



Developing and Validating Measures of Women's Economic Rights in Socially Restrictive and Conservative Environments

American Evaluation Association 2017

Who:

Afghan Center for Socioeconomic Research (ACSOR)
and UN Women

Where:

Kabul, Paktia, Nangarhar, Takhar, Balkh, Herat, and
Kandahar

When:

March 2016

Why:

Establish a baseline of Afghans' knowledge,
attitudes, and practices (KAP) of women's economic
rights to inform UN Women programing in
Afghanistan.



Evaluation Objectives

Quantify

Knowledge of women's economic rights

Attitudes towards women's economic rights

Practices of women's economic rights

Provide

Information to design effective and sustainable **economic empowerment interventions** in Afghanistan

Background

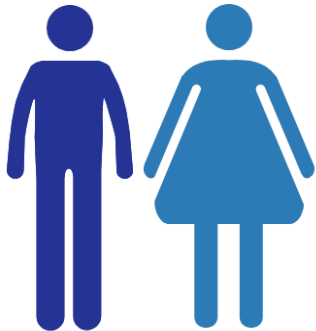
Baseline Assessment of KAP

Gender indicators often neglect the perspective of the beneficiary.

Baseline assessment designed to **identify domains within women's economic empowerment unique to conservative environments** where women's participation in the economy is limited

Demographics

68% Total Surveyed 32%



80% Married 76%

4,006

Total Respondents



3% University
8% High School
26% 1st – 11th Grade

32% No formal education

35

average years old



18%: 10,001 – 15,000 Afs

Income

31%: 5,001 – 10,000 Afs

32%: 2,001 – 5,000 Afs

7%: <2,000 Afs



Quantitative interview in Kabul, Afghanistan (March 27th, 2016)

Source: ACSOR

Analysis

Composite Measures

Developed to understand theoretical models within the context of women's economic rights

Used **principal component analysis (PCA)** and **internal reliability testing** to identify which question items from the quantitative survey represented valid measures of a given concept

Analysis

Principal Component Analysis

Dimension reduction

Reliability Testing

Consistency or **stability** of an assessment over time, over forms of a test, or over items within a test

Yields a reliability coefficient, Cronbach's alpha, which measures **internal consistency reliability** within an instrument (0-1)

Analysis

KAP Indicators

Consist of varying number of items extracted from PCA

Scale ranges from agreement/support to disagreement/opposition (lower to higher numerical values on 4-point scale)

Summed respondent's answer to x number of questions for measuring attitudes (Strongly agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly disagree)

Analysis

KAP Indicators

Composite Indicator ²⁹ (Scale range)

KAP survey questions

Attitudes towards female political participation (3-12)

Please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose each of the following:

- Women's right to nominate a candidate for elections.
- Women's right to vote for a candidate in elections.
- Women's right to hold a seat in the National Assembly.

Attitudes towards female mobility and freedom of movement (6-24)

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that a woman needs permission to:

- Go to a local market to make daily household purchases.
- Visit a health centre for herself.
- Take her child to a health centre.
- Visit her relatives or friends in the neighbourhood.
- Work outside the home.
- Work inside the home for a wage (i.e., income-generating activity such as carpet making, embroidery, etc.).

Analysis

Principal Component Analysis

COMPOSITE INDICATOR 1 – ATTITUDES TOWARDS FEMALE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Total variance explained

Component	Initial eigenvalues			Extraction sums of squared loadings		
	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %
1	2.252	75.071	75.071	2.252	75.071	75.071
2	0.387	12.887	87.958			
3	0.361	12.042	100			

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Component Matrix

Component	1
Q18a	0.872
Q18b	0.864
Q18c	0.864

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

COMPOSITE INDICATOR 2 – ATTITUDES TOWARDS FEMALE MOBILITY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Total variance explained

Component	Initial eigenvalues			Extraction sums of squared loadings		
	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %
1	2.916	48.6	48.6	2.916	48.6	48.6
2	0.976	16.267	64.867			
3	0.693	11.548	76.415			
4	0.632	10.538	86.952			
5	0.466	7.762	94.714			
6	0.317	5.286	100			

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Component Matrix

Component	1
Q7a	0.675
Q7b	0.799
Q7c	0.757
Q7d	0.708
Q7e	0.568
Q7f	0.651

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.



