



EuroMed Feminist Initiative  
المبادرة النسوية الأورومتوسطية  
Initiative Féministe EuroMed



Regional Observatory on VAWG  
المرصد الإقليمي حول العنف ضد النساء والبنات

# Republic of Tunisia

## Report

### 2024 Regional Index on VAWG

#### SCORING RESULTS 2024 REGIONAL INDEX ON VAWG

2025

Report -Republic of Tunisia  
2024 Regional Index on VAWG

SCORING RESULTS 2024 REGIONAL INDEX ON VAWG

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## Introduction

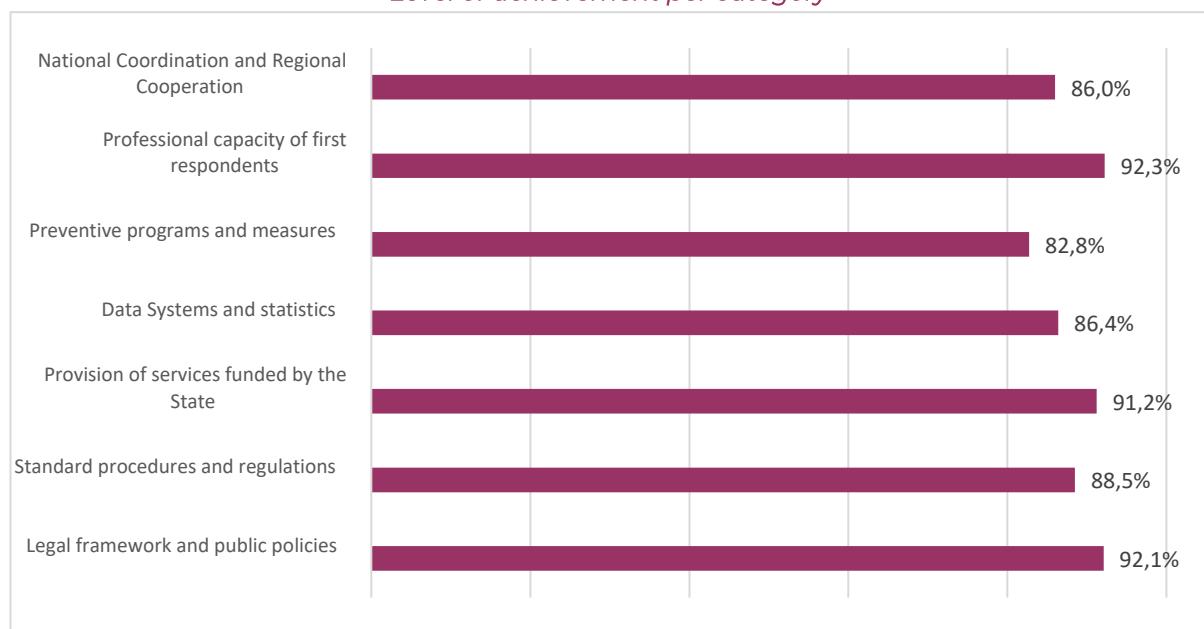
This report presents an assessment of Tunisia national response to Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) across seven key categories: legal framework and public policies, standard procedures and regulations, provision of services funded by the State, data systems and statistics, preventive programs and measures, professional capacity of first respondents, and national coordination and regional cooperation.

The overall results show consistently high levels of achievement, with notable variation across different areas. The strongest performance was recorded in the professional capacity of first respondents (92.3%) and the legal framework and public policies (92.1%), reflecting Tunisia's significant progress in developing legislation and institutional training to address VAWG. The provision of services funded by the State (91.2%) also scored highly, supported by the expansion of shelters, hotlines, and counselling services. Standard procedures and regulations (88.5%), data systems and statistics (86.4%), and national coordination and regional cooperation (86%) demonstrate solid progress but highlight areas where implementation and sustainability can be further strengthened.

Preventive programs and measures (82.8%) recorded the lowest achievement, pointing to the need for institutionalizing awareness campaigns, teacher training, and educational reforms aimed along-term sustainable change.

Together, these results underline Tunisia's strong commitment to combating VAWG while emphasizing the importance of consolidating preventive efforts, ensuring sustainable financing, and enhancing coordination mechanisms to secure a sustainable, more comprehensive and rights-based response.

