Gender Profile: Tuvalu

General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 1,636
Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 1,553

Total female population over 15 (CIA, 2015): 3,914

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births: NA
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 3.69

Under-five mortality rate for males: NA
Under-five mortality rate for females: NA


Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49: NA
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49: NA


Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24: NA
Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24: NA

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+: NA
Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+: NA

Male adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education: NA
Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education: NA

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA
Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA

Graduates from tertiary education who are female: NA

Students enrolled in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs who are female: NA


Teachers in secondary education who are female: NA

Teachers in tertiary education who are female: NA

**Economic Activity**

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force: NA
Females over 15 who are active in the labour force: NA

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA
Women who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA

**Decision-Making**

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2014): 7%

**Human Rights**

Girls married before 15: NA
Females married between 15 and 19: NA

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 36.8%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 46.6%

**Gender Gaps**

**Health**

- 31% of women in Tuvalu use contraception. Notably, 24% of fertile-aged and sexually active women express an unmet need for contraception (UN Women, 2014).
• Only 37% of married women make decisions concerning their own health care; for the remainder, decisions are made by their husbands or jointly by the husband and wife (UN Women, 2014).

Education
• According to a 2005 Pacific Islands Secretariat Report, “53 per cent of males and 49 per cent of females had completed primary education and almost 38 per cent of males and 33 per cent females had completed secondary school level of education” (p. 217).

Economic
• According to UN Women (2014), at least 78% of the female labour force works in the informal subsistence economy, and women form only 36% of Tuvalu’s non-agricultural workforce. Hence, they are often excluded from the benefits offered by employment in the formal economy.

Decision-Making
• No women were elected in 2006 (there were only two female candidates) or in 2010. However, the death of a political representative led to the election of one female representative after the regular 2010 election.

Human Rights
• Marital rape is not criminalised in Tuvalu.

• Recent figures on gender-based violence in Tuvalu are not readily available. The Tuvalu Demographic and Health Survey 2007, a nationwide study, revealed that nearly 10% of women had experienced violence while pregnant. Of girls aged 15–19, 14.3% reported that their first sexual experience had been forced, as did 14.2% of women aged 20–24 (Statistics for Development, 2008a, p. 1).

• The same study revealed that approximately 70% of women and 73% of men believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife in any of five situations: argues with him; refuses to have sex; burns the food; goes out without telling him; or neglects the children (Statistics for Development, 2008b, p. 245–246).

References


