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Women in numbers

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HEALTH

TABLE 1. LIFE EXPECTANCY, 2015

Country	Life expectancy at birth ^a		Life expectancy at age 60 ^b	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Algeria	78	74	23	21
Bahrain	78	76	20	19
Comoros	65	62	17	15
Djibouti	65	62	18	17
Egypt	73	69	19	16
Iraq	72	66	20	17
Jordan	76	73	20	18
Kuwait	76	74	18	18
Lebanon	77	74	20	18
Libya	76	70	20	17
Mauritania	65	62	17	16
Morocco	75	73	20	19
Oman	79	75	22	20
Palestine ^c	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Qatar	80	77	22	21
Saudi Arabia	76	73	20	18
Somalia	57	54	17	16
Sudan	66	62	18	17
Syrian Arab Republic	70	60	20	17
Tunisia	78	73	21	18
United Arab Emirates	79	76	21	20
Yemen	67	64	17	16

Source: www.who.int.

Notes: ^a Life expectancy at birth is an estimate of the number of years to be lived by a female or male newborn, based on current age-specific mortality rates. Life expectancy at birth by sex gives a statistical summary of current differences in male and female mortality across all ages. In areas with high infant and child mortality rates, the indicator is strongly influenced by trends and differentials in infant and child mortality.

^b Life expectancy at age 60 is an estimate of the additional number of years to be lived by a woman or man who has survived to age 60, based on current age-specific mortality rates. The indicator, when disaggregated by sex, gives an indication of sex differences in survival into older ages.

^c Including East Jerusalem (2010-2015), available from <http://unstats.un.org>.

(...) Indicates that data are not available.

TABLE 2. MATERNAL MORTALITY AND INFANT MORTALITY ESTIMATES, 2015

Country	Maternal mortality ratio ^a (Number of deaths per 100000 live births)	Infant mortality rate ^b (Number of deaths per 1000 live births)
Algeria	140	21.9
Bahrain	15	5.3
Comoros	355	55.1
Djibouti	229	54.2
Egypt	33	20.3
Iraq	50	26.5
Jordan	58	15.4
Kuwait	4	7.3
Lebanon	15	7.1
Libya	9	11.4
Mauritania	602	65.1
Morocco	121	23.7
Oman	17	9.9
Palestine ^c	(...)	(...)
Qatar	13	6.8
Saudi Arabia	12	12.5
Somalia	732	85
Sudan	311	47.6
Syrian Arab Republic	68	11.1
Tunisia	62	12.1
United Arab Emirates	6	5.9
Yemen	385	33.8

Source: www.who.int.

Notes: ^a The maternal mortality ratio is the annual number of female deaths from any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management, excluding accidental or incidental causes, during pregnancy and childbirth or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, per 100,000 live births for a specified year.

^b The infant mortality rate is the probability of dying between birth and age 1 per 1,000 live births in a given year.

^c Including East Jerusalem (2010-2015), available from <http://unstats.un.org>.

(...) Indicates that data are not available.

EDUCATION

TABLE 3. ADULT (15+) AND YOUTH (15-24) LITERACY RATE, BY SEX

Country	Year	Adult (15+) literacy rate (Percentage)		Youth (15-24) literacy rate (Percentage)	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
Algeria	2015	73.06	86.13	96.26	97.20
Bahrain	2015	93.43	96.95	99.74	99.79
Comoros	2015	74.26	82.00	88.14	86.83
Djibouti	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Egypt	2015	68.06	83.61	92.08	94.45
Iraq	2015	73.83	85.60	80.61	82.42
Jordan	2015	97.49	98.51	99.37	99.11
Kuwait	2015	95.23	96.77	99.39	99.59
Lebanon	2015	92.04	96.04	99.32	98.85
Libya	2015	85.81	97.00	99.93	99.97
Mauritania	2015	41.61	62.63	55	70.05
Morocco	2015	62.05	81.88	93.48	96.60
Oman	2015	89.66	95.79	99.10	99.13
Palestine	2015	94.81	98.49	99.33	99.42
Qatar	2015	97.51	97.83	99.73	98.25
Saudi Arabia	2015	91.84	96.95	99.31	99.39
Somalia	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Sudan	2015	53.12	64.12	70.41	71.32
Syrian Arab Republic	2015	80.72	91.82	95.63	97.14
Tunisia	2015	72.80	89.68	96.66	98.10
United Arab Emirates	2015	95.08	92.36	99.12	99.64
Yemen	2015	54.85	84.97	98.66	97.55

