

CZU: 314.96(479.22)

CENSUS DATA CONCERNING GENDER IN GEORGIA*Lia CHAREKISHVILI**Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia*

Gender statistics represents the statistics about the status of women and men in all spheres of public and economic activity. Gender statistics is aimed to ensure objective data through comparison and evaluation with regard to the status of women and men and to the gender equality. Improvement in collection and coverage of statistical data on the ground of gender is very important for people working on the gender issues, as well as for the representatives of legislative bodies, government bodies, NGO's, researchers and civil society.

Gender Statistics, as a new direction, needs to improve communication between data producers and users. Our purpose is to determine how to present data for better understanding.

The ability to critically evaluate statistical information, determines appropriate analytical techniques and identifies when concepts have been applied without proper statistical foundation are essential to using statistics in effective decision-making. Users have to develop their skills in relation to key gender indicators. Census data analysis shows that Statisticians need to develop methods of data presentations. It is necessary to provide users with key variables analysis and make it not only based on census data. Survey and administrative data give the possibility to closely cooperate data producers and users. Census data analysis is a good example for it.

One of the important reasons is to share analysis with policy/decision-making individuals. They have to consider this information for instance to improve job market, such as decreasing unemployment, to see if gender gaps change or remain stable.

Keywords: *gender equality, census, gender statistics, producers, users.*

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Statisticele gender reprezintă statistice ce vizează statutul femeilor și al bărbaților în toate sferile activității publice și economice. Statisticele gender urmăresc să asigure date obiective prin comparație și evaluare în ceea ce privește statutul femeilor și al bărbaților și egalitatea de gen. Îmbunătățirea colectării datelor statistice pe criteriile de gen este foarte importantă pentru persoanele care lucrează asupra problematicii de gen, precum și pentru reprezentanții organismelor legislative, ai structurilor guvernamentale, ONG-urilor și ai societății civile, pentru cercetători.

Statistica gender, ca o nouă direcție, trebuie să îmbunătățească comunicarea între producătorii de date și utilizatori. Scopul nostru este de a determina modul de prezentare a datelor pentru o înțelegere mai bună.

Abilitatea de a evalua critic informațiile statistice, de a determina tehnicile analitice adecvate și de a identifica când conceptele au fost aplicate fără o fundamentare statistică adecvată sunt esențiale pentru utilizarea statisticelor în procesul decizional eficient. Utilizatorii trebuie să-și dezvolte abilitățile în ceea ce privește indicatorii gender principali. Rezultatele analizei datelor statistice arată că statisticienii trebuie să dezvolte metode de prezentare a datelor. Este necesar să se ofere utilizatorilor variabile-cheie și analizele să se facă nu doar pe baza datelor recensământului. Ancheta și datele administrative oferă producătorilor și utilizatorilor de date posibilitatea de a coopera strâns. Analiza datelor de pe urma analizei este un bun exemplu pentru aceasta.

Unul dintre motivele importante este de a împărtăși analiza cu persoanele decizionale. Ele trebuie să ia în considerare aceste informații, de exemplu, pentru a îmbunătăți piața muncii, cum ar fi diminuarea șomajului, pentru a vedea dacă diferențele de gen se schimbă sau rămân stabile.

Cuvinte-cheie: *egalitate de gen, recensământ, statistice de gen, producători, utilizatori.*

Introduction

Gender equality reflects in data: women and men should be visible in statistics, for this, it is necessary that all statistics must be disaggregated by sex. Gender statistics is a part of the official statistics in Georgia from 1999. The goal is that all statistics concerning individuals shall not only be collected, analyzed and presented by sex, but also reflect gender issues and problems in society.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is a landmark international agreement that affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world. Countries that have ratified or acceded to the Convention are legally bound to put its provisions into practice. They are also committed to submit national reports (at least once every four years)

on measures they have taken to comply with their treaty obligations. Close and continuous cooperation between users and producers is crucial to successfully produce and improve gender statistics in Georgia.

