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Survivor Economic Equity Data Dashboard

Mega menu blurb

A three-part dashboard sharting state-level data of the equity landscape facing survivors, from who disproportionately experiences abuse to who has access to safety. Meant to inform and fuel systems advocacy. 30 words

Page menu

- Map 1: Population & Landscape of Violence
- Map 2: Safety Landscapes
 - o Economic Security Landscape
 - Housing Equity Landscape
 - o Family & Child Well-Being Landscape
 - o Education & Employment Opportunity Landscape
 - o Physical & Mental Health Landscape
 - o Physical Violence & Safety Landscape (Map 1)
- Map 3: Service, Funding & Policy Landscapes

The Survivor Economic Equity Data (SEED) Dashboard

As part of the Mapping & Advancing Equity Project, the purpose of the SEED-Dashboard is to present data that paints a picture of the equity landscape facing survivors in each state, with the ultimate aim that advocacy coalitions use it to fuel systems and policy change.

- Why equity?
- Why a data dashboard?

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To visualize the equity landscape, we have compiled state-level gender-based violence, economic, and other data indicators of the structural inequity survivors face. Use the links below to navigate to each "map" for additional detail, instructions, and to start exploring the dashboards.

Survivor Equity Maps

Map 1: Population & Landscape of Violence	Map 2: Safety Landscapes	Map 3: Service, Funding & Policy Landscapes
What's my state's population landscape? What's the landscape of violence?	What's the landscape of economic security, housing, child well-being, education & employment, and health in my state?	Are services, funding, and policies* meeting survivor needs? Are they advancing or inhibiting equity?
Click to view Map 1	Click to view Map 2	*coming 2024! <u>Click for</u> <u>details</u>

Why equity?

Safety for survivors requires economic security. Domestic violence creates financial hardship, and poverty, in turn, restricts survivors' options for safety. While anyone can experience abuse, not everyone can access the resources and support they need to be, get, and stay safe. Survivors from oppressed communities are disproportionately impacted by domestic violence due to policies and systems that impede their access to resources and safety.

Inequity is the set of unfair circumstances, created by policies and practices, that create unequal outcomes in life. **An equity approach to anti-violence work**, therefore, seeks to change the policies and systems that create unequal access to the resources, supports, and opportunities needed for safety.

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For survivors, inequity looks like:

• There are real disparities in who can access safety. Those living in poverty are nearly twice as likely to experience intimate partner violence, and people of color and from historically oppressed communities are more likely to live in poverty.

- Personal income and community support both matter in accessing resources needed for safety. Historical racial discrimination impacts both.
 Due to historical and continuing systemic discrimination in education, employment, housing, and dispossession of land, BIPOC women earn less than their White counterparts, and are much more likely to live in areas with higher concentrations of poverty, even when they are not poor.
- Service systems are supposed to bridge the gap, but they gatekeep (often along old lines of discrimination). Many survivors report housing, childcare, transportation, cash assistance as their top safety needs. However, social policies determine the amount and availability of resources needed for safety, where and how they are distributed, and even who is eligible.
 Survivors from oppressed communities report more hoops, more barriers, more time needed to access them.
- Control of resources is rooted in racist policy. Many social and economic policies were (and continue to be) projects of white supremacy. They are designed to ensure the superiority and inferiority of certain groups.
- Survivors of color and from other oppressed communities also face state violence that mirrors and reflects partner violence, compounding its harm. They are overpoliced, dually arrested, fear reporting, and are criminalized for survival.
- Racial & economic inequity are reproduced, and increase future risks of abuse.

Why data?

Data paints a clear picture of the inequitable safety landscape that survivors of intimate-partner and other gender-based violence face. Data can illuminate the need and support arguments for new laws, programs and services. It can help us shift the focus from what survivors do to what systems and policies do.

