COUNTY GENDER DATA SHEET



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

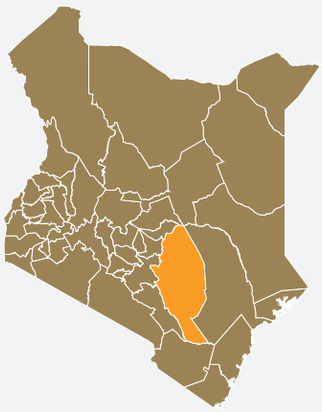
OCTOBER 2025

MINISTRY OF GENDER, CULTURE AND CHILDREN SERVICES
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR GENDER, AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
REPUBLIC OF KENYA
KNBS KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS Keeping you informed
SDGs KENYA FORUM For Sustainable Development
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15

COUNTY FACT SHEETS

KITUI COUNTY



Introduction

Kitui County is the sixth largest county in Kenya by land area. It is situated in the eastern part of Kenya with its headquarters at Kitui town, about 160 kilometres from Nairobi City. According to the Population and Housing Census, in 2019, Kitui County had a population of 1,136,187 persons, which was projected to rise to 1,210,035 in 2022. Despite its great potential, Kitui County is among Kenya's arid and semi-arid (ASAL) counties characterized by relatively high levels of poverty. The County covers an area of 30,496.4 square kilometres and shares its borders with seven other counties, namely; Machakos and Makueni to the west, Tana River to the east and southeast, Taita Taveta to the south, Kitui to the northwest, and Tharaka-Nithi and Meru to the north. It is located between latitudes 0° 10' south and 3° 0' south, and between longitudes 37° 50' east and 39° 0' east.

Definitions of key terms and concepts

Antenatal care (ANC) visits: The percentage of women ages 15 to 49 with a live birth in a given time period that received antenatal care by any provider (whether skilled or unskilled) four or more times during pregnancy. Number of antenatal visits is grouped into categories of no antenatal visits, 1 visit, 2 visits, 3 visits, 4-7 visits, 8+ visits, and "don't know" before calculating percentages. The percentages are the numerators divided by the denominator, multiplied by 100.

Attitude toward wife beating: percentage of all women and men who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons. Numerator: Number of women (or men) age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for: 1) Burning food; 2) Arguing with him; 3) Going out without telling him; 4) Neglecting the children; 5) Refusing to have sexual intercourse with him; 6) At least one reason.

Birth registration of children under age 5: de jure children under age 5 whose births are registered with a civil authority. Numerators: Number of de jure children under age 5 whose births are registered. Denominator: Number of de jure children under age 5.

Children under age 18 with one or both parents dead: a measure of orphanhood status of children that estimates the proportion vulnerable. Numerator: Percentage of de jure children under age 18 with one or both parents dead. Denominator: Number of de jure children under age 18.

Control over women's cash earnings: percent distribution of currently married women receiving cash earnings for employment in the 12 months preceding the survey by person who decides how wife's cash earnings are used.

Control over men's cash earnings: percent distribution of currently married men receiving cash earnings for employment in the 12 months preceding the survey by person who decides how husband's cash earnings are used.

Current use of contraception: this implies use of modern contraception methods which include female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUCD, injectable, implants, male condom, female condom, and lactational amenorrhea method (LAM).

Delivery by a skilled provide: births attended by skilled personnel, including doctors, nurses, and midwives.

Men's involvement in maternal healthcare: men who report that they were ever present during any antenatal check-up and those who went with the child's mother to a health facility.

Density of health workers per 10,000 population: the density of medical doctors is defined as the number of medical doctors, including generalists and specialist medical practitioners per 10,000 population in the given national and/or subnational area. This definition is similar for all other cadres. Numerator: Number of health workers, defined in headcounts. Denominator: 10,000 population. For more details see National health workforce accounts: a handbook. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017. For more details see National Health Workforce Accounts: A Handbook. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017.

Drinking water service ladder: the 5-rung drinking water service ladder is used to track progress towards achieving SDG indicator 6.1.1 (proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services. The ladder expands upon the improved/unimproved source classification system collected in past phases of DHS surveys: 1) Percentage of de jure population with basic service, which is drinking water from an improved source, provided either water is on the premises or round-trip collection time is 30 minutes or less; 2) Percentage of de jure population with limited service, which is drinking water from an improved source, provided round-trip collection time is more than 30 minutes or is unknown; 3) Percentage of de jure population with unimproved service, which is drinking water from an unprotected dug well or unprotected spring; and 4) Percentage of de jure population with surface water as drinking water.

