

In Mexico, it is perceived that most women have less access to quality education and primary health care than most men. It is more difficult for women to be hired as skilled workers, run for elected office, or buy property in their name. Respondents also believe that most women have less control over their lives than most men, including over personal finances and marriage.

At least 87% agree that women should be free to make choices regarding marriage – if they marry at all and when and whom they marry. Nearly half (47%) of respondents believe that when the mother works, children suffer, while 28% believe the same when the father works for pay. And although 28% think the quality of family planning services is poor, at least 89% agree that it is essential for women to have access to family planning.

Nearly 1 respondent in 3 believes that most women feel unsafe when they are in their home, and 52% believe most women feel unsafe when they are in public spaces. Moreover, 16% of respondents disagree that a woman should be free to refuse sex with her husband/partner and 9% believe there are acceptable circumstances for someone to hit their spouse or partner.

While 85% of respondents believe it is essential for society to treat women and men as equals and 95% consider gender equality across all areas as essential for the country's future success, 67% perceive that the media typically portray women and men in traditional roles; 38% believe that women call attention to themselves based on how they dress; and 10% agree that it is appropriate for men to discuss a female colleague's appearance at work.

When it comes to paid work, 1 respondent in 10 believes that a man's job is to earn money while a woman's is to look after the house and family, and that it is natural for men to earn more than women, as they should be the primary providers. In addition, 28% believe that women should work less and devote more time to caring for their family. Only 68% believe that having a paid job is the best way for a woman to be an independent person.

TABLE 1

Perceptions: Percentage of respondents who agree with the statement	% FOR MOST Women	% FOR MOST Men
In general, it is easy for most women/most men to get a quality education	46.6	54.2
In general, it is easy for most women/most men to be hired as skilled workers	35.5	54.0
In general, it is easy for most women/most men to run for elected office	24.4	54.7
In general, it is easy for women/men to buy property in their own name	35.9	56.6
In general, most women/men have control over their decision on who to marry	48.6	58.4
In general, most women/most men have control over their lives	48.6	65.6
In general, most women /most men have control over their personal finances	48.1	66.0

TABLE 2

Perceptions: Percentage of respondents who agree with each statement	% POOR/ UNSAFE	% ADEQUATE
In general, the quality of basic health care for women is	25.8	40.8
In general, the quality of basic health care for men is	23.2	42.6
In general, the quality of basic health care for you is	22.5	43.3
The quality of family planning services is	28.0	42.7
In general, do most women feel safe when they are in their home (by safe, we mean "free from physical, mental, or emotional harm")?	31.6	37.7
In general, do most women feel safe when they are in public spaces (by safe, we mean "free from physical, mental, or emotional harm")?	51.9	27.8

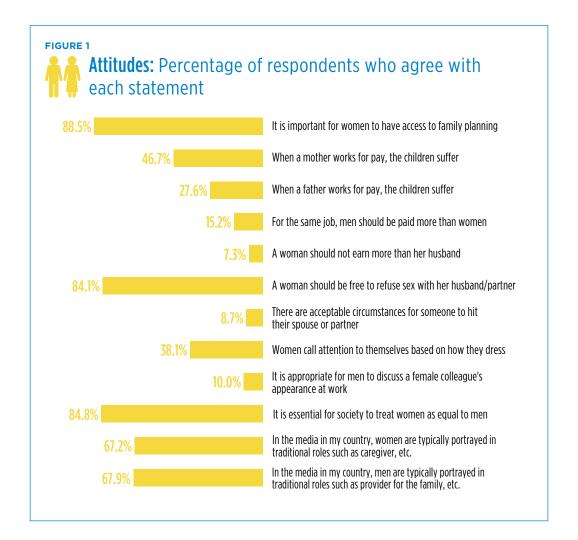


Figure 2 Future ideal: In your opinion, how important is each of the following to your country's future? (Completely important + somewhat important) 94.7% More opportunities for women in business 90.7% More access to higher education for women 95.1% More respect for women's rights in all areas 92.6% More affordable primary health care for women 93.7% Equal pay for equal work, regardless of a person's gender

