

Gender Country Profile



Dominica

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General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 8,300

Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 7,939

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 28,771

Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 28,439

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births: NA

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 11.61

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births: NA

Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births: NA

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2011) (WHO, 2014b): 100%

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): 72

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

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 (2010) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 95%

Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2010) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 97.49%

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 93.50%

Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 100.12%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA

Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA

Percentage graduates from tertiary education who are female: NA

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

Teachers in primary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 85.9%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 72.1%

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): 13%

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: NA

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

Gender Gaps

Health

Although pap smears and mammogram screening are available, women do not regularly access these services (Women's Bureau, 2004, p. 19).

Education

Girls outperform boys in school and have lower repetition and dropout rates. However, this has not reduced women's economic marginalisation. Notably, the most recent available government source indicates that schools continue to reinforce gender stereotyping regarding career choices (Women's Bureau, 2004, p. 21).

Economic

Dominica has experienced an economic downturn in the last 20 years, making it difficult to further efforts to empower women economically and encourage their participation in the labour force. This economic hardship has resulted in high levels of unemployment, with more women being unemployed than men (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2013).

Poverty also impacts women differently and more severely than men. For example, a study conducted in 2013 revealed that among people living in poverty, men were at an unemployment rate of 20%, compared with 33.8% for women. Unemployment has impacted women more than men in other social classes as well: among those living above the poverty line, the unemployment rate is 8.1% for men, compared with 13% for women (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2014, p. 17).

Women are excluded from many employment opportunities because they are socially expected to look after the home and raise children. Working women are usually employed in low-paid, unskilled and traditionally female positions (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2014).

Upon the breakdown of a marriage, many women are not aware of their rights to property jointly acquired during their union (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2014, p. 13).

Decision-Making

Women are not presently vying for participation in the political sphere, especially at the federal level, at a rate proportionate to the country's adult female population (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2014, p. 15).

Human Rights

Dominica has no legislation addressing sexual harassment.

Women and girls are more likely to be subjected to violence than men or boys. A report compiled from the National Registry on Domestic Violence for the three years prior to 2014 indicated that among those subjected to all types of violence and abuse, 85.68% were female (Commonwealth of Dominica, 2014, p. 30).

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