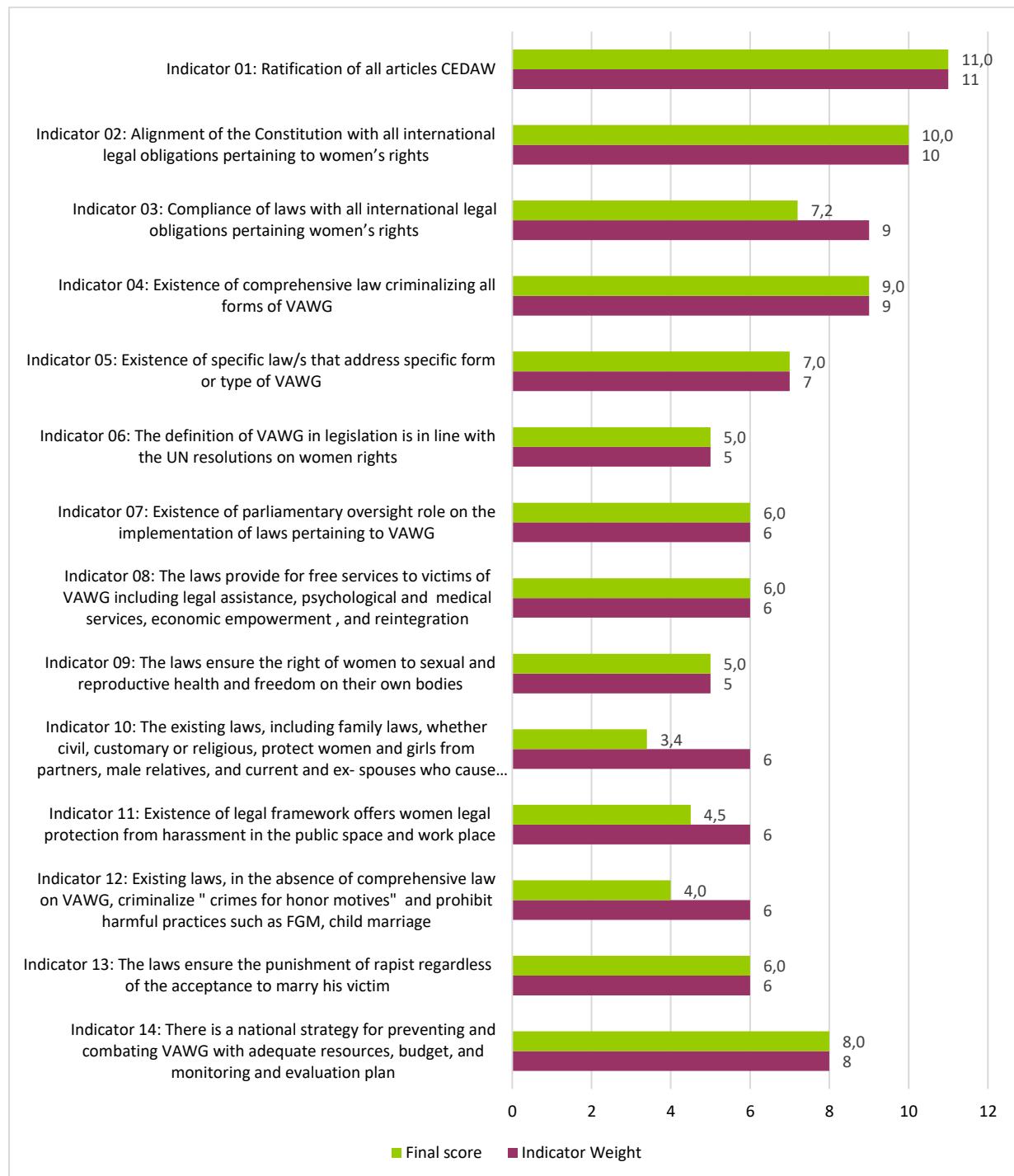
*Level of achievement per category*



## ❖ **First Category: Legal Framework and Public Policies**

Legal framework and public policies achieved 92.1%, reflecting strong legislative alignment with international standards and comprehensive national efforts to combat VAWG.

### *First Category: Legal Framework and Public Policies*



With regard to international conventions, all provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) have been ratified. For this reason, Indicator 1 scored 11/11. However, the Tunisian government declared that it would not take any regulatory or legislative decision in line with the requirements of this convention if such a decision were to contradict the provisions of the Tunisian Constitution.

Regarding the **Constitution**:

- a) The Tunisian Constitution recognizes the commitment to international treaties. Article 20 establishes the supremacy of ratified international treaties over national legislation, while maintaining their subordination to the Constitution itself. (Indicator 2 score of 10/10).
- b) The Constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. Article 23 states that all citizens, male and female, are equal in rights and duties and are equal before the law without any discrimination. The reasons for discrimination are not enumerated, which indicates a general and comprehensive prohibition of discrimination for any reason. Specific laws were issued to address some types of discrimination, such as Law No. 50 of 2018 on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, and Organic Law No. 58 of 2017 on the elimination of violence against women, which is based on gender discrimination.
- c) The Constitution contains specific provisions on women's rights and gender equality. Article 51 guarantees the representation of women in elected bodies and ensures equal opportunities for men and women in accessing all levels of responsibility in all fields, while Article 51 also guarantees gender parity in elected councils. Article 23 provides for equality between male and female citizens .
- d) The Constitution adopts affirmative measures to achieve equality in participation in public life. However, the Constitution does not obligate the State to achieve results but to exercise due diligence (this clause was removed in the 2022 Constitution). Under Article 51, the State seeks to achieve gender parity in elected councils. The Electoral Law contains provisions on gender parity in parliamentary and local elections. (Indicator 3 score 7.2/9).

Regarding **national legislation**, the main laws that remain inconsistent with international obligations on women's rights are as follows:

1. The Organic Law No. 58 of 2017 on the elimination of violence against women criminalizes sexual violence regardless of the perpetrator's relationship to the victim (Indicator 4 scored 9/9). However, it does not explicitly criminalize marital rape.
2. Under the Nationality Law, a Tunisian woman cannot automatically grant her nationality to her non-Tunisian husband in the same way a Tunisian man can: he must apply for naturalization.
3. Article 236 of the Penal Code criminalizes sexual acts outside marriage.

4. Article 231 of the Penal Code criminalises prostitution but while punishing clients, does not guarantee protection for women in prostitution.
5. The Personal Status Code provides that women's share of inheritance is less than that of men's.
6. The Labor Code contains legal restrictions on women's work at night, in mines, and in metal scrap work (Hence indicator 10 score 3.4/6).

Indicator 3 score of 7.2/9 reflects overall a partial compliance level with international legal obligations pertaining to women's rights.

