



:

**2010**

**2010 /**

**2006**

.2010 ، - 1432 ، ©

.2010 : **.2010**

**1647** : .

(02-2982700) :

(02-2982710) :

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**2010**

**(PNA)**

**2010 (CFG)**  
**.(SDC)**

**(CFG)**



1996

**2010**





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**21**

**23**

**29**

**37**

**45**

**51**

**53**

**61**

**71**



<b>23</b>		2010 - 2000	<b>:1</b>
<b>25</b>	2009	12	<b>:2</b>
<b>26</b>		12	<b>:3</b>
			2009
<b>39</b>	2010/2009		<b>:4</b>
<b>40</b>	2010/2009		<b>:5</b>
<b>41</b>			<b>:6</b>
<b>42</b>			<b>:7</b>
<b>43</b>			<b>:8</b>
<b>45</b>		10	<b>:9</b>
		2009	
<b>47</b>		10	<b>:10</b>
			2009
<b>48</b>		10	<b>:11</b>
			2009
<b>49</b>		10	<b>:12</b>
			2009



<b>24</b>		2010		<b>:1</b>	
<b>27</b>		2009	1997	<b>:2</b>	
<b>29</b>		2006		<b>:3</b>	
<b>30</b>		(	1000 )	<b>:4</b>	
<b>31</b>	2006	1999	(	1000 )	<b>:5</b>
<b>32</b>	60-21			<b>:6</b>	
			2006		
<b>33</b>	2006	60-21		<b>:7</b>	
<b>34</b>	2006	60-21		<b>:8</b>	
<b>35</b>	2006	60-21		<b>:9</b>	
<b>37</b>	2009-2000	15		<b>:10</b>	
<b>38</b>		2007/2006	2001/2000	<b>:11</b>	
<b>46</b>			10	<b>:12</b>	
			2009		
<b>51</b>	2009		10	<b>:13</b>	
<b>51</b>	2009		10	<b>:14</b>	
<b>52</b>	2009		10	<b>:15</b>	
<b>52</b>	2009		10	<b>:16</b>	
<b>53</b>	-2001	15		<b>:17</b>	
			2010		
<b>54</b>	15			<b>:18</b>	
		2010			
<b>55</b>			15	<b>:19</b>	
			2010		
<b>56</b>	2010		15	<b>:20</b>	

<b>57</b>	<b>2010</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>:21</b>
<b>58</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>:22</b>
<b>59</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>:23</b>
			<b>2010</b>	
<b>61</b>		<b>2006</b>		<b>:24</b>
<b>62</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:25</b>
<b>62</b>			<b>2008</b>	<b>:26</b>
<b>63</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:27</b>
<b>64</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:28</b>
<b>65</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:29</b>
<b>66</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:30</b>
<b>67</b>			<b>2008</b>	<b>:31</b>
<b>68</b>			<b>2008</b>	<b>:32</b>
<b>69</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>:33</b>



30

%41 15

%29 29-15

%41 %42 2010

%3.0 65

%3 %9 30

.2006 – 1994

2006

6.1 8.6

%7 %9 60 – 51

%16 %25 60 – 51

%16 %32 60 – 51

%0.2 %0.7 50 – 41

2009-2000

( )

1.3

2008 – 1995

.1995 0.9 2008

%64 %58.0

.%59 %67

%38 10

%63 10 %51

%67 10 %42

4

.2010 – 2001

13

.( 6-1)

.2001 %12.9 %2.6 2010

. %12 .

%5

. %7

%15





## Population

2010 - 2000 :1  
**Table 1: Sex ratio, 2000-2010**

sex ratio	females	males	Year
102.2	49.4	50.6	2000
102.3	49.4	50.6	2001
102.4	49.4	50.6	2002
102.5	49.4	50.6	2003
102.6	49.4	50.6	2004
102.7	49.3	50.7	2005
102.7	49.3	50.7	2006
103.1	49.2	50.8	2007
103.1	49.2	50.8	2008
103.1	49.2	50.8	2009
103.1	49.2	50.8	2010

102.2          2010          100          103.1

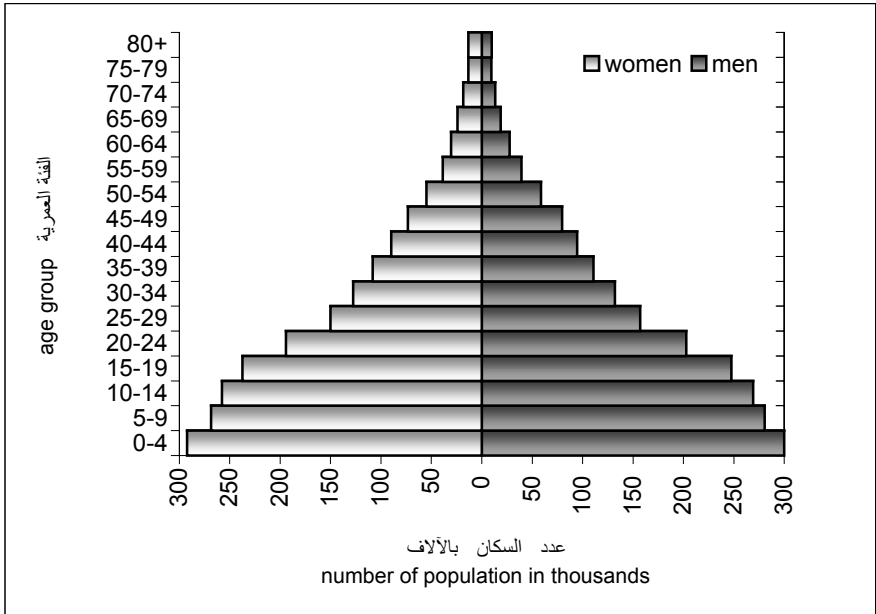
2000

Although the sex ratio increased to 103.1 male per 100 females in year 2010 compared to a sex ratio of 102.2 in year 2000, the population estimates show stability in the sex ratio for the past four years.

2010

:1

Figure 1: Population pyramid, mid year estimates 2010



%41

15

%41

%42 2010

%29

29-15

%3.0

65

.2010

The Palestinian society can be described as a young one, where persons aged less than 15 years comprised about 41 percent in the mid of 2010; 42 percent for males and about 41 percent for females. The increase of the population in this age group could be referred to the high fertility rate in the Palestinian society. The youth 15-29 years comprised about 29 percent while the elderly 65 years and over comprised 3.0 percent.

2009

12

:2

**Table 2: Women and men 12 years and over by marital status, 2009**

Marital status	women	men	
	Never Married	43.3	51.2
Married	50.2	47.8	
Divorced	1.2	0.3	
Widowed	5.1	0.7	
Separated	0.2	0.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

. %48

%5

%51 %43

. %1

More than half of women were married compared to about 48 percent for men. However, the percentage of single women is lower than men; 43 percent and 51 percent respectively; while the widowed women was about 5 percent compared to 1 percent for widowed men.



**Table 3: Women and men 12 years and over who are never married by age group, 2009**

Age group	women	men	
12-14	28.8	24.6	14 -12
15-19	38.9	35.3	19-15
20-24	17.9	25.1	24-20
25-29	5.0	11.6	29-25
30-34	3.0	2.3	34-30
35-39	1.9	0.6	39-35
40-44	1.3	0.2	44-40
45-49	0.9	0.1	49-45
50+	2.3	0.2	+50
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

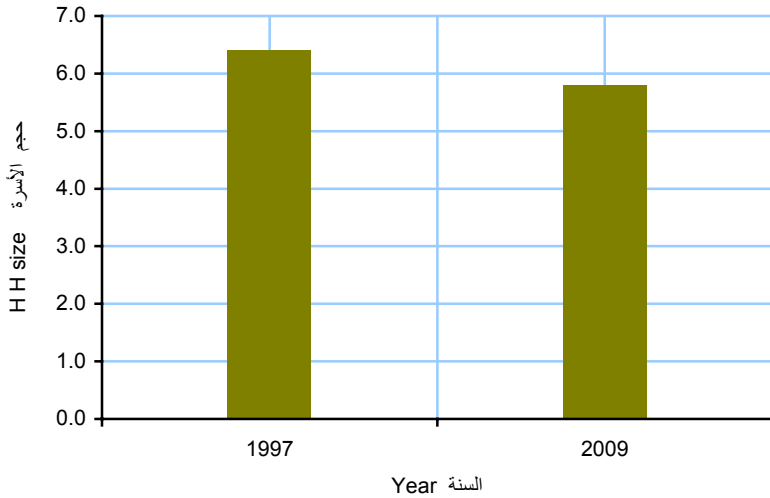
%3

%9

30

The percentage of “never married” women in the age group 30 years and over was about 9 percent compared to about 3 percent for men.

2009 1997 :2  
**Figure 2: Average household size 1997, 2009**



1997	6.4	2009	5.8
		2009	%84.6
		1997	%73.3

The average household size had declined to 5.8 person in 2009 compared to 6.4 in 1997. This indicates a decline in fertility rate and an increase in the nucleus households instead of extended ones. The percentage of nucleus households has increased to 84.6 percent in 2009 compared to 73.3 percent in 1997.

