

Iraq: An Overview

WIMC Iraq was fielded from March 8th -14th of 2013. The achieved sample size was n = 1096 of face-to-face interviews, which includes a booster sample of 99 Kurdish women. The data was weighted by gender and ethnicity. The topics included women’s rights, voting patterns, and perceptions of rights. Data from Iraq in 2007 (n = 1093) and 2010 (n = 1083) are also available.

Sample and Research Design

The sampling methodology was a multistage random sample of female adults age 18+. The sample is stratified by province and districts are selected through a proportional to population systematic random sample (PPS). Districts were further stratified by sub-district and urban-rural status. A random walk method with a fixed sampling interval was performed from a starting point. Interviewers use the last birthday method to select individual respondents within an eligible household.

Voting and Government Representation

There is a relatively strong voting tradition among Iraqi females. 58% of eligible female voters reported that they voted in the last local election or referendum, while 29% reported that they did not.

Women who do not vote have a stronger perception that the government represents political parties rather than some other group. 19% of women who did not vote in the last election believed the government represents political parties, while only 13% of voting women believed this. A plurality of women in each group believed the government does represent the public interest.

Permissible Activities for Women

When asked if they supported women engaging in the following activities, a majority of women reported that they supported each: 1) women driving, 2) women having jobs outside the

household, and 3) women serving in a government position.

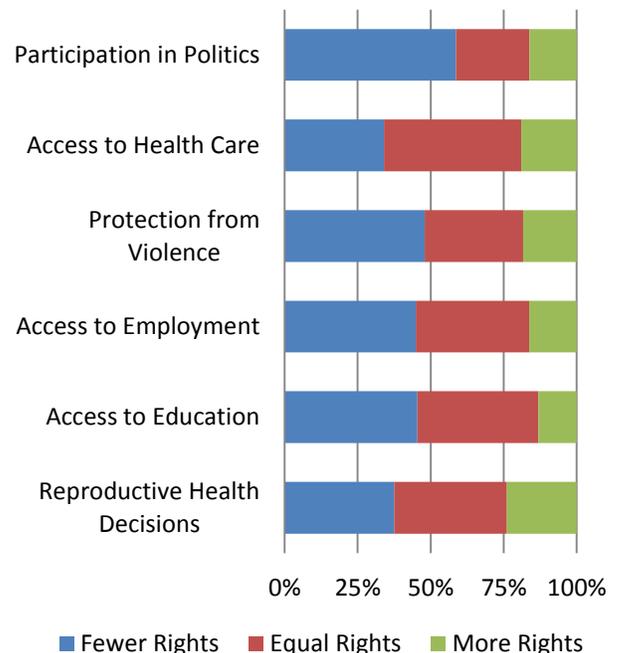
Of the three activities, women were most supportive of women serving in a government position. 73% of women said they strongly or somewhat supported women serving in government.

Perceptions of Rights

When asked if women had fewer rights, equal rights, or more rights relative to men on a range of issues, most women believed they had fewer rights in the area of political participation. 58% of women believed they had fewer rights than men in this area.

There was no issue about which a majority of women believed they had more rights than men, but of all the issues mentioned, the most women believed they had more rights than men in regard to decisions about reproductive health. 23% of women believed they had more rights than men in this area.

Female Rights Relative to Men



For more information on how to participate or access the data please contact wimc@d3systems.com