Educational attainment (No Education): Percent distribution of the de facto female and male household population age 6 and over by highest level of schooling attended or completed. The indicator for the data sheet will use those with no education.

Enrolment rate: there are two of such rates - net and gross enrolment rates. Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is the total enrolment in a specific level of education, regardless of age. Net Enrolment Rate (NER) is the enrolment of the official age group for a given level of education expressed as a percentage of the corresponding official age population. Gender Parity Index (GPI) is the ratio of female to male values of a given indicator. A GPI between 0.97 and 1.03 indicates parity between the genders. A GPI below 0.97 indicates a disparity in favour of males. A GPI above 1.03 indicates a disparity in favour of females.

Experienced physical or sexual violence: percentage of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by any perpetrator. Numerator: women age 15-49 who have experienced physical or sexual violence since age 15. Denominator: all women age 15-49.

Food insecurity status: the food consumption score reflects the quantity and quality of people's diet. The indicators are: 1) percent distribution of households with poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption; 2) percentage of households that report lacking food or money to purchase food in the seven days before the survey.

Prevalence of child marriage: the proportion women and men age 20-24 married or in union by age 18 (SDG indicator for child marriage, which is prohibited in Kenya by law).

Gender inequality index (GII): the GII is a synthetic index with indicators that combine levels of women's achievement with their potential for empowerment relative to men. It consists of five indicators that cover three dimensions (i.e. 'health', 'empowerment' and 'labour market').

- Health: conceptualized and measured as reproductive health by indicators relevant for women only, namely, women's ability to survive pregnancy and childbirth (maternal mortality ratio) and to avoid being a teenage mother (adolescent birth rate).
- Empowerment: measured by gender gaps in the capability to attain at least some secondary education and the capability to have an impact on law-making.
- Labour market: measured by the gender gap in labour force participation rates as a proxy for the relative capability to earn an income.
- GII = 0 implies absence of gender inequality and men and women are equally valued and favoured.
- GII = 1 indicates maximum inequality between men and women in all dimensions. Higher GII implies greater gender disparities and more losses to human development

Health insurance coverage: Percentage of women and men age 15-49 with any health insurance. Numerator: Number of women (or men) age 15-49 with any health insurance. Denominator: Number of women (or men) age 15-49.

House and land ownership: Numerator: Number of women (or men) age 15-49 by ownership of housing (alone, jointly) and Number of women (or men) age 15-49 by ownership of land (alone, jointly). Denominator: Number of women (or men) age 15-49.

Household: a household is useful in planning and developing special policies for vulnerable population. The living arrangements can have a bearing on the overall differences in well-being between women and men and their needs. Housing amenities are important physical attributes of housing which enhance the quality of the living environment. Key features of a household are availability of drinking water and type of cooking fuel - both of which are important in understanding gender dimensions and roles of men and women in a household.

Infant mortality rate: the probability of dying between birth and the first birthday.

Internet usage: percentage of women/men age 15–49 who have ever used the internet, and percentage who have used the internet in the last 12.

Life expectancy: an estimate of the average number of additional years that a person of a given age can expect to live.

Life expectancy at birth: the most common measure of life expectancy is life expectancy at birth, which is an estimate of the average number of years a new born is expected to live.

Maternal mortality ratio: the World Health Organization defines pregnancy-related deaths and maternal deaths as follows: pregnancy-related death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the cause of death. Maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes.

Nutritional status of population age 20-49: chronic energy deficiency is caused by eating too little or having an unbalanced diet that lacks adequate nutrients. BMI, also known as the Quetelet Index, is a measure of nutritional status in adults. It is based on the Fogarty Metropolitan Life tables of ideal weight for height. For women, it is percentage of non-pregnant, non-postpartum women age 20-49 by nutritional status based on specific body mass index (BMI) levels. For men age 20-49, data on height and weight is used to calculate a measure of nutritional status.

Ownership and use of mobile phones and bank accounts: percentage of women and men who have and use an account in a bank or other financial institution, percentage who deposited or withdrew money from their own bank account in the last 12 months, percentage who own a mobile phone, percentage who own a mobile smartphone, and percentage who used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months.

Person collecting drinking water: In the DHS-8 surveys, households that do not have drinking water on their premises are asked who usually fetches the water. Percent distribution of de jure population in households without drinking water on premises by the person who usually collects drinking water used in the household disaggregated by age and sex.

