

Section N: Gender Dimensions

Introduction

Studies have shown that disparities exist between women and men in nearly all spheres of social and economic life. These differences are underpinned by cultural norms which assign various roles and define what entitlements and privileges are to be enjoyed by women and men. This section presents gender dimension indicators covering survival (life expectancy), children born to women aged 12 to 19 years, school attendance, cooking fuel, computer and internet use as well as mobile ownership and mobile sharing.



Definitions of Key Terms and Concepts

Gender refers to the socio-cultural construct of the society that determines and identifies roles, entitlements or deprivations for women and men, and girls and boys in the society.

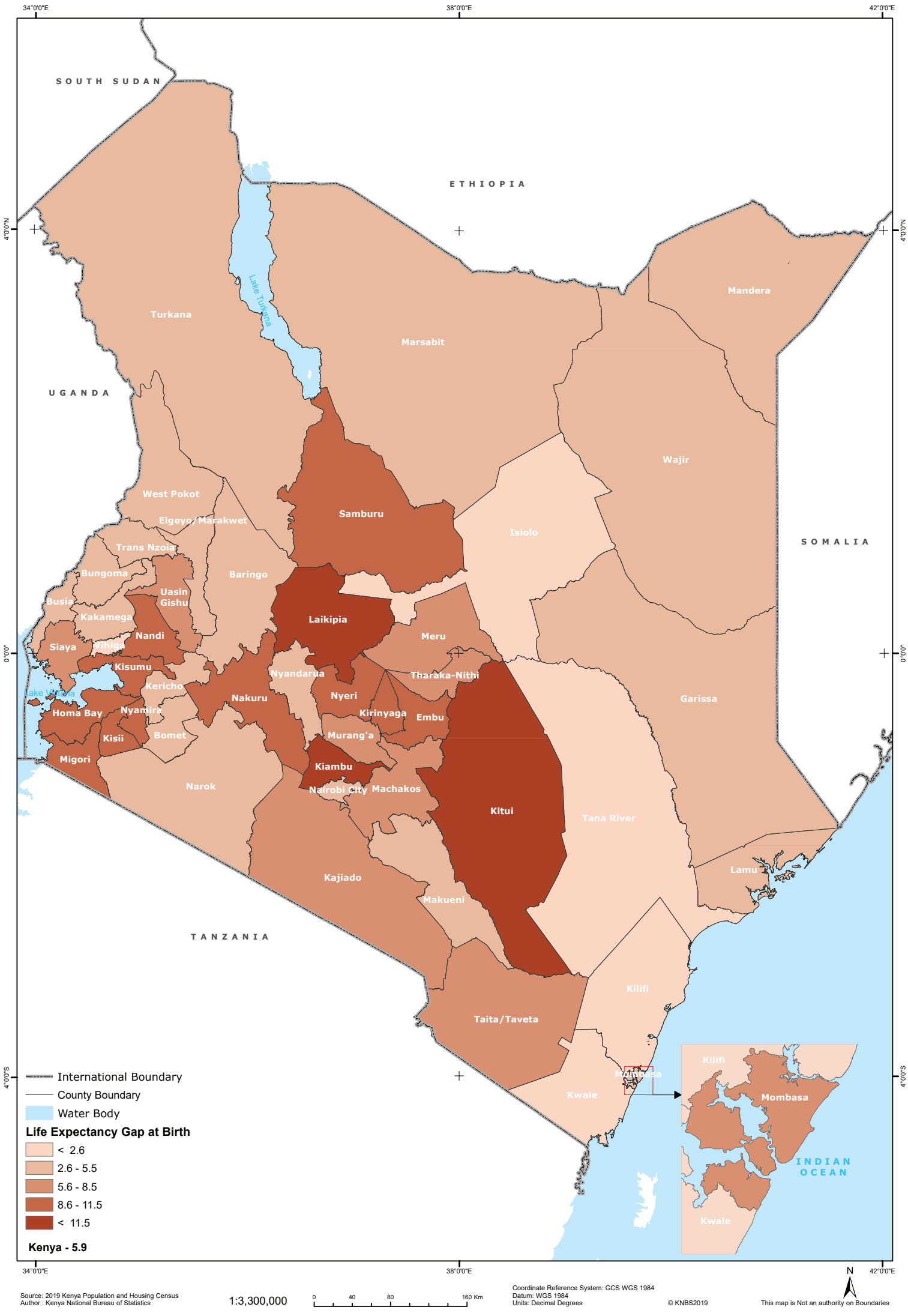
Gender Parity: Gender parity is a measure used to describe differences and/or similarities between women and men in a given population. Gender parity, numerically expressed as Gender Parity Index (GPI) is the ratio between any quantifiable indicator among women against the same indicator among men (value for women divided by the corresponding value for men).