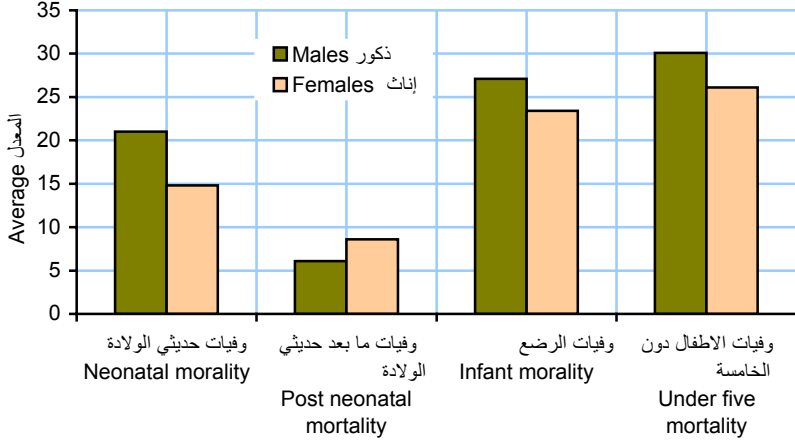


## Health

2006

:3

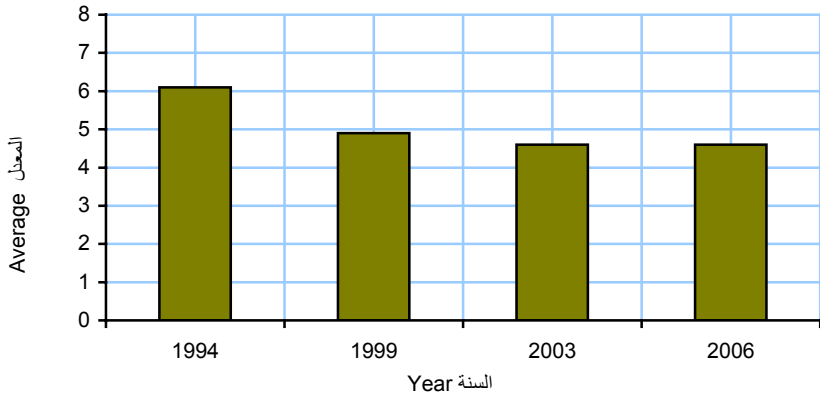
Figure 3: Infant and child mortality rates by sex, 2006



Child and infant mortality rates are higher for males compared to females, but the post neonatal mortality is higher for females.

( 1000 ) :4

**Figure 4: Total fertility rate (per 1000 women) by selected years**

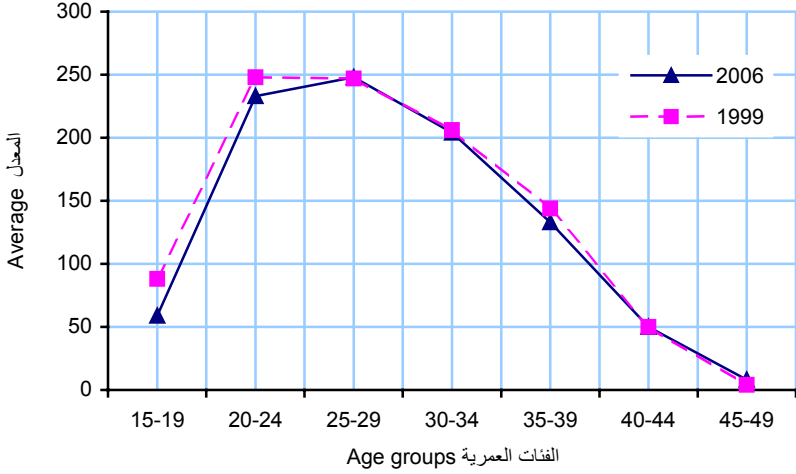


.2006-1994

Total fertility rates decreased from 1994 to 2003, but seems to have stabilized.

( 1000 ) :5  
2006 1999

Figure 5: Detailed fertility rates (per 1000 women) by age 1999, 2006

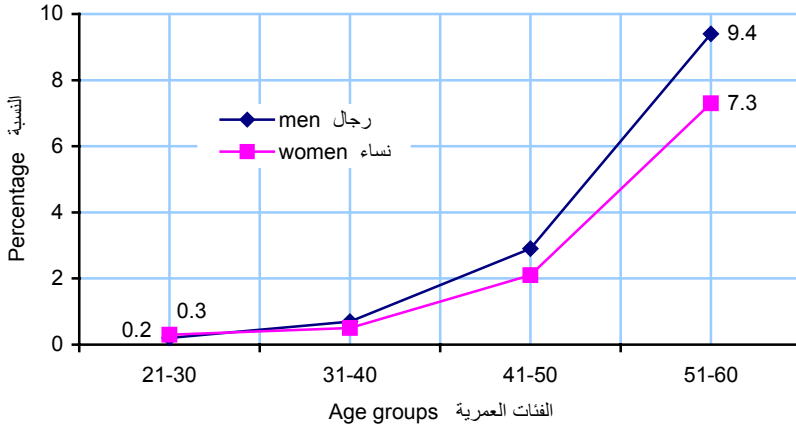


. 24-15

The drop in fertility mainly seems to have taken place among the young in the age group 15-24 years.

2006

**Figure 6: The prevalence of cardiovascular diseases among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006**



60-51

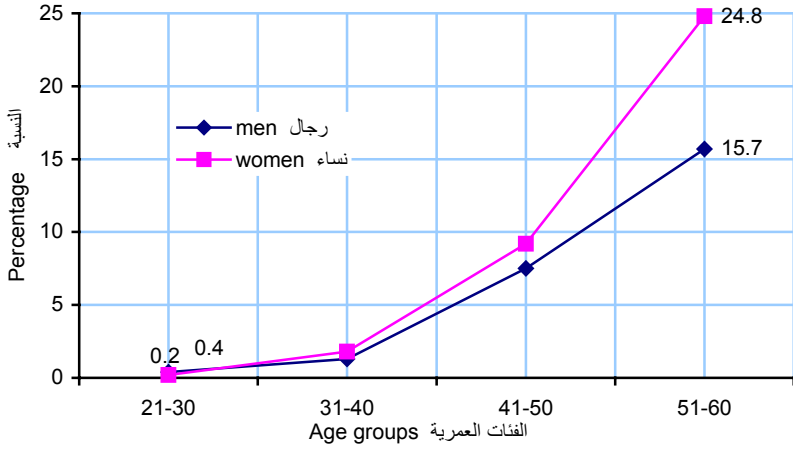
The prevalence of cardiovascular diseases increased by age, and it is higher among men compared to women, especially in the age group 51-60 year.

2006

60-21

:7

**Figure 7: The prevalence of diabetes among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006**

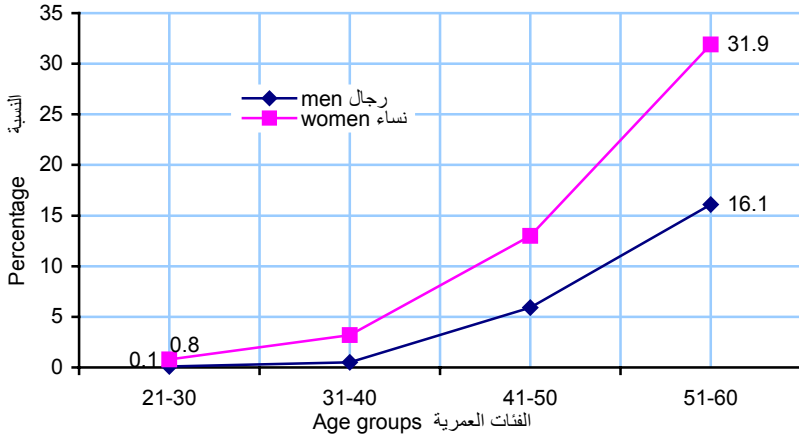


60-51

The prevalence of diabetes increased by age, and it is higher among women compared to men, especially in the group 51-60 years.



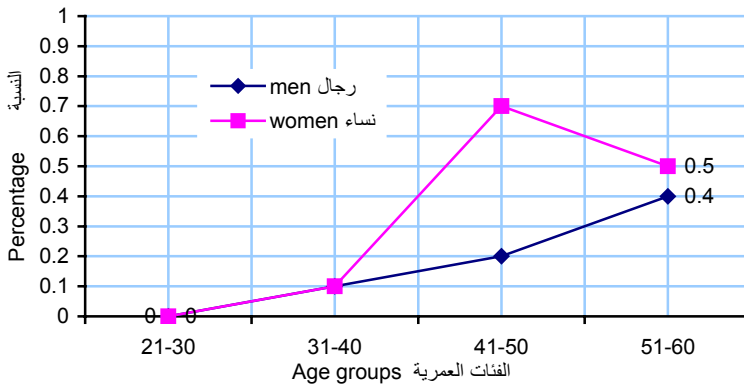
**Figure 8: The prevalence of hypertension among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006**



60-51

The prevalence of hypertension increased by age, and it is higher among women, especially in the age group 51-60 years.