**There is a comprehensive law to combat VAWG**, namely Organic Law No. 58 of 2017 on the elimination of violence against women. (Indicator 4 score 9/9) The law defines violence against women as "any physical, moral, sexual, or economic harm inflicted on a woman based on discrimination, causing her physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm, or pain, including threats of such harm, pressure, or deprivation of rights and freedoms, whether in public or private life." (Indicator 6 score 5/5). Furthermore, Article 8 of the law guarantees psychological and medical support for women victims of violence, while Article 13 guarantees their right to legal advice and mandatory legal aid (Indicator 8 score of 6/6).

Certain forms of VAWG are criminalized under different laws. (Indicator 5 score of 7/7) The Penal Code criminalizes rape under Article 227. In cases of rape of a minor under the age of 16, the penalty is life imprisonment. Female genital mutilation (FGM) is criminalised under Article 221. Sexual harassment is criminalised in general, whether it occurs in public or private spaces, or at the workplace under Article 226. The Anti-Trafficking Law (2016), the Penal Code, and the Child Protection Law (1995) criminalize the sexual exploitation of minors. Article 20 of the Child Protection Law considers sexual exploitation of children, male or female, as a situation that threatens their physical or psychological health and well-being. (Indicator 12 score 4/6 and Indicator 11 score 4.5/6).

Article 227 also considers lack of consent to be established in all cases where the victim is under 16 years of age. Incest against a child and the rape of a child under 16 are punishable by life imprisonment (Indicator 13: 6/6). Article 207 of the Penal Code was repealed in 1993, and the provisions that reduced sentences for so-called "honour crimes" against women caught engaging in sexual relations outside marriage no longer apply. (Indicator 13 score 6/6) The Personal Status Code prohibits polygamy.

Parliament does not play an oversight role over legal awareness activities related to laws combating VAWG. However, there is a Parliamentary Committee whose mandate includes women's issues. (Indicator 7 score 6/6).

Various laws address sexual and reproductive health, including family planning services, medical care, and the provision of contraceptives. Abortion is permitted during the first three months of pregnancy by a legally practicing physician in a hospital, health facility, or licensed clinic. It is also permitted after three months if continuing the pregnancy would cause harm to the woman's physical or mental health, or if the foetus is expected to have a serious illness or deficiency. (Indicator 9 score of 5/5).

Protection for women and girls from abusive partners during marriage and divorce remains incomplete under current laws, as marital rape is not explicitly criminalized (Indicator 10 score of 3,4/6)

#### National strategies:

The Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly updated the National Strategy for the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women at all stages of life. The strategy covers four areas of intervention: data collection, provision of appropriate services, social mobilization and behaviour change, and advocacy to ensure implementation of laws on combating VAWG. For this reason, indicator 14 scored 8/8.

The Ministry has adopted a national strategy to combat violence against women within the family and society since 2008. The strategy was developed through a participatory approach involving various government bodies and civil society organizations (CSOs). It aimed to review and implement laws related to violence prevention, leading to the drafting and adoption of the comprehensive law on the elimination of violence against women (Organic Law No. 58). The strategy was reviewed in 2012 and updated in 2021 to align with the provisions of this law.

Under Tunisia's public policy, a specific budget was allocated for combating violence against women, including a dedicated budget for the national strategy. Public funding was also allocated under partnership agreements with CSOs active in combating VAWG to operate shelters and train staff, especially shelter managers.

#### Main Gaps

- Partial constitutional guarantees on gender equality after 2022 amendments.
- Marital rape is not explicitly criminalized despite the Organic Law No. 58 of 2017.
- Discriminatory provisions remain in inheritance, nationality, and labour laws.
- Child marriage still allowed with judicial approval.

#### Recommendations

- Strengthen constitutional guarantees on women's rights and equality.
- Explicitly criminalize marital rape and child marriage.
- Reform inheritance, nationality, and labour laws to ensure full gender equality.

## ❖ **Second Category: Standard Procedures and Guidelines**

Standard procedures and regulations achieved 88.5%, indicating robust institutional frameworks and operational mechanisms for prevention and response to VAWG.

### *Second Category: Standard Procedures and Guidelines*



## **Justice**

There are procedures in place to facilitate women and girls' access to justice in cases of violence, including reporting systems such as the police, courts, the hotline established by the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, and hospitals. Article 22 of the Organic Law No. 58 of 2017 on eliminating violence against women stipulates that the Public Prosecution must appoint one or more officers to receive reports of cases of violence against women. (Indicator 15 score 12/12)

Once a report of VAWG is received, standard follow-up procedures are initiated. These include arresting the perpetrator where appropriate and referring them to the courts and public prosecutors to initiate investigations. Necessary measures are taken regarding reported cases according to relevant laws and procedures, including investigation, prosecution, and punishment of perpetrators, wherever the violence occurred. Article 25 of Organic Law No. 58 stipulates that any police officer from specialized units to combat violence against women who forces a victim to withdraw her complaint or change her testimony shall be punished with imprisonment of one to six months. Withdrawing the complaint does not stop prosecution or trial. However, there is no information available on the number of cases in which the necessary legal procedures are taken compared to the number of reported cases. (Indicator 16 score 7.7/9)

There is no specific recording system for the proportion of VAWG cases adjudicated compared to those reported. However, annual reports for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 issued by the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly include the number of complaints received by specialized units for combating violence against women and children, as well as the number of VAWG cases archived annually by the courts. (Indicator 17 score 7/7)

