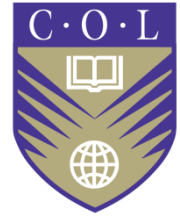


Gender Profile: Jamaica



General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 423,855
Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 409,651

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 1,026,831
Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 1,069,713

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 110
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 13.69

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births (2012) (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2015): 18.9
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births (2012) (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2015): 14.6

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2012) (WHO, 2014b): 95.5%

Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 2.4%
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 1.3%

Life expectancy for men (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 72
Life expectancy for women (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 77

Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 93.25%
Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 98.59%

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 82.59%
Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 92.13%

Male adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2004) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 91.66%
Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2004) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 91.46%

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 86.20%

Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 99.06%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 20.35%

Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 41.73%

Graduates from tertiary education who are female (2009) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 56.4%

Students in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 20.8%

Teachers in primary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 89.1%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 70.2%

Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 60.3%

Economic Activity

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 73%

Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 54%

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 75%

Women who have an account in a formal financial institution (World Economic Forum, 2013): 67%

Decision-Making

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2014): 13%

Human Rights

Girls married before 15 (2013) (Girls Not Brides, 2015): 1%

Females married between 15 and 19: NA

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

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

* * *

Gender Gaps

Health

- According to UNICEF (n.d.), Jamaican girls aged 10–19 are three times more like than boys to be living with HIV. This results from early sexual activity, forced sexual activity by older men living with HIV, and the prevalence of unsafe sexual practices.

Education

- Teenage pregnancy, which mostly affects girls aged 15–19, has a negative impact on career and educational pursuits, as girls who become pregnant may drop out of school. Efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy have been met with some success, bringing the figure from 31% of the teenage population in 1978 to 18% in 2008 (the latest available data) (UNFPA, 2013).

Economic

- The World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report 2013 indicates that women in Jamaica earn 64% of what men earn for similar work (p. 234).
- Women outnumber men in tertiary education. However, as of 2013, only 61% of women in Jamaica participated in the labour force, compared with 75% of men. For performing similar work, women receive only 64% of the wage that men receive (World Economic Forum, 2013, p. 234).
- According to a 2010 study published by the Inter-American Development Bank, although “females’ educational achievement is higher than that of males . . . males’ earnings surpass those of females by . . . between 8 and 17 percent of average females’ wages in Jamaica” (Bellony, Hoyos, & Ñopo, 2010, p. 27).

Decision-Making

- The prime minister of Jamaica stated in 2013 that women were prevented from entering politics due to a lack of funding. According to her, men have access to more financial resources and friends who will fundraise for their campaign, whereas women do not have such means at their disposal (Braham, 2013).

Human Rights

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) notes that Jamaican “society suffers from elevated levels of domestic violence against women and sexual violence” (2014). For example, a study by the Ministry of Health revealed that 33% of females aged 10–15 did not consent to their first sexual encounter (UNICEF, n.d.).

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