**Figure 9: The prevalence of cancer among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006**



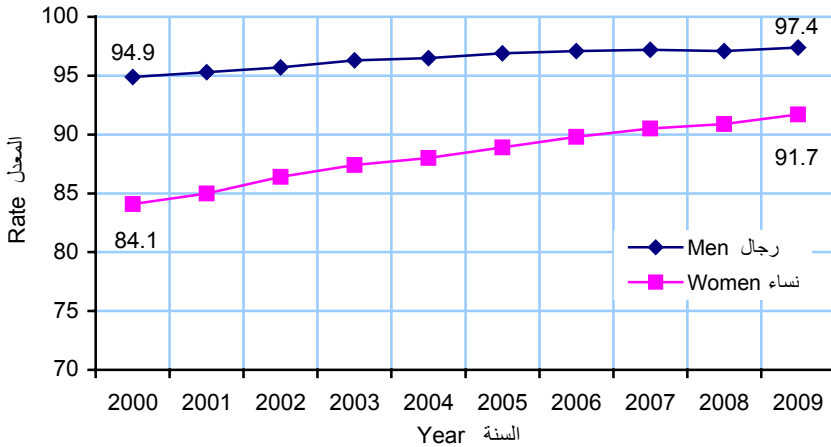
50-41

The prevalence of cancer increased by age, and it is higher among women compared to men especially among women, especially in the age group 41-50 years.



## Education

2009-2000 15 :10  
Figure 10: Literacy rates among women and men 15 years and over, 2000-2009



15

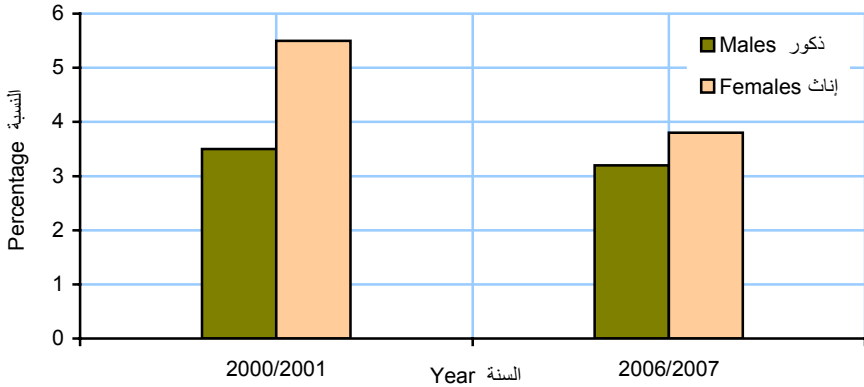
2009-2000

The increase in literacy rate among women aged 15 years and over exceeds that for men during the period 2000-2009. But the men literacy rate is still higher than for women.

2007/2006 2001/2000

:11

Figure 11: Drop-out rates in the secondary stage, 2000/2001, 2006/2007



2007/2006 %4      2001/2000 %6

There was a decline in the drop out rate in the secondary education especially among females where it decreased to about 4 percent in the schooling year 2006/2007 compared to about 6 percent in 2000/2001. Despite of the decrease in the gender gap, the drop-out rate among female had remained higher than drop-out rates among males.

**Table 4: Students in schools by stage, 2009/2010**

Sex	stage		
	Total	Secondary	Basic
Males	50.0	45.9	50.6
Females	50.0	54.1	49.4
<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

%54

%46

The percentage of enrolled males and females in the elementary stage are nearly equal. But the percentage of enrolled females in the secondary education is higher than the percentage of enrolled males; about 54 percent and 46 percent respectively.

**Table 5: Students in the secondary stage by specialization, 2009/2010**

<b>Specialization</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Both Sexes</b>	
Human Sciences	72.6	67.3	<b>70.2</b>	
Scientific	23.4	24.0	<b>23.6</b>	
Agricultural	3.6	5.2	<b>4.4</b>	
Commercial	0.0	0.3	<b>0.1</b>	
Industrial	0.3	2.9	<b>1.5</b>	
Shar'i	0.0	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	
Hoteling	0.0	0.1	<b>0.1</b>	
Other	0.1	0.2	<b>0.1</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	

( )

Students (males and females) in the secondary stage still prefer to enroll in humanities and scientific disciplines compared to other professional disciplines. From a gender perspective, female students turn to humanities education more than males.

**Table 6: Teachers in governmental schools by selected scholastic years**

<b>Scholastic year</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Both Sexes</b>	
1994/1995	5,668	7,865	<b>13,533</b>	1995/1994
1998/1999	9,005	10,277	<b>19,282</b>	1999/1998
1999/2000	9,745	10,693	<b>20,438</b>	2000/1999
2000/2001	11,213	11,740	<b>22,953</b>	2001/2000
2001/2002	11,798	11,791	<b>23,589</b>	2002/2001
2002/2003	12,826	12,257	<b>25,083</b>	2003/2002
2003/2004	13,778	12,599	<b>26,377</b>	2004/2003
2004/2005	14,450	13,077	<b>27,527</b>	2005/2004
2005/2006	15,275	13,743	<b>29,018</b>	2006/2005
2006/2007	15,857	14,217	<b>30,074</b>	2007/2006
2007/2008	16,085	14,479	<b>30,564</b>	2008/2007
2008/2009*	11,969	9,891	<b>21,860</b>	*2009/2008
2009/2010*	12,731	10,221	<b>22,952</b>	*2010/2009

\* Represents West Bank data only.

.\*

More than half of the governmental schools teaching staff are females.



**Table 7: Pupils per teacher by supervising authority, and selected scholastic years**

Scholastic Year	Private		UNRWA	government	grand average	
	kindergartens	schools				
1994/1995	30.5	19.5	36.9	30.9	<b>31.1</b>	1995/1994
1998/1999	28.6	18.6	39.4	28.5	<b>29.5</b>	1999/1998
1999/2000	26.9	18.0	39.5	28.7	<b>29.4</b>	2000/1999
2000/2001	25.2	17.3	37.9	26.8	<b>27.7</b>	2001/2000
2001/2002	26.1	16.8	36.9	27.5	<b>28.1</b>	2002/2001
2002/2003	26.3	16.6	35.9	27.2	<b>27.8</b>	2003/2002
2003/2004	26.3	16.9	34.4	26.8	<b>27.3</b>	2004/2003
2004/2005	25.6	16.7	33.4	26.5	<b>26.8</b>	2005/2004
2005/2006	26.0	16.8	31.5	25.8	<b>26.1</b>	2006/2005
2006/2007	25.1	17.5	31.3	25.3	<b>25.6</b>	2007/2006
2007/2008	25.7	17.3	29.8	25.1	<b>25.2</b>	2008/2007
2008/2009*	25.1	17.7	27.2	24.3	<b>23.6</b>	*2009/2008
2009/2010*	25.0	16.9	26.7	23.2	<b>22.1</b>	*2010/2009

\* Represents West Bank data only.

.\*

The pupils per teacher in private schools 2009-2010 is the lowest, while the highest ratio was in UNRWA schools.

**Table 8: Students at higher education for selected academic years**

(In thousand)

(بالآلف)

Academic year	Community Colleges				Universities*				
	GPI	Females	Males	Both Sexes	GPI*	Females	Males	Both Sexes	
94/95	1.2	2.3	1.9	4.2	0.9	13.4	16.1	29.5	95/94
97/98	1.3	2.4	2.0	4.4	0.8	22.9	29.6	52.5	98/97
98/99	1.2	3.0	2.6	5.6	0.9	27.3	33.6	60.9	99/98
99/00	1.2	2.8	2.4	5.2	0.9	30.4	35.7	66.1	00/99
00/01	1.4	2.9	2.2	5.1	0.9	35.4	40.3	75.7	01/00
01/02	1.3	3.0	2.4	5.4	1.0	39.6	43.9	83.5	02/01
02/03	1.0	3.0	3.0	6.0	1.0	48.5	50.0	98.5	03/02
03/04	1.0	4.1	4.5	8.6	1.0	56.3	57.2	113.5	04/03
04/05	0.8	4.0	5.1	9.1	1.2	67.7	61.5	129.2	05/04
05/06	0.8	4.8	6.4	11.2	1.2	74.5	64.8	139.3	06/05
06/07	0.8	5.0	6.4	11.4	1.2	86.1	72.1	158.2	07/06
07/08	0.6	4.9	8.2	13.1	1.3	92.8	75.3	168.1	08/07

- Universities data include students and graduates of intermediate diploma, bachelor and higher education in universities and university colleges.