## **Police**

There are specialized units for investigating crimes against women and children. Fifty-eight of these units operate under the General Directorate of the National Guard, and seventy under the General Directorate of National Security. These units were established to receive and process complaints of violence against women and children and to coordinate with other ministries to facilitate the investigation process. According to Article 24 of the Organic Law No. 58, special units should be established in every police department to receive complaints from women victims of violence in general. (Indicator 18 score 8/8)

The specialized investigation units under both the National Guard and National Security have adopted an approach that considers the different needs of women and men in hearing witnesses. Victims are informed of their rights and given the opportunity to speak freely, with all details of their complaints recorded. These units also provide witness protection and have established coordination mechanisms with other service providers. (Indicator 19 score 8/8)

Five sectoral protocols have been signed between the Ministries of Health, Justice, Social Affairs, the Security apparatus, and the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly. These protocols set out principles and best practices for supporting women victims of violence. A joint framework agreement has also been established between all sectors on victim care, signed by all relevant ministries. Accordingly, indicator 20 scored 8/8.

Article 4 of the Organic Law No. 58 sets out the principles of victim care. Article 39 sets general obligations for all care providers, while Articles 25 and 26 establish specific obligations for specialized units providing victim care. Procedures also allow women victims of violence to communicate with female police officers.

A National Authority for Combating Trafficking in Persons has been established under Organic Law No. 61 of 2016 on the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons. The Authority is responsible for developing a national strategy to combat trafficking in persons, receiving trafficking reports and referring them to the competent judicial authorities, and establishing a dedicated database. It operates under gender-sensitive guidelines, as stated in Article 60: “The National Authority for Combating Trafficking in Persons, in coordination with relevant entities and structures, provides necessary social assistance to victims to facilitate their reintegration into social life, and provides them with housing within available resources. These measures take into account the age and specific needs of victims.”

Article 23 of the same law provides for harsher penalties for trafficking if the victim is a pregnant woman.

Additionally, in 2018, the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons established a national referral mechanism for trafficking victims in Tunisia, to identify, protect, and refer trafficking victims. It also published a guidance manual on how to identify trafficking victims and issued a publication titled “National Mechanisms for Referring Trafficking Victims.” (Indicator 21 score 6/6 and Indicator 22 score 7/7)

## Health

There are systems obligating healthcare providers to care for and/or refer victims of VAWG. Article 8 of the Organic Law No. 58 stipulates that the Ministry of Health must include programs in medical and paramedical curricula to address VAWG, and train healthcare personnel at all levels to detect, assess, and examine all forms of VAWG, as well as to care for victims and their dependent children. (Indicator 23 score 9/9)

Article 14 of the same law states that any person, including those bound by confidentiality, must report acts of violence against women to the competent authorities immediately upon discovery or witnessing.

The multi-sectoral protocol for supporting women victims of violence within the health sector includes services provided by other actors and mechanisms for referring victims between sectors. The intersectoral framework agreement clarifies how victims are referred from one actor to another.

A joint circular between the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly and the Ministry of Health enables women and girls victims of violence to obtain a free initial medical certificate within 48 hours. This legal document establishes evidence of harm caused by violence for legal proceedings, and exempts victims from paying fees in advance, while granting them payment facilities.

There is no unit within the Ministry of Health responsible for coordinating the health sector's response to VAWG. However, the Organic Law No. 58 assigns the Ministry of Health responsibility for detecting and assessing all forms of violence against women. The Ministry has signed cooperation protocols with various ministries and bodies to receive and refer cases of VAWG. However, not all health services are provided free of charge to all women. Hence, indicator 24 scored 4.3/6.

## Education

A mechanism exists to monitor compulsory education for girls. Article 4 of Law No. 9-2008 on School Education stipulates that education is free and compulsory for all citizens and obliges the State to ensure that all children benefit from this right. Under this law, compulsory education covers ages 6 to 16. Article 51 of the 2022 Constitution obliges the State to ensure equal opportunities between men and women in all fields and to commit to ending violence against women and girls. In 2014, the Ministry of Education prepared a special monitoring report containing indicators for evaluating access, participation, equality, equity, and the efficiency and quality of education provided by the State, including compulsory education for girls and boys. (Indicator 25 score 9/9)

There are no specific regulations or procedures to prevent sexual harassment in education. However, some articles of the Penal Code impose harsher penalties for assault against minors. Article 51 of the 2022 Constitution states that the State must take measures to combat VAWG in all fields, including education. Article 7 of the Organic Law No. 58 contains provisions obligating the Ministries of Education, Higher Education, and Vocational Training and Employment to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat VAWG in educational institutions. Article 39 requires anyone responsible for protecting women from violence, including education sector workers, to respond immediately to any request for help or protection made by a victim. Additionally, the Ministry of Education introduced "sexual education" classes in several primary and preparatory schools in the 2020/2021 academic year, with the aim of increasing awareness and reducing sexual harassment in schools. However, due to weak procedures, indicator 26 scored only 2/6.

There are no specific systems or procedures to address VAWG in youth centres, clubs, or sports stadiums. Article 17 of the Organic Law No. 58 criminalizes harassment in public spaces, which may apply to these settings. In general, the Penal Code imposes harsher penalties for crimes committed against minors. (Hence indicator 27 score of only 1.5/6.)

## Main Gaps

- Absence of registration system to track the reported VAWG cases.
- Weak procedures and implementation of anti-harassment measures in education and youth institutions.

