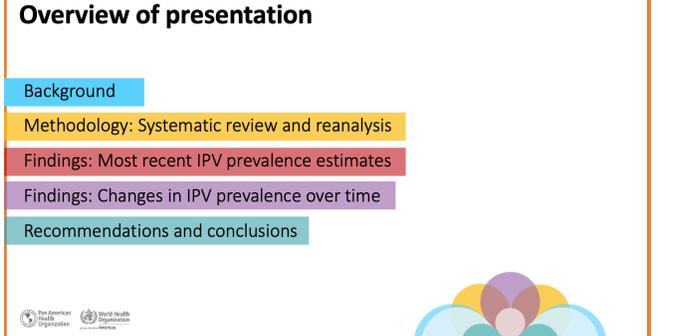
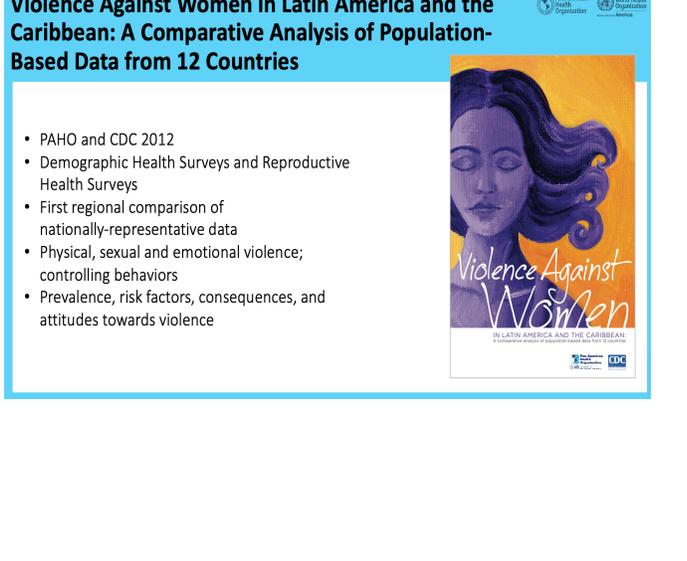


<p>1</p>	 <p><b>Intimate partner violence in the Americas: A systematic review and reanalysis of national prevalence estimates</b></p> <p>Presenter: <b>Ana Paola Ruiz Celis</b> – Independent consultant, Pan American Health Organization</p> <p>Co-authors: <b>Sarah Bott, Alessandra Guedes and Jennifer Adams</b></p> <p>Pan American Health Organization World Health Organization Americas</p>	<p>Good afternoon, it is an honor to be here on behalf of my colleagues, Alessandra Guedes, Sarah Bott and Jennifer Adams and to be able to share our findings about the national prevalence of intimate partner violence against women in the Americas</p>
<p>2</p>	 <p><b>Overview of presentation</b></p> <p>Background</p> <p>Methodology: Systematic review and reanalysis</p> <p>Findings: Most recent IPV prevalence estimates</p> <p>Findings: Changes in IPV prevalence over time</p> <p>Recommendations and conclusions</p> <p>Pan American Health Organization World Health Organization</p>	<p>During the presentation, I will review the background, methodology, findings regarding the most recent estimates and changes over time, a long with recommendations and conclusions.</p>
<p>3</p>	 <p><b>Violence Against Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Comparative Analysis of Population-Based Data from 12 Countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAHO and CDC 2012</li> <li>• Demographic Health Surveys and Reproductive Health Surveys</li> <li>• First regional comparison of nationally-representative data</li> <li>• Physical, sexual and emotional violence; controlling behaviors</li> <li>• Prevalence, risk factors, consequences, and attitudes towards violence</li> </ul> <p>Violence Against Women IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN A comparative analysis of population-based data from 12 countries Pan American Health Organization CDC</p>	<p>In two thousand and twelve, PAHO and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a comparative analysis of violence against women in 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean Region. Data from Demographic and Health Surveys and Reproductive Health Surveys were analyzed. It was the first regional comparison of national data. This publication addressed various forms of violence against women, such as physical, sexual and emotional violence by an intimate partner; controlling behaviors, and sexual violence by any person. And even data on prevalence, risk factors, consequences, and attitudes are reported.</p>