Quantitative interview in Kabul, Afghanistan (March 11th, 2016)

Source: ACSOR

Regional Variations

in Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices

Results demonstrate statistically significant ($p < .05$) variations in attitudes and perceptions across Afghanistan.

KAP Survey Composite Indicators*

Attitudes Towards Female Political Participation

Attitudes Towards Female Mobility and Freedom of Movement

Perceptions of Female Education

Perceptions of Female Decision-Making Power

Attitudes Towards Female Labor Force Participation

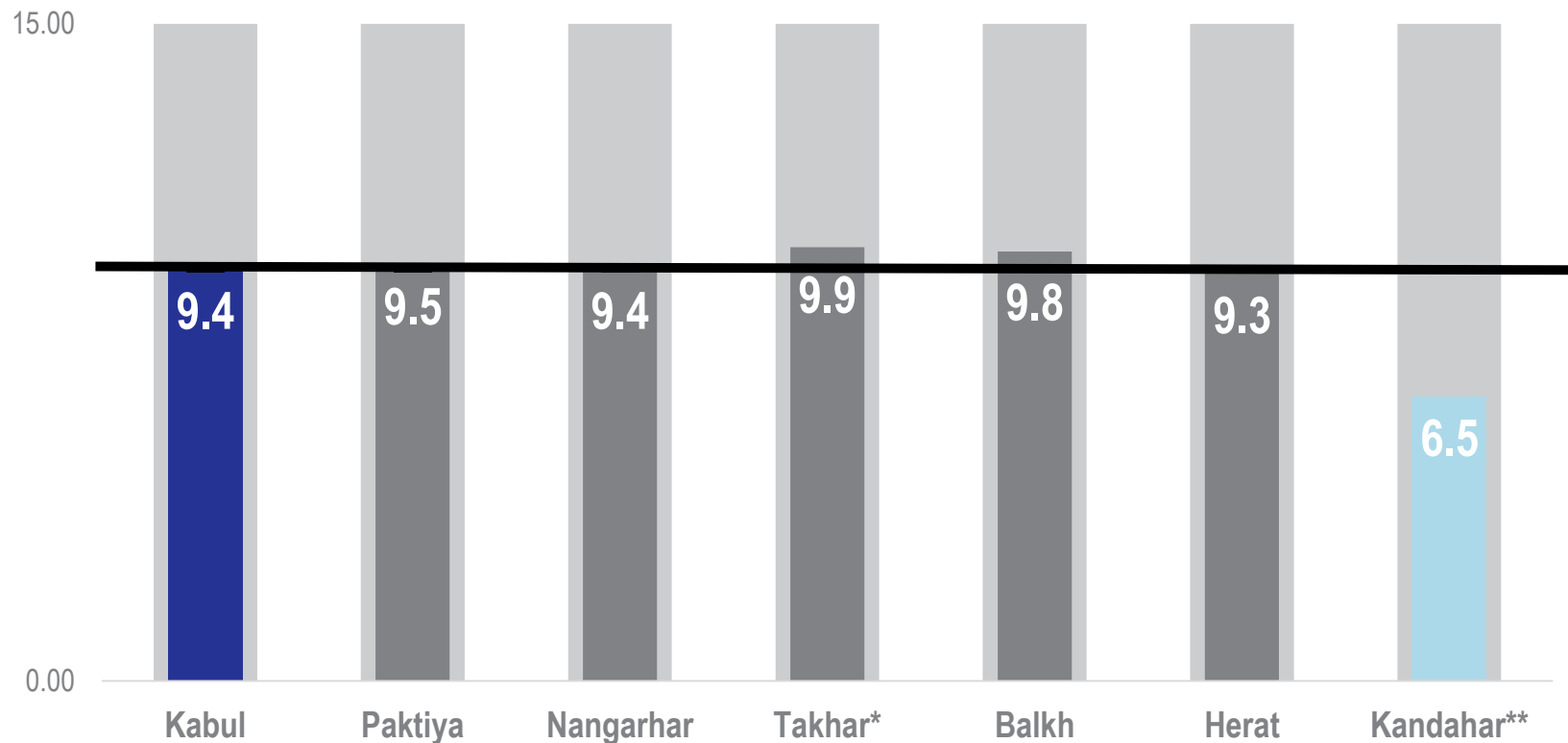
For all five indicators, results show that attitudes and perceptions are significantly **more conservative in southern province of Kandahar**.

