

Gender Country Profile



Antigua & Barbuda

*By Rosanne Wong, and Erin MacDonald
Edited by Dania Sheldon*

Contents

General	2
Health	2
Education.....	2
Economic Activity.....	3
Decision-Making	3
Human Rights.....	3
Gender Gaps	3
Health	3
Education.....	4
Economic.....	4
Decision-Making	4
Human Rights.....	4
References	5

General

Total male population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 11,289

Total female population under 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 10,932

Total male population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 31,957

Total female population over 15 (2014) (CIA, 2015): 37,117

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births: NA

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2014) (CIA, 2015): 13.29

Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births (UNICEF, 2015): 10

Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births (UNICEF, 2015): 8

Births attended by a skilled health professional (2010) (WHO, 2014b): 100%

Prevalence of HIV among males aged 15–49: NA

Prevalence of HIV among females aged 15–49: NA

Life expectancy for men (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 73

Life expectancy for women (2012) (WHO, 2014a): 77

Education

Male youth literacy rate, ages 15–24: NA

Female youth literacy rate, ages 15–24: NA

Male adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 98.4%

Female adult literacy rate, ages 15+ (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 99.4%

Male adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 86.68%

Female adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 83.87%

Male gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 97.94%

Female gross enrolment ratio in secondary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 112.88%

Male gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 15.07%

Female gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 31.15%

Graduates from tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 87.8%

Students enrolled in engineering, manufacturing and construction programmes in tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 42.9%

Teachers in primary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 92.2%

Teachers in secondary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 68.2%

Teachers in tertiary education who are female (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 54.3%

Economic Activity

Males over 15 who are active in the labour force: NA
Females over 15 who are active in the labour force: NA

Men who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA
Women who have an account in a formal financial institution: NA

Decision-Making

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (World Bank, 2013): 11%

Human Rights

Girls married before 15: NA

Females married between 15 and 19: NA

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime: NA

Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during their lifetime: NA

Gender Gaps

Health

Abortion is illegal unless it is performed to save the pregnant woman's life. The woman can be sentenced to 10 years in prison and the enabler of the abortion to three years in prison (United Nations, 2013, p. 15; Women on Waves, n.d.).

Pap smears and other medical tests are not provided for free, making them less accessible to poor women (United Nations, 2013, p. 14).

Education

Women in Antigua and Barbuda are outperforming men in education. For example, between 1995 and 2013, the Board of Education awarded 68% of its scholarships to women (Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender Affairs, 2013, p. 11). Despite these advances, however, women are still under-represented in the political arena and are more likely to experience poverty (see below).

Economic

While addressing the Commission on the Status of Women, at the UN in New York in 2010, Ms. Sheila Roseau, Director of Gender Affairs representing the state of Antigua and Barbuda, spoke of the feminine face of poverty in her country. “The financial crisis has particularly affected women, and exacerbated the existing challenges related to feminized poverty. In Antigua and Barbuda women constitute a high proportion of workers in the tourism sector and are the backbone of service industries, where jobs have taken the greatest hit. The impact goes far beyond the loss of formal jobs, but has come to impact social support networks and institutions” (Government of Antigua and Barbuda, 2010).

According to the Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender Affairs (2013, p. 17), women still make up more than half of those considered to be poor in the country. Over half of women considered to be poor have at least one child.

Decision-Making

In 2010, women held less than 15% of political offices across all jurisdictions, local to federal.

As of January 2014, 11.1% of ministerial positions in the country were held by women. In the lower house of parliament, women comprised 10.5% of the total, and in the upper house 29.4% (UN Women & Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2014).

Human Rights

During her above-mentioned 2010 speech, Director of Gender Affairs Ms. Sheila Roseau stated: “Acts of violence against women continue to be one of our nation’s biggest challenges” (Government of Antigua and Barbuda, 2010).

On average, more than 200 cases of domestic violence are reported to police annually (in a total population of approximately 91,000). In the government’s 2013 Status of Women report to the UN, the insensitive attitudes of police when responding to complaints of domestic violence were mentioned and described as problematic.

The Sexual Offences Act does not recognise marital rape (United Nations, 2013, p. 15).

In the sex trade, the sex trade worker is subject to prosecution but not the purchaser (United Nations, 2013, p. 15).

References

- CIA. (2014). *The world factbook: Country profiles*. Retrieved from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/xx.html>
- Government of Antigua and Barbuda. (2010). *Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women*. Retrieved from http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing15/general_discussion/ANTIGUA%20AND%20BARBUDA.pdf
- Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender Affairs [Antigua and Barbuda]. (2013). *Antigua and Barbuda, National Review of the Beijing Plan for Action +20*. Retrieved from http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/59/national_reviews/antigua_and_barbuda_review_beijing20.ashx
- Organization of American States. (2010). *National report: Antigua and Barbuda*. Retrieved from <http://www.oas.org/en/cim/docs/Antigua&Barbuda2010.pdf>
- UN Women. (2012). *Violence against women prevalence data: Surveys by country*. Retrieved from http://www.endvawnow.org/uploads/browser/files/vawprevalence_matrix_june2013.pdf
- UN Women. (2014). *Multi-country office, Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda*. Retrieved from <http://caribbean.unwomen.org/en/caribbean-gbv-law-portal/country-resources/antigua-and-barbuda>
- UN Women & Inter-Parliamentary Union. (2014). *Women in politics 2014*. Retrieved from http://www.ipu.org/pdf/publications/wmmmap14_en.pdf
- UNESCO Institute of Statistics. (2015). *Education*. Retrieved from <http://data.uis.unesco.org>
- UNICEF. (2015). *The state of the world's children report 2015 statistical tables*. Retrieved from <http://www.data.unicef.org/resources/the-state-of-the-world-s-children-report-2015-statistical-tables>
- UNIFEM-Car. (2012). *16 days of activism against gender violence campaign*. Retrieved from <http://www.unifemcar.org/photos/Antigua%20and%20Barbuda%2016%20Days%20of%20Activism%20Media%20Kit.pdf>
- United Nations. (2013). *Country report for Antigua and Barbuda*. Retrieved from http://www.cepal.org/mujer/noticias/paginas/3/51823/Antigua_and_Barbuda_Review_Beijing_20.pdf
- United Nations Gender Statistics. (2014). *Countries A–Z*. Retrieved from <http://genderstats.org/Browse-by-Countries>
- United Nations Statistical Commission. (2010). *Labour force participation, unemployment and economic sector of employment*. Retrieved from

- <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/Worldswomen/Annex%20tables%20by%20chapter%20-%20pdf/Table4Ato4D.pdf>
- Women on Waves. (n.d.). *Abortion law Antigua*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenonwaves.org/en/page/4901/abortion-law-antigua>
- World Bank. (2013). *Proportion of women holding seats in national parliament*. Retrieved from <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS>
- World Economic Forum. (2013). *The global gender gap report 2013*. Retrieved from http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GenderGap_Report_2013.pdf
- World Health Organization. (2014a). *Life expectancy: Data by country*. Retrieved from <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.3?lang=en>
- World Health Organization. (2014b). *Women: Data by country*. Retrieved from <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.1630>