192 women die per 100,000 live births due to pregnancy-related causes in Papua New Guinea

The maternal mortality ratio in Papua New Guinea has improved from 312 in 2000 to 192 in 2020. Maternal mortality in Papua New Guinea is higher than its regional average. Maternal mortality ratio is the number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy termination per 100,000 live births.

Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births)


56 of every 1,000 girls ages 15-19 gave birth in Papua New Guinea in 2020

In Papua New Guinea, the rate of adolescent fertility has decreased since 2010. The rate in 2020 was higher than the average rate in its income group.

Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19)


31.8% of girls and 42.3% of boys complete lower secondary school in Papua New Guinea as of 2018 data

The gap in lower secondary completion rate between boys and girls, 10.5, is larger than the gap of the East Asia & Pacific aggregate, 2.7. Lower secondary education completion rate measures how many children have completed the last grade of lower secondary education regardless of age completed.

Lower secondary completion rate, by sex (% of relevant age group)


Adult literacy in Papua New Guinea is lower among women than among men (2010)

The adult female literacy rate in Papua New Guinea is lower than in East Asia & Pacific. Adult literacy rate is the percentage of people ages 15 and above who can both read and write with understanding a short simple statement about their everyday life.

Adult literacy rate, by sex (% of people ages 15 and above)

In Papua New Guinea, the labor force participation rate is nearly the same: 46.4% among females and 47.7% among males for 2022.

The labor force participation rate is the proportion of the population ages 15 and older that is economically active. Since 1990, female labor force participation has decreased. Compared with labor force participation in the lower-middle income group, the gap between men and women is lower in Papua New Guinea.

Vulnerable employment for females has improved in Papua New Guinea since 1991.

Workers in vulnerable employment are the least likely to have formal work arrangements, social protection, and safety nets to guard against economic shocks; thus they are more likely to fall into poverty. Vulnerable employment among women is 85.3% and among men is 66% in Papua New Guinea for 2021. The rate of vulnerable employment is higher for men and women in Papua New Guinea compared to the average rate in East Asia & Pacific.


Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators database. Estimates are based on data obtained from International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT at https://ilostat.ielo.org/data/.
Data is not available for Papua New Guinea for Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex (% of 24 hour day)

Source: National statistical offices or national database and publications compiled by United Nations Statistics Division. The data were downloaded on December 3 from the Global SDG Indicators Database.

Data is not available for Papua New Guinea for Share of business owners, by sex (% of total business owners)


Data is not available for Papua New Guinea for Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, by sex (% of population ages 15+)

Source: Demirguc-Kunt et al., 2018, Global Financial Inclusion Database, World Bank.

59.7% of men and 50.1% of women owned a dwelling either alone or jointly in 2018

For women in particular, asset ownership is a source of economic empowerment and provides protection in the case of marital dissolution or abandonment. There is increasing evidence that ownership of property by women has positive consequences for women’s empowerment, nutritional and health outcomes, and children’s schooling.

House ownership status, by sex (% of population age 15-49)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40.3% do not own a house</td>
<td>40.9% do not own a house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43.6% own a house alone</td>
<td>19.6% own a house alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.4% own a house jointly</td>
<td>19.3% own a house jointly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6% own a house both alone and jointly</td>
<td>10.4% own a house both alone and jointly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)
61.6% of women participated in making major decisions in the household in 2018

Women participating in making major decisions is the percentage of currently married women ages 15-49 who say that they alone or jointly have the final say in (i) making major household purchases, (ii) decisions about own healthcare, and (iii) visits to family, relatives, friends.

Percentage of women ages 15-49 participating in decisions about:
- Visits to family, relatives, friends: 79.2%
- Making major household purchase: 70%
- Own health care: 83.7%

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)

In Papua New Guinea, the share of women who have experienced intimate partner violence is greater than the world average, 27%

Intimate partner violence is by far the most prevalent form of violence against women globally and is defined as the percentage of ever-married women (ages 15-49) who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their husband or partner, whereas those who have ever experienced any form of sexual violence is the percentage of women (ages 15-49) who have ever experienced sexual violence irrespective of marital status and perpetrator.

Percentage of women ages 15-49 who have ever experienced:
- Any form of sexual violence: 28.2%
- Intimate partner violence: 51%

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Statcompiler (https://www.statcompiler.com/)

1.7% of seats in national parliament were held by women in 2022 in Papua New Guinea

Women in parliaments are the percentage of parliamentary seats in a single or lower chamber held by women. The proportion of seats held by women in Papua New Guinea has remained roughly the same as 2010. The current rate is lower than the average rate in lower-middle income countries.

Women represented 19.3% of those employed in senior and middle management in 2010

The female share of employment in senior and middle management for Papua New Guinea falls in the lowest quintile of all countries for which there are data. Data compiled from the most recent data point available between 2010 and 2022.

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) (www.ipu.org). For the year of 1998, the data is as of August 10, 1998.
Data is not available for Papua New Guinea for Used a mobile phone or the internet to pay bills in the past year, by sex (% age 15+)

Source: Global Findex database

Data retrieved from World Bank Gender Data Portal