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- Inequity is an outcome we see it by looking downstream at differences in life outcomes. Where data shows racial or other disparities in violence, health, education, poverty, housing, childcare, and so on, we see inequity. Maps 1 & 2 share demographic and outcome data, and we're working to create an equity score or index to more clearly illuminate factors important to survivor equity.
- Inequity is also a process disparities in life outcomes point us to look upstream at what caused it. Systems, services, policies, practices that place undue burden on individuals, ignore historic inequities, and reproduce barriers to resources and opportunities needed for safety. Map 3 will share funding, service, and policy data to help identify targets of change. (policy data coming soon!)

Values Guiding the Work

Equity is a process. Data can fuel equity, but it can also categorize, other, and exclude. Alongside project advisors and partners, CSAJ identified shared values for using and sharing data. These values may also serve as helpful guideposts when examining the research and data of other sources. See related values guiding the entire Mapping & Advancing Equity Project, here.

We believe:

- +Data is more than statistics. While the dashboard currently presents quantitative data, we believe that stories, lived experience, documentation, policy/practice, partnership and community building are all important data. We need data in all forms to create change.
- +We need more data that centers and is generated by people and places with the least resources and options for recourse.
- +Data should shift the gaze from individual responsibility to systems
 accountability. We believe data has a role to play in challenging and
 changing the economic narrative around survivor safety. Data can
 expose the mainstream, economic narrative of "economic
 self-sufficiency" as both false and harmful. And data can help us shift the
 narrative of safety to one requiring community, abundance, and
 cooperation.

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- +Data should be accessible, relevant, and empowering. Survivors, advocates, and their communities are the experts in their own lives and key agents in changing inequitable systems. Survivors and communities should not only be able to understand data, but should gather, interpret, and wield it to create change.
- **+Data should do no harm.** Data is powerful and can be wielded to expand understanding, just as easily as it can be wielded to exclude.
- +Data should be and create transparency and autonomy. It should clarify and illuminate, not obscure forcing systems and those in power to be held accountable. Data should not be territorial or controlled by any one person or group (especially government). It should not be coerced or used to extract information from impacted communities without commitments to create change. It should be used to illuminate needs, deepen understanding, and build solidarity across communities and social justice movements. Data should be clear about what it means, what it doesn't, and its limitations.
- +Data should be actionable or fuel change. Data is not simply a statistic, but can support conversation, partnership building, and identify issues that can be changed.

Who Can Benefit & How

- Statewide Domestic Violence Coalitions, other coalitions, and policy advocates.

 To understand state equity landscapes, from an expanded sense of who lives in your state to who is disproportionately impacted by domestic and sexual violence, and whether opportunities for safety are available. Put dashboard data together with other data to craft stories or arguments for policy/systems change, to identify policy priorities and build partnerships, and identify additional data needs to fuel systems/policy advocacy.
- Direct service advocates and programs: To understand state equity landscapes
 to identify and prioritize economic advocacy priorities, identify communities you
 may not be reaching, and identify needed partners. It may also help you identify
 ways statewide coalitions can support economic equity work across your state,
 and/or plug into state, regional, or national advocacy efforts. This data may also
 be useful to programs and organizations (particularly grassroots and survivor-led)

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Pagelink: https://csaj.org/survivor-economic-equity-data-dashboard/ programs) who need data to establish as a 501c3, write grants, or otherwise obtain or justify funding.

• Funders & Funding Administrators To understand state equity landscapes to help identify communities disproportionately impacted by violence and other structural and systems inequities. It may help expand understanding of what economic supports and opportunities are needed for safety, thus informing how funding strategies can meet need and advance equity. This includes funding directly to gender-based violence efforts, as well as the link to racial and economic equity efforts. It may also help identify and engage historically oppressed communities as experts, identify areas where additional funding or grantee support is needed, and engage in or support systems and policy advocacy.

Get Help & Get Involved

We're here to help you understand, navigate, use, and even gather additional data to support your advocacy efforts.