4

### Survey eligibility criteria – 2018 Systematic review

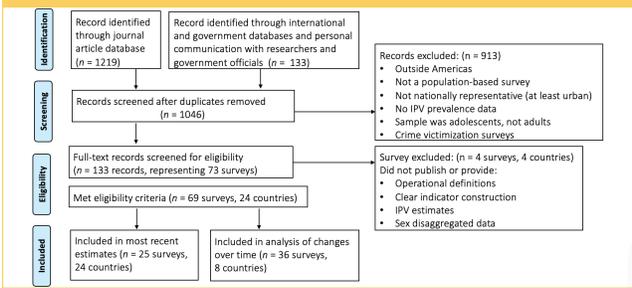
- Nationally representative (at least urban)
- Population-based
- Household or telephone survey
- From any PAHO Member State
- Gathered IPV prevalence data
- Collected data 1998 - 2017
- Published (at least online) by July 2018
- Any language (*English, French, Portuguese, Spanish*)
- Mentioned partner in the items



After this publication, we sought to update the information collected. So, in recent years, our team has conducted a systematic review of national surveys on violence against women within the Region of the Americas. Specifically, we looked for surveys that were National representative, population-based, household or telephone surveys, from any PAHO member state, that gathered IPV prevalence data, Who collected data between nineteen nine eight and two thousand seventeen, studies had to be published before June two thousand eighteen, English, French, Portuguese or Spanish, and mention partner in the items.

5

### Search and screening for eligible surveys (per PRISMA guidelines)



Per PRISMA guidelines, the search was performed on SciELO LILACS, PubMed, Google Scholar, the databases of UN Women, SDGs, the Global Health Data Exchange, Reproductive Health Surveys, DHS, and websites of national institutes of statistics (or similar agencies) in each country. Bibliographies of global and regional reviews were manually searched, and researchers and government officials throughout the Region were contacted. Surveys were excluded under these criteria:

- their reports do not provide enough information to evaluate the methodological quality and the construction of the indicators
- if questionnaires were not available or at least operational definitions
- if it combined estimation of violence against women and men without disaggregation by sex.

We identified six national surveys with data on the prevalence of violence against women by an intimate partner. All were representative of rural and urban areas, with the exception of some surveys that were only urban.