Population with a disability: de jure adult population age 15 and over with some difficulty in at least one domain (note the 2022 KDHS data is not comparable to the 2019 population census data since census data is from age 5 while survey data is from age 15).

Population with a disability by type: the 2019 population census had the following six functional domains: Seeing, hearing, communicating, remembering or concentrating, walking or climbing steps, washing all over or dressing. Persons with a disability include those with a lot of difficulty and those who cannot do at all in any of the domains.

Problems in accessing healthcare: proportion of women 15-49 who report that they have at least one problem in accessing health care for themselves when they are sick (i.e. obtaining permission to go for treatment; obtaining money for treatment; distance to health facility; not wanting to go alone).

Pupil-teacher ratio: Number of enrolled pupils to the number of teachers.

Sanitation service ladder: Distribution of de jure population by sanitation service ladder categorized as: 1) basic service, 2) limited service, unimproved, and 3) open defecation. The indicator used in this data sheet is the proportion of population or households with basic services.

School attendance: this encompasses net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de facto household population by sex and level of schooling, and the Gender Parity Index. By definition, the NAR cannot exceed 100.0. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100.0. The Gender Parity Index for secondary school is the ratio of the secondary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males. To calculate the primary school age and secondary school age population, first the standard age groups for primary and secondary school in the particular country are established; for example, as 6-11 and 12-17 respectively. Sources for establishing the age range include the national Ministry of Education.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET): According to the definition by UNESCO and the International Labour Organization (ILO), TVET refers to "aspects of the educational process involving, in addition to general education, the study of technologies and related sciences, and the acquisition of practical skills, attitudes, understanding and knowledge relating to occupants in various sectors of economic and social life".

Teenage pregnancy: there is substantial agreement in the literature that women who become pregnant and give birth very early in their reproductive lives are subject to higher risks of complications or even death during pregnancy and birth, and their children are also more vulnerable. Therefore, preventing births very early in a woman's life is an important measure to improve maternal health and reduce infant mortality. Women having children at an early age experience a curtailment of their opportunities for socio-economic improvement, particularly because young mothers are unlikely to keep on studying and, if they need to work, may find it especially difficult to combine family and work responsibilities. Percent of women age 15-19 who have ever been pregnant. Numerator: number of women age 15-19 ever been pregnant. Denominator: Number of women age 15-19.

Time spent on unpaid work: Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work. Applies only to age 15 and above.

Total fertility rate (TFR): this is an age-period fertility rate for a synthetic cohort of women. It measures the average number of births a woman would have by the time she reaches age 50 if she were to give birth at the current age-specific fertility rates. The TFR is expressed as the average number of births per woman. Unless otherwise specified, the TFR is for all women.

TFR among women age 12-24: it measures the average number of births a group of women would have by the time they reach age 24 if they were to give birth at the current age-specific fertility rates.

Under-5 mortality rate: the probability of dying between birth and the fifth birth day.

Women Empowerment: A process through which women and men in disadvantaged positions increase their access to knowledge, resources, and decision-making power and raise their awareness of participation in their communities in order to reach a level of control over their own environment.

Women's or men's participation in decision making: percent distribution of currently married women (or men) age 15-49 by person who usually makes decisions about: own health care, large household purchases, visits to family. Denominator: Number of currently married women (or men) age 15-49. The question on who makes decisions about visits to family or relatives is only asked to women so does not apply for men.

Youth neither in employment, nor in education nor training (NEET): this indicator corresponds to the percentage of the population of a given age group and sex not employed and not involved in further education or training. The numerator of the indicator refers to persons meeting these two conditions: they are not employed (i.e. unemployed or inactive according to the International Labour Organisation definition); they have not received any formal or non-formal education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey. The denominator is the total population of the same age group and sex, excluding the respondents who have not answered the question 'participation in regular (formal) education and training'.

