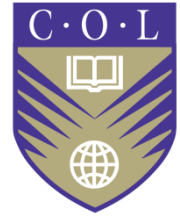


Gender Profile: Seychelles



General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 9,808
Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 9,320

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 37,121
Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 35,401

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births: NA
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 10.77

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

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2009) (WHO, 2014b): 99%

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

Life expectancy for men (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 69
Life expectancy for women (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 78

Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 98.77%
Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 99.37%

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 91.42%
Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 92.26%

Male adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2009) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 92.05%
Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2009) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 95.43%

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 96.96%
Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 106.09%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 67.45%
Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 74.25%

Graduates from tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 88.5%

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

Teachers in primary education who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 87.8%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 58.4%

Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 50%

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 (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 44%

Human Rights

Girls married before 15: NA

Females married between 15 and 19 years of age: 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

- Abortion is only legally permitted in the case of rape or incest, or to preserve the woman's health or life.

- Girls in Seychelles aged 15 and older can consent to sexual intercourse without informing their parents. However, it is illegal to provide a contraceptive to a minor. The result can be unwanted pregnancy. It is estimated that 75% of abortions in Seychelles are unsafe and performed in non-medical environments, and that 86% of these unsafe abortions are accessed by women under age 20 (Morna, Dube, Makamure, & Robinson, 2014, p. 233).
- The Ministry of Social Development and Culture noted in 2011 that “[h]ealth care is a feminised profession in Seychelles and around 75% of the personnel are women. The larger majority (over 98%) of nurses, midwives and health auxiliaries are women” (p. 115).

Education

- A 2006 study conducted by the Commonwealth Secretariat found that “[o]ver 80% of parents disagreed to their girls taking up careers in engineering and construction. Other career choices not acceptable to girls were fishing, sailing and laboring” (Ministry of Social Development and Culture, 2011, p. 46).
- Notwithstanding the previous point, “[f]rom 1994 to 2009, the percentage of women in maritime studies increased from 4% in 1994 to 34% in 2009. At the Seychelles Institute of Technology, the percentage of females rose from 0% in 1994 to 8.7% in 2009 and at the Seychelles Agriculture and Horticulture Training Centre, 45% of the students were females in 2009” (p. 85).

Economic

- As noted above under “Health”, women dominate the health professions of nurse, midwife, and auxiliary health care personnel. However, that same report noted: “This is not the case at higher echelons of the medical profession. In 2007, there were a total of 15 Seychellois female physicians (7 generalists and 8 specialists) compared to 32 male physicians (13 generalists and 19 specialists). There was one Seychellois female dentist and 5 male dentists” (Ministry of Social Development and Culture, 2011, p. 116).
- There is a dearth of sex-disaggregated data about the various levels of poverty in Seychelles. However, the 2004 Millennium Development Goals report indicated that “although there is no absolute poverty in Seychelles ‘pockets’ of poverty do exist and [the report] identifies single teenage mothers with few marketable skills as constituting one of the ‘pockets’” (Ministry of Social Development and Culture, 2011, p. 107).

Decision-Making

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted in 2013 that “[f]or positions, such as director-general and district administrators, women are almost on par with men or are more represented. In positions with more decision-making power and authority (government ministers and chief executive officers), there are fewer women (27% and 36% respectively)” (p. 14).
- The Ministry also observed that “parastatal organisations are employing fewer women every year, with 37.3% in 2012, 38.2% in 2010 and 41.4% in 2009. There is a clear income disparity[,] with the average monthly salary for [women in] parastatals in 2012 at SR10,531 (US\$892), compared to only SR8,829 (US\$748) in state agencies” (p. 48).

Human Rights

- In 2010, the Government of Seychelles introduced a national action plan to combat what it called “the growing phenomenon” of gender-based violence.
- The plan noted: “The number of cases of domestic violence reported to the police has reported to double in the years between 2000–2005. Between January and December 2009, 164 cases of child abuse cases were reported to the Child Protection unit of the Social Development Department, of which 80% involved girls. The youngest victims were 1 year olds and the cases of females aged 14 being in the majority. About 61% of all child abuse cases handled by the unit involved sexual abuse (100 out of 164). The Community Social Work section reported 181 new cases of abuse in 2009, which accounted for a 10% increase over the previous year” (Republic of Seychelles, 2010, p. 1).
- The plan further indicated that “[t]he Family Tribunal registered a 55% increase in the number spousal violence cases between the years 2006 and 2009. The vast majority of GBV survivors reporting cases were women (92% in 2009)” (p. 1).

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