<p>6</p>	<h3>Geographic coverage of eligible surveys</h3> <p>Searched for national surveys from 35 PAHO member States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>24 countries:</b> Eligible survey found (<i>Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad &amp; Tobago, Uruguay, USA, and Venezuela</i>)</li> <li><b>11 countries:</b> No <b>published</b> national survey found</li> <li><b>4 countries:</b> Survey in development or close to publication (<i>Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Suriname</i>)</li> <li><b>7 countries:</b> No survey found (<i>Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis</i>)</li> <li><b>Overseas territories with no eligible survey.</b></li> </ul>	<p>As you can see on this slide, as of July two thousand eighteen, we find that: twenty-four countries (most of the PAHO Member States) had an eligible national survey marked in purple four countries had national surveys in development or about to be published in orange, such as Cuba, Grenada, Guyana and Suriname In red, seven countries had no surveys. The rest - in black color - are overseas territories without eligible survey</p>
<p>7</p>	<h3>Most recent 24 eligible surveys by type of instrument</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Demographic Health Surveys (DHS)</b> Colombia (2015), Dominican Republic (2013), Guatemala (2014/15), Haiti (2016/17), Honduras (2011), Nicaragua (2011/12), Panama (2009), Peru (2017), Venezuela (2010)</li> <li><b>International Violence Against Women Survey (IVAWS)</b> Argentina (2015), Costa Rica (2003)</li> <li><b>Encuesta Nacional sobre la Dinámica de las Relaciones en los Hogares (ENDIREH) or similar</b> Bolivia (2016), Ecuador (2011), El Salvador (2017), Mexico (2016), Uruguay (2013)</li> <li><b>World Health Organization, Multi-country study (WHO MCS)</b> Belize (2015), El Salvador (2013/14), Jamaica (2016), Trinidad and Tobago (2017)</li> <li><b>Reproductive Health Surveys (RHS)</b> Paraguay (2008)</li> <li><b>Unique surveys</b> Brazil (2017), Canada (2014), Chile (2016/17), USA (2010/12)</li> </ul>	<p>Next, we identify the most recent national survey in each country. We include two salvadorean surveys (fourteen and seventeen) since, both measured violence by the current or more recent partner, but, only the two thousand fourteen survey measured violence by any life time partner. As you can see on this slide, many of these recent surveys were affiliated or used instruments of international research programs, such as: demographic and health surveys (purple) reproductive health surveys (orange), WHO surveys (blue) international survey on violence against women (green). Five countries had surveys based on the ENDIREH Mexican model (red). And others were unique to the country (yellow).</p>
<p>8</p>	<h3>Prevalence indicators: Challenges to comparability</h3> <p><b>% of ever partnered</b> → Ever-partnered, currently-partnered, or never-partnered women?</p> <p><b>women and girls aged 15-49 years</b> → What age range?</p> <p><b>subjected to physical or sexual violence</b> → What forms of violence? Defined how?</p> <p><b>by a current or former intimate partner, ever and in the past 12 months,</b> → ¿Current, most recent partner and/or any partner in life?</p> <p><b>disaggregated by type of violence and type of partner</b> → Who was considered an intimate partner? Husband? Cohabiting partner? Stable partner? Boyfriend? Lover?</p> <p>→ In what timeframes did violence occur?</p> <p>→ What type(s) of violence? Physical? Sexual? Physical and/or sexual?</p> <p>→ Current/most recent partner and/or any partner in life?</p>	<p>For the twenty-four most recent surveys, a comparative analysis was conducted based on the following indicators: percentage of ever partnered women and girls age fifteen to forty nine years, subjected to physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner, ever and in the past 12 months, disaggregated by type of violence and type of partner</p> <p>These data are disaggregated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two-time frames,</li> <li>• two types of partner (current / most recent and any partner in life)</li> <li>• two forms of violence</li> </ul>

• and an indicator of combine physical and / or sexual violence  
Which results in twelve separate indicators.

It should be noted that for this systematic review - there were some limitations of resources, time and especially due to the great diversity of the measurement of emotional and psychological violence in the region. In addition, there is still a lack of consensus in terms of what acts should be included in these indicators.

For all these reasons, we had to limit the focus of this work to physical and sexual violence. Although we recognize that other forms of violence are equally important

For the twenty-four countries, we managed to obtain and reanalyze the databases of thirteen countries and we also received reanalyzed data from three countries directly from the original research teams.

We also obtained data from eight countries directly from the published report.

**9 Challenges to comparability**

**a Operational definitions of IPV:**

- Behaviorally specific questions (vs. "violence")
- Threats with a weapon – physical vs. emotional abuse
- Sexual IPV: diversity of acts measured

**b Who is considered an intimate partner:**

- Husbands/cohabiting partners
- Stable/non-cohabiting partners
- Boyfriends, any romantic partner, not necessarily sex partner
- Male / female partners

**c Which partner:**

- Any partner in life vs. current/most recent

**d Construction of indicators:**

- Age range of women
- Partnership status of women
- Type of violence (physical and/or sexual)
- Time frame

For several countries, comparative estimates were obtained.

This slide shows the four challenges of comparability.

Operational definitions  
Who is considered an intimate partner?  
Which partner, any partner in life or current/most recent and other indicators (age, type of IPV, time frame)

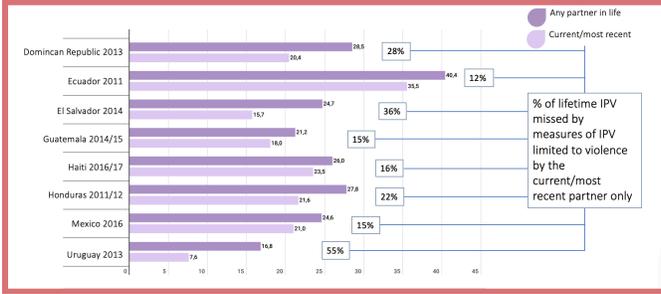
**10 Assessment of quality/risk of bias**