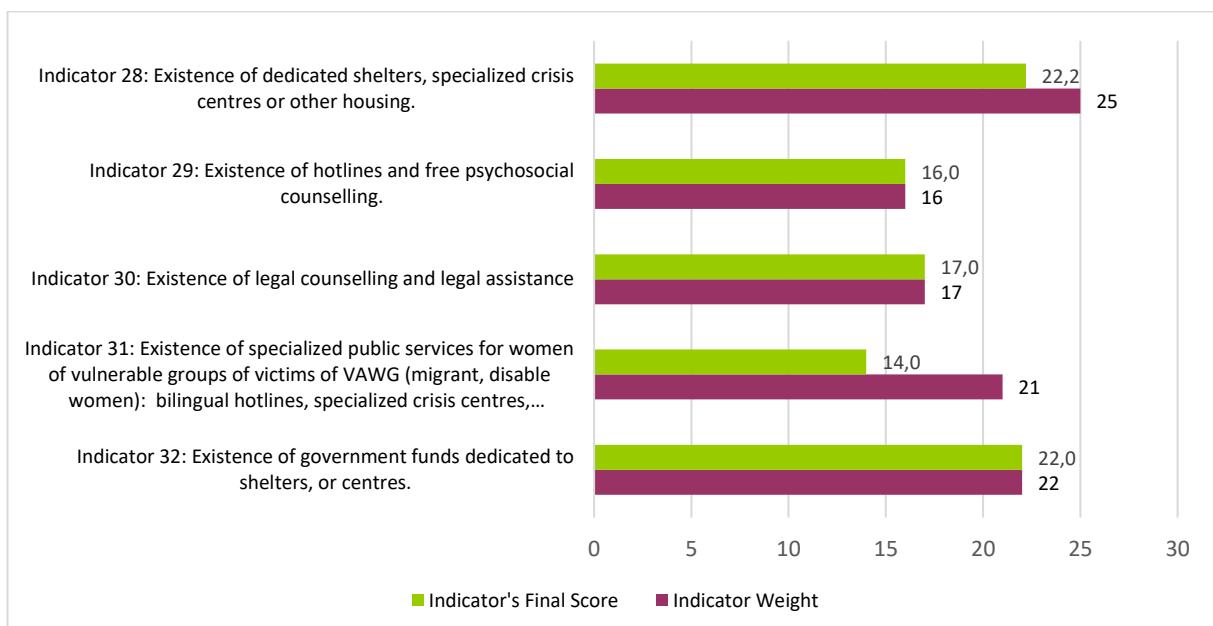
## Recommendations

- Develop a national case management and tracking system across justice and police.
- Expand anti-harassment mechanisms and strengthen the procedures in schools, universities, youth centres, and sports venues.

### ❖ ***Third Category: Provision of Services Funded by the State***

Provision of services funded by the State achieved 91.2%, demonstrating a high level of government commitment to ensuring accessible and specialized support services for survivors.

#### *Third Category: Provision of Services Funded by the State*



Specialized services are currently provided to women victims of violence in seventeen shelters managed under the supervision of the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly. The Ministry aims to provide at least one shelter in each Tunisian governorate by the end of 2024. In addition, the Ministry established the first

government-run listening and guidance centre for women in 2023. For this reason, indicator 28 scored 22/25.

Psychological and social counselling for women survivors is provided in service centres affiliated with the Ministry of Social Affairs, in the regional offices of the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, in shelters, listening and reception centres, as well as in hospitals and through existing hotlines such as the Green Line (1899), established by the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly. Hence, indicator 29 score of 16/16.

The Regional Delegation for Women and Family Affairs, under the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, provides legal counselling. The Ministry of Justice also provides legal assistance to women victims of violence. (Indicator 30 score 17/17)

The government allocates financial support to the 17 government-run shelters, funded by the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly. (Indicator 32 score 22/22)

By contrast, specialized public services for vulnerable groups of women such as migrants or women with disabilities remain less developed, which is reflected in the lower result for indicator 31, which scored 14/21.

## Main Gaps

- Shelters are not yet available in all governorates despite expansion plans.
- Specialized services for vulnerable groups (migrants, disabled women) remain limited.

