Gender Statistics Jamaica

Presented by:
Hope Perkins
Senior Statistician
Statistical Institute of Jamaica
Outline of the Presentation

• Gender Affairs in Jamaica
• Production of Gender Statistics in Jamaica
• STATIN’s experience in producing gender statistics
• Partnerships with users of gender statistics
• Data gaps and the challenges to promote the production of gender-sensitive indicators.
The Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports has overall responsibility for Gender Affairs in Jamaica.

Within the Ministry, the division, Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA), is the national machinery responsible for empowering the men and women of Jamaica.

The BGA is mandated to mobilize the Government to address the problems that confront women, given the impact of patriarchy and sexism.

The BGA focuses at the policy level in order to ensure that gender analysis is integrated into all national policies, plans, programmes and projects.

The Ministry has responsibility for the Gender Mainstreaming Project.
The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) is the National Statistics Office (NSO) of Jamaica. The functions of STATIN are defined under the Statistics Act which was first passed in 1949 and last amended in 2003. The Act is currently being reviewed for amendment. The Act does not define the roles and responsibilities of other data producers vis-à-vis STATIN. It also does not legislate on the definition of official statistics.
Official statistics in Jamaica are produced in a decentralized system and in the absence of a coordinated framework.

STATIN- the primary producer of statistics in Jamaica

Ministries, Departments and Agencies
Production of Gender Statistics in Jamaica

Statistical Institute of Jamaica

Ministries, Department and Agencies

Gender Statistics
The Gender Advisory Council (GAC) is comprised of Ministries, Departments and Agencies and NGOs.

The primary function of the GAC is to guide the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Policy for Gender Equality (NPGE) and the National Strategic Action Plan to eliminate Gender-Based Violence (NSAP-GBV).

The Council is chaired by the Minister and 2 co-chairs, of either sex.
Producing Gender Statistics in Jamaica

The National Policy for Gender Equality (NPGE) established gender mainstreaming in the workplace as a key priority for achieving gender equality in Jamaica.

Gender focal points have been designated to Ministries, Department and Agencies

Ensure that gender concerns are considered and incorporated into every strategy, plan and policy, using a gender equality framework
Focal Points are responsible for providing data for regional and international reports.

They provide a mechanism that users can have access to data disaggregated by sex.

Focal points report on gender related activities at Advisory Meeting.
Gender Statistics Produced in Jamaica

- All household surveys undertaken by STATIN are disaggregated by sex.

- There is the difficulty of getting gender disaggregated economic data such as for wages as companies do not provide data in this format.
Gender Statistics Produced in Jamaica

To date, a total of four (4) National Crime Victimization Surveys have been conducted in Jamaica.

Jamaica’s progress in measuring Gender Statistics
Data Gaps

Jamaica provides gender data to support national policies and regional and international partners

• SDG Indicators
  • There are 80 gender-related indicators across the 17 goals. Jamaica produced 33 indicators in the 2018 Statistical Annex to the VNR.

• CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators
  • Jamaica is able to produce approximately 75 per cent of the CARICOM GEI.

• Jamaica National Policy on Gender Equality (JNPGE)
  • Provide data to support this policy and to show progress.
Challenges

Legal Framework

• National Statistics System needs to be strengthened to improve coordination of the national programme of statistics.

• Provision to establish a system-wide policy for data sharing among MDAs is necessary.
Challenges

Data Production

- There is a lack of standardization of statistical definitions and concepts used in statistical production of some indicators.

- Unable to produce some indicators annually as the surveys used to measure indicators are produced adhoc. e.g. Reproductive Health Survey

- The Women’s Health Survey was done as a pilot in the Caribbean, however, we would need support to produce it more regularly.
Challenges

Data Production

• It is recommended that disaggregation of gender indicators should be by sex, age, location, migratory status and disability; however, we are unable to disaggregate by disability or migratory status.

• There is a disconnect between data production activities of MDAs and their policy mandate.

• Capacity building and institutional strengthening are needed.

• There is need to develop metadata documentation and user manuals.
Challenges

Gender Focal Point
• Limited power to create any impact in the institutions in which they operate.
• Actors in these institutions sometimes believe that addressing gender issues requires additional financial resources.
• Unaware of the importance of gender issues.

Data Dissemination and Data Sharing
• Need to improve timeliness and availability of data.
• Need for wider data dissemination via the internet, in an open data format.
• Promotion of partnership and data sharing among members of the NSS is essential.
• There is need to focus on data comparability to facilitate sharing across entities.
• Challenges in interlinking data-sets due to the absence of common identifiers.
Thank You for Your Attention