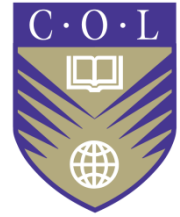


Gender Profile: Singapore



General

Total male population under 15 (2010) (CIA, 2015): 381,452
Total female population under 15 (2010) (CIA, 2015): 364,050

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 2,347,373
Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 2,474,426

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (2010) (CIA, 2015): 3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 2.53

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2012): 3.1
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births (United Nations Gender Statistics, 2012): 2.6

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2011) (WHO, 2014b): 99.7%

Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013) : 0.1%
Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 0.1%

Life expectancy for men (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 80
Life expectancy for women (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 85

Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 99.85%
Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24 (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 99.84%

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 98.46%
Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 94.36%

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: NA
Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education: NA

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 enrolled in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs who are female (2013) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 28.6%

Teachers in primary education who are female (2009) UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 81.2%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2009) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 65.9%

Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2013) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 35.2%

Economic Activity

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2010): 75%

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): 98%

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): 24%

Human Rights

Girls married before 15: NA

Females married between 15 and 19 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 1

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

- The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) noted in 2014 that health care is unequally distributed. "Women with little or no CPF [Central Provident Fund, a compulsory retirement fund into which those in paid employment contribute] and related Medisave savings are particularly vulnerable to the unequal financing of healthcare in Singapore. As highlighted in the 2005 AWARE-Tsao Foundation report *Beyond Youth: Women Growing Older and Poorer*, older women have the least income security, and women aged 60 and above are most vulnerable as they have the least CPF savings during a lifetime of unpaid care-giving and homemaking, as well as irregular work histories. Retired housewives in particular

are likely to have insufficient CPF savings to cover their healthcare needs, and need to rely on their spouses' or children's CPF savings or other family members for financial support.”

- Particularly concerning is the downward trend in women having preventive screening for breast cancer, which accounts for 30% of cancer diagnoses in Singapore's women (SCWO, 2014).

Education

- Significantly fewer women than men pursue studies and subsequent careers in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) fields. For example, only 30% of those enrolled in engineering are female, while just 35% of students in computing and IT are female, and only 27% of those working in the IT field are women (Women in STEM, 2012).

Economic

- 75% of women aged 60 and above are deprived of old age security, compared with 43% of men. This seems to be because the government's Central Provident Fund scheme, whereby “fixed percentages of monthly employee income and employer's contributions are channelled into a compulsory savings account,” does not apply to a large majority of women, who “are more likely to take up part-time or informal work than are men”; they therefore “face significant long-term trade-offs including inadequate retirement savings, job insecurity and an exclusion from full-time employment benefits” (SCWO, 2014).
- According to the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report 2013, employed women in Singapore earn 80% of the wages that men do for similar work (p. 332).

Decision-Making

- There has been some discussion about implementing a quota system to ensure women's political representation. Yet according to Low Yen Ling, Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Social and Family Development, “The percentage of women in Singapore's Parliament is better compared to a decade ago and it is more important to anchor political representation on meritocracy rather than impose gender quotas” (Mokhtar, 2013, para. 2).

Human Rights

- The 2010 International Violence Against Women Survey found that 9.2% of women in Singapore had experienced physical and/or sexual violence in the last 12 months; of these, 58.8% had experienced repeated victimisation. 71.7% of study respondents stated that they would be unlikely to report violence if they experienced it (SCWO, 2013).

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