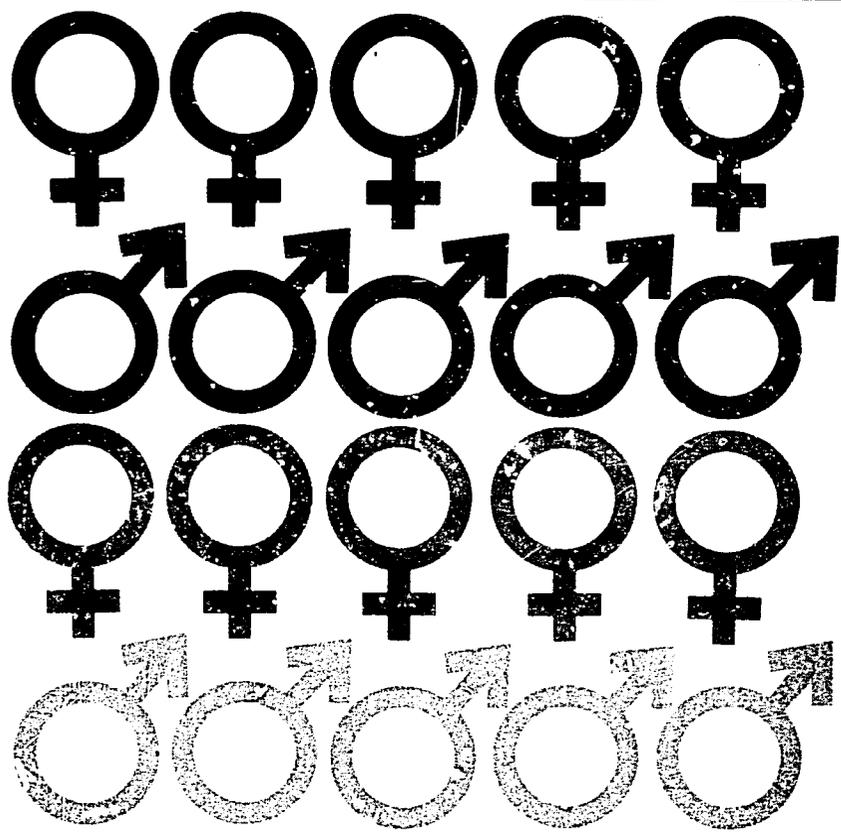

ASIA/OCEANIA

Burma

Selected Statistical Data by Sex



Economic and Social Data Services Division
Development Information Utilization Service
Office of Evaluation
Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination
U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DATA BASE IN THIS BOOKLET

The United States Bureau of the Census (BuCen) recently updated a data base project, sponsored by the AID Women in Development Office (PPC/WID), which, drawing on existing data sources, provides AID with data disaggregated by sex, age and urban-rural residence for a variety of variables including demographic, education, health, household, income and employment. The purpose of the project was to capture and make accessible, in a convenient single location, statistical data from existing sources relevant to a better understanding of the status and roles of women in AID-participating countries. The scope of work included a data search of 120 countries with a population of 5 million or more. A listing of the countries for which searches were conducted is provided in Appendix A. A listing of the variables searched is provided in Appendix B. Appendix C presents a summary of the table characteristics for the country under review. The most commonly used sources were national censuses and surveys, statistical abstracts, and international compendia (e.g., publications from the United Nations, the Latin American Demographic Center, the International Labor Organization, and so forth). Each table is in a format which permits the footnoting of sources and important definitions. Further annotation is often included to indicate instances where data availability deviates significantly from the standard table outline, or where concepts and definitions used in collection or tabulation differ from internationally recommended standards.

BuCen researchers were concerned with recording "hard", reliable data. Census data were generally accepted as valid. Survey data were used if they had been judged reliable by the country analysts in the BuCen Center for International Research. Projections were not used and estimates or questionable measures were generally avoided. If, of necessity, the latter were employed, caveats appear in the footnotes.