Gender Data Sheet

A1: Population projections by sex, 2025 & 2030

2025			2030		
Male	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
617,296	641,658	1,258,954	651,005	676,458	1,327,463

Source: KNBS, 2019 Population and Housing Census, Vol. XVI

A2: Population projections by age group and sex, 2025 & 2030

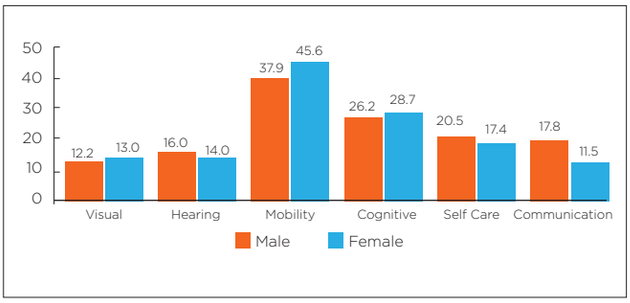
Age group	2025			2030		
	Male	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Below 3 years	43,018	41,077	84,095	42,484	40,574	83,057
3–5 years	31,050	29,498	60,548	30,664	29,136	59,800
15-24 years	135,976	140,084	276,060	135,035	144,120	279,155
18–34 years	49,009	48,996	98,006	205,511	214,467	419,978
65 years and over	28,123	30,488	58,611	25,912	29,110	55,022

A3: Proportion of the population with a disability by sex, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Male	5.3	7.5
Female	7.3	5.5

A4: Proportion of the population with a disability by type and sex, 2019



B1: Proportion of population who spend less than 30 minutes to access drinking water (drinking water service ladder), 2022



Kenya	Kitui
67.9	21.2

B2: Proportion of females collecting drinking water by age, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Child (<15 years)	5.3	3.4
Adult (+15 years)	68.5	66.0

B3: Proportion of population who spend more than 30 minutes to access drinking water, 2022



Kenya	Kitui
8.7	61.8

B4: Proportion of population that used improved sanitation facilities not shared with other households (sanitation service ladder), 2022



Kenya	Kitui
40.9	50.0

B5: Proportion of households by primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting, 2022



Kenya	Kitui
21.2	6.3

B6: Proportion of households with elderly persons living alone by sex, 2019



	Kenya	Kitui
Male	39	42
Female	61	58

B7: Proportion of households that report lacking food or money to purchase food, 2022



Kenya	Kitui
28.8	43.6

C1: Proportion of males and females age 20-24 married by age 18, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Male	1.8	1.6
Female	12.5	9.7

C2: Teenage pregnancy, 2022



Kenya	Kitui
14.8	9.2

C3: Total fertility rate for women age 15-49 and women age 24, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Total Fertility Rate by Age 24	0.266	0.183
Total Fertility Rate	3.4	3.2

C4: Birth registration of children under age 5, 2022



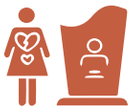
Kenya	Kitui
76.0	88.6

C5: Infant and under-5 mortality rate, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Under 5 Moralty Rate	41.0	27.0
Infant Moralty Rate	32.0	23.0

C6: Maternal mortality ratio, 2019



Kenya	Kitui
355	253

C7: Life expectancy at birth by sex, 2019



	Kenya	Kitui
Male	60.6	55.7
Female	66.5	68.8

C8: Life expectancy at age 60 by sex, 2019



	Kenya	Kitui
Male	15.4	14.0
Female	17.9	18.4

C9: Proportion of children under age 18 with one or both parents dead, 2022



Kenya	Kitui
8.9	7.9

D1: Vaccinations by County, 2022



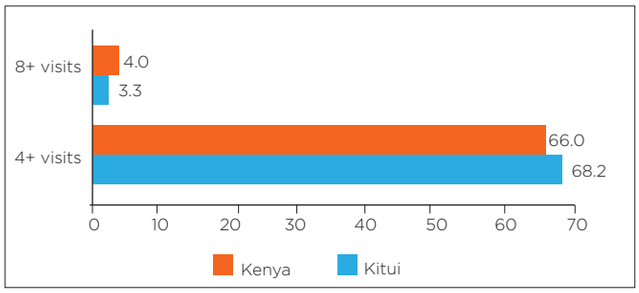
	Kenya	Kitui
Children age 24-35 months	37.5	24.7
Children age 12-23 months	55.2	49.4

D2: Proportion of women age 15-19 currently using any modern method of contraception, 2022

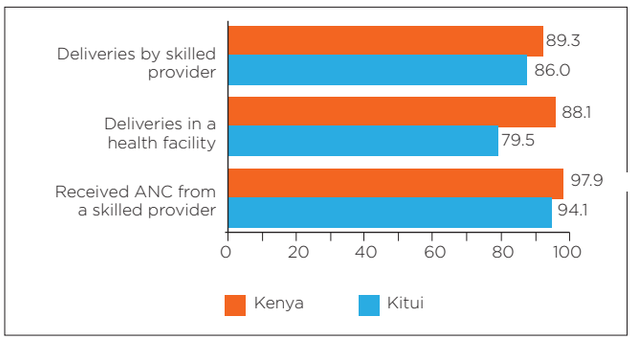


Kenya	Kitui
56.9	62.4

D3: Number of ANC visits, 2022



D4: Proportion of women receiving ANC from a skilled provider, deliveries in a health facility and deliveries by a skilled provider, 2022