Gender equality means equal opportunities, rights and responsibilities for women and men; it is a policy, which ensures both sexes with equal access to the economic resources, economic independence, equal sharing of responsibilities for the family, participation in decision-making, public life and social activities. Gender equality has both quantitative and qualitative aspects. I would like to outline that it is necessary for the civil society to put an effort to increase women's political participation in decision-making and economic empowerment. It is a big problem in Georgia.

Why gender Statistics? Gender statistics is a field of statistics that goes horizontally through traditional fields of statistics, aiming to identify, produce and disseminate statistics reflecting the reality of life of women and men. Gender statistics allows systematic studying of gender gap and gender issues. Gender issues refer to the ways women and men interact, the gap existing in the access and the use of resources, activities they carry out and the way they react to changes, interventions and politics. Gender statistics represents statistics about the status of women and men in all spheres of public and economic activity. It is one of the key instruments giving the possibility to take into account the characteristic traits of a woman and a man – as a specific social-demographic group - in the process of developing optimal policies and principles of equal rights and opportunities. (Charekishvili, Gender Statistics: needs and Development, 2013, p.36)

Gender statistics is aimed at ensuring objective data through comparison and evaluation with regard to the status of sex and of the gender equality. Improvement in collection and coverage of statistical data on the ground of gender is very important for people working on the gender issues, as well as for the representatives of legislative bodies, government bodies and civil organizations. It is important to note that all statistics and indicators are listed, irrespective of whether they are produced and available or not. The difference between listed and available statistics represents the identification of data gaps, which is crucial step for the improvement of gender statistics.

Establishing Gender statistics in Georgia, National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat) is the legal entity of public law and carries out its activities independently in collaboration with international and local organizations. It is an institution established by the government to produce official statistics and disseminate the statistical information according to the Georgian legislation (Statistics, 2009). GeoStat is responsible to work out unified policies and methodologies in the field of statistics, to implement statistical activity program through surveys, analysis and dissemination of research findings, to conduct national census, etc. National Statistics Office of Georgia publishes the publication "Women and Men in Georgia". There have been nine statistical publications on gender problems since 1999. In terms of the format and contents, every booklet, compared to the previous ones, is closer to the world statistical standards, but it is still a long way to go.

Completed Activities in Georgia have been taken in Georgia towards achievement of greater gender equality, from which are very important

- ✓ Adoption of anti-trafficking Law of Georgia (in 2006)
- ✓ Adoption the Law of Georgia on the Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence and their Assistance (2006)
- ✓ Adoption the Law on Gender Equality (2010)
- ✓ Adoption of Non-discrimination Law (2014)
- ✓ Ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (2017)
- ✓ The Inter-agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Issues established (2017) etc.

Producers and Users Gender statistics is a relatively new field in Georgia. The main requirement for the production and dissemination of statistics that reflect the realities of women and men is that users and producers work together to identify the issues to be addressed and the necessary statistical outputs. The national statistical system produces gender statistics on the basis of problems and goals identified in national policies and plans. A close and continuous cooperation between users and producers is crucial to successfully produce and improve gender statistics in the country. Users of statistics have different needs, therefore producers of gender statistics have to produce specific statistical products. Without co-operation gender statistics will not be improving. This is a process of dialogue between producers and users which will enable Producers to

address users' specific needs. However, users are often inadequately informed on the availability of statistics and do not know how to accurately formulate their requests. Geostat is actively working with users of gender-related statistical information.

As I have already mentioned, certain steps have been taken in Georgia towards achievement of more precise gender statistics, but it is still not enough. I think it is necessary to improve gender statistics by adding new indicators for analyzing the situation of gender equality in Georgia. The first step was taken by making an independent site on gender statistics (<http://geostat.ge/index.php?action=0&lang=eng>). For future work it would be better to make mapping on the basis data of gender statistics, establish gender statistics unit (sub-division) in GeoStat; compose specific plans for development of gender statistics; organize surveys, giving more indicators on gender statistics (for example, time use survey); calculate gender indicators by regions of Georgia. The execution of these steps will help to further improve gender statistics in Georgia.