08/07

1.3

.95/94

0.9

The gender parity index is in favor for females; it was 1.3 in the academic year 07/08 compared to 0.9 in the academic year 94/95.

$$*GPI = \frac{\text{No. of enrolled females in higher education}}{\text{No. of males enrolled}}$$

$$= \frac{\text{عدد الإناث الملتحقين في التعليم العالي}}{\text{عدد الذكور الملتحقين}} = \text{فجوة الجنس}$$



## Culture

2009

10

:9

**Table 9: Women and men 10 years and over who are radio listener by selected characteristics, percent 2009**

Selected characteristics	women	men
<b>Region</b>		
<b>Palestinian Territory</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>46.9</b>
West Bank	45.9	47.0
Gaza Strip	42.2	46.7
<b>Type of Locality</b>		
Urban	44.8	48.5
Rural	44.4	47.3
Camps	43.0	33.1

. %45

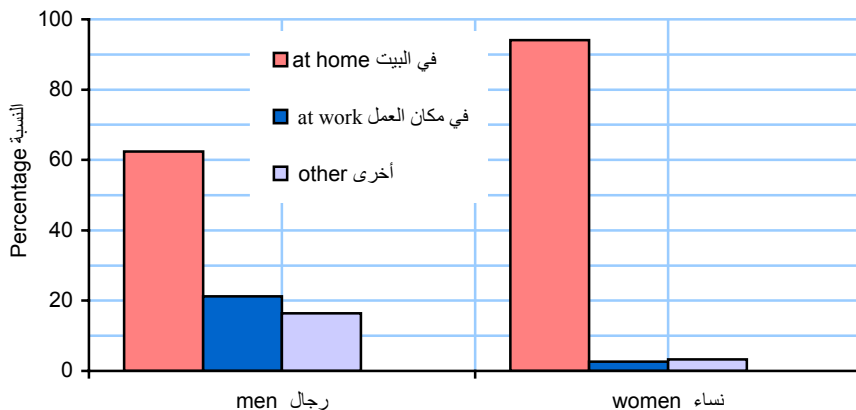
%47

10

%46

About 46 percent of persons 10 years and over listen to the radio; 47 percent for men and 45 percent for women. These percentages are higher in the urban areas, followed by rural areas and then camps.

**Figure 12: Women and men 10 years and over who are radio listener by most frequent listening place, 2009**



%62 %94

%21

%3

The percentage of women who listen to the radio at home was about 94 percent compared to 62 percent for men. On the other hand, men at work do listen to the radio more than women; about 21 percent and 3 percent respectively.

2009

10

:10

**Table 10: Men and women 10 years and over who are newspapers readers by region, percent, 2009**

Region	نساء Women	رجال Men
<b>Palestinian Territory</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>34.9</b>
West Bank	33.8	43.5
Gaza Strip	17.9	20.0

. %28.0

%35

About 35 percent of men are newspapers readers compared to 28.0 percent of women.

**Table 11: Women and men 10 years and over who are members in public institutions, percent, 2009**

Type of Institution	نساء Women	رجال Men	
Sport Clubs	2.1	11.6	
Cultural Clubs	2.0	4.0	
Public Library	3.2	3.5	
Charitable Association	3.6	4.9	
Union / federation	2.1	7.0	/
political party	1.1	5.8	
Other	2.0	1.9	

%3

%4

.%7

%12

Women participation in public life is still low. The percentage of women affiliated to charitable Associations was about 4 percent, and to public libraries was about 3 percent. The percentage of males affiliated to sport clubs was about 12 percent followed by affiliation to unions and federations; 7 percent.

**Table 12: Women and men 10 years and over who read books by selected characteristics, percent, 2009**

Selected Characteristics	Women	رجال Men	
<b>Palestinian Territory</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>58.0</b>	
West Bank	67.1	58.7	
Gaza Strip	59.4	56.7	
<b>Type of Locality</b>			
Urban	62.7	57.3	
Rural	69.1	62.3	
Camps	66.6	55.0	

%58.0 .

%67

%64

%59

Women have more interest than men in reading books. 58.0 percent of men read books compared to about 64 percent for women. The reading habit among women was about 67 percent in the West Bank compared to about 59 percent in Gaza Strip.



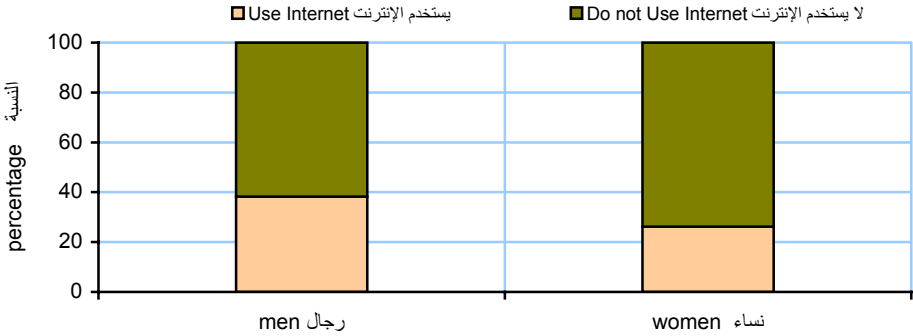
## Information Society

2009

10

:13

**Figure 13: Women and men 10 years and over by usage of Internet, 2009**



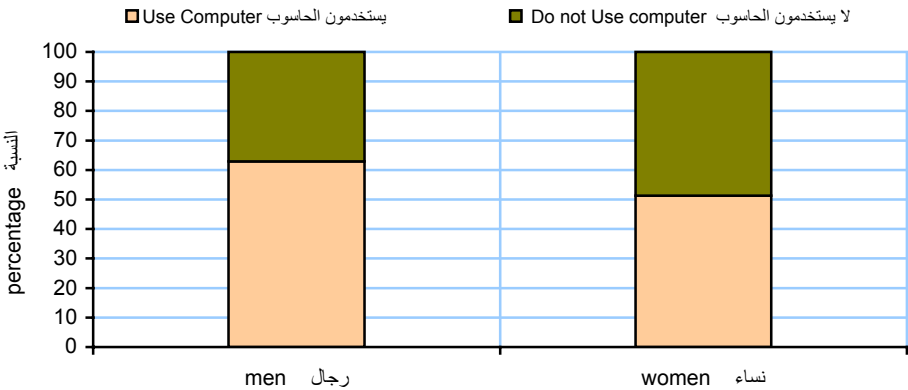
More than quarter women use internet, while more than one - third of men use it.

2009

10

:14

**Figure 14: Women and men 10 years and over by usage of computers, 2009**



%63

%51

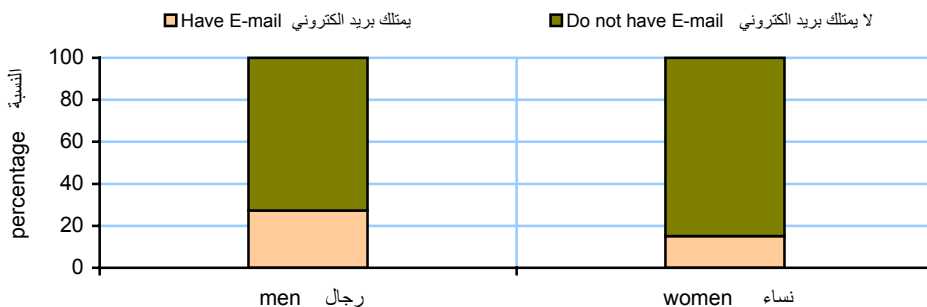
About 51 percent of women use computers, compared to about 63 percent of men.

2009

10

:15

**Figure 15: Women and men 10 years and over by having electronic mail (e-mail), 2009**



%15

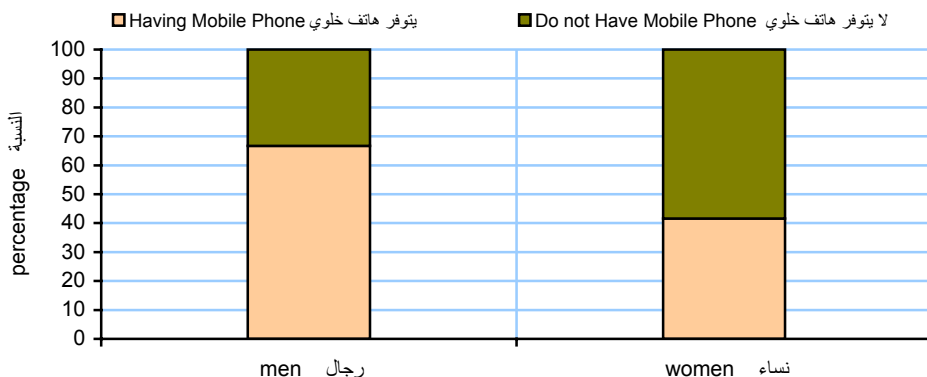
More than quarter of men have electronic mail (e-mail), compared to about 15% of women.