*Composite indicators were constructed using principal component analysis and internal reliability testing to identify which question items from the quantitative survey represented valid measures of a given concept.

Attitudes

towards Female Political Participation

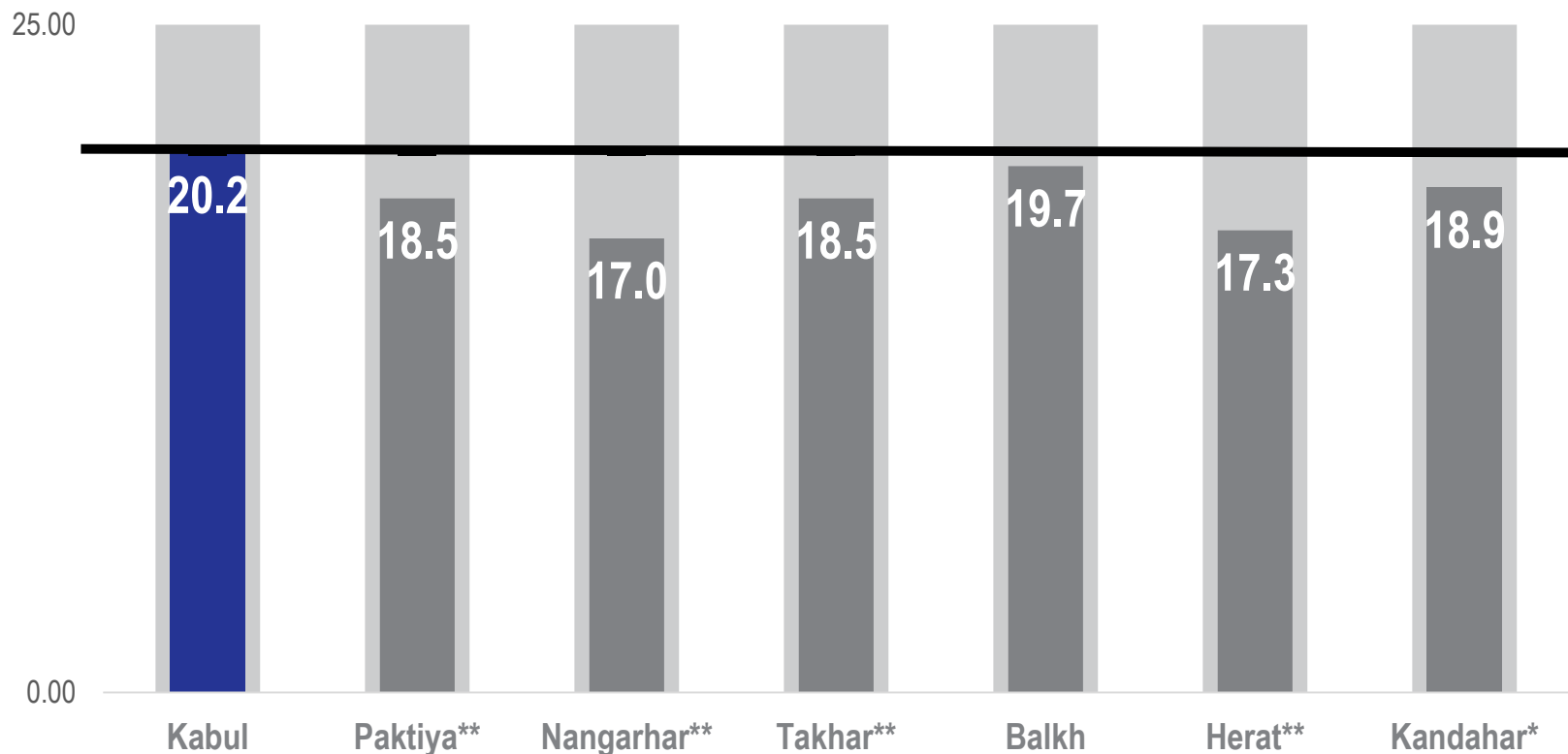
With **Kabul** serving as the **reference group**, respondents in **Kandahar** expressed the lowest amount of support for female political participation.



