The world’s five most dangerous countries for women

A Thomson Reuters Foundation global poll of experts

Thomson Reuters Foundation have conducted a global perception poll of experts to highlight the five most dangerous countries for women.

The poll by TrustLaw Women, the Foundation’s recently launched women’s rights news and information service, asked 213 gender experts from five continents a number of key questions to help establish the “most dangerous countries for women”. Poll respondents included aid professionals, academics, health workers, policymakers, journalists and development specialists. All were chosen for their expertise in gender issues.

Approach

All respondents answered an initial question of “What in your opinion are the five most dangerous countries in the world for women”.

Further questions were then posed: “In your view, what is the most dangerous country in the world for women in terms of...” followed by each of the six categories (risk factors) below, with further insight gathered as to the main causes of this perceived threat to women:

- **Health** – including maternal mortality, lack of access to healthcare, lack of control over reproductive health and HIV/AIDS as the main causes
- **Lack of access to economic resources / discrimination** – including job discrimination; inability to make a livelihood; discriminatory land, property or inheritance rights; lack of access to education and lack of access to adequate nutrition as the main causes
- **Cultural/tribal/religious traditions or customary practices** – including acid attacks; female genital mutilation; child marriage; forced marriage; punishment/retribution through stoning or physical abuse or mutilation and female infanticide/foeticide as the main causes
- **Sexual violence** – including rape as a weapon of war, domestic rape, rape by a stranger and lack of access to justice in the case of rape as the main causes
- **Non-sexual violence** – including conflict-related violence and forms of domestic physical and mental abuse as the main causes
- **Human trafficking** – including domestic servitude, forced labour, forced marriage and sexual slavery as the main causes

**Establishing the “most dangerous countries” for women**

Each country got a score for the responses to the initial question - “What in your opinion are the five the most dangerous country in the world for women” based on the percentage of times the country was provided as an answer. This score represented one quarter (25%) of their overall mark.

The remaining three quarters (75%) of the overall mark was then calculated based on how often (as a percentage) the country was provided as the answer across each of the 6 categories (Health, sexual violence etc).

The combined results produced then gave the overall mark to establish the overall list of the “world’s five most dangerous countries for women”.

For more detailed questions on the methodology please do not hesitate to contact us valentine.eman@thomsonreuters.com
The five most dangerous countries for women

1) Afghanistan
2) Democratic Republic of Congo
3) Pakistan
4) India
5) Somalia

Highest-ranked countries for each risk factor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Afghanistan</th>
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<tr>
<td>Economic / Discrimination</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural/tribal/religious</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual violence</td>
<td>Congo</td>
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<td>Non-sexual violence</td>
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