

# United Nations Gender Statistics Manual

United Nations Statistics Division  
IAEG on Gender Statistics  
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## UN Gender Statistics Manual

1. Overall concept
2. Intended use
3. Structure
4. What is the value added?
5. Current status and next steps

### 1. The overall concept of the manual: **Gender mainstreaming in national statistics**

#### *Working definition*

- Gender issues and gender-based biases should be systematically taken into account in the production of all official statistics.

#### It means

- Not only
  - Disaggregation of data by sex
  - Compilation and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data
- But also
  - Comprehensive coverage of gender issues and concerns
  - Integration of a gender perspective into data collection
  - Improved presentation of gender statistics in regular publications

### Gender mainstreaming in national statistics: **background**

- Beijing Platform for Action (1995)
- Previous work of United Nations Statistics Division
- Work of other international agencies in integrating a gender perspective in data collection
- Countries' practices

...But no clear guidelines yet

## 2. Intended use of the manual

Main audience: statisticians in national statistical offices.

The manual would help statisticians to:

- Identify gaps in gender statistics and develop a coherent and comprehensive plan for gender statistics;
- Design or redesign surveys or censuses that would take into account gender issues and gender-biases in measurement;
- Improve data analysis and data presentation and deliver gender statistics in a format easy to use by policy makers and planners.

## 3. Structure of the manual

- Chapter 1: gender statistics and gender mainstreaming in national statistics
  - Definitions, importance, context
- Chapter 2: "guide by topic" in identifying gaps in gender statistics
  - Topics covered: "traditional" & "emerging"
  - Approach: gender issues -> statistics needed -> sources of data conceptual and measurement issues
- Chapter 3: integrating a gender perspective into data collection
  - Topics considered: population and housing censuses, agricultural censuses and surveys, household surveys, administrative sources of data.
- Chapter 4: delivering gender statistics
  - Data processing and analysis
  - Data presentation
  - Use of gender-sensitive indicators in designing/monitoring policies and measures

## 4. UN gender statistics manual: what is common, what is new, what is left out

### Reference work:

- *Engendering Statistics. A Tool for Change* (1996)  
Statistics Sweden – authors Hedman, Perucci and Sundström
- *Handbook for Producing National Statistical Reports on Women and Men* (1997) - United Nations Statistics Division
- *Developing Gender Statistics: A Practical Tool* (2010)  
UNECE and World Bank Institute manual – contributing authors from the regional commission, international agencies and countries
- Other technical materials on various aspects of the production of gender statistics

## UN gender statistics manual: what is common, what is new, what is left out

- **What is common**
  - Gender statistics: definition, importance, context (ch.1)
  - Some topics covered in chapter 2
  - Dissemination products, data analysis and presentation (ch.4)
- **What is new**
  - Clearer link between gender issues and gender statistics + new topics (ch.2)
  - Integration of gender perspective into data collections (ch.3)
  - Use of gender indicators in designing/monitoring policies and measures (ch.4)
- **What is left out**
  - Training
  - Organization of gender statistics programmes

## **5. Current status and next steps**

- Work in progress on drafting the chapters of the manual
- Need for collaboration with international agencies
- Need for data collection materials from selected countries

## **For discussion:**

- Concept and structure of the manual
- Topics covered
- Collaboration with international agencies and countries