Attitudes

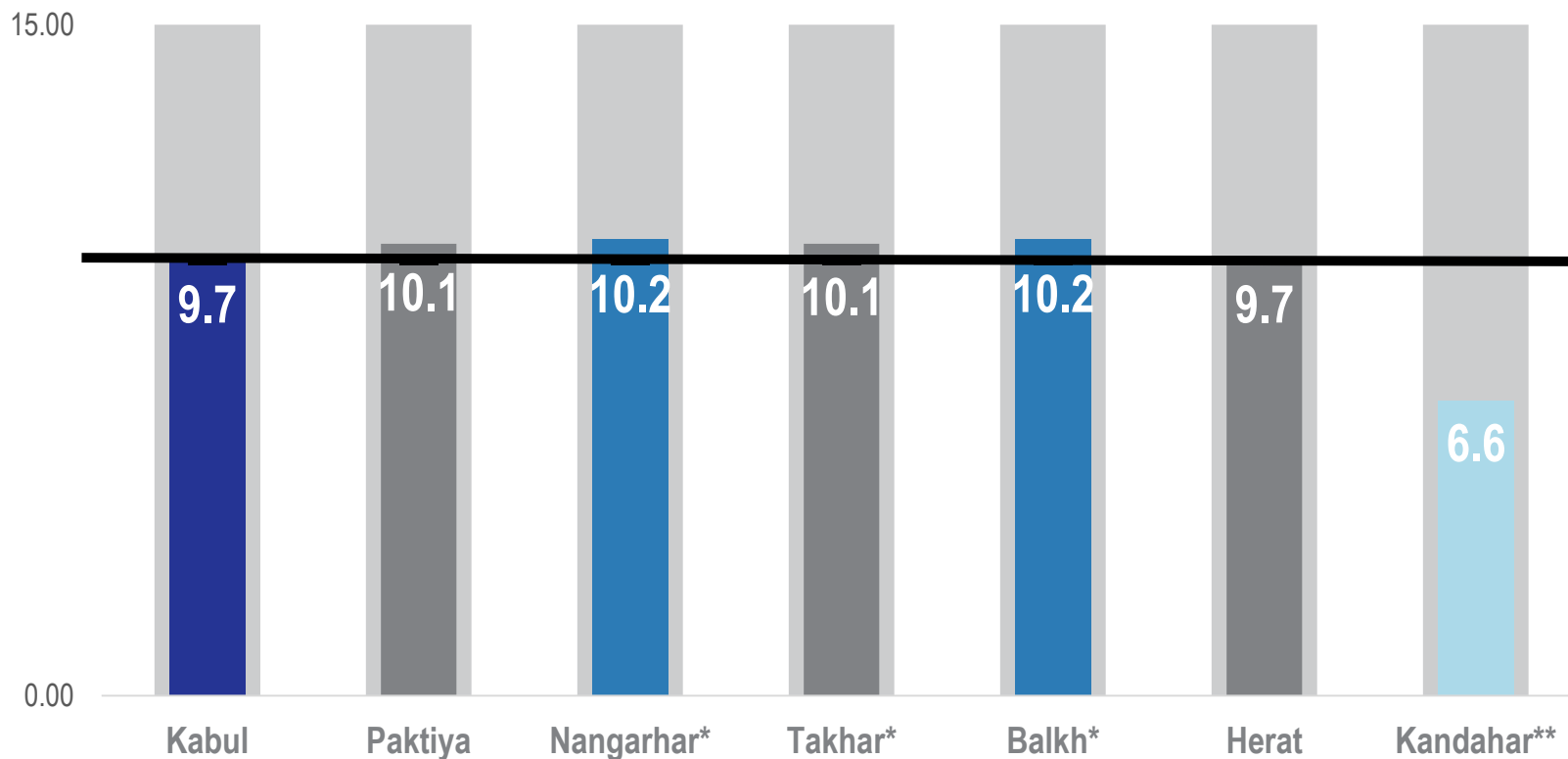
towards Female Mobility and Freedom of Movement

Respondents in **Kabul** were more likely to agree that women need permission to travel outside the home for various reasons like shopping or visiting a health clinic.