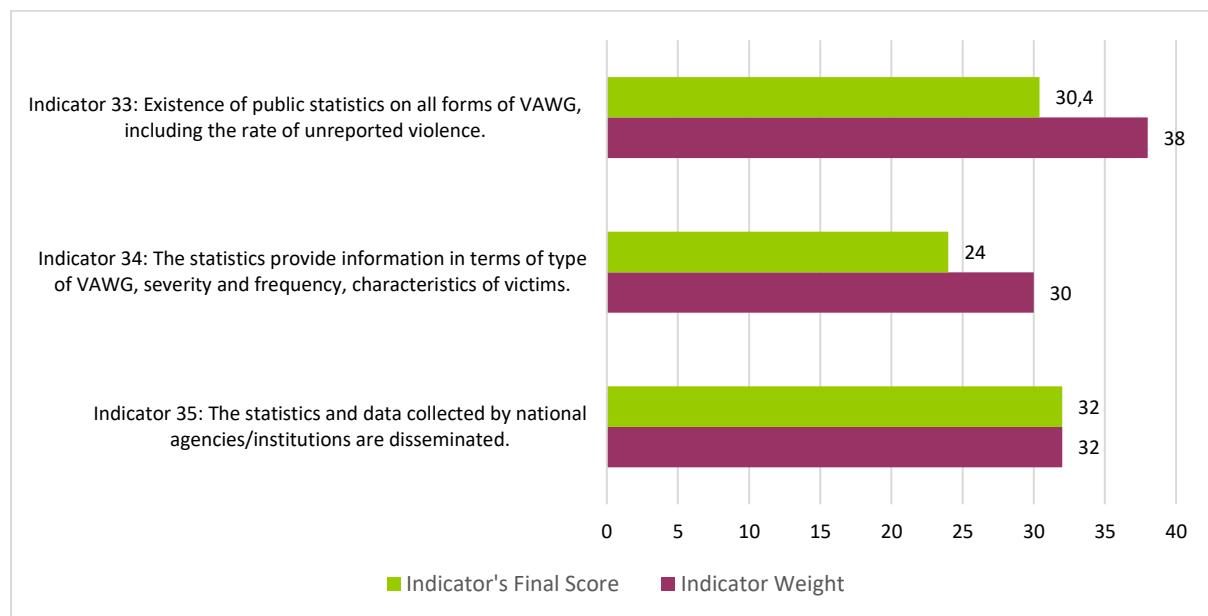
## Recommendations

- Complete nationwide coverage of shelters with standardized service packages and ensure their funding.
- Expand specialized services for vulnerable groups, including trained staff and accessible facilities.

#### ❖ **Fourth Category: Data System and Statistics**

Data systems and statistics achieved 86.4%, showing consistent progress in data collection and dissemination mechanisms that support evidence-based policymaking.

##### *Fourth Category: Data System and Statistics*



There are regular and up-to-date general statistics to measure the prevalence of all forms of VAWG, including the rate of unreported cases. The Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly publish statistics on VAWG. However, these statistics do not cover all forms of violence or their prevalence rates. For this reason, indicator 33 scored 30.4/38.

Partial statistics are available regarding the type and severity of VAWG, as well as the characteristics of victims. However, there are no statistics on the frequency of violence, the characteristics of perpetrators, or the follow-up of victims' complaints. Hence, indicator 34 score of 24/30. By contrast, dissemination of the data that is collected is consistent through official channels, which explains indicator 35 score of 32/32.

#### **Main Gaps**

- Data collection remains fragmented and not comprehensive.

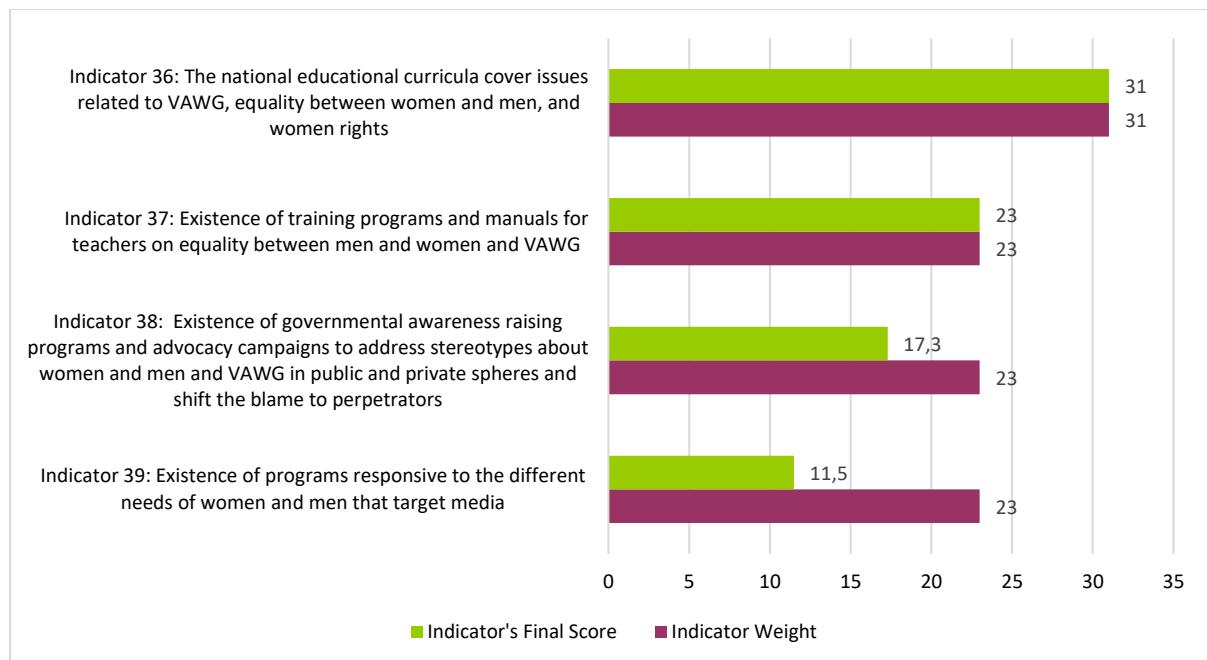
#### **Recommendations**

- Broaden data collection to include all forms of VAWG, frequency, perpetrators, and outcomes.

## ❖ ***Fifth Category: Preventive Programs and Measures***

Preventive programs and measures achieved 82.8%, highlighting continuous investment in awareness campaigns and education programs promoting gender equality.

### *Fifth Category: Preventive Programs and Measures*



The national education curricula cover topics related to VAWG, gender equality, and women's rights. The Ministry of Education introduced sex education classes in a number of primary and preparatory schools during the 2020/2021 academic year. These classes aim to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of sexual and reproductive health and mental health, as well as to raise awareness about mutual respect and the risks of VAWG. (Indicator 36 score 31/31)

There are no institutional programs available for teachers on gender equality and VAWG. Indicator 37 still scored 23/23 due to the existence of manuals, but sustainability and institutionalization remain limited.

Some relevant ministries, particularly the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, organize annual awareness campaigns on specific occasions such as the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, International Women's Day, or National Women's Day (August 13). Awareness campaigns are also implemented in partnership with civil society and supported by donors as part of specific programs and projects. This explains why indicator 38 scored 17.3/23, while indicator 39, which assesses the responsiveness of programs to diverse needs and their use of media, scored only 11.5/23.