The comprehensive activities are necessary in order to have reliable data relevant for addressing the needs of the gender equality in Georgia. Particularly, it was mentioned that the data on gender statistics should be conducted in order to identify the most demanded users. The existence of gender statistics allows the demonstration of inequality between women and men in Georgia and by the level of decision-making enables the eradication of it by passing the right policies.

General Information on census. The census provides information on size, distribution and socio-economic, demographic and most other characteristics of the population. The data collected through the census are used for administration, planning and policy making as well as management and evaluation of various programmes by the government, NGOs, researchers, journalists, etc. It is a very big work for statisticians to obtain huge amount of indicators from census. Georgia is in the list of the countries, which once in 10 years carry out census of population. Unfortunately, dynamics has been violated because of the lack of finance. Previous census was carried out in 2002, next in 2014.

The General Population Census of Georgia has been conducted during November 5-19, 2014. The Census reference date (the moment of enumerating the individual) defined as 12 a.m. of November 5, (Thus, data on children born and persons deceased after the reference date was not collected). For its part, selection of November 5-19 period for the Census was conditioned by relatively lower mobility of the population during this period, as studies in schools and universities were under way. Wednesday – the middle day of the week – was selected as the reference date also for the reason of lower mobility. Census duration (15 days) was determined by the fact that population should be able to recall where they were on the census reference date (at midnight of November 5). Taking into account that in November visiting households in some mountainous areas could become problematic due to a possible deterioration in weather conditions, the Population Census was conducted in September 2014 in the municipalities of Mestia and Kazbegi well as in the mountainous areas of the municipalities of Dusheti and Akhmeta. The Census covered 82% (57 000 square kilometers) of the whole area of the country. The Census could not be carried out in the occupied territories, in particular, in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and South Ossetia (total area of 13000 square kilometers). The Census was conducted in 79 % of the settlements (urban, community, rural) of the country, and covered 71 self-governed units and 3726 settlements. The Census could not be carried out in 1015 settlements of the occupied territories.

Gender Data of Census. (Ralph Hakkert, Nana Sumbadze, 2017) According to the census in 2014, 3.7 mln inhabitants live in Georgia, out of which 52 % are women and 48 % men. On the whole, 57.4 % of women and 64.6 % of men are married. Fewer men (9.0 %) than women (13.8 %) remain unmarried. Based on the percentage of married persons by age, the census allows the conclusion that men marry at a later age (25.9 years) than women (22.0 years). The census data suggest that prolonged education considerably postpones marriages for women. The average age of marriage of women with a doctoral degree is 26.3, with a bachelor's degree 24.4, with general education diploma 21.8, while among those having only primary education it is 18.7.

Early marriages continue to be a problem. They are most common in rural (10.9 %) than in urban (4.4 %) settlements, being least common in the capital city Tbilisi. Muslim religion seems to create a more permissive context for early marriages, as early marriages are more widespread among Muslims: 19.6 % of Muslim girls under age 18 are married.

According to the census, there are more divorced women (6.1 %) than men (3.4 %) in the age group 30-59. Duration of marriage among those divorced most often is 11-13 years. The difference of over 8 years between the life expectancy of men and women is the main reason of the higher number of widows (18.3 %) than widowers (3.4 %). Men also remarry more often (10.9 %), than women (8.9 %). The smaller number of widowed men and men's better chance of remarrying contributes to a sex difference in the share of those living with marriage partners (57.4 % of women and 64.6 % of men).

More than half of the spouses have similar educational attainment (56.3 %). Although women under 25 tend to have lower educational status than their spouses, for women older than 25 the reverse is observed. People mostly marry persons of their own ethnic group. As many as 97.5 % of Georgians are married to Georgians, 97.6 % of Azeris are married to Azeris. The situation is a bit different among Armenians, as only 75.5 % of their marriages are homogeneous. Other smaller ethnic groups less often (33.9 %) choose partners from the same group. Ethnic homogeneity in marriage is more apparent in rural (98.4 %) than urban (95.7 %) settlements.

