

## Kyrgyz Republic Gender Profile

The Kyrgyz Republic has experienced rapid social and economic decline in the past decade, resulting in very high levels of poverty and increases in gender inequalities. The transition has led to troubling declines in female employment, gender disparities in wages, a dramatic rise in sexually transmitted infections, and increasing gender inequalities in access to land and other forms of productive resources.

### Poverty:

- 50% of population lives below the poverty line and 18% in extreme poverty but little evidence suggests gender differences in poverty incidence.

### Labor Market:

- Female employment, as a percent of total employment has declined in the past decade (from 48 in 1990 to 44.4 in 2000).
- The gender wage gap is high and the trend is increasing.

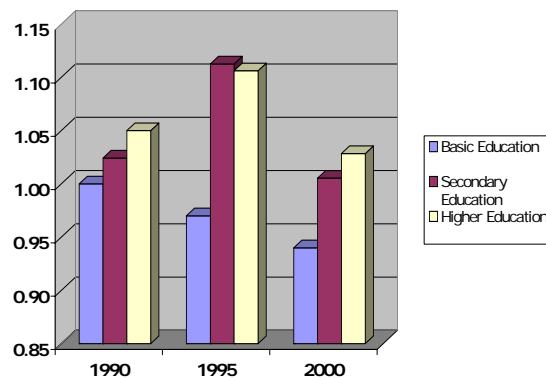
### Health:

- Infant mortality and under-five mortality rates are one of the highest in the region.
- Sexually transmitted infections are one of the highest in the region.

### Education:

- Boys' enrollment have fallen more than girls' rate in secondary and higher education.

Ratio of Girls' to Boys' Enrollment Rate in Education  
1990, 1995, 2000



### Access to Resources:

- There are large gender disparities in access to land due to the predominance of customary law, which supercedes written law in many rural areas. Customary law stipulates that men own the land and the house and women own movable property within the house<sup>1</sup>.
- There are large gender disparities in access to other resources such as credit for inputs, small animals, and extension services
- The Kyrgyz tradition of bride stealing is widespread with estimated 15% to 30% of all girls kidnapped against their will. Often, marriages are not registered if a dowry and bridewealth is not paid, thus depriving women of any rights provided under the law<sup>2</sup>.
- There is an increasing trend for younger girls to marry. Girls marrying under the age of 17 have no legal rights under the law until the marriage is registered a few years later<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Giovarelli, Renee et al, *Women's Rights to Land in the Kyrgyz Republic*, World Bank, 2001

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<b>Basic</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Females per 100 males	104.5	103.3	102.5	105.9	105.0	104.3
Male-Female Gap in Life Expectancy (females minus males)	8.4	9.0	7.5	5.84	5.74	5.58
<b>Mortality</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)						
<i>TMD</i>	30	28.1	22.6	7.8	5.9	4.9
<i>UNICEF childinfo</i>	69	61	53			
<i>DHS 1997</i>	..	*66.2	..			
<i>UNDP HDIs</i>	..	..	*65			
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 births)						
<i>TMD</i>	41.3	41.3	33.2	9.2	6.8	6.4
<i>UNICEF childinfo</i>	83.0	72.0	63.0			
<i>DHS 1997</i>	..	*75.8	..			
<i>UNDP HDIs</i>	..	..	*55			
Maternal Mortality (per 100,000 live births)						
<i>TMD</i>	62.9	44.3	45.5	..	12	..
<i>UNICEF childinfo</i>	..	80	..			
<i>UNDP HDIs</i>	..	..	*65			
<b>Reproductive Health</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Total fertility rate						
<i>TMD</i>	3.63	3.11	2.44	1.61	1.44	1.43
<i>DHS 1997</i>	..	*3.4	..			
Percent of pregnant women receiving some pregnancy consultations						
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	..	..	..	98
<i>DHS 1997</i>	..	*97.3	..			
Percent of births attended by trained personnel						
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	..	..	..	98
<i>DHS 1997</i>	..	*98.1	..			
<b>Education</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in basic education						
<i>TMD</i>	1.00	0.97	0.94	1.01	1.00	1.00
<i>KLSMS 1998</i>	..	..	*1.00			
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in secondary education						
<i>TMD</i>	1.02	1.11	1.01	1.01	1.07	1.11
<i>KLSMS 1998</i>	..	..	*1.13			
Ratio of girls' enrollment rates to boys in higher education						
<i>TMD</i>	1.15	1.11	1.03	0.96	1.08	1.19
<i>KLSMS 1998</i>	..	..	*1.07			
<b>Labor</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Females as % of estimated total number of employed persons						
<i>TMD</i>	..	48	44.4			
Female labor force participation rate (LFS)						
<i>ILO</i>	64.9	66.7	..	58.6	58.4	*60.3
<i>WB 2001</i>	..	*35.3	..			
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	*58.6			
Male labor force participation rate (LFS)						
<i>ILO</i>	77.9	78.2	..	81.7	79.3	*79.5
<i>WB 2001</i>	..	*52.1	..			
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	*79.2			
Female unemployment as a % of total (as registered by LFS)						
<i>TMD</i>	..	..	*56.8			
Gender wage gap**						
<i>TMD</i>	..	36.4	48			
of which unexplained differentials	..	..	..			

**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

UNDP HDIs = UNDP Human Development Indicators

DHS 1997 = Demographic and Health Survey, Kyrgyz Republic 1997

KLSMS 1998 = Estimates from the 1998 Living Standards Measurements Survey

WB 2001 = Poverty in the 1990s in the Kyrgyz Republic, 2001

WB 2000 - country admin data (d) = Balancing Protection and Opportunity - A strategy for social Protection in Transition Countries (pg 70)

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 UK