# Gender Profile: Kiribati



## General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 16,779 Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 16,151

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 34,312 Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 37,246

### Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 9 Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 37.37

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births (UNICEF, 2014): 63 Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births (UNICEF, 2014): 53

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2010) (WHO, 2014b): 98.3%

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

### 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: NA Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education: NA

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 82.12%

Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 90.91%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education: NA

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 (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 81.6%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2008) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 47.7%

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): 9%

# **Human Rights**

Girls married before 15 (2014) (Girls Not Brides, 2015): 3%

Females married between 15 and 19: NA

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 67.6%

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 73%

\* \* \*

# Gender Gaps

#### Health

- According to the World Health Organization, as of 2008, 23% of females in Kiribati had suffered physical or sexual abuse during pregnancy (UN Women, 2012, p. 4).
- In a study conducted in 2004 (the most recent available data on this subject), 15% of pregnant women tested had a sexually transmitted infection (UN Women, 2014).

- Over 70% of cancers reported in Kiribati affect women (UN Women, 2014).
- As of 2008, 53.6% of females over the age of 20 were obese, compared with 37.7% of men (WHO, 2015). The reason for this discrepancy is not known.

### Education

• Although girls outnumber boys in secondary and tertiary levels of education, this has not reduced women's economic marginalisation. According to UN Women (2014), women remain severely underrepresented at all levels of decision-making.

### **Economic**

- According to a report published by the Government of Kiribati and UNICEF in 2005 (the most recent available data), women comprised only 37% of paid workers, although this was an increase from 28% in 1990.
- Women are more likely to be unemployed than men. In the 2005 census, women's unemployment rate was 6.6% in 2005, compared to 5.6% among men (again, these are the most recent available data) (UN Women, 2014).

# **Decision-Making**

• In 2012, the president opted against special measures to guarantee women parliamentary positions.

## **Human Rights**

- The World Health Organization reported that as of 2008, 20% of females in Kiribati indicated that their first sexual encounter had been forced (UN Women, 2012, p. 4).
- 18% of women between ages 15–49 have experienced physical or sexual violence by a non-partner. Approximately 90% of women have experienced controlling behaviour in one form or another. 31.4% of women have experienced rape involving physical force. 41.1% of women have had sex with a partner out of fear (UN Women, 2014).
- Women are disadvantaged under family law in Kiribati. Unmarried women automatically are deprived of custody once the child turns two years old (provided the father acknowledges his paternity and requests custody of the child) (UN Women, 2014).

\* \* \*

### References

CIA. (2015). *The world factbook: Country profiles*. Retrieved from https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/xx.html

Girls Not Brides. (2015). *Child marriage around the world: Kiribati*. Retrieved from http://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/kiribati/

Government of Kiribati & UNICEF. (2005). *A situation analysis of children, women and youth*. Suva, Fiji: UNICEF Pacific Office. Retrieved from http://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/Kiribati\_Sitan.pdf

Humanium. (2015). *Children of Kiribati: Realizing children's rights in Kiribati*. Retrieved from http://www.humanium.org/en/kiribati/

Radio New Zealand International. (2012). *Kiribati rules out special women's seats*. Retrieved from http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/202034/kiribati-rules-out-special-women's-seats

Secretariat of the Pacific Community. (2013). *Kiribati: Legal analysis on violence against women*. Retrieved from http://www.rrrt.org/publications-media/publications/item/361-kiribati-legal-analysis-on-violence-against-women

UN Women. (2012). *Violence against women prevalence data: Surveys by country*. Retrieved from http://www.endvawnow.org/uploads/browser/files/vawprevalence matrix\_june2013.pdf

UN Women. (2014). *Asia and the Pacific: Kiribati*. Retrieved from http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/countries/fiji/co/kiribati

UNESCO Institute of Statistics. (2015). Education. Retrieved from http://data.uis.unesco.org

UNICEF. (2014). *The state of the world's children 2015: Reimagine the future*. New York, NY: author. Retrieved from http://sowc2015.unicef.org

United Nations Gender Statistics. (2015). *Countries A–Z*. Retrieved from http://genderstats.org/Browse-by-Countries

United Nations Statistical Commission. (2010). Labor force participation, unemployment and economic sector of employment. Retrieved from

http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/Worldswomen/Annex%20 tables%20 by%20 chapter%20-%20 pdf/Table 4 A to 4 D. pdf

World Bank. (2014). *Proportion of women holding seats in national parliament*. Retrieved from http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS

World Economic Forum. (2013). *The global gender gap report 2013*. Retrieved from http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF GenderGap Report 2013.pdf

World Health Organization. (2014a). *Life expectancy: Data by country*. Retrieved from http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.3?lang=en

World Health Organization. (2014b). *Women: Data by country*. Retrieved from http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.1630

World Health Organization. (2015). *Kiribati: WHO statistical profile*. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/gho/countries/kir.pdf?ua=1