Childlessness is moderate in the country. The corrected census data suggest that 14.0 % of women aged 40-44 are childless. Fertility in Georgia is much contained within the marriage context, as for all never married women aged 40-44 only 3.7 % ever had a child. Rural fertility is higher compared to urban fertility.

According to the census, 100,113 persons have a disability status which according to the country's legislation falls into 4 categories: clearly, significantly and moderately expressed disability and children with disabilities. Women comprise from 45 % to 49.6 % in these groups and 40 % of children with disabilities. Impairments among children seriously interferes with their school attendance. School non-attendance of children aged 6-15 in the country is 0.7-1.4 %, among children with impairments it is roughly 50 %. School attendance is higher in Tbilisi and Adjara than anywhere else. The attendance ratio is lower (36.8 % in 2015-16) among girls than among boys (63.2 %). By results of child labor survey, generally the school attendance rate stands at 95.4% among boys and at 96.5% among girls. (Charekishvili, Child Labour: what do the survey results in Georgia show, 2017, p.58).

In the 2014-2015 school year 4,927 (37.4 % of girls and 62.6 % of boys) and in the 2015-2016 years 4,277 (36.8 % of girls and 63.2 % of boys) children with disabilities attended schools. Only a very small fraction of disabled children managed to graduate (79 in 2014-2015 and 92 in 2015-2016 school years). Boys outnumber girls both in school attendance and school graduation ratios, although the difference is smaller among graduates (46.8 % of girls and 53.2 % of boys) in 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 (43.5 % of girls and 56.5 % of boys).

Impairment also interferes with marriage. The ratio of unmarried people in the age group of 25-44 years olds is 15-30 %, while among those with impairments is 30-77 %. Apparently, it is much easier to find partners for both men and women having sensory impairments and problems with mobility than for those having problems with cognitive functioning and self-care. There does not seem to be a systematic difference by sex in this respect. Some disabilities are associated with higher female non-marriage rates, but with other disabilities it is the opposite.

Ability to speak Georgian is a prerequisite for obtaining higher education and career advance Knowledge of Georgian considerably differs across ethnicities and rural/urban settlements. The worst situation in this regard is among Azeri population. Only 17.2 % of women and 26.4 % of men know Georgian, while the corresponding ratios among the second biggest ethnic minority (Armenians) is 46.4 % for women and 47.4 % for men. On the whole women's educational attainment is higher, compared to men's: 30.0 % of women and 27.0 % of men over 15 years old have a Bachelor's degree or higher education. Reforms gave students the possibility to obtain the skills of critical analysis and independent thinking in order to support full participation in a civil society, to provide self-fulfillment, personal development and the pursuit of knowledge. (Charekishvili, HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN GEORGIA: REFORMS AND MODERN CHALLENGES, 2015, p.67)

More women (30.6 %) than men (10.1 %) live alone. 80.4 % of children under age 9 in urban and 85.7 % in rural settlements live with both parents. For 4.4 % of children in urban and 5.2 % in rural settlements neither parent lives in the same household as the child. In 13.7 % of urban and 7.7 % of rural households, children live only with their mother and in 1.5 % of urban and 1.4 % of rural households children live with only their father. Sex differences in life expectancy have widened since the 2002 census. Based on corrected death statistics by age and retro-projected populations by age, women are expected to live 76.54 and men 67.72 years (2010-2014).

Fewer women than men are employed, although the sex difference is not big in the case of wage employment (hired), as 356,865 men and 327,733 women declare this category. Many more men (95,453) than women (35,511) are self-employed. The difference is also big among those running their own enterprise, 32,865 men compared to only 23,313 women. • In the peak economic activity ages (30-59) about one third of men do not rely on income from work, with 10-15 % dependent on pensions, social assistance or some other form of government assistance.