Perceptions of Female Education

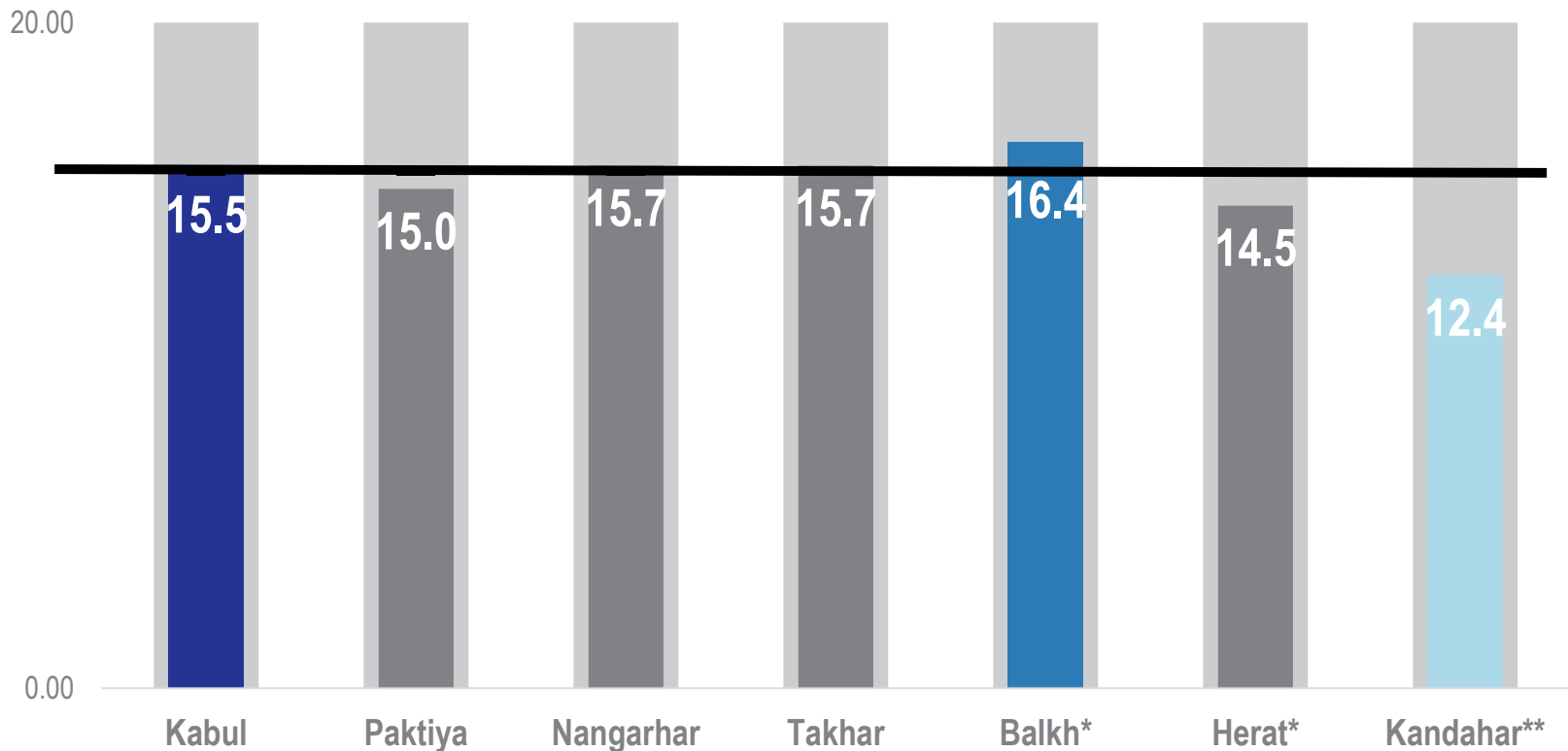
Respondents in **Kandahar** were less likely to agree with the importance of girl's education, while respondents in **Balkh** and **Nangarhar** demonstrated the greatest level of agreement with girl's education.