<b>Population-based design:</b> - Excluded women unreachable by phone (4 countries) - Urban only (1 country) - Other barrier to national coverage (3 countries)	<b>Nationally-representative sample:</b> - Inadequate/unclear sample size justification (3 countries)	<b>Response rate:</b> - Response rate unreported or ≤66% (8 countries)	<b>Weighted analysis:</b> - Estimates unweighted (4 countries) - Estimates ≥ 8 years old (4 countries)	<b>Valid/reliable IPV measures:</b> - IPV questions not partner specific (4 countries) - IPV questions not behaviorally specific (1 country)
<b>Estimates for both ever and past year:</b> - Did not measure both ever and past year (2 countries)	<b>Estimates for both types of partner:</b> - Did not produce estimates for both any partner and current / most recent (15 countries)	<b>Dedicated violence survey:</b> - Module, not dedicated survey (10 countries)	<b>Adherence to ethical guidelines:</b> - Did not clearly adhere to WHO ethical guidelines (10 countries)	<b>Denominators composed:</b> - Non-standardized denominator, not reproductive age and/or ever-partnered (however defined) (8 countries)

Risk of bias was assessed using a checklist adapted from existing tools, informed by good practice guidelines for violence research. I'm happy to discuss this more in the Q&A.

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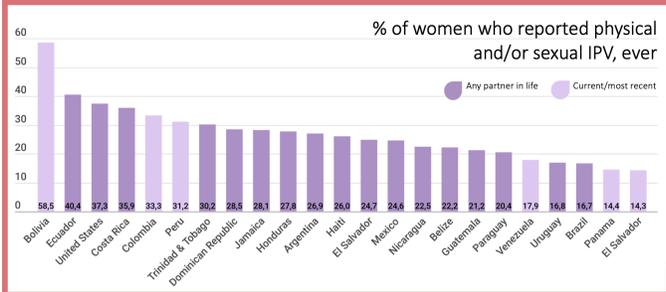
**Challenges to comparability: Difference between any partner in life and current/most recent partner**



For example, in the type of partner there is a barrier to comparability. Some surveys measure only violence by the current or most recent partner. But women, often have more than one partner in life, and indicators limited to the current or most recent partner, that is violence by only one partner, do not include a substantial proportion of abuse by any partner before the current/most recent relationship. Eight surveys within our analyzes measured both indicators. It was found that, in these eight countries, the indicators of violence by any partner in life were significantly higher than violence by the current or more recent partner, for both physical and sexual violence. The percentages of violence by any partner in life that were NOT reported by the limitation to violence by the current / most recent partner only varied from twelve percent in Ecuador to more than half (fifty-five percent) in Uruguay.

12

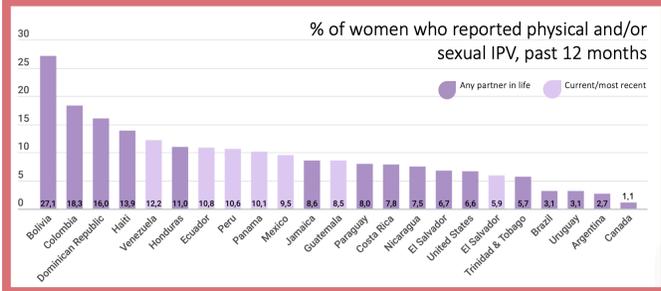
**Prevalence of PHYSICAL and/or SEXUAL intimate partner violence EVER**



Among the findings, the prevalence of physical and / or sexual intimate partner violence ever in life is observed that the data in purple correspond to any partner in life and range from forty four point four percent in Ecuador to sixty eight point five percent in Bolivia to fourteen point three percent in two thousand seventeen Salvador.

