

Uzbekistan Gender Profile

Uzbekistan has experienced the least decline in economic output and living standards compared to the other Central Asian Republics in the past decade. However, lack of meaningful economic reform and the recent global economic decline has led to increases in poverty and gender inequalities in income and employment. The past decade has also witnessed a renaissance in religious customs and traditions which has negatively impacted women's equal participation in the economic and social sphere of society.

Poverty:

- 31% of the population lives below the absolute poverty line but little evidence suggests gender differences in poverty incidence¹.

Labor Market:

- There is a large gender wage gap which is partly unexplained by differences in productivity.
- Female employment as a percent of total number of employed persons has declined over the past decade (from 50% in 1990 to 44% in 2000).
- Female unemployment is very high with women making up 62% of the total unemployed.

Health:

- Registered cases of sexually transmitted diseases has increased nearly four folds in the past decade and is one of the highest in the region (from 4,400 in 1990 to 17,103 in 1999).
- There is very little reliable health data available to assess any other trend.

Demographics:

- Fertility rate has dropped significantly over the past decade.
- Female to male ratio in population is very low.

Education:

- There are high gender disparities in enrollment rates at higher level of education. Currently, the ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in higher education is 0.37.

Access to Resources:

- The lack of access to safe drinking water and natural gas supplies has led to increases in the work load and time poverty of rural women².

¹ Uzbekistan Country Assistance Strategy, February 2002, World Bank

² Report on the Status of Women in Uzbekistan, UNDP 1999.

Note: There is an uncertainty about the accuracy of official data. Independent survey data reflects very different numbers than administrative data.

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Western Europe***

Basic	1990	1995	2000	1990	1995	2000
Females per 100 males	102.3	101.7	100.8	105.9	105.0	104.3
Male-Female Gap in Life Expectancy (females minus males)	6.3	4.8	6.0	5.84	5.74	5.58
Mortality	1990	1995	2000	1990	1995	2000
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)						
<i>TMD</i>	34.6	26.0	19.0	7.8	5.9	4.9
<i>UPHIN</i>	34.3	26.3	..			
<i>DHS 1996</i>		*43.5				
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)						
<i>TMD</i>	47.5	42.5	*32.9	9.2	6.8	6.4
<i>UNICEF childinfo</i>	62.0	63.0	67.0			
<i>DHS 1996</i>		*55.2				
Maternal Mortality (per 100,000 live births)						
<i>TMD</i>	33.7	18.7	*14.6	..	12	..
<i>UPHIN</i>	34.1	33.0	*31.2			
<i>UNICEF childinfo</i>		60				
Reproductive Health	1990	1995	2000	1990	1995	2000
Total fertility rate						
<i>TMD</i>	4.07	3.60	*2.72	1.61	1.44	1.43
Percent of pregnant women receiving some pregnancy consultations						
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	..	..	..	98
<i>DHS 1996</i>	..	*94.9	..	..	..	..
<i>MICS 2000</i>			97.2	..	..	..
Percent of births attended by trained personnel						
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	..	..	..	98
<i>MICS 2000</i>	..	..	95.6	..	..	..
Newly registered cases of sexually transmitted diseases						
<i>TMD</i>	*4,400	11,851	*17,103	..	..	..
Education	1990	1995	2000	1990	1995	2000
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in basic education						
<i>TMD</i>	0.98	..	*0.96	1.01	1.00	1.00
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in secondary education						
<i>TMD</i>	0.91	..	0.96	1.01	1.07	1.11
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in higher education						
<i>UNDP</i>	..	..	0.37	0.96	1.08	1.19
Labor	1990	1995	2000	1990	1995	2000
Females as % of estimated total number of employed persons						
<i>TMD</i>	50	42.7	44	..	..	..
Female labor force participation rate (LFS)						
<i>ILO</i>	64.2	66.3	..	58.6	58.4	*60.3
<i>WB 2000</i>	64.0	67.5	..			
Male labor force participation rate (LFS)						
<i>ILO</i>	77.9	78.2	..	81.7	79.3	*79.5
<i>WB 2000</i>	77.7	79.8	..			
Female unemployment as a % of total (as registered by LFS)						
<i>TMD</i>	..	60.1	62			
Gender wage gap**						
<i>University of Sussex</i>	..	22.0	..			
of which unexplained differentials	..	19.0	..			

Sources:

TMD = TransMonee Database

ILO = Key Indicators of the Labor Market 2002

UNICEF/childinfo = Infant and under 5 mortality rate(per 1,000 live births), and maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)

UNICEF/childinfo = Infant and under 5 mortality rate, per 1,000 live births

DHS 1996 = Ministry of Health Republic of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan Demographic and Health Survey 1996

MICS 2000 = Uzbekistan Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey.

EUPHIN = European Public Health Information Network

University of Sussex = The Gender Pay Gap in Selected Transitional Economies: A Quantile Regression Approach, Barry Reilly, 2003.

WB 2000 - country admin data (d) = Balancing Protection and Opportunity - A strategy for social Protection in Transition Countries.

Basic Education Enrollment (gross rates, % of relevant population) 7-15 year olds.

*Where no baseline data exist, the value for the closest year for which data exist was used

**Expressed as a percent of female wages

***Countries used to compute average for Western Europe include Germany, Greece, Italy, Sweden and United Kingdom