Gender Profile: Uganda

General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 8,714,354  

Total female population over 15 (CIA, 2015): 9,311,383

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 310  
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 60.82

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

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2011) (WHO, 2014b): 58%

Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 5.9%  
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 8.4%


Education


Teachers in primary education who are female (2010) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 40.9%
Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 43.9%

**Economic Activity**

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 90%
Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 82%

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 26%
Women who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 15%

**Decision-Making**

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2014): 35%

**Human Rights**


Females married between 15 and 19 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 22%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 50.5%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 62.2%

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Gender Gaps

Health

• According to a 2013 study, unmarried sexually active women in Uganda experience a 43% unmet need for contraception. The same study found that Ugandan women had, on average, two children more than they wished to have (Guttmacher Institute, 2013).

• Abortion is illegal in Uganda except in the case of rape or incest, if the foetus has HIV, or in the event of foetal abnormality. At least 1,500 women die each year due to unsafe abortions (Kizza, 2013).

Education

• The World Health Organization (2015), citing Ugandan Ministry of Health figures, indicates that by age 19, 25% of girls have become pregnant, which significantly disrupts their education.

Economic

• Project Have Hope, an NGO, stated in 2012: “When a woman is married in Uganda, her suitor often pays a bride price to her family. In the future, should she want to leave the marriage, she must repay the bride price. . . . [T]his can be very difficult for women and may prevent them from leaving an unhealthy and/or violent marriage. Another traditional practice is wife inheritance, in which a widow marries a male relative of her former husband so that his property will stay within his family. She may have no say in the matter” (Project Have Hope, 2012, para. 7).

• According to the World Economic Forum’s Gender Gap Report 2013, women earn 76% of men’s wages for performing similar work (p. 362).

Decision-Making

• Uganda has a quota system to guarantee seats for women in politics.

• Women comprised 35% of the country’s ninth parliament (International Women’s Democracy Network, 2013).

Human Rights

• According to Project Have Hope (2012), 46% of Ugandan women have been subjected to marital rape.

• Women with disabilities frequently are not accorded basic human rights and dignities, including when they have incurred these disabilities at the hands of men and during acts of war. In May 2010, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reported that within Uganda’s camps for internally displaced persons, there were 3,098 persons with disabilities – “the majority of them female” (Human Rights Watch, 2010, p. 4).

• A 2010 Human Rights Watch report found that “[w]omen with disabilities in northern Uganda face serious abuse and discrimination by strangers, neighbors, and family members. Women interviewed for the report were denied basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter in the camps and in their communities” (Human Rights Watch, 2010, p. 2).
References