2009

10

:16

**Figure 16: Women and men 10 years and over by having mobile phone, 2009**



%67

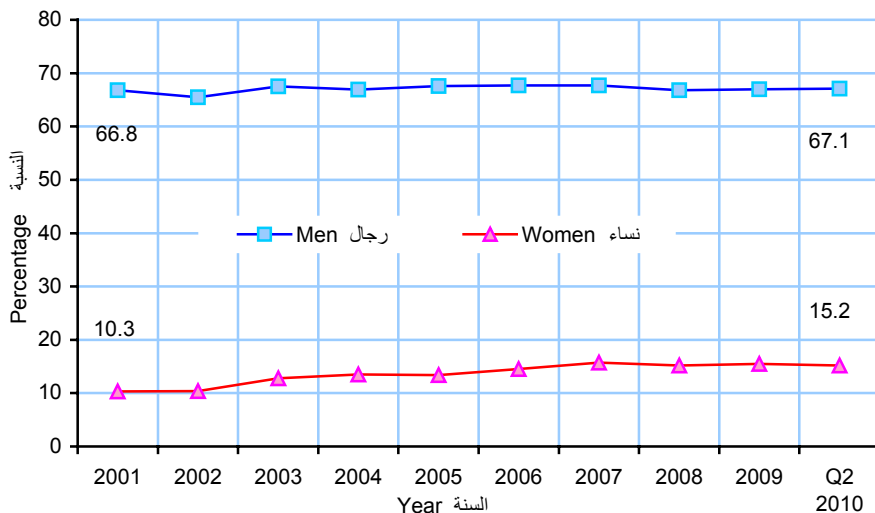
%42

About 42 percent of women own a cellular phone, compared to about 67 percent of men.

## Labour Force

2010                      -2001                      15                      :17

**Figure 17: Labour force participation rate for women and men 15 years and over, 2001-2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



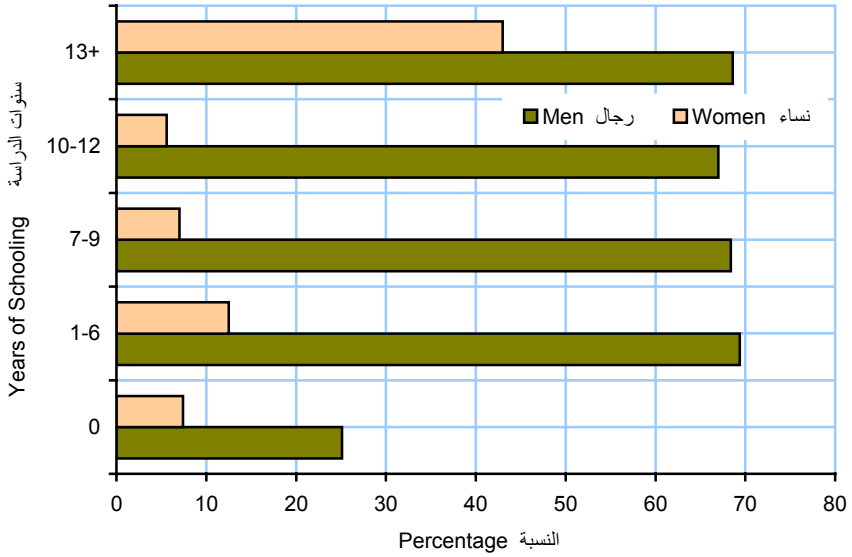
4

.2010 -2001

Men participate 4 times more than women in the labour force, and the gap is stable during the period 2001-2010.

2010

**Figure 18: Labour force participation rate for women and men 15 years and over by years of schooling, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**

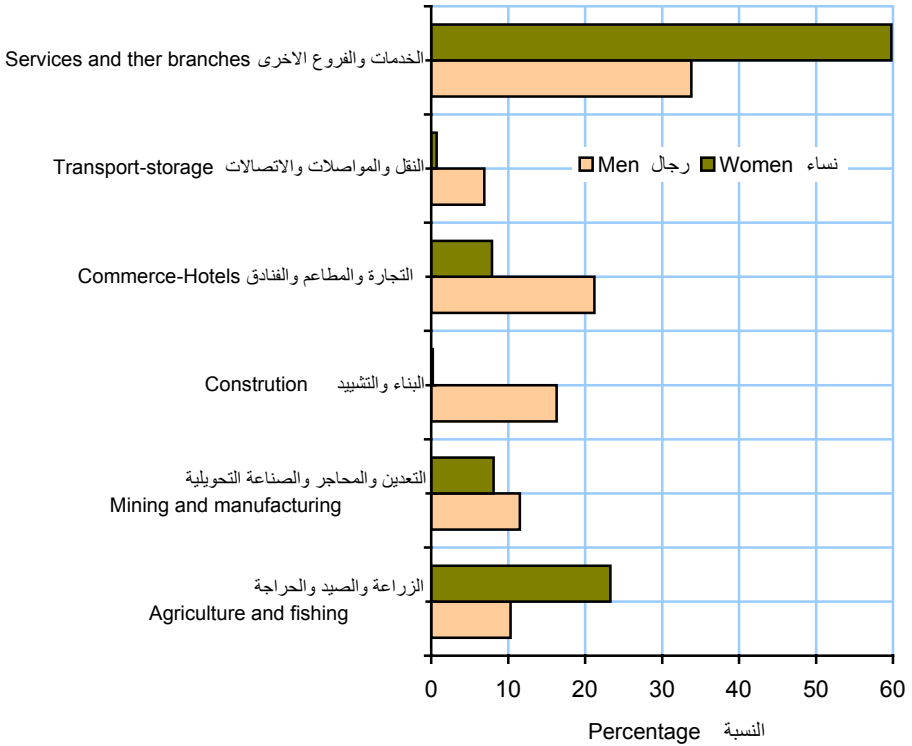


13

6-1

The highest women participation rate in labor force was those who have 13 years of schooling and above; while the highest rate for men was for those with 1-6 years of schooling.

**Figure 19: Employed women and men 15 years and over by economic activity, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



%23 %60

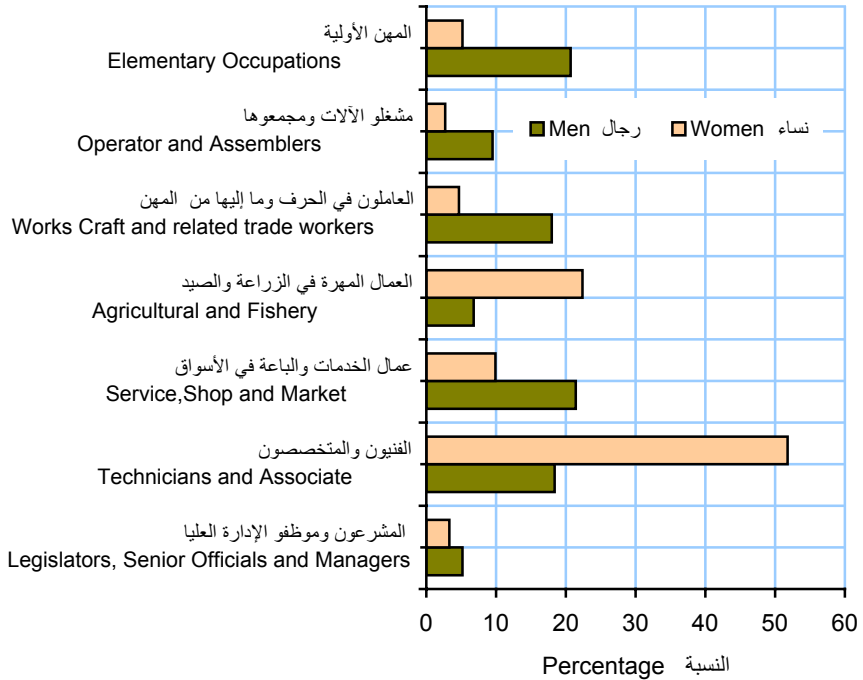
Women participation in the labor market still concentrated in services and agriculture; about 60 percent and 23 percent respectively.

2010

15

:20

**Figure 20: Employed women and men 15 years and over by occupation, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



The majority of occupations that women practice are still limited to traditional ones; whereas more than half of these women work as technicians or associates and about one fifth of them work in the agriculture sector.

**Figure 21: Employed women and men 15 years and over by employment status, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



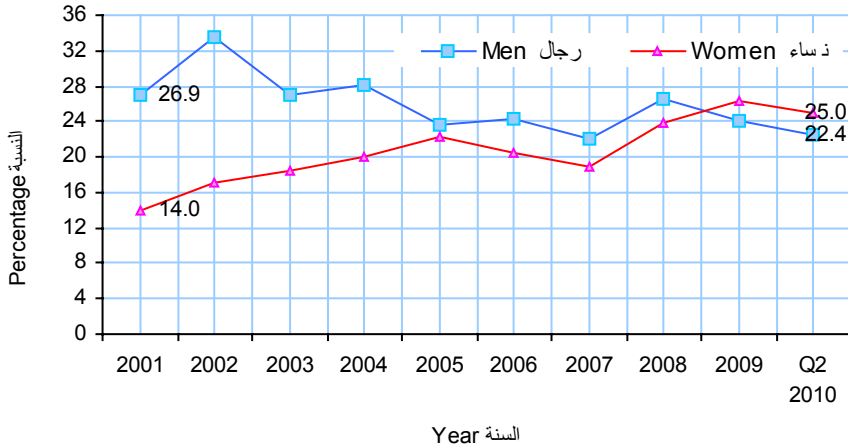
About 66 percent of employed women are paid employment compared to 67.0 percent of men. The percentage of women who work as employer is lower compared to the men; about 2 percent and 8 percent respectively.