Perceptions

of Female Decision-Making Power

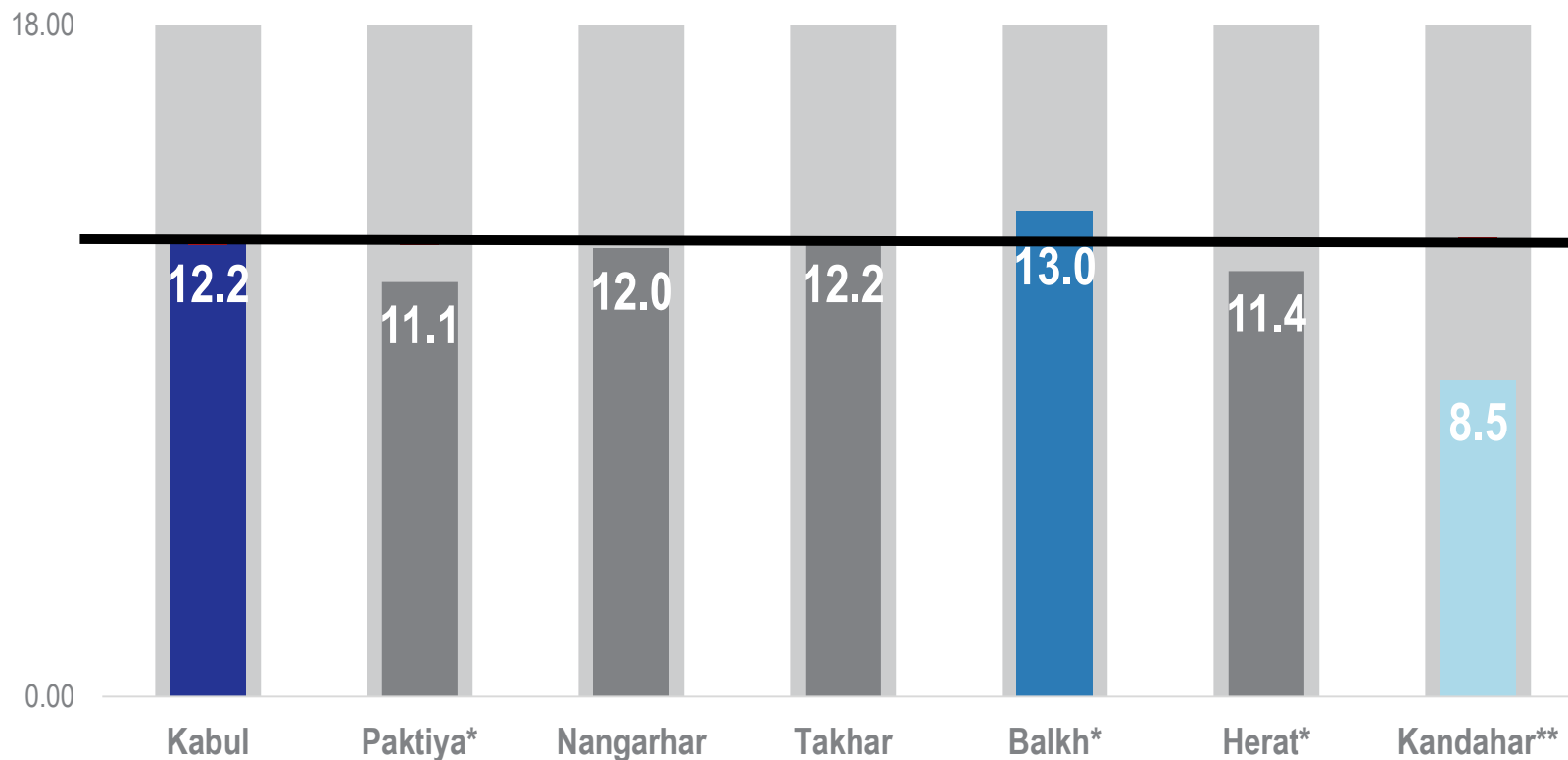
Respondents in **Balkh** expressed the highest level of support for female decision-making, while respondents in **Kandahar** were the least likely to express support.



Attitudes

towards Female Labor Force Participation

Respondents in **Kandahar** expressed the least supportive attitudes towards female labor force participation, while respondents in **Balkh** expressed the most supportive attitudes.



D3: Designs, Data, Decisions

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