

2.6 Women and girls

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Women in Iraq are reported to face multiple challenges including violence, poverty, financial exclusion[745] and societal stigma.[746] Women also face limited access to the labour market[747] political marginalisation and limited representation in decision-making bodies.[748] Women and girls continued to struggle against patriarchal norms embedded in Iraq's legal system.[749] Despite continued activism by civil society groups, federal Iraq has still not passed a law against domestic violence, stalled in the parliament for over a decade,[750] while a corresponding law was passed in KRI in 2011.[751] The penal code that is applicable in both territories criminalises physical assaults, but it doesn't mention domestic violence.[752] Domestic violence is on the rise and cases are underreported and inadequately investigated.[753]

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