Following the interests in improving the labour market efficiency, the topicality of the issue is even clearer if considering the necessity for implementing the balanced policy of the national labour market by the state taking into account the national specificity and global trends (Abesadze, 2013, p. 154)

Women greatly outnumber men among recipients of pensions (397,053 women and 205,456 men, respectively) which is largely explained by the 5-year difference in retirement age between men and women, and 7.23 years gap between life-expectancy of women and men. Like pensions, more women benefit from social assistance (69,600) than men (60,360).

Although the census does not contain any direct information in this regard, it suggests that women generate less income than men. There are two approaches in discussing the wage gap: one focuses on the proportion of women in managerial positions, which is mentioned in the text in regard to executive power, and the other is horizontal segregation, as women are more often found in lower paid professions. The census does not provide information on vertical segregation, i.e. on women on managerial positions, but it provides a good insight on the gender distribution in professions. It clearly shows the existence of "male" (e.g. drivers, metal, machinery workers, extraction and building trades workers) and "female" (e.g. teaching, life science and health professionals, customer services clerks) occupations, with "female" occupations generally being more poorly paid.

The basic reasons of poverty are unemployment and low level of incomes of population. Therefore, a support of population's employment is very significant for a solution of social problems and for acceleration of economic development of any country. (Nino Abesadze, Nino Paresashvili, 2018, p. 2)

The contribution of migrants to family livelihoods is considerable. A bigger share of women (56.4 %) than men send remittances home. In case of divorce or widowhood men's financial responsibilities towards family seems to diminish drastically. Only 39.8 % of divorced and 52.9 % of widowed migrant men, compared to 55.6 % of married migrant men send money home, while women's responsibilities towards family increases with divorce or widowhood: 61.7 % of married, 66.6 % of divorced and 71.8 % of widowed migrant women send money. The same holds true for never married migrant women and men: 56.4 % of women and only 33.6 % of men support their families back home.

Economic migrants supposedly constitute the biggest share of all migrants, although 11.0 % of households stated that their family member went abroad for educational reasons. The majority choose to study in Germany (32.9 %), USA (10.6 %) or Russia (6.9 %). In 2014 Georgia counted 227,733 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), 53.6 % of them women. The share of widowed (18.1 %) and divorced or separated (5.2 %) women among IDPs is much higher than among male IDPs (3.0 % and 2.4 %, respectively) and also slightly higher than among the general population of all ages. There is a considerable gender difference in the distribution of men and women in rural and urban areas. According to the census, the overall sex ratio is much lower (85.9) in urban than in rural (99.1) locations. This reflects the fact that women have relatively more economic opportunities in urban than in rural areas.

Conclusion

The importance of global approach of Gender Analysis (Charekishvili, Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Analysis. International Scientific-Analytical Journal, 2014, p. 41) – These remain the main reasons of estimating gender equality in the Country. Statisticians will prepare different products to suit the needs of the various groups of users: policy makers, researchers, media, students, civil society etc. All statistical data should reflect the reality of women and men in society and present a correct measurement of their participation in social and economic life.

The next step is to identify statistics needed to address the problem/concern, investigate the causes, assess the effects and analyze the relationships with other variables. Different hypotheses on underlying causes, on effects and interrelations among different issues can be made. Data will then be used at different levels by statisticians and analysts to test these hypotheses and establish the interrelations among variables. The results

of these analyses and studies will probably help indenting new gender issues that require new statistics and indicators and improvement and changes in existing statistics for further analysis. It is a continuous process in which statisticians, policy makers, analysts and researchers work in close collaboration.

Census data analysis shows that there is a big gap in every sphere of Economic Activities between women and men. There is no gender budget analysis which will be more deeply differentiated. An impact from this is the violence against women, which is a big problem in the world also. The purpose of our research is gender budget analysis and unpaid domestic work. The boundary around economic and social policy is also the boundary between those needs that are recognized and those that go unmet. This boundary has important implications for the gender.

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Prezentat la 07.06.2018