

GLOBAL HEALTH 5050

TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY IN GLOBAL HEALTH

ISSUE 1 • SEX, GENDER AND COVID-19 • JULY 2020



WELCOME

A MESSAGE FROM THE COLLECTIVE

Welcome to our first GH5050 digest. As we settle into the 'new normal' of life in lockdown, we wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting developments at GH5050.

The COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtedly changed the way the world works and how we view our relationships to ourselves, to others and to the environments in which we exist. Many of us are working from home, distanced from the people we love, and have seen close-up the devastating impact of COVID-19. We are all working hard to navigate the innumerable changes the pandemic has made on our lives.

For us here at GH5050, the pandemic proved to be a major obstacle to our 2020 Report launch, which we decided to cancel in March. However, it has also provided ample opportunities to take stock, reflect and reconsider the work that we do and how we want to work in the future. Over the last three months, we've developed a world leading COVID-19 sex-disaggregated data tracker, embarked on new partnerships, kicked off a new series on representational practices in global health, and reflected on our report findings to inform dialogue and change in light of the Black Lives Matter movement.

GLOBAL HEALTH 50/50
DIGEST

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In this first quarterly digest, you can find updates about the work that we're doing and opportunities to get involved.

SEX, GENDER & COVID-19

From the first reports of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, there has been consistent evidence of a gendered impact on health outcomes. In March 2020, we launched our [sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data tracker](#) in response to the lack of available sex-disaggregated data.

Four months on, our tracker has expanded from 20 to 144 countries globally, across all regions of the world. Every other week our collective of volunteers look for sex- and age-disaggregated data on testing, confirmed cases (including among healthcare workers), hospitalisations, ICU admissions and deaths to populate our tracker. What the data shows is that sex and gender are, indisputably, playing a role in driving risk and vulnerability during this pandemic. Disaggregated data and [gender-responsive approaches to COVID-19](#) will be essential for ensuring equitable responses to it.

As the most comprehensive tracker of national COVID-19 sex-disaggregated data, our work has been covered extensively by international and national media and is playing a central role in promoting and informing public and policy dialogue on the role of sex and gender in the COVID-19 pandemic. [Check here](#) for a round up of coverage and some answers to your key questions on the role sex and gender are playing in COVID-19.

Is your country reporting [sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data](#)? [Check out our tracker.](#)

EXPANDING OUR WORK ON
SEX, GENDER AND COVID-19

"THE PANDEMIC HAS FINALLY OPENED OUR EYES TO THE FACT THAT HEALTH IS NOT DRIVEN JUST BY BIOLOGY, BUT BY THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE ALL FIND OURSELVES AND GENDER IS A MAJOR PART OF THAT."

PROF. SARAH HAWKES



Hear our co-director, Prof. Sarah Hawkes, discuss sex, gender and COVID-19

[Gender and Covid: Counting the Uncounted](#)

[Researchers Study Why Men Seem To Be More Affected By COVID-19](#)

Country ▲	Sex-disaggregated? ▲	Date ▲	Cases ▲	Cases (% male) ▲
Thailand	Yes	24.05.20	3,040	54%
The Netherlands	Yes	26.05.20	45,488	37%
Dominican Republic	Yes	25.05.20	15,264	54%
Greece	Yes	25.05.20	2,685	55%
Belgium	Yes	25.05.20	57,221	37%
Denmark	Yes	26.05.20	11,428	42%
Romania	Yes	24.05.20	16,911	45%
Spain	Yes	21.05.20	248,335	43%
Sweden	Yes	27.05.20	34,440	41%
Peru	Yes	25.05.20	123,979	59%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	13.05.20	994	45%
China	Yes	28.02.20	55,924	51%
Italy	Yes	20.05.20	227,169	46%
Northern Ireland	Yes	26.05.20	4,630	38%
England	Yes	20.05.20	143,726	46%

Want to volunteer to join the data tracking efforts or lend a hand as we expand the project?

Aware of data we're missing?