Sources: <http://data.uis.unesco.org> for all countries except the Comoros, whose information is taken from <http://unstats.un.org>.

Notes: The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defines a literate person as someone who can both read and write, with understanding, a short, simple statement on his or her everyday life. A person who can only read but not write, or can write but not read, is considered to be illiterate. A person who can only write figures, his or her name or a memorized ritual phrase is also not considered literate. This definition of literacy is widely used in national population censuses and surveys, but its interpretation and application might vary to some extent among countries, depending on national, social and cultural circumstances. Furthermore, this concept of literacy includes persons who, though familiar with the basics of reading and writing, might still be considered functionally illiterate.

(...) Indicates that data are not available.

TABLE 4. TERTIARY GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO, BY SEX AND GENDER PARITY INDEX

Country	Tertiary gross enrolment ratio ^a			
	Year	Women (Percentage)	Men (Percentage)	Gender Parity Index ^b
Algeria	2015	45.1	28.9	1.6
Bahrain	2015	59.4	30.9	1.9
Comoros	2014	8.0	9.8	0.8
Djibouti	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Egypt	2015	35.6	36.9	1.0
Iraq	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Jordan	2015	47.3	42.5	1.1
Kuwait	2015	(...)	(...)	(...)
Lebanon	2014	45.7	39.5	1.2
Libya	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Mauritania	2016	3.6	7.1	0.5
Morocco	2015	27.5	28.7	1.0
Oman	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Palestine	2015	54.4	34.5	1.6
Qatar	2015	43.9	6.3	6.9
Saudi Arabia	2015	61.8	64.4	1.0
Somalia	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Sudan	2014	16.8	15.8	1.1
Syria Arab Republic	2015	47.0	41.3	1.1
Tunisia	2015	43.3	26.2	1.7
United Arab Emirates	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)
Yemen	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)

Source: <http://data.uis.unesco.org>. Statistics on enrolment are compiled by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) from data provided by national Governments in response to UIS questionnaires.

Notes: ^a The tertiary gross enrolment ratio is defined as enrolment at third level, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the theoretical school age group corresponding to this level of education. For the tertiary level, the population is the five-year age group following on from the secondary-school leaving age. The tertiary gross enrolment ratio is used to show the general level of participation in this level of education.

^b The Gender Parity Index (GPI) refers to the ratio of female to male enrolled in tertiary education. This indicator helps assess gender disparity with regard to participation in tertiary education. A GPI equal to one indicates parity between females and males. A value less than one indicates a disparity in favour of boys, and a value greater than one indicates a disparity in favour of girls.

(...) Indicates that data are not available.

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

TABLE 5. LABOUR-FORCE PARTICIPATION, 2016
(*Percentage*)

Country	Age 15+		Age 15-24	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Algeria	16.9	70.6	10.4	45.6
Bahrain	38.9	85.0	30.0	53.1
Comoros	35.5	79.4	24.7	53.1
Djibouti	36.5	68.3	36.7	48.4
Egypt	22.9	76.2	17.7	47.7
Iraq	15.2	69.8	8.3	48.1
Jordan	14.4	64.4	9.0	37.1
Kuwait	48.1	83.9	29.3	42.7
Lebanon	23.6	70.4	18.7	41.7
Libya	27.8	78.6	21.8	48.8
Mauritania	29.2	65.4	18.6	34.7
Morocco	25.5	74.4	17.7	51.7
Oman	30.1	85.6	27.2	57.0
Palestine	18.1	69.4	9.5	49.5
Qatar	53.3	93.8	28.1	74.0
Saudi Arabia	20.1	78.8	9.0	26.0
Somalia	33.3	75.9	28.4	58.8
Sudan	24.3	72.2	16.4	41.8
Syrian Arab Republic	12.3	70.8	8.2	47.7
Tunisia	25.1	71.3	22.4	46.5
United Arab Emirates	41.8	91.1	29.0	57.7
Yemen	26.0	73.4	22.0	53.5