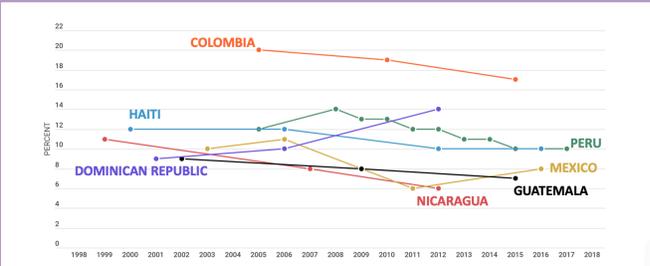
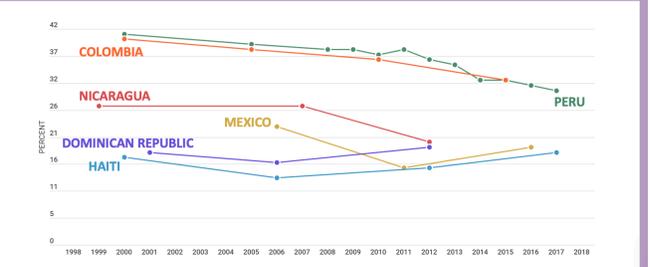
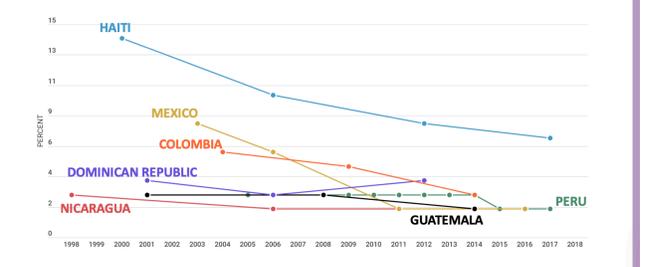
13

**Prevalence of PHYSICAL and/or SEXUAL intimate partner violence PAST YEAR**



And for the data collected in the last twelve months, we found that past year prevalence varies from sixteen percent in DR to one point one in Canada, and for the current or most recent partner in Bolivia twenty seven point one percent is reported to El Salvador two thousand seventeen five point nine percent. It should be noted that the article we publish also reports physical violence and sexual violence at some time in life and in the last twelve months, but for reasons of time, I am not discussing them at this time.

