

FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE: ACHIEVING WOMEN'S SECURITY AND EMPOWERMENT

Gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls is a product of gender inequality, oppressive power dynamics, and harmful social norms.

Based on the analysis of four core **Freedom From Violence** metrics, gender disparities decreased over the past decade.

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THE FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE SCORE IS CALCULATED USING FIVE METRICS:

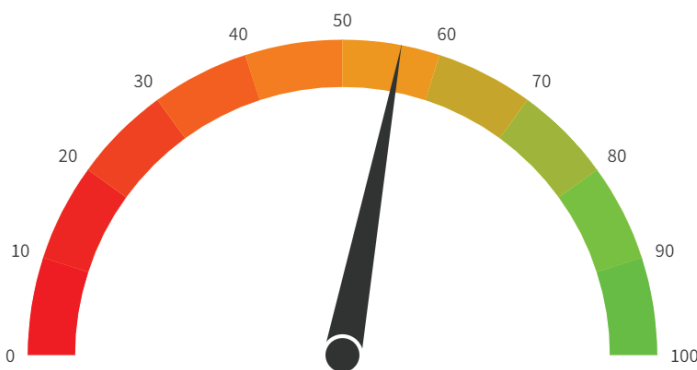
- **Domestic Violence:** In 2021, women accounted for 71% of domestic violence victims.
- **Sexual Offenses:** In 2021, women accounted for 88% of sexual violence victims.
- **Overall Crime:** The proportion of female crime victims dropped from 50% in 2010 to 48% in 2021, while male victims increased from 50% in 2010 to 52% in 2021.
- **Human Trafficking:** In 2021, women were 98% of human trafficking victims.

THE MANY FACES OF VIOLENCE:

- **Femicides:** The intentional killing of women with a gender-related motivation is the most severe health outcome of violence against women, disproportionately affecting young women, racial/ethnic minority women, and pregnant persons.
- **Gun Violence:** With the rise in gun-related deaths in Florida and nationally, and with relatively easy access to guns and weak regulations, the safety of those uniquely affected by gun violence, including women experiencing intimate partner violence, children, and teens, is at risk.
- **Child Abuse:** Child abuse and the trafficking of children are adverse childhood experiences that can have lifelong consequences on health, opportunity and well-being. Miami-Dade County has seen a decline in child abuse incidents, but an increase in the trafficking of children.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **Data Collection and Transparency:** Implement a standardized process for data collection on domestic and sexual violence by all police departments, making gender and racial/ethnic data extraction more efficient and uniform. This data should be publicly accessible, at no cost to the community and service providers.
- **Expand Domestic Violence Services:** Support CVAC expansion to include not only the current central location, but additional Centers more easily accessible to residents in the north and south of the county.
- **Gender-based Violence Local Plan:** In line with the National Gender-Based Violence Plan, develop and implement a county-wide plan to address gender-based violence at the local level. This plan should engage government stakeholders, community leaders, survivors, and officials to build solution-driven, trauma-informed strategies.



The Miami-Dade score was 56 points in 2021.

For more details on Freedom From Violence, make sure to read the full policy paper [here](#).

The Gender Equity Index score for 2021 was 51 points.