Life expectancy at birth: The average number of years that a newborn is expected to live, if he or she were to pass through life exposed to the sex and age specific death rates prevailing at the time of his or her birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area.

N.1: Gender Gap in Life Expectancy at Birth

Disparities in survival of women and men is measured by the gap in life expectancies of women and men at birth calculated by subtracting the life expectancy at birth for men from that of women. Map N.1 shows the life expectancy gap between women and men by county. Isiolo, Kilifi, Vihiga, Tana River and Kwale counties have the lowest life expectancy gap at 2.5 years or less. On the other hand, Kitui, Laikipia and Kiambu counties have the highest life expectancy gap of more than eleven and a half years.

Map N 1: Gender Gap in Life Expectancy at Birth



Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census
Author : Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

1:3,300,000

Coordinate Reference System: GCS WGS 1984
Datum: WGS 1984
Units: Decimal Degrees

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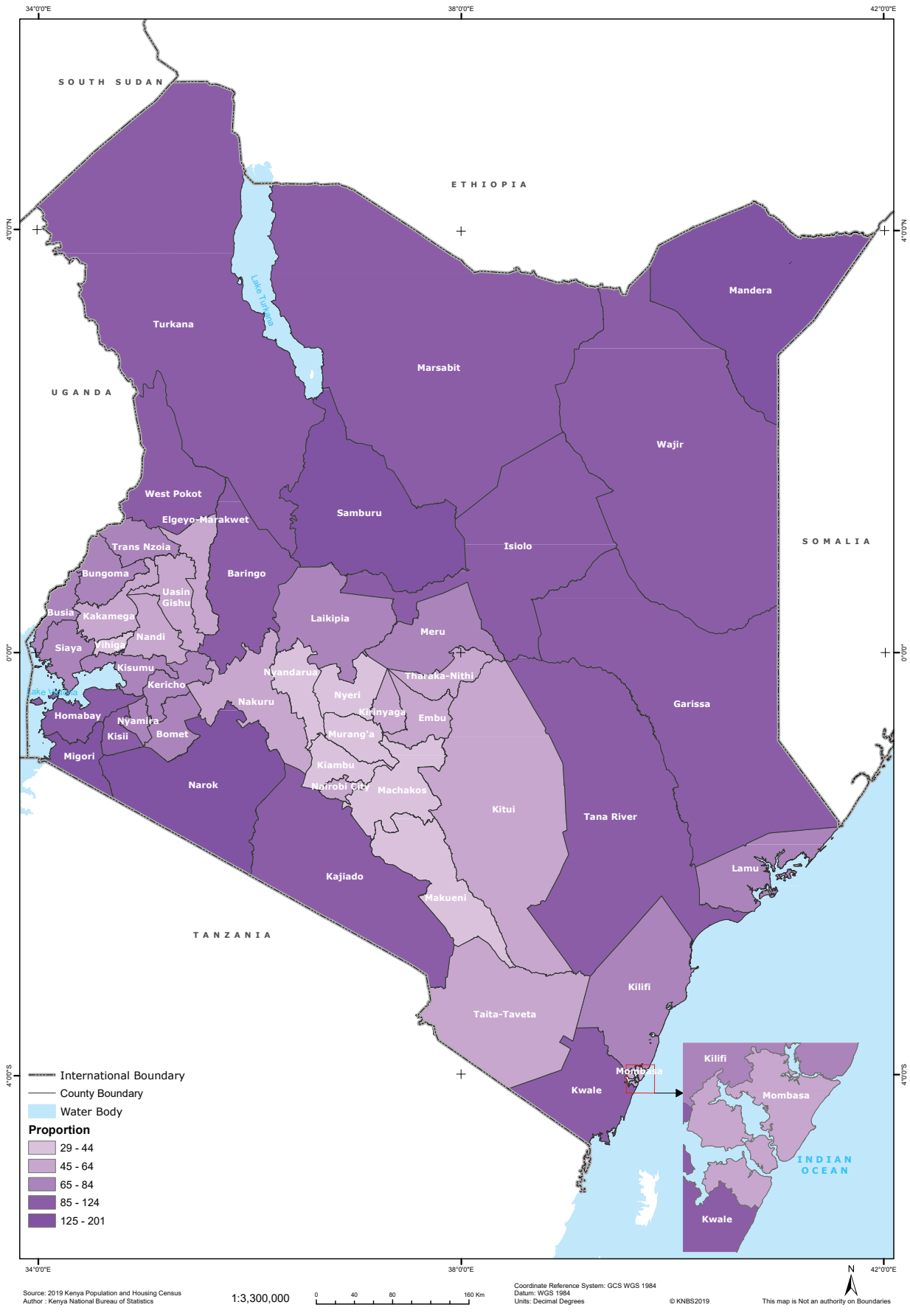
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N.2: Children Born to Women age 12 - 19 years