## Main Gaps

- National training programs for teachers on VAWG and gender equality are not institutionalized.
- Awareness campaigns are occasional rather than continuous, funded by international donors.
- Media programming is not sufficiently implemented.

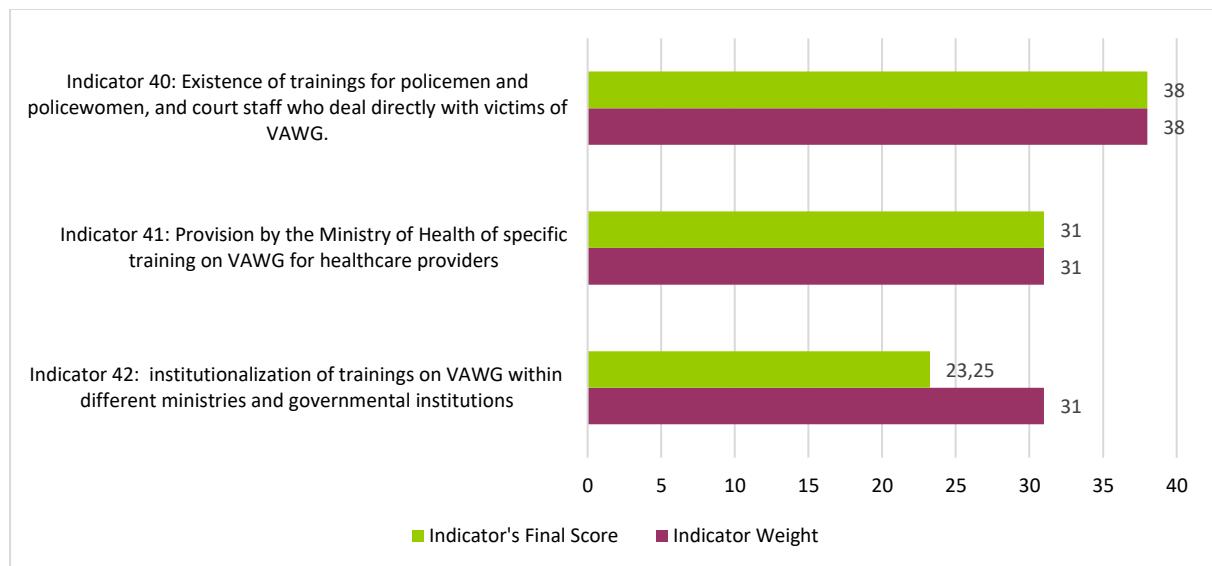
## Recommendations

- Institutionalize nationwide teacher training programs with monitoring mechanisms.
- Develop long-term State awareness strategy beyond 16 Days of Activism and other occasions.
- Expand media campaigns that address stereotypes and are tailored to different groups.

### ❖ ***Sixth Category: Professional Capacity of First Respondents***

Professional capacity of first respondents achieved 92.3%, marking significant advancement in training and preparedness of police, judicial, and health professionals to handle VAWG cases.

#### *Sixth Category: Professional Capacity of First Respondents*



The Center for Research, Studies, Documentation, and Information on Women (CREDIF), in cooperation with the Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, organized specialized training sessions for male and female police officers on the implementation of the Organic Law No. 58 of 2017 on the elimination of violence against women. (Indicator 40 score 38/38)

The Organic Law No. 58 stipulates the integration of specific curricula into the programs of medical and nursing students. The Ministry of Health, in partnership with the National Office for Family and Population, has worked to complete a training program for health sector workers, particularly those in emergency departments, to strengthen their capacities in detecting and assessing all forms of VAWG, as well as examining, treating, and following up on cases. Awareness sessions were also held on the Law No. 58 and on care provision and coordination mechanisms across various fields. (Indicator 41 score 31/31)

The National Office for Family and Population organized more than 90 training courses on VAWG at the regional level, benefiting more than 2,000 medical and paramedical staff, as well as six workshops for over 165 emergency medical staff. Additionally, more than 30 medical personnel benefited from a training-of-trainers course on providing care for women victims of violence.

Articles 8, 9, and 10 of the Organic Law No. 58 require the Ministries of Interior, Health, and Social Affairs to provide staff training on combating VAWG. Institutionalization efforts have begun within the Ministry of Interior, which conducts training for judicial police officers on the necessary skills and knowledge to deal with women victims. However, since institutionalization is still partial, indicator 42 scored 23.25/31.

## Main Gaps

- Institutionalization of training remains partial and uneven across ministries.
- Health sector training is extensive but not yet mandatory at all levels.