2010

15

:22

**Figure 22: Unemployment rate for women and men 15 years and over, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



. %12.9

2001

%2.6

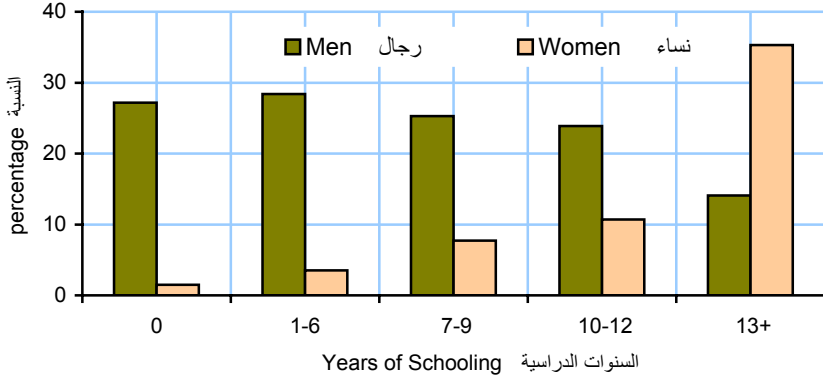
2010

Despite the high unemployment rate among women and men; the gap between women and men decreased by 2.6 percent in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010 compared to 12.9 percent in 2001.



2010

**Figure 23: Unemployment rate for women and men 15 years and over by years of schooling, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010**



%35

13

%14

Unemployment rate among women who completed 13 years of schooling and above was about 35 percent compared to about 14 percent for men.

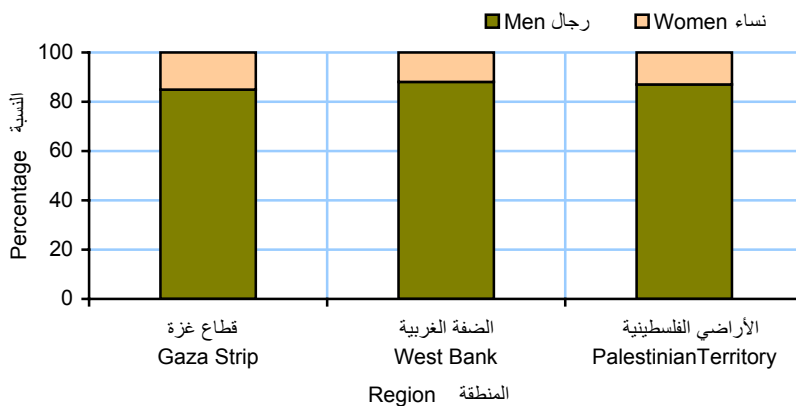


## Public Life

2006

:24

**Figure 24: Legislative council members (women and men) by region, 2006**



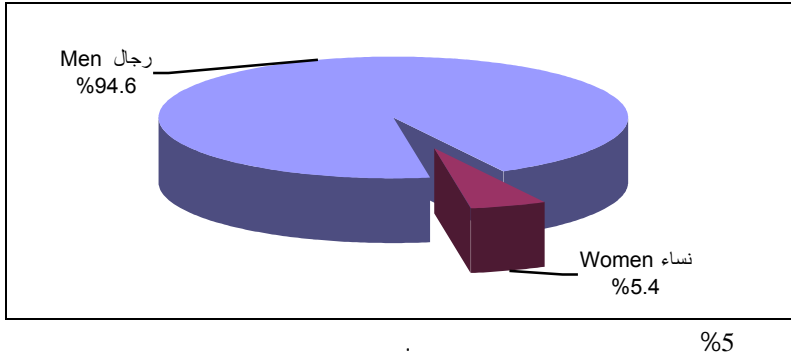
2006 %13.0  
%12.0 %15.0

13.0 percent of the members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elected in 2006 were females, while the percentage of female members is higher in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank; 15.0 percent and 12.0 percent respectively.

2008

:25

**Figure 25: Ambassadors of the Palestinian National Authority (women and men), 2008**

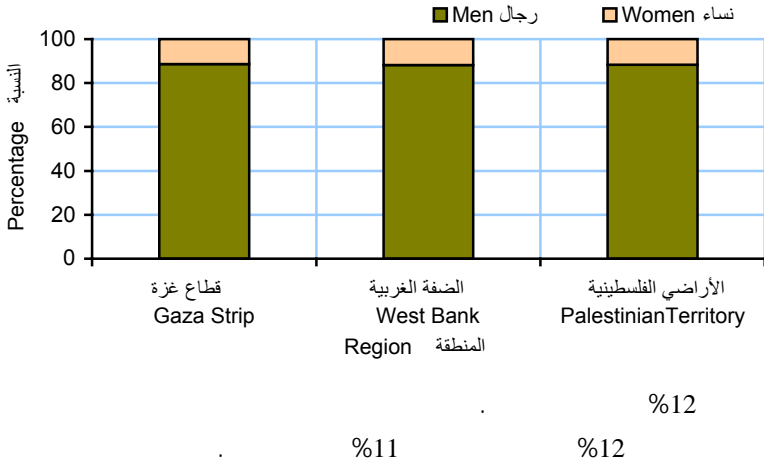


About 5 percent of the Palestinian National Authority's ambassadors were women.

2008

:26

**Figure 26: Judges (women and men) by region, 2008**

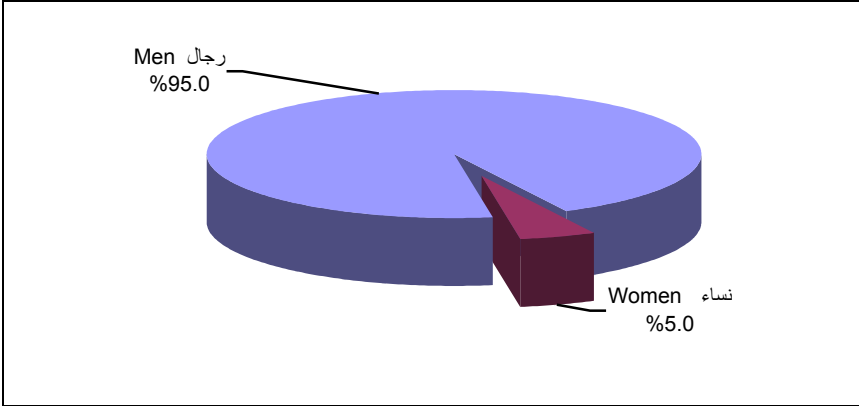


About 12 percent of the judges are women. The percentage of women judges in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip are nearly equal. 12 percent in West Bank and 11 percent in Gaza Strip.

2008

:27

**Figure 27: Prosecutors (women and men) in the West Bank, 2008**



%95.0

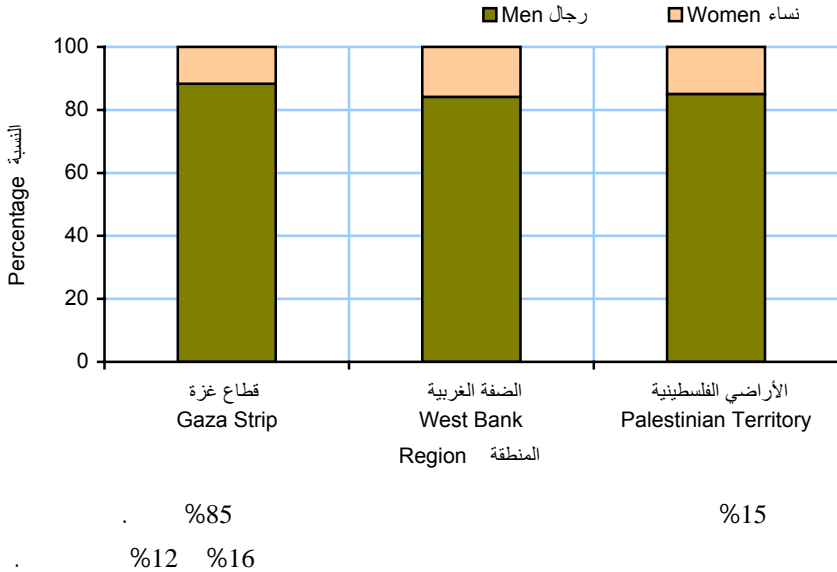
%5.0

5.0 percent of prosecutors were women compared to 95.0 percent for men.