Early childbearing has been shown to hurt the health outcomes and educational attainment of women and men, which, in the former case, particularly in the case of young women, has implications on their earning potential. Early childbearing can reduce the capability of an individual to participate in the labour force, thus limiting chances for empowerment and improved well-being leading to greater vulnerability especially in later years of life (The UN World's Women,2015). The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator number 3:7.2 seeks to continuously avail data on adolescent birth rate (age 10–14 years; age 15–19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group to inform programmes.

Map N.2 presents the average number of children ever born to 1,000 women aged 12-19 years by county. Counties with the highest childbearing – more than 124 per 1,000 women were Wajir, Tana River, West Pokot, Migori, Narok, Samburu and Mandera. Counties with the lowest childbearing, less than 45 children per 1,000 women are Nyeri, Makueni, Nyandarua, Kiambu, Machakos, Vihiga, Murang›a, Embu, Kirinyaga, Tharaka-Nithi, Nairobi City, Uasin Gishu and Kitui.

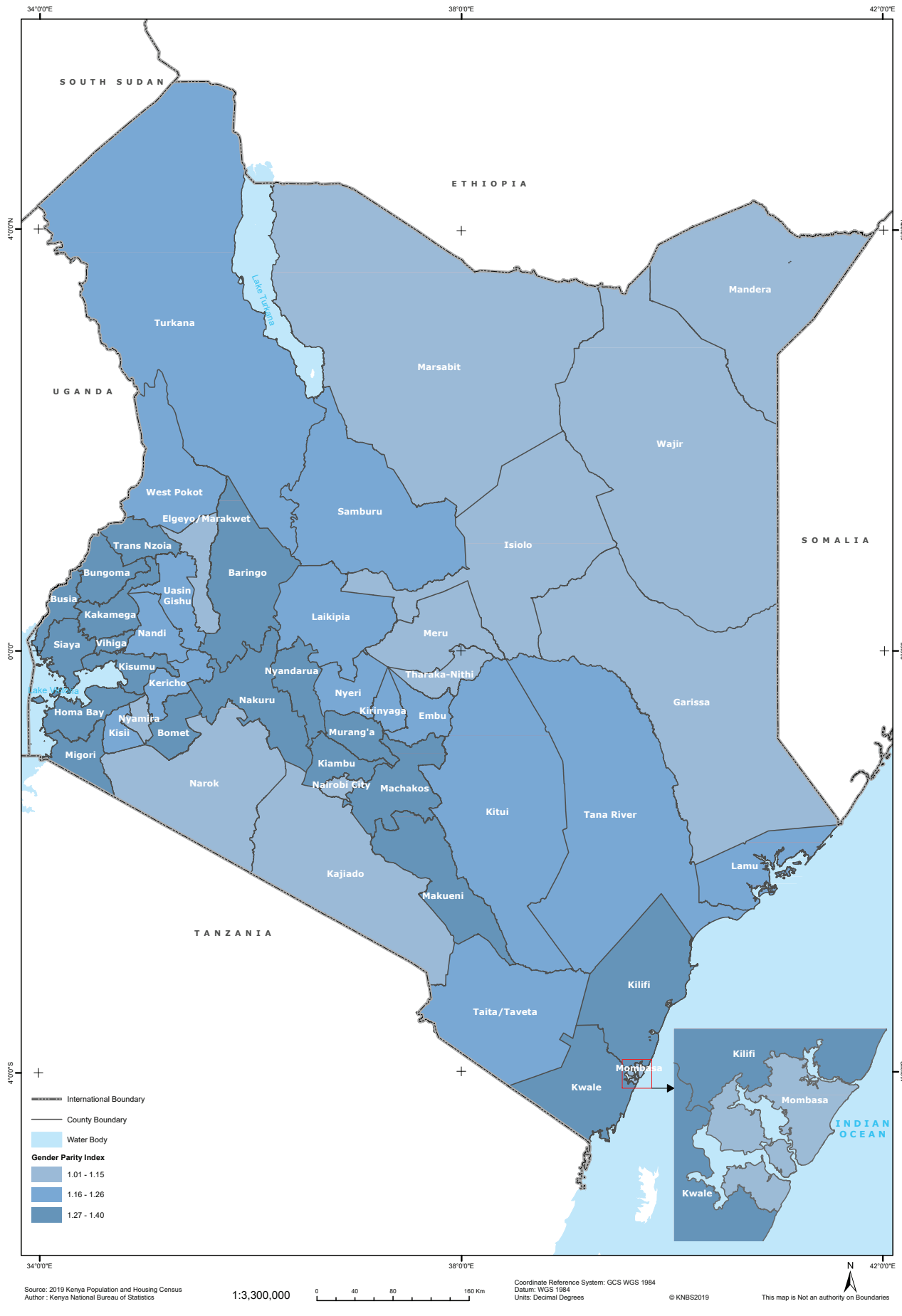
Map N 2: Average Number of Children Ever Born to Women aged 12-19 years Per 1, 000 Women by county