D5: Proportion of women and births with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Births with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth	82.6	84.4
Women with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth	77.6	77.8

D6: Men's involvement in maternal healthcare, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Went with the child's mother to a health facility (few obs)	66.5	39.2
Ever present during any ANC check up	54.7	77.2

D7: Proportion of women and men age 20–49 totally thin (<18.5 BMI), 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Male	14.2	14.9
Female	7.3	8.7

D8: Proportion of women and men age 20–49 overweight or obese (≥25.0 BMI), 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Male	18.8	10.6
Female	44.8	29.0

D9: Proportion of the population with health insurance cover, 2022

Kenya	Kitui
26.3	11.7

D10: Proportion of the population with a problem in accessing healthcare, 2022

Kenya	Kitui
52.4	69.5

D11: HIV/AIDS prevalence rate by sex, 2020

	Kenya	Kitui
Male	3.1	2.1
Female	5.8	5.3

E1: Literacy by sex, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Male	93.8	99.3
Female	91.0	94.8

E2: Proportion of the population with no education by sex, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Male	10.0	9.7
Female	13.3	15.1

E3: Enrolment rate in pre-primary schools by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Net Enrolment Rate	75.5	76.7
Gross Enrolment Rate	0	0

E4: Pupil-teacher ratio in public pre-primary schools, 2022

Kenya	Kitui
36.3	22

E5: Attendance rate in primary schools by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Gross Attendance Rate	118.3	117.3
Net Attendance Rate	92.1	92.9

E6: Gender parity index in primary schools, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Gross Attendance Ratio	0.96	0.99
Net Attendance Ratio	1.02	1.01

E7: Attendance rate in secondary schools by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Gross Attendance Rate	72.8	93.7
Net Attendance Rate	40.8	51.6

E8: Gender parity index in secondary schools, 2022

	Kenya	Kitui
Gross Attendance Ratio	1.05	1.29
Net Attendance Ratio	1.16	1.27

E9: Proportion of youth (15-24 years) Not in Education, Employment or Training by sex, 2019

	Male	Female
Kenya	11.9	16.2
Kitui	5.2	5.8

E10: Internet usage in the last 12 months by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Kenya	56.2	44.2
Kitui	34.7	23.3

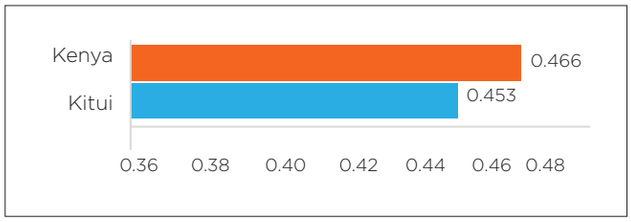
F1: Proportion of population aged 15-49 not employed in the last 12 months by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Kenya	19.5	40.3
Kitui	21.9	60.2

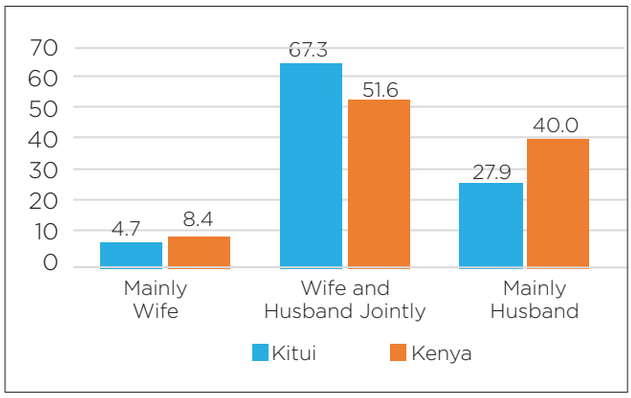
F2: Proportion of population aged 18+ with a mobile phone by sex, 2022