2008

:28

Figure 28: Practiced lawyers (women and men) by region, 2008

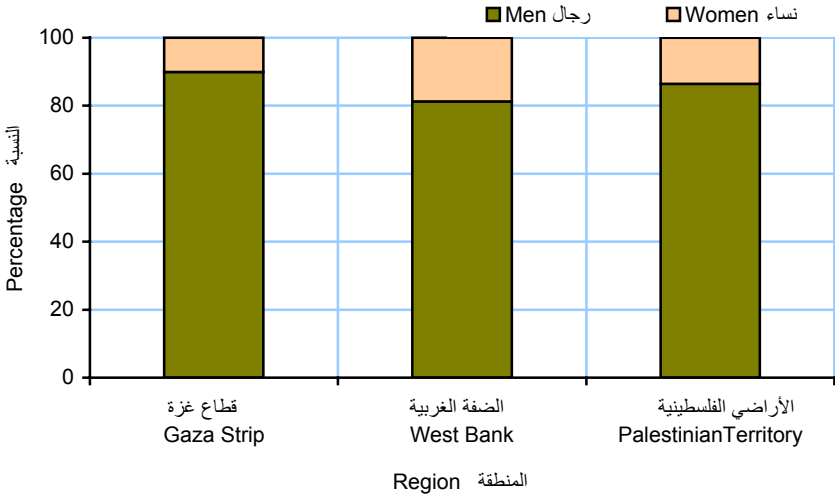


About 15 percent of lawyer practitioners were women compared to about 85 percent for men. The percentage of women lawyer practitioners is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip; 16 percent and 12 percent respectively.

2008

:29

Figure 29: Physicians (women and men) by region, 2008



%86

%14

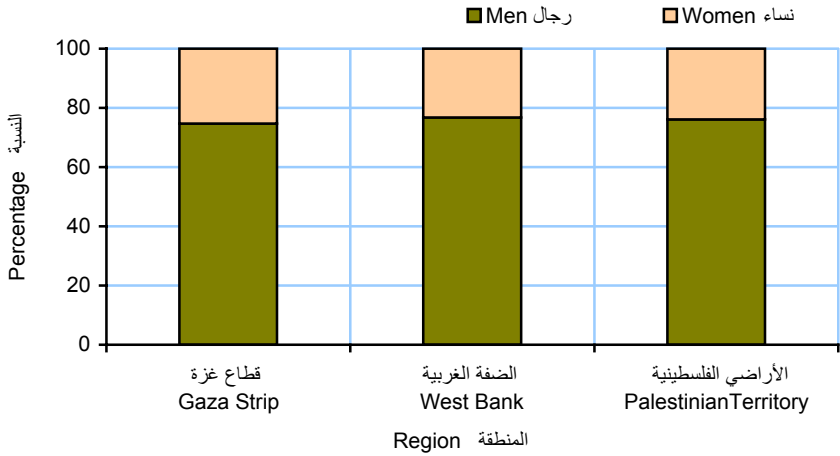
%10 %19

About 14 percent of registered physicians were women compared to about 86 percent for men. The percentage of women registered physicians is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip; 19 percent and about 10 percent respectively.

2008

:30

Figure 30: Dentists (women and men) by region, 2008



%76

%23 %25

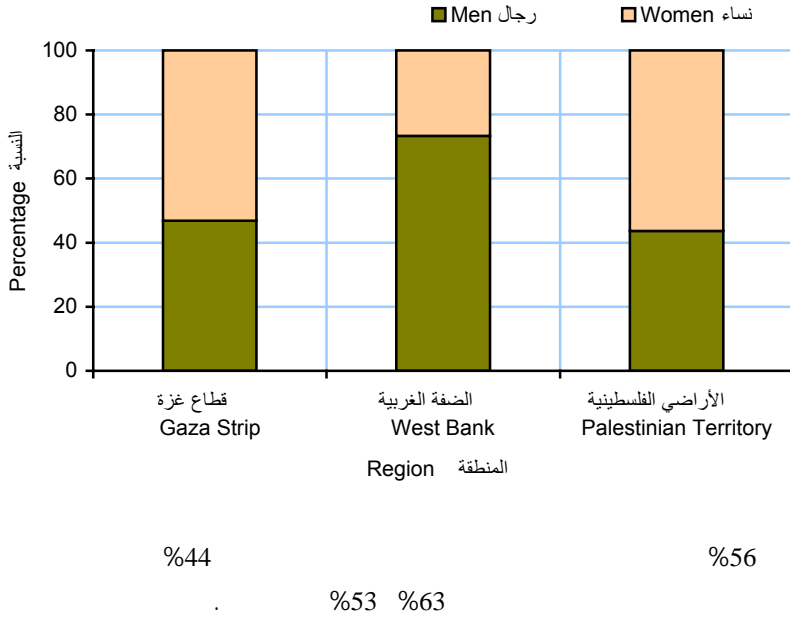
More than one fifth of registered dentists were women compared to about 76 percent for men. The percentage of women registered dentists is higher in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank; 25 percent and 23 percent respectively.



2008

:31

Figure 31: Nurses (women and men) by region, 2008

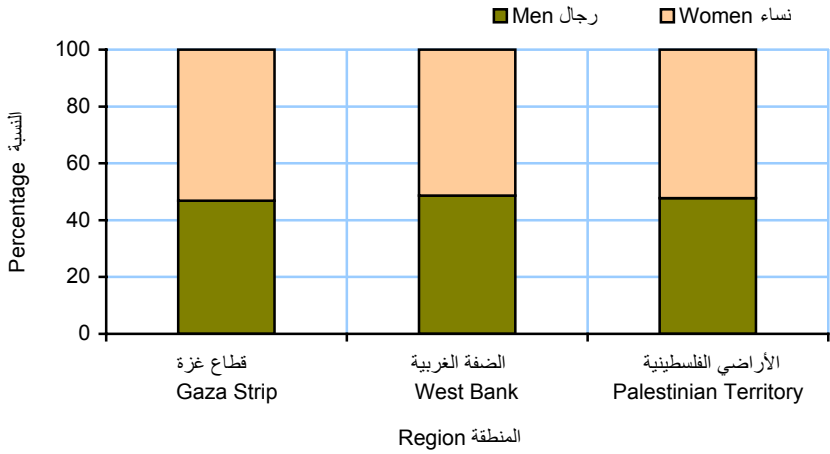


About 56 percent of the registered nurses are women compared to about 44 percent for men. The percentage of women nurses is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip; 63 percent and 53 percent respectively.

2008

:32

Figure 32: Pharmacists (women and men) by region, 2008



%48

%52

2008

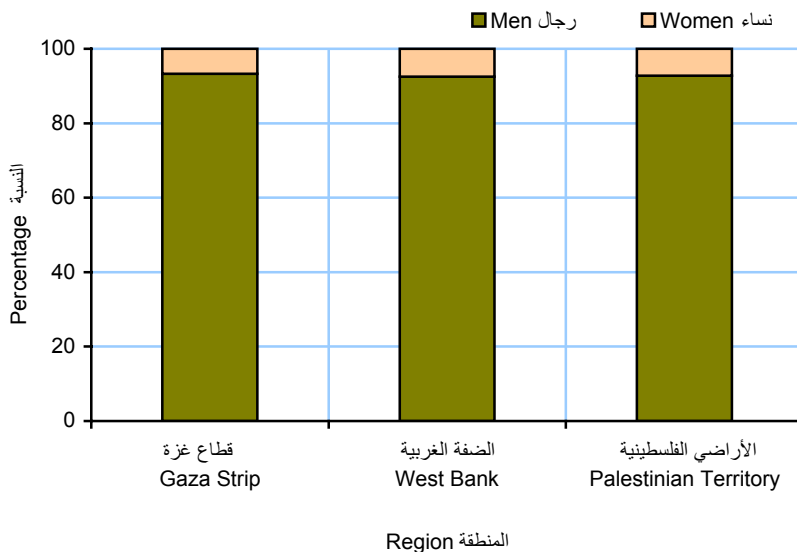
%53 %51

In 2008, about 52 percent of the registered pharmacists were women compared to about 48 percent for men. The percentage of women pharmacists is lower in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip; 51 percent and about 53 percent respectively.

2008

:33

Figure 33: Labor union members (women and men) by region, 2008



%93

%7 %8

%7

About 7 percent of the members of labor unions were women compared to about 93 percent men. This percentage is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip; 8 percent and about 7 percent respectively.



	.2010	.1
	- .2007	
.2009	.2010	.2
	-	
.2009	.2010	.3
	-	
	.2010	.4
	- .2008	
	.2010	.5
	- .2010-1995	
2006	.2010	.6

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**Palestinian National Authority  
Palestinian Central Bureau of  
Statistics**

**Women and Men in Palestine:  
Issues and Statistics, 2010**

**December, 2010**

**This document is prepared in accordance with  
the standard procedures stated in the Code of  
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## **Preface**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has since its inception, strived to build and further develop Palestine's official statistics that is tailored to the needs of society and in accordance with the international recommendations.

As women are considered important contributor in comprehensive development, PCBS has given the production of gender statistics a high priority and ensured the availability of all possible indicators by gender to serve planning and policy making in achieving women empowerment and active participation in society.

PCBS has since 1996, through its Gender Statistics Program, developed comprehensive database on a range of gender relevant indicators in Palestine, and disseminated series of annual reports on the status of women and men identifying the gaps in their rights.

This report is the eighth in a series of specialized reports on gender issues disseminated by PCBS to shed light on the status of women and men in the Palestinian society and to provide adequate data necessary for related policy-making.

PCBS hopes that this report constitutes an effective tool in strengthening the basis of statistical data and indicators on women and men, and raises awareness among policy makers, planners and non-governmental organizations and advocates on gender issues.