15	<p><b>Prevalence of PHYSICAL intimate partner violence EVER</b></p> <p><b>% of women who reported physical IPV, ever</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Any partner in life</th> <th>Current/most recent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Bolivia</td><td>52.4</td><td>38.6</td></tr> <tr><td>Ecuador</td><td>38.6</td><td>33.4</td></tr> <tr><td>Costa Rica</td><td>33.4</td><td>32.4</td></tr> <tr><td>United States</td><td>32.4</td><td>32.3</td></tr> <tr><td>Colombia</td><td>32.3</td><td>30.6</td></tr> <tr><td>Peru</td><td>30.6</td><td>28.3</td></tr> <tr><td>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</td><td>28.3</td><td>27.3</td></tr> <tr><td>Dominican Republic</td><td>27.3</td><td>26.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Argentina</td><td>26.8</td><td>25.9</td></tr> <tr><td>Honduras</td><td>25.9</td><td>25.6</td></tr> <tr><td>Jamaica</td><td>25.6</td><td>23.3</td></tr> <tr><td>Mexico</td><td>23.3</td><td>21.9</td></tr> <tr><td>Belize</td><td>21.9</td><td>21.3</td></tr> <tr><td>Haiti</td><td>21.3</td><td>20.6</td></tr> <tr><td>El Salvador</td><td>20.6</td><td>20.4</td></tr> <tr><td>Guatemala</td><td>20.4</td><td>20.0</td></tr> <tr><td>Nicaragua</td><td>20.0</td><td>17.9</td></tr> <tr><td>Paraguay</td><td>17.9</td><td>17.5</td></tr> <tr><td>Venezuela</td><td>17.5</td><td>16.1</td></tr> <tr><td>Brazil</td><td>16.1</td><td>15.7</td></tr> <tr><td>Uruguay</td><td>15.7</td><td>13.7</td></tr> <tr><td>El Salvador</td><td>13.7</td><td>13.8</td></tr> <tr><td>Panama</td><td>13.8</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Country	Any partner in life	Current/most recent	Bolivia	52.4	38.6	Ecuador	38.6	33.4	Costa Rica	33.4	32.4	United States	32.4	32.3	Colombia	32.3	30.6	Peru	30.6	28.3	Trinidad & Tobago	28.3	27.3	Dominican Republic	27.3	26.8	Argentina	26.8	25.9	Honduras	25.9	25.6	Jamaica	25.6	23.3	Mexico	23.3	21.9	Belize	21.9	21.3	Haiti	21.3	20.6	El Salvador	20.6	20.4	Guatemala	20.4	20.0	Nicaragua	20.0	17.9	Paraguay	17.9	17.5	Venezuela	17.5	16.1	Brazil	16.1	15.7	Uruguay	15.7	13.7	El Salvador	13.7	13.8	Panama	13.8		
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<p>19</p>	<h3>Analysis of changes over time in reported IPV prevalence</h3>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>7 countries</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3+ rounds of open access data based with a comparable instrument 1998-2017</li> <li>Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru</li> <li>PAHO analyzed changes over time using Cochran Armitage Trend Test</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>1 country</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canadian researcher already published an analysis of changes over 3 points in time time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>On the other hand, in the analysis of changes in prevalence over time, countries that had data from three rounds or more, were taken into account, such as Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and the Dominican Republic.</p>																																																																																				
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	<p><b>Changes over time: Sexual IPV ever</b></p> <p>The graph displays the percentage of women reporting ever experienced sexual IPV from 1998 to 2018 for five countries: Haiti, Colombia, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Dominican Republic. The y-axis represents the percentage (0-18), and the x-axis represents the year. Haiti starts at approximately 17% in 2000 and declines to about 10% by 2018. Colombia remains stable around 10%. Nicaragua and Mexico both start around 8% and decline to about 6%. Dominican Republic remains stable around 4-5%.</p>	<p>And this is slide shows lifetime sexual intimate partner violence.</p> <p>For more detail, please download and read the article.</p>
23	<p><b>Methodological findings of systematic review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimates of IPV by any partner in life are NOT comparable to IPV by the current/most recent partner only – surveys should measure and publish both.</li> <li>In according with SDG and UN guidelines, surveys should publish indicators of physical and/or sexual IPV</li> <li>Composite indicators of physical, sexual and/or emotional IPV are less helpful (not comparable, tier 3, not compelling to policy makers)</li> <li>Surveys vary by age range – please disaggregate for the 15-49 year old cohort</li> <li>Many reports do not clearly define their indicators or label their tables/charts for numerator and denominators (type of violence, partner, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>readers need more clearly labeled findings</li> </ul> </li> <li>Inadequate information about ethics and safety</li> </ul>	<p>Taking into account the methodological findings of the systematic review, we find that estimates of violence are not comparable because some surveys report only violence by any partner or by the most current / recent one; they also build and / or publish indicators of violence that cannot be comparable, since sometimes they are grouped as a single type of violence for which it is desirable that they be better separated; It is important to consider the cohort of the woman's age and point out how the data is composed in the reports considering the numerators and denominators for clarity.</p> <p>Last but not least, we suggest that future reports should mention the security procedures use to collect women information and if ethic were considered.</p>
24	<p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Availability of prevalence estimates increased significantly, but need: Greater geographic coverage, improved quality and comparability and repeat surveys</li> <li>While reported IPV prevalence declined significantly in several countries, some indicators were unchanged or rose over time</li> <li>IPV remains widespread in the Americas</li> <li>Greater and sustained investment needed</li> </ol>	<p>In conclusion, we highlight increase availability of prevalence estimates across countries, however, greater geographic coverage, better quality and continued data collection from future surveys are urged, to monitor the prevalence of IPV.</p> <p>And although violence has been reduced, it is still present and therefore, a greater and continuous investment is requested for its investigation in order to eliminate partner violence against women within households across the Americas.</p>



Bott S, Guedes A, Ruiz-Celis AP, Mendoza JA. [Intimate partner violence in the Americas: A systematic review and reanalysis of national prevalence estimates](#). Rev Panam Salud Publica. 2019;43:e26. <https://doi.org/10.26633/RPSP.2019.26>



**Thank you**

Thanks so much