Considering population diversity in gender-based analysis: examples from 
Women in Canada, 7th edition

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Abstract

In partnership with Status of Women Canada, Statistics Canada publishes a gender-based statistical report, entitled Women in Canada, roughly every five years. This unparalleled compendium of gender statistics helps the Government of Canada to fulfill its commitment to conducting gender-based analysis when developing programs, policies and legislation. Importantly, the Government of Canada’s approach to gender-based analysis is to go beyond disaggregation of data by gender, and to consider how diverse groups of women and girls (and men and boys) may be differentially impacted by public policy decisions.

In keeping with the Forum theme of “leaving no one behind”, this presentation will highlight findings from several chapters of Women in Canada, each focusing on a different Canadian subpopulation: immigrant women, visible minority women and Aboriginal women. In doing so, it is possible to demonstrate the importance of disaggregating data beyond gender to describe the diverse experiences of women and girls and better understand the interaction between gender and other identity characteristics.

Given the Forum’s focus on women’s economic empowerment, this presentation will focus on education and labour indicators among the three subpopulations identified above. Namely, differences in educational qualifications, field of study and field of work, labour force participation and unemployment, as well as income gaps will be discussed. The presentation will conclude with discussion of current data and analytical gaps and opportunities for future work.