**December, 2010**

**Ola Awad**

**Acting President of PCBS**



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# Table of Contents

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Page</b>
Preface	
List of Tables	
List of Figures	
Summary	
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Population</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Culture</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Information Society</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Labour Force</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Public Life</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>References</b>	<b>71</b>



## List of Tables

<b>Table</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>Table 1:</b>	Sex ratio, 2000-2010	<b>23</b>
<b>Table 2:</b>	Women and men 12 years and over by marital status, 2009	<b>25</b>
<b>Table 3:</b>	Women and men 12 years and over who are never married by age group, 2009	<b>26</b>
<b>Table 4:</b>	Students in schools by stage, 2009/2010	<b>39</b>
<b>Table 5:</b>	Students in the secondary stage by specialization, 2009/2010	<b>40</b>
<b>Table 6:</b>	Teachers in governmental schools by selected scholastic years	<b>41</b>
<b>Table 7:</b>	Pupils per teacher by supervising authority, and selected scholastic years	<b>42</b>
<b>Table 8:</b>	Students at higher education for selected academic years	<b>43</b>
<b>Table 9:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over who are radio listener by selected characteristics, percent, 2009	<b>45</b>
<b>Table 10:</b>	Men and women 10 years and over who are newspapers readers by region, percent, 2009	<b>47</b>
<b>Table 11:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over who are members in public institutions, percent, 2009	<b>48</b>
<b>Table 12:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over who read books by selected characteristics, percent, 2009	<b>49</b>





## List of Figures

<b>Figure</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>Figure 1:</b>	Population pyramid, mid year estimates 2010	<b>24</b>
<b>Figure 2:</b>	Average household size 1997, 2009	<b>27</b>
<b>Figure 3:</b>	Infant and child mortality rates by sex, 2006	<b>29</b>
<b>Figure 4:</b>	Total fertility rate (per 1000 women) by selected years	<b>30</b>
<b>Figure 5:</b>	Detailed fertility rates (per 1000 women) by age 1999, 2006	<b>31</b>
<b>Figure 6:</b>	The prevalence of cardiovascular diseases among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006	<b>32</b>
<b>Figure 7:</b>	The prevalence of diabetes among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006	<b>33</b>
<b>Figure 8:</b>	The prevalence of hypertension among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006	<b>34</b>
<b>Figure 9:</b>	The prevalence of cancer among women and men 21-60 year, percent, 2006	<b>35</b>
<b>Figure10:</b>	Literacy rates among women and men 15 years and over, 2000-2009	<b>37</b>
<b>Figure 11:</b>	Drop-out rates in the secondary stage, 2000/2001, 2006/2007	<b>38</b>
<b>Figure 12:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over who are radio listener by most frequent listening place, 2009	<b>46</b>
<b>Figure 13:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over by usage of Internet, 2009	<b>51</b>
<b>Figure 14:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over by usage of computers, 2009	<b>51</b>
<b>Figure 15:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over by having electronic mail (e-mail), 2009	<b>52</b>
<b>Figure 16:</b>	Women and men 10 years and over by having mobile phone, 2009	<b>52</b>
<b>Figure 17:</b>	Labour force participation rate for women and men 15 years and over, 2001-2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>53</b>

<b>Figure</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>Figure 18:</b>	Labour force participation rate for women and men 15 years and over by years of schooling, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>54</b>
<b>Figure 19:</b>	Employed women and men 15 years and over by economic activity, percent, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>55</b>
<b>Figure 20:</b>	Employed women and men 15 years and over by occupation, percent, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>56</b>
<b>Figure 21:</b>	Employed women and men 15 years and over by employment status, percent, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>57</b>
<b>Figure 22:</b>	Unemployment rate for women and men 15 years and over, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>58</b>
<b>Figure 23:</b>	Unemployment rate for women and men 15 years and over by years of schooling, 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010	<b>59</b>
<b>Figure 24:</b>	Legislative council members (women and men) by region, 2006	<b>61</b>
<b>Figure 25:</b>	Ambassadors of the Palestinian National Authority (women and men), 2008	<b>62</b>
<b>Figure 26:</b>	Judges (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>62</b>
<b>Figure 27:</b>	Prosecutors (women and men) in the West Bank, 2008	<b>63</b>
<b>Figure 28:</b>	Practiced lawyers (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>64</b>
<b>Figure 29:</b>	Physicians (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>65</b>
<b>Figure 30:</b>	Dentists (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>66</b>
<b>Figure 31:</b>	Nurses (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>67</b>
<b>Figure 32:</b>	Pharmacists (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>68</b>
<b>Figure 33:</b>	Labor union members (women and men) by region, 2008	<b>69</b>

## Summary

### **Young society and high celibacy rate among women 30 years and over**

The Palestinian society can be described as a young one, where persons aged less than 15 years comprised about 41 percent in the mid of 2010; 42 percent for males and 41 percent for females. The youth 15-29 years comprised about 29 percent while the elderly 65 years and over comprised 3.0 percent.

The percentage of “never married” women in the age group 30 years and over was about 9 percent compared to about 3 percent for men.

### **Decrease in the fertility rate**

Total fertility rates decreased during the period 1994 to 2003, but seems to have stabilized.

### **High mortality rates among females in the post neonatal**

Child and infant mortality rates are higher for males compared to females, but the post neonatal mortality is higher for females compared to males; 8.6 and 6.1 respectively.

### **Women suffer more from hypertension, diabetes and cancer compared to men**

The prevalence of cardiovascular diseases increased by age, and it is higher among men compared to women especially in the age 51-60 years; 9 percent and 7 percent respectively .

The prevalence of diabetes increases by age, and it is higher among women compared to men, especially in the age 51-60 years; about 25 percent and 16 percent respectively .

The prevalence of hypertension increases by age, especially among women in the age 51-60 years compared to men; about 32 percent and 16 percent respectively.

The prevalence of cancer increases by age, and it is higher among women compared to men, especially in the age 41-50 years; 0.7 percent and 0.2 percent respectively .

### **Convergence is the illiteracy gap between men and women**

The increase in literacy rate among females aged 15 years and over was four times among females compared to men both sexes during the period 2000-2009. But the male literacy rate is still relatively higher than for females.

Students (both sexes) in the secondary stage still prefer to enroll in humanities and scientific disciplines compared with other professional disciplines. From a gender perspective, female students turn to humanities education more than males.

### **The gender parity index (GPI) is in favor to females**

The GPI was increased during the period 1995-2008 in favor to females, 1.3 in 2008 compared to 0.9 in 1995 .

### **Women have more interest than men in reading books**

58.0 percent of men read books compared to about 64 percent for women. The reading habit among women was about 67 percent in the West Bank compared to about 59 percent in Gaza Strip.

### **Women are less engaged in the information society compared to men**

More than quarter of women 10 years and over use internet, compared to about 38 percent of men, while on the other hand, about 51 percent of women 10 years and over use computers, compared to about 63 percent of men.

About 42 percent of women 10 years and over owned a cellular phone, compared to about 67 percent of men.

### **Low participation rate of women in the labour force**

Men participate 4 times more than women in the labour force, and the gap is keep to be stable during the period 2001-2010.

The highest women participation rate in labor force was among those who have 13 years of schooling and above; while the highest rate for men was for those with 1-6 years of schooling.

### **High unemployment rates**

Despite the increase in the unemployment rates among men and women, the gap decreased in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010 by 2.6 percent compared to 12.9 percent in 2001.

**Limited presence of women in public life**

About 5 percent of the Palestinian National Authority's ambassadors were women, about 12 percent of the judges are women, about 15 percent of lawyer practitioners were women, and about 7 percent of the members of labor unions were women.



## **Introduction**

The PCBS has, since establishment, sought to provide national statistics about demographic, social, economic, and environmental areas. PCBS aims to provide policy and decision-makers with the needed statistics for proper utilization in the planning and formulation of policies to meet national development objectives and international needs.

The issue of women has certainly become as a fundamental pillar in the public life of all societies despite of differences in customs, traditions, and concepts. The issue has also become an important platform in the field of research, studies, conferences and international forums. Women's rights, recognition, empowerment, and their active role in society have emerged as fundamental for society development and progress in the political, social and economic life. These developments on the status of women may lead to change in laws, as happened in the development of learning and education theories, as a result of women's greater involvement in this area. The marginal role of women is a result of the dominance of males on the economic life.

Women's empowerment does not require the marginalization of men but comes through the promotion of women's economic role and active position in the labor market to reach equity in employment, wages, and training. Therefore, social, economic, and political empowerment of women are prerequisites for the national development.

This report is a new publication by PCBS as part of a series of specialized reports on gender issues, to shed light on the status of men and women in the Palestinian society, and to provide adequate data necessary for policy-making pertinent to gender equity.

The report presents a selected group of key indicators about gender issues from six relevant perspectives; demographic indicators, education, culture and information technology indicators, health indicators, labor force indicators; and indicators about the public life. The report is based on different data sources namely the surveys conducted by PCBS (labor force survey, Palestinian family health survey and other surveys) and administrative records of the public and private institutions. The report presents results drawn from data series for the period 2000-2009 to comprehensively reflect on various gender issues.