A major product of this effort is a computerized data file suitable for analysis using standard statistical packages, e.g., Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Statistical Analysis System (SAS). Data for all 120 countries are available on a single tape. A standard tape file format was prepared for all 19 tables. Information concerning the record layouts (formats) for the various types of data as well as information regarding data-file specifications is available. Beyond the basic tabular data, the tapes indicate source references, concept definitions, and any qualifying information which should be considered by the user. The computerized data file is available for use by Agency personnel on the AID computer. Arrangements for Agency users should be made through the Economic and Social Data Services Division, Development Information Utilization Service, Office of Evaluation (PPC/E-DIU-ESDS). The data file is also available on magnetic tape from the BuCen. Requests should be addressed to Chief, Center For International Research, U. S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C. 20233 (for order form see Appendix F).

The Economic and Social Data Services Division of PPC/E is making updated copies of the data available in hard copy booklet form, on a country-specific basis. Each country booklet contains a complete set of computer printout tables for the variables searched for that country. In those cases where the data search failed to uncover data for a variable, the table(s) appears blank in the country booklet. Copies of these country-specific booklets are available upon request from the AID Development Information Utilization Service, Office of Evaluation (PPC/E-DIU/ESDS).

Census data on women exhibit certain limitations and biases which must be taken into account if the statistics are to be interpreted appropriately. Some of these biases are noted in the FOREWORD which follows. Appendix E, "A Cautionary Note Regarding Use of Employment Statistics for Women," by Nadia Youssef, expands on the difficulties surrounding the use of women's statistics in the important area of employment.

Finally, several tear-out copies of Reader Comments forms have been bound into this volume for use in submitting user reactions and suggestions to the PPC/E-DIU/ESDS in AID/Washington. We would appreciate hearing from you. Every effort will be made to improve upon the present volume so that succeeding editions become progressively more useful.

FOREWORDBackground(a) The International Context

The decade of the seventies witnessed a growing international movement directed towards improvement in the status and roles of women worldwide. Increasingly, it became widely recognized and accepted that, while class or social ranking is a general or basic factor in all people's fate in life, women face a special problem in that there are two systems of stratification in operation. The second system concerns women's position vis-a-vis men in public and private life. It is in this sense that women are confronted with problems of discrimination peculiar to them, and it is this universal problem that lay behind the designation of the International Women's Year in 1975, followed by the current United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985). A more recent milestone in this international women's movement was reached when, on 18 December 1979, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by a vote of 130 in favor, none against, with 11 abstentions and 11 Member States non-voting, The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Eighty-one nations are now signatories to the Convention and ratification proceedings are underway in these countries.

(b) The Situation in AID

During this same time, within the Agency for International Development, awareness of women as they impacted on, and were affected by, the development process also grew. Reports depicting women as victims of the development process appeared with increasing frequency, as did reports that the contributions of women to the development process were being consistently overlooked.*

Special concern for the status and roles of women was initially provided explicit recognition in the Agency policy framework, in 1973, in Sec. 113 of the Foreign Assistance Act, otherwise known as the Percy Amendment.

*This perspective was also incorporated in the conceptual framework underlying the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women which states, in part: "It can be argued that the predominant economic analyses of labor and capital insufficiently trace the linkages between production systems in world economics and women's work as producers and reproducers; nor is the subject, exploitation, oppression and domination of women by men, sufficiently explained in history."
(UN: A/Conf. 94/34, 13 August 1980, p. 6)

That amendment mandated that Foreign Assistance "shall be administered so as to give particular attention to these programs, projects and activities which tend to integrate women into the national economies of developing countries, thus improving their status and assisting the total development effort."

While the Percy Amendment dealt specifically with women, other broader changes occurring within the Agency (as well as within the development community generally) indirectly spotlighted the situation of women. First, the AID "new directions" mandate of 1973 focussed attention on issues of distribution and equity in the growth process. Secondly, the "new directions" approach was supplemented mid-decade with the "basic human needs" emphasis. Both orientations pushed toward greater concern for