N.3: Gender Parity Index for the Population Age 25 and Above Who Have Never Attended School by County

Gender Parity Index among persons age 25 and above who have never attended school is shown in map N.3. The GPI for persons age 25 and above who have never attended school ranged from 1.01 to 1.40 across all counties. This means that, in all counties, a higher proportion of women aged 25 years and above reported having never attended school than men in the same age group. Kilifi, Trans Nzoia, Homa Bay, Busia, Siaya and Bungoma counties had the highest GPI of more than 1.32. On the other hand, Mandera and Wajir counties had the lowest GPI of less than 1.10.

Map N 3:Gender Parity Index for the Population Age 25 and Above Who Have Never Attended School by County



Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census
Author : Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

1:3,300,000

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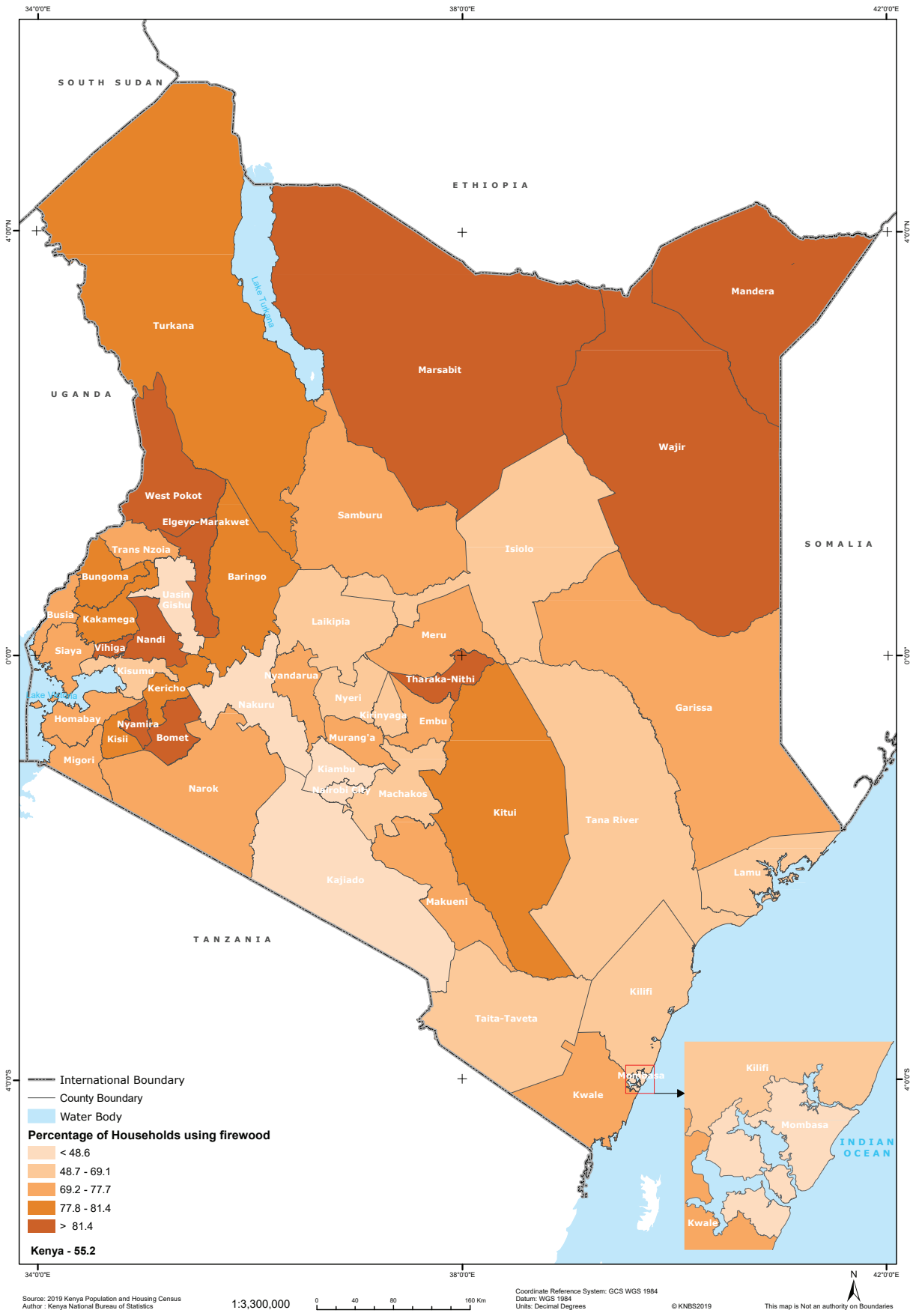
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N.4: Percentage distribution of households that use firewood as the main type of cooking fuel by county