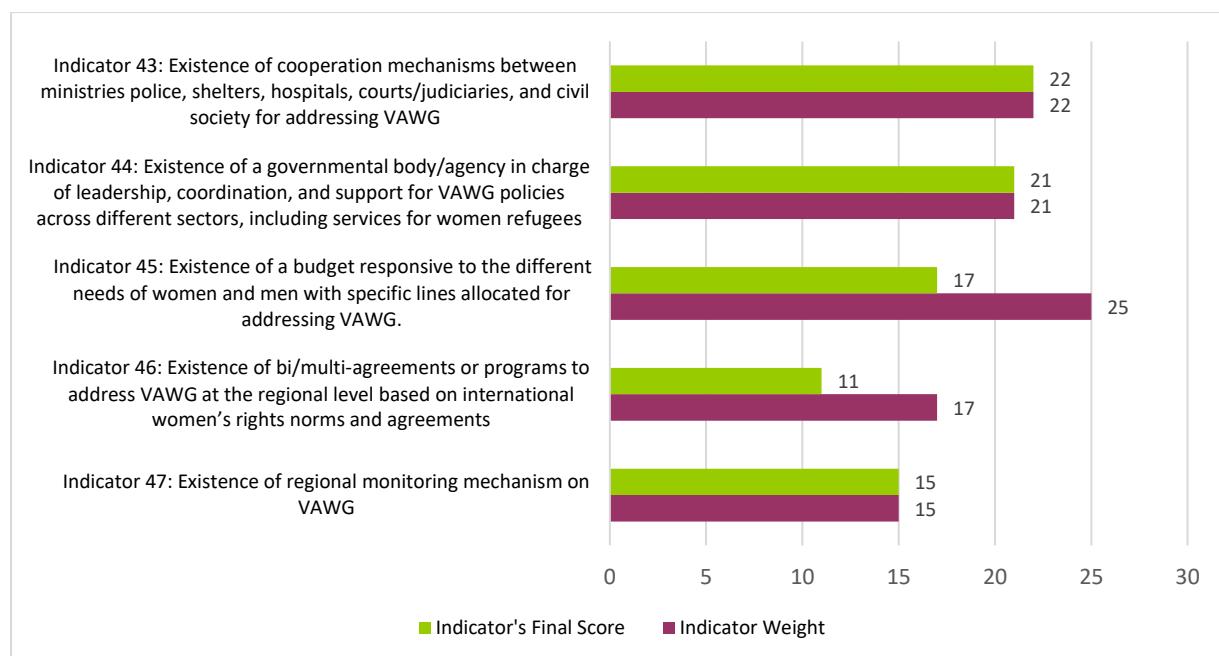
## Recommendations

- Institutionalize mandatory, on-going training for all first responders (police, judiciary, health, social services).
- Expand Ministry of Health training to all medical and nursing curricula.

## ❖ **Seventh Category: National Coordination and Regional Cooperation**

National coordination and regional cooperation achieved 86.0%, reflecting well-established inter-ministerial collaboration and engagement in regional initiatives to address VAWG.

### *Seventh Category: National Coordination and Regional Cooperation*



There are cooperation mechanisms between the police, hospitals, and ministries. Multi-sectoral protocols have been signed to protect women victims, including the Ministries of Health, Justice and Social Affairs, Interior, and Family, Women, Children and the Elderly. These sectoral protocols include specific procedures for each sector in combating VAWG, in addition to mechanisms for coordination between sectors. (Indicator 43 score 22/22)

In 2019, 24 regional coordination bodies to combat VAWG were established at the regional level. These bodies include representatives from the ministries of justice, interior, health, social affairs, and family, women, children and elderly, as well as specialized CSOs operating in the concerned areas. Coordination is ensured among the relevant ministries, such as the Ministries of Health, Justice, Social Affairs, Interior, and Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, within the framework of multi-sectoral protocols adopted to implement Article 12 of the Organic Law No. 58 and Article 8 of the Joint Intersectoral Agreement for Victim Care. (Indicator 44 scored 21/21)

The Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly coordinates among various actors and establishes mechanisms for partnership, support, and coordination with CSOs in accordance with Article 12 of the Organic Law No. 58 and Article 8 of the Joint

Intersectoral Agreement for Victim Care. Despite these efforts, the lack of a fully gender-responsive budget with dedicated lines for VAWG explains why indicator 45 scored 17/25.

At the regional level, Tunisia participates in frameworks such as the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM). The Ministerial Declaration of the Fifth UfM Ministerial Conference on "Strengthening the Role of Women in Society" includes four priority areas, one of which is combating VAWG. The League of Arab States established the Arab Women's Committee, which in February 2020 launched a five-year strategy to define national priorities in Arab countries in line with the Beijing Platform for Action. Additionally, the Arab League launched the "Cairo Declaration for Arab Women: The Arab Women Development Agenda 2030", adopted in 2017. The declaration integrates gender equality into environmental and climate action and disaster response, and includes specific results aimed at eliminating VAWG. Tunisia also participates in informal regional networks as the Coalition of Arab Women Parliamentarians to Combat Violence against Women, which aims to raise awareness among parliamentarians and the public, place VAWG among legislative priorities, and promote joint actions among parliamentarians in cooperation with relevant CSOs. The Arab Women Parliamentarians Network for Equality (Ra'edat) advocates for gender equality and combating VAWG and calls for the adoption of comprehensive laws in the Arab region. Despite these commitments, the absence of bilateral agreements specifically addressing VAWG is reflected in Indicator 46 score of 11/17.

Except for the Regional Index on VAWG, there is no other regional monitoring mechanism on VAWG. Tunisia as a member of the UfM follows up on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Women's Rights (2022, Madrid). In terms of monitoring of the Declaration, the ministers of the UfM States in the 5th UfM Declaration showed willingness to "Pay particular attention to well-functioning monitoring processes in the four priority areas of the Cairo Declaration well as to the quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the impact of actions undertaken." (Indicator 47 score of 15/15).

## Main Gaps

- No gender-responsive national budget with dedicated VAWG lines.
- Limited bilateral agreements specifically targeting VAWG.
- No regional monitoring mechanism on VAWG.

## Recommendations

- Adopt a gender-responsive budget with specific allocations for VAWG prevention and response.
- Strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation frameworks to enhance monitoring and accountability.



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المرصد الإقليمي حول العنف ضد النساء والبنات