past 12 months. However, that partner may not be 1) the current partner or 2) someone she has been with in the past 12 months. It can be **any intimate partner the respondent had at any point in the course of her life**. For example, the partner can be someone she no longer lives with but he still abuses her.
- 4) The guidance for this indicator was developed based on WHO (2005) Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women.

## E-Questionnaire

- [XLS form for electronic data collection - indicator Controlling Behaviour of an Intimate Partner](#)

## Access Additional Guidance

- WHO (2005) [Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women](#)
- MEASURE Evaluation (2008) [Violence Against Women and Girls: A Compendium of M&E Indicators](#)
- People in Need (2022) [Rapid Guide to Collecting Survey Data on Gender Based Violence](#)

---

This guidance was prepared by **People in Need** © | Downloaded from [www.indikit.net](http://www.indikit.net)