Women spend more time than men on unpaid domestic and care work at home which include cooking, bathing children and caring for sick household members. Use of unclean sources of energy for cooking, heating water and heating spaces in enclosed environments exposes women to higher health risks due prolonged exposure to emissions of smoke from fuels such as firewood, charcoal, animal dung and paraffin. On the other hand, use of clean sources of energy such as electricity, LPG, biogas and solar promotes healthy living for all. Map N.4. shows the proportion of households using firewood as the main type of cooking fuel by county. Use of firewood is predominantly high in Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit, West Pokot, Elgeyo/Marakwet, Nandi, Vihiga, Nyamira, Bomet and Tharaka-Nithi counties at more than 81.4 per cent. Counties with the lowest proportion of households using firewood as the main type of cooking fuel (less than 48.7%) are Nairobi City, Kajiado, Kiambu, Nakuru, Uasin Gishu, Nakuru and Mombasa.

Map N 4:Percentage distribution of households that use firewood as the main type of cooking fuel by county





N.5 Gender Parity Index in Computer and Internet Use, Mobile Ownership and Mobile Sharers

Ownership and use of mobile phones and computers are empowerment indicators for women and men. This section presents gender parity measures in mobile ownership, mobile phone sharing, and use of computers and internet. Gender parity is a ratio that shows the relative equality between women and men for any indicator. It is computed by dividing the number of female/women by male/men for a given indicator. Parity is said to be achieved at value 1 but often a range close to 1 e.g. 0.95-1.05 can be judged to be a suitable level of gender parity achievement.

GPI for Mobile Ownership: Map N.5A shows that the counties with high GPI were Vihiga, Siaya and Nyamira while counties with the least were West Pokot, Lamu and Turkana.

GPI for Mobile Sharers: Sharing a mobile phone, increases dependency and obligation to another person. This often impacts individuals, especially women in terms of limiting their freedom and privacy. Map N.5B shows that Kilifi, Kwale and Tana River counties have the highest GPI in sharing a mobile phone while those with the least were Garissa, Wajir and Marsabit counties.

GPI for Computer/laptop/tablet Users: Map N.5C shows that Kiambu, Embu and Uasin Gishu counties had a high GPI for computer use while Turkana, Lamu and Marsabit counties had the lowest.

GPI for Internet Users: Map N.5D shows parity in internet use. Kiambu, Nairobi City and Nyeri counties had the highest GPI while Turkana, Lamu and Tana River counties had the lowest.

Map N 5:A Gender Parity Index in Mobile Phone Ownership; N 5 B Gender Parity Index in Mobile Sharing;N 5 C Gender Parity Index in Computer Use and N 5 D Gender Parity Index in Internet Use.