Contact us

Background Resources

Key CSAJ & supplemental resources informing the idea and realization of the dashboard (since 2016) include:

- Accounting for Survivor Economic Security Atlas (2016)
- Showing Up: How we see, speak, and disrupt racial inequity facing survivors (2018)
- Mapping Equity in State Domestic Violence Coalitions (2019)

Methodology

Development of the dashboard dates back to 2018-19 with formative research and a preliminary dashboard (built in Excel). Below are key methods to the current build. View Data & Methodology doc.

1. 2018-19: Literature Review, Coalition Interviews, review of OVW grant reporting requirements. (see report)

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- 2020-2021: Initial data gathering (primarily from U.S. Census and National Intimiate Partner & Sexual Violence Survey) and pilot dashboard in Excel to support, and done in partnership with, the <u>ALSO-SITAP Project</u> (State Intensive Technical Assistance Project).
- 2022: Developed initial "mapping" framework and held data "think-fests" with Partners & Content Experts to develop structure and identify categories and key indicators.
- 4. 2022-2023: Researched and gathered data from secondary data sets, compiling in a "Data Gathering & Source List" (valuing diverse data sets from Census to grassroots, journalism, oral history/story sources).
- 5. 2023: Built "Landscape of Violence" Dashboard, and rescoped "Safety Landscapes" indicators, sub-categorizing as access and outcome indicators in each landscape. Engaged a data visualization scientist to advise and lead future builds.
- 6. March-July 2023: Completed Build
- 7. Future Methods: Convene advisory board to review, refine, and develop an index or scoring to weigh and evaluate policy and policy outcomes.

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-- Scratch pad --

More and more people understand that poverty is not the result of an individual's moral failing but of unfair circumstances. **Inequity** is the set of unfair circumstances that create disparities in life outcomes. For example, while any one of us can experience intimate partner or other forms of gender-based violence, not everyone has equal access to what they need to be, get, or stay safe. This inequity shows up in data -- those marginalized by virtue of race, immigration status, gender identity, sexuality, disability, and so on are more likely to experience violence.

Poverty should not be the alternative to or consequence of violence.

QUOTES:

Joy as an affront to systems: "The State - or some other authority - have to convince us that they are the suppliers of 'care.' Once we fully assimilate that, we will wait for the system to distribute the care (because they are the ones who have access to it). It makes us forget that we are the providers of each others' care all the time...And so the 'administrators of care' become the withholders of care." - Ross Gay

"Poverty isn't only the lack of income, it's the lack of choice." - Mathew Desmond

"There's so much poverty in America, not in spite of our wealth, but because of it. Some lives are made small so others can grow." - Mathew Desmond

"Eviction isn't a condition of poverty, it's a cause of it." - Mathew Desmond

During the pandemic, the Child Tax Credit reduced child poverty by nearly half in just six months. The government had no qualms about ending that program.

"Survivors with informal employment, no immigration status...or dismissed because of their race/ethnicity have far less opportunities to focus on health, prevention, pursuit of economic stability or even socializing because they are

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too busy putting out fires...High barrier systems/services make it hard for them to access anything or attempt to gain power in their situation through court services and such. There is no energy or time for it." - advocate respondent to CSAJ's Economic Impact of COVID-19 Survey

"Anyone who has ever struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor." - James Baldwin

Not everyone has equal access to be, get, or stay safe. Safety requires access to resources, community, and opportunity. We know abusive behavior restricts this access -- 99% of survivors report economic abuse.

and poverty, in turn, restricts survivors' options for safety. Abusive partners and other harm-doers exploit a person's economic and social vulnerabilities for the purposes of control, but social policy also determines the amount and availability of resources needed for safety, how they are distributed, and even who is eligible or worthy of protection or support.

In terms of data - poverty is both a predictor and outcome of violence.

And survivors marginalized by virtue of race, immigration status, gender identity, sexuality, disability, and other identity factors are more likely to experience poverty and violence.

who has access to the resources needed for safety it means changing the social conditions that create disparities in life outcomes.