

Child Protection Statistics in Malawi

A large number of young children experience violence, and in some cases their caregivers are the perpetrators of the violence.

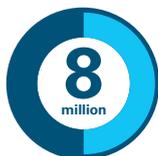


Goals

The goal of the UNICEF Child Protection program is to work with partners to establish a child protection system that improves the prevention of and response to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children, as well as the impact of HIV and AIDS. UNICEF also supports the Malawi government's efforts to improve services for children affected by violence.

Additionally, UNICEF supports the Malawi Government in developing policies and legislation that protect children, as well as helping communities, parents and children to prevent violence. Below are some statistics that convey the situation related to Child Protection issues in Malawi.

Vulnerable Children



Half of 8 million children are poor

1 million children do not live with their biological parents

10,000 children are being brought up in 168 Child Care Institutions



70% of children in institutional care have at least one parent



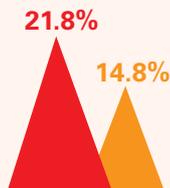
One in four children is involved in Child Labour

Nearly **13%** of children have lost one or both parents

47% of children do not possess basic material needs such as a blanket, pair of shoes and more than one set of clothing.



Violence Against Children and Gender Based Violence



21.8% girls and 14.8% boys experienced at least one incident of sexual violence before turning 18

46% of girls married

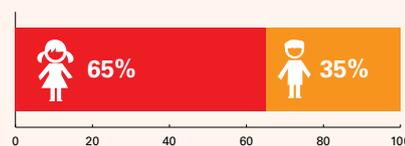
before the age of 18 and 9% before the age of 15

Three-quarters of all children under the age of 4 experience psychological aggression and/or physical punishment by their caregivers.



82.8% of girls under the age of 18 identified their husband as the perpetrator of physical abuse

65% of girls and 35% of boys experience child abuse in their life time



Child Marriage in Malawi

Malawi is ranked as the 9th country with the highest rate of child marriage for girls under 18 at 50%

Malawi has the second highest rate of child marriage for girls under 18 in Eastern and Southern Africa, second only to South Sudan

2% of women were married before they were 15 compared to only 1.2 percent of men