	Male	Female
Kenya	80.4	77.5
Kitui	77.7	73.9

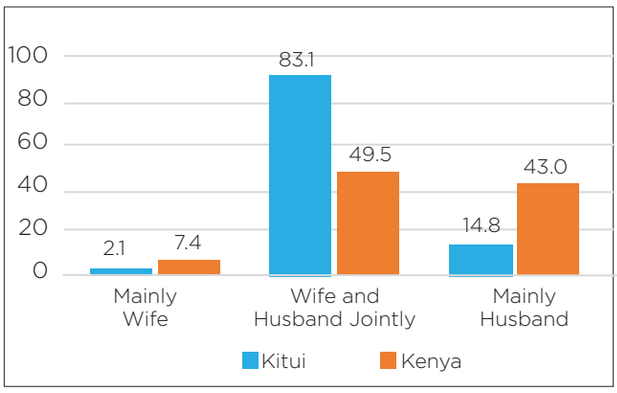
G1: Gender equality index, 2022



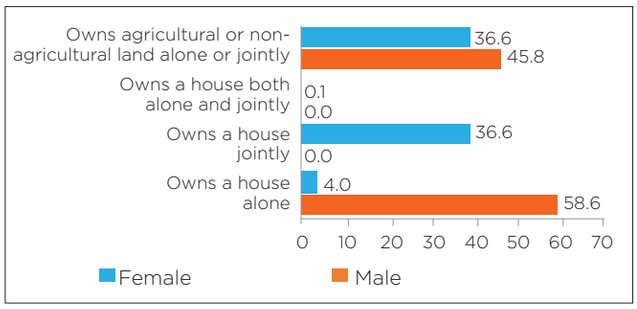
G2: Percent of women age 15–49 who received cash earnings in the 12 months before the survey by person who decides how their cash earnings are used, 2022



G3: Percent of men age 15–49 who receive cash earnings by person who decides how their cash earnings are used, 2022



G4: House and land ownership by sex, 2022



G5: Ownership and use of mobile phones and bank accounts by sex, 2022



	Male	Female
Kenya	82.0	79.3
Kitui	78.3	73.7

G6: Percent of women (15-49) making decisions on own healthcare, major household purchases, and visits to their family or relatives, 2022



	Own Healthcare	Major household purchase	Visits her family of relatives
Kenya	85.6	78.2	81.6
Kitui	95.3	87.4	93.2

G7: Percent of men (15-49) making decisions on own healthcare, and major household purchases, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Own healthcare	93.9	97.7
Major household purchase	86.9	98.7

G8: Percent of men and women (15-49) who agree the husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for at least one specific reason, 2022



	Kenya	Kitui
Female	42.6	11.0
Male	34.7	11.9

G9: Percent of women (15-49) who experienced physical or sexual violence by any perpetrator since age 15, 2022



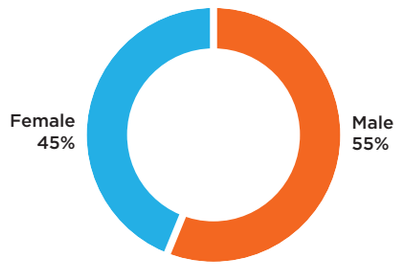
	Kenya	Kitui
Experienced physical violence by any perpetrator since age 15	33.9	11.5
Ever experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator	13.0	0.9

G10: Proportion of time spent on unpaid work for the population age 15 years and above by sex, 2021

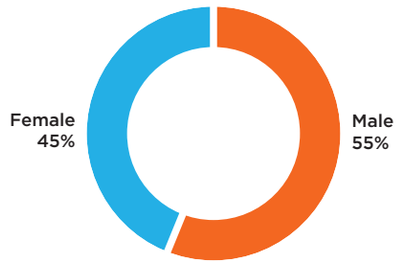


	Male	Female
Kenya	3.6	18.7
Kitui	2.8	14.8

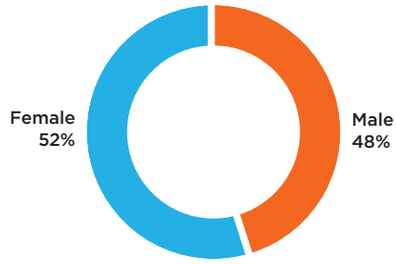
G11: Proportion of the County government employees by sex, 2022



G12: Proportion of County Assembly Members by sex, 2022



G13: Total registered voters by sex, 2022



About Women Count

As part of its response to global challenges in collecting and using timely and reliable gender data, since 2016, UN Women has implemented Women Count, a multi-stakeholder global strategy for a radical shift in how gender statistics are produced, used, and promoted to inform policy and advocacy on gender equality.

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