

Gender Statistics: a minimum set of indicators

Produced by the
Sub-group on the minimum set of indicators for gender statistics
of the Advisory Group on Gender Statistics database and indicators
Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics

Background

- The advisory group on global gender statistics and indicators database was established in 2007
- The initial focus of this group was the development of an international database.
- In 2009, the focus shifted toward identifying a list of key gender indicators.
- The 2011 UN statistical commission also requested the IAEG-GS to identify a minimum set of gender indicators.

Work of the Sub-group on Gender Indicators

- During 2011, the subgroup developed the proposed minimum set of indicators for gender statistics.
- **Members:**
 - 5 countries (Philippines, Ghana, Canada, US and Zimbabwe)
 - 11 agencies (UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, ESCAP, ECE, ECA, ECLAC, World Bank, UN Population Division and UNSD).

Establishment of the minimum set

- Purpose of the minimum set:
 - To establish a minimum set of gender indicators for international compilation and dissemination to facilitate global comparisons of the state of gender statistics and to evaluate the situation of women and men and the capacity of countries in this regard (EN/CN.3/2011/3, Para 50c).

Rationale

- The minimum set is at the **international** level
 - Regional and national contexts are being developed by regional and national entities and are not part of this exercise.
- It forms the basis for regional and national exercises.
- The set is meant to include the key indicators for statistics on gender equality and women's empowerment, representing global gender issues and concerns.

Framework and reference to international commitments

- Indicators address relevant gender issues from:
 - Beijing Platform for Action
 - The 12 critical areas of concern and corresponding strategic objectives of the BPfA were reviewed to identify indicators required to monitor progress on the declared objectives.
 - Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
 - The MDG goal of empowering women was also used to identify indicators.
 - The strong commitment to producing the requisite statistics for monitoring the MDGs can be used to the advantage of being able to compile the data for the minimum set.
 - Also, inclusion of MDG indicators does not require additional effort on the part of the data providers.

Domains

- Five domains
 1. Economic structures and access to resources
 2. Education
 3. Health and related services
 4. Public life and decision making
 5. Human rights of women and child

Criteria

Underlying assumption: selected indicators should be broadly consistent with other global lists and avoid imposing an unnecessary burden on national statistical systems, national Government agencies and other partners.

Three criteria:

1. Address relevant issues related to gender equality and/or women's empowerment
2. Be conceptually clear, easy to interpret and have an agreed international definition
3. Be regularly produced by countries with sufficient coverage to allow tracking progress over time.

Regularly produced

- At least 100 countries – geographically distributed across all regions – have produced data for at least two points in the 1990-2004 period and at least one in the 2005-2010 period.

Tier structure

Tier 1 includes indicators that meet all the criteria.

Tier 2 includes indicators that meet criteria 1 and 2.

Tier 3 includes indicators that meet criterion 1.

Why Tier 3?

- It is important to note that indicators or categories that are important and relevant from a gender perspective, but for which there are data limitations, can be included in the minimum set to *encourage methodological development and/or further data production.*

I. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources

- 1 Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic work by sex. Note: Separate housework and child care if possible.
- 2 Average number of hours spent on paid and unpaid work combined (total work burden), by sex
- 3 Labour force participation rates for 15-24 and 15+, by sex
- 4 Proportion of employed who are own-account workers, by sex
- 5 Proportion of employed who are working as contributing family workers, by sex
- 6 Percentage distribution of the employed population by sector, each sex
- 7 Informal employment as a percentage of total non-agricultural employment, by sex
- 8 Proportion with access to credit by sex
- 9 Proportion of (adult) population who own land, by sex
- 10 Gender gap in wages
- 11 Proportion of employed persons working part-time, by sex
- 12 Employment rate of persons aged 25-49 with a child under age 3 living in a household and with no children living in the household, by sex
- 13 Proportion of children under age 3 in formal care
- 14 Proportion of the population who are Internet users, by sex
- 15 Proportion of the population who are mobile cellular telephone users, by sex

II. Education

- 16 Literacy rate for 15-24 by sex
- 17 Net enrolment ratio in primary education by sex
- 18 Net enrolment ratio in secondary education by sex
- 19 Gender parity index in primary, secondary and tertiary level enrolment
- 20 Enrolment in science, tertiary level, by sex
- 21 Proportion female among third-level teachers or professors

III. Health and related services

- 22 Contraceptive prevalence among married or in-union women aged 15-49
- 23 Under-five mortality rate by sex
- 24 Maternal mortality ratio
- 25 Antenatal care coverage
- 26 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
- 27 Smoking prevalence among 15+ by sex
- 28 Proportion of adults obese by sex
- 29 Women's share of population 15+ living with HIV/AIDS
- 30 Percentage of 15-24-year-olds with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS, by sex
- 31 Access to anti-retroviral drug, by sex
- 32 Life expectancy at age 60, by sex
- 33 Adult mortality by cause

IV. Public life and decision-making

- 34 Women's share of Government ministerial positions
- 35 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament
- 36 Women's share of managerial positions
- 37 Percentage female among police officers
- 38 Percentage female among judges

V. Human rights of women and girl children

- 39 Proportion of women aged 15-49 subjected to physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months by an intimate partner
- 40 Proportion of women aged 15-49 subjected to physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months by persons other than an intimate partner
- 41 Prevalence of FGM (for relevant countries only)
- 42 Percentage of population 15-19 ever married, by sex
- 42 bis Percentage of women 20-24 years old who were married or in union before age 18
- 43 Adolescent fertility rate

Norms

Indicator

- 1. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources
- 1 Extent of country commitment to gender equality in employment
- 1a Whether or not ratified ILO convention 100 on equal remuneration for women and men
- 1b Whether or not ratified ILO convention 111 on discrimination in employment and occupation
- 2 Extent of country commitment to support reconciliation of work and family life
- 2a Whether or not ratified ILO convention 156 on workers with family responsibilities
- 2b Whether or not ratified ILO convention 175 on part-time work
- 2c Whether or not ratified ILO convention 177 on home work
- 2d Whether or not ratified ILO convention 183 on maternity protection

Norms

Indicator

- Length of maternity leave
- Percentage of wages paid during maternity leave
- Public life and decision-making
- Presence of a gender quota for parliament (reserved seats and legal candidate quotas)
- Presence of a gender quota for parliament (voluntary party quotas)
- Existence of law on gender statistics
- Human rights of women and girl children
- Whether or not reservation to article 16 of CEDAW I.1
- Existence of laws on domestic violence D.1
- Whether or not inheritance rights discriminate against women and girls
- Legal minimum age at marriage, by sex