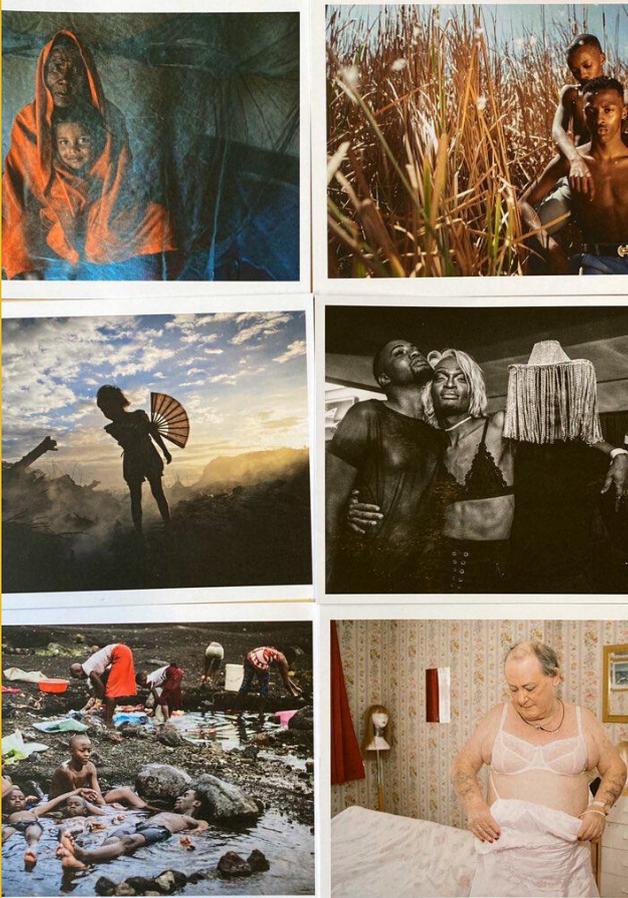
**Get in touch:
info@globalhealth5050.org**

We are delighted to announce that we will shortly be launching an expansion of our work on sex, gender and COVID-19 in collaboration with the [International Center for Research on Women \(ICRW\)](#), regional office in Delhi and the [African Population and Health Research Centre \(APHRC\)](#), based in Nairobi.

The collaboration will expand the current tracker to offer the world's largest database of sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19, investigate the roles sex and gender are playing in the outbreak, build the evidence base of what works to tackle gender disparities in the pandemic and advocate for effective gender-responsive approaches. Keep your eyes out for the launch, coming soon!

Follow [@GlobalHlth5050](#) to keep updated .

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS IS GENDER 2021



In 2020 we launched our inaugural photo contest, This is Gender, in response to the lack of representational diversity and critically reflective images of gender in global health. The contest produced a collection of stunning imagery from across the globe.

The COVID-19 pandemic has radically re-shaped the way we understand, classify and undertake work. In light of this, our 2021 competition aims to capture diverse representations of the messy, complex, and at times frustrating relationship between gender and work.

We are offering sponsorship and support packages for the competition, which offers a powerful way to declare your commitment to the cause of gender equality and connect to an international network of academics, policy makers, advocates and students.

Interested in sponsoring the competition and exhibition or finding out more? Contact Imogen Bakelmun at i.bakelmuneucl.ac.uk.

REPRESENTATION MATTERS

"WE CANNOT EASILY RECOGNISE LIFE OUTSIDE THE FRAME IN WHICH IT IS GIVEN, AND THOSE FRAMES NOT ONLY STRUCTURE HOW WE COME TO KNOW AND IDENTIFY LIFE BUT CONSTITUTE SUSTAINING CONDITIONS FOR THOSE VERY LIVES."

JUDITH BUTLER

Our new interview series, Representation Matters, brings you insights from leading photographers, journalists and cultural practitioners on the importance of reflective representation and why it matters in global health. This series builds off our inaugural photo contest, This is Gender, launched to challenge rigid and often reductive ways of seeing gender in global health.



ANDREI LIANKEVICH
'WE NEED TO QUESTION OUR LENSES AND WAYS OF SEEING'



ISABELLA GOMES
'RENDERING VISIBLE THE INVISIBLE'

KEY RESOURCES & READINGS

Power, privilege & priorities

We're looking for Research
Volunteers for our 2021
report. For more information
and to apply check [here](#).

HAVE YOU READ OUR 2020 REPORT?

The pandemic has held up a mirror up to society and revealed our relationship to our environments, each other and the systems in which we live. In turn, it has exposed the fragility of our globalised and interconnected health systems and highlighted the power structures and imbalances that underpin them. Amidst broader demands for social change, the call for transformation of the global health landscape has amplified.

Our 2020 report reveals that the leadership of the 200 most prominent organisations active in global health continue to reflect power and privilege asymmetries along historical, geographic and gender lines. We found that more than 70% of leaders in our sample are men, more than 80% are nationals of high-income countries and more than 90% were educated in high income countries. The report further uncovers a distinct disconnect between the organisational priorities and the gendered burdens of disease around the world. **Explore the report [here](#).**

AT GH5050... WE'RE USING THESE GREAT RESOURCES

As the struggle against COVID-19 continues, it has become increasingly clear that while we're "all in this together", the impact and burden falls more heavily on some. Sex and gender intersect with other identities and experiences, from race and ethnicity to occupation and socioeconomic status, to shape both the primary and secondary impacts of COVID-19.

Check out these great resources to find out more:

[Gender, Intersectionality and COVID-19, BMJ](#)
[COVID-19 and the Gendered Burden of Caregiving, Institute of Fiscal Ideas](#)

[Gender Equity in the Health Workforce, UN Women](#)

[Gendered Impacts Across Society, European Institute for Gender Equality](#)

[Racial Data Tracker \(US\)](#)

[Gender and COVID-19 Resources list](#)

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