Source: www.ilo.org/ilostat/.

TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYMENT FOR AGES 15+, 2016
(Percentage)

Country	Women	Men	Total unemployment rate
Algeria	19.7	9.2	11.2
Bahrain	4.3	0.5	1.3
Comoros	23.6	18.3	20.0
Djibouti	7.6	6.1	6.6
Egypt	23.9	8.4	12.0
Iraq*	26.8	13.7	16.0
Jordan	23.9	11.0	13.2
Kuwait	2.1	2.6	2.4
Lebanon	11.0	5.4	6.8
Libya	28.3	16.0	19.2
Mauritania	13.6	10.8	11.7
Morocco	10.6	9.7	10.0
Oman	36.8	14.7	17.5
Palestine	27.9	24.2	24.9
Qatar	1.0	0.1	0.2
Saudi Arabia	21.2	2.7	5.5
Somalia	7.4	6.3	6.6
Sudan	19.2	11.3	13.3
Syrian Arab Republic	33.0	11.1	14.3
Tunisia	21.1	12.5	14.8
United Arab Emirates	9.6	2.8	3.7
Yemen	28.4	13.1	17.1

Source: www.ilo.org/ilostat/.

TABLE 7. KEY NATIONAL PROVISIONS FOR MATERNITY PROTECTION

Country	Duration ^a	Wages	Source of funding
Algeria	14 weeks	Full	Social security
Bahrain	60 days	Full for the first 45 days; unpaid thereafter	Employer
Comoros	14 weeks	Full	Employer
Djibouti	14 weeks	Full	50 per cent from social security, 50 per cent from employer
Egypt	3 months	Full	75 per cent from social security, 25 per cent from employer
Iraq	62 days	Full	Employer
Jordan	10 weeks	Full	Employer
Kuwait	70 days	Full	Employer
Lebanon	70 days	Full	Employer
Libya ^b	14 weeks	Half	Employer and social security for self-employed women
Mauritania	14 weeks	Full	Social security
Morocco	14 weeks	Full	Social security
Qatar	50 days	Full	Employer
Saudi Arabia ^c	10 weeks	Half or full	Employer
Somalia	14 weeks	Half	Employer
Sudan	8 weeks	Full	Employer
Syrian Arab Republic ^d	120 days	Full	Employer
Tunisia	1.2 months	Two thirds	Social security
United Arab Emirates	45 days	Full	Employer
Yemen	60 days	Full	Employer

Source: Adapted from International Labour Organization, *World Social Protection Report 2014-2015*, 2014, pp. 60-68.

Notes: ^a Days indicate working days.

^b Self-employed women receive full wages funded by social security.

^c Percentage of wages depends on duration of employment.

^d 120 days leave are granted for the first child.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

TABLE 8. SEATS IN LOWER OR SINGLE HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT

Country	Year of suffrage rights	Last elections	Seats	Seats held by women (Percentage)
Algeria	1962	4 May 2017	462	25.8
Bahrain	2002	22 November 2014	40	7.5
Comoros	1956	25 January 2015	33	6.1
Djibouti	1946 (vote); 1986 (stand for election)	22 February 2013	65	10.8
Egypt	1956	17 October 2015	596	14.9
Iraq	1980	30 April 2014	328	25.3
Jordan	1974 (exercised for the first time in 1989)	20 September 2016	130	15.4
Kuwait	2005	26 November 2016	65	3.1
Lebanon	1952	7 June 2009	128	3.1
Libya	1964	25 June 2014	188	16
Mauritania	1961	23 November 2013	147	25.2
Morocco	1963	7 October 2016	395	20.5
Oman	1997	25 October 2015	85	1.2
Palestine	1994*	25 January 2006	124	12.1
Qatar	1999	1 July 2013	35	0
Syrian Arab Republic	1949 (vote); 1953 (suffrage)	13 April 2016	250	13.2
Saudi Arabia	2011 (exercised for the first time in 2015)	2 December 2016	151	19.9
Somalia	1956	23 October 2016	264	24.2
Sudan	1964	13 April 2015	426	30.5
Tunisia	1957 (vote in municipal elections); 1959 (suffrage)	26 October 2014	217	31.3
United Arab Emirates	2006	24 September 2011	40	20
Yemen	1970	27 April 2003	300	0

Sources: www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm; www.ipu.org/wmn-e/suffrage.htm.

Notes: * Year of establishment of the Palestinian Authority.

TABLE 9. MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS IN GOVERNMENT

Country	Number of ministers ^a	Ministerial posts held by women ^b (Percentage)
Algeria	30	13.3
Bahrain	22	4.5
Comoros	10	0.0
Djibouti	18	5.6
Egypt	34	11.8
Iraq	19	10.5
Jordan	28	7.1
Kuwait	15	6.7
Lebanon	29	3.4
Libya	20	15.0
Mauritania	26	30.8
Morocco	23	13.0
Oman	32	6.3
Palestine	18	16.7
Qatar	16	6.3
Syrian Arab Republic	33	6.1
Saudi Arabia	29	0.0
Somalia	30	6.7
Sudan	35	11.4
Tunisia	26	23.1
United Arab Emirates	30	26.7
Yemen	37	5.4

Sources: www.ipu.org.

Notes: ^a As at 1 January 2017. The total includes deputy prime ministers and ministers. Prime ministers/heads of Government were also included when they held ministerial portfolios. Vice-presidents and heads of governmental or public agencies have not been included.

^b As at 1 January 2017.

TABLE 10. QUOTAS FOR WOMEN'S POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

Country	Quota type*			Quota source
	Single/lower house	Upper house	Local councils	
Algeria	Reserved seats	No quota	Reserved seats	Electoral law
Bahrain	No quota		No quota	
Comoros	No quota		No quota	
Djibouti	Reserved seats		No quota	Electoral law
Egypt	Legislated candidate quotas		Reserved seats	Ad-hoc for parliament, constitution for local councils
Iraq	Reserved seats		Reserved seats	Electoral law
Jordan	Reserved seats	No quota	Reserved seats	Electoral law
Kuwait	No quota		No quota	
Lebanon	No quota		No quota	
Libya	Legislated candidate quotas		Reserved seats	Electoral law
Mauritania	Legislated candidate quotas	Legislated candidate quotas	Reserved seats	Electoral law
Morocco	Reserved seats	No quota	Reserved seats	Electoral law
Oman	No quota	No quota	No quota	
Palestine	Legislated candidate quotas		Reserved seats	Electoral law
Qatar	No quota		No quota	
Saudi Arabia	Reserved seats		Legislated candidate quotas	Constitution for parliament, electoral law for local councils
Somalia	Reserved seats	No quota	No quota	Constitution
Sudan	Reserved seats	No quota	No quota	Electoral law
Syrian Arab Republic	No quota		No quota	
Tunisia	Legislated candidate quotas		No quota	Electoral law
United Arab Emirates	No quota			
Yemen	No quota		No quota	

Source: www.quotaproject.org.

Notes: * There are two types of quotas applied throughout the Arab region (albeit with country-specific variations). Legislated candidate quotas reserve a number of places on electoral lists for female candidates, often associated with a 'zip' system where men and women are listed alternatively on electoral lists. Reserved seats guarantee a number of seats in a legislated assembly for women.