Gender Profile: United Kingdom

General
Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 5,660,891
Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 26,673,914

Health
Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 12
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 4.44
Under-five mortality rate for males: NA
Under-five mortality rate for females: NA
Births attended by a skilled health professional: NA
Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 0.3%
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 0.2%

Education
Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 95.5%

Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 71.51%

Graduates from tertiary education who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 56.3%


Teachers in primary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 87%


Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 43.8%

**Economic Activity**

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 69%
Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 56%

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 97%
Women who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 98%

**Decision-Making**

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2014): 23%

**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): 28.4%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime: NA

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Gender Gaps

Health
• A 2013 study by clinical psychologist Daniel Freeman at the University of Oxford suggested that women in the UK are up to 40% more likely to suffer from mental illness than UK men (Ball, 2013).

Education
• In adults aged 24–64, 74% of women compared with 79% of men have completed high school (OECD Better Life Index, 2015).

• In 2011, women outnumbered men in universities by 10%. However, this has not resulted in higher levels of employment or wages for women.

Economic
• Figures released by the Office for National Statistics in 2012 indicated that the hourly full-time pay gap between women and men was 9.6% (King, 2012).

• A 2011 study indicated that in 2010, the difference in the mean hourly earnings of men who worked full-time and women who worked part-time was 34.5% (Perfect, 2011, p. 3).

• Approximately 70% of workers in minimum-wage jobs are female (UK Feminista, 2012).

• Women are sometimes asked about their plans for marriage or motherhood while in a job interview; according to a 2009 report published by the Fawcett Society (a UK charity advocating for women’s rights and equality), 14% of white female interviewees had been asked, compared to 20% of those who were Bangladeshi, Black, or Pakistani (Rake & Lewis, 2009, p. 5).

Decision-Making
• According to a 2012 study by the British Broadcasting corporation, women at that time accounted for only 1.3% of brigadiers (or their equivalent) and above across the Army, Navy and RAF; 13.2% of the most senior judges (High Court and above, including Senators of the College of Justice in Scotland); 14.2% of university vice-chancellors; 16.6% of the most senior staff in the police; and 34.7% of senior civil servant positions (Holt, 2012).

• Only one in four members of parliament (MPs) are female, and females from ethnic minorities comprise only 1.2% of MPs, even though they are 4% of the country’s population (Bland, 2014).

• According to a 2012 Telegraph report, “A poll of 2,408 women found that less than a third (30%) say that they take an interest in politics, compared with around half of men (47%). Yet 44% of women in the poll stated that Britain would be a better place to live if women were more represented in the corridors of Westminster” (UK Feminista, 2012).

Human Rights
• A 2009 Home Office study conducted in England and Wales revealed that approximately 37% of male and 36% of female respondents (aged 18 and over) believed that a drunk woman should be held fully or at
least partially responsible for being sexually assaulted. In the same study, 25% of men and 27% of women believed this to be true if she was wearing revealing clothing (regardless of whether she had been drinking) (Home Office, 2009, p. 8).

- In a 2010 study conducted by The Havens (a London-based, not-for-profit organisation for rape survivors), only 77% of UK men aged 18–25 consider having sex with someone who has said “no” to be a rape (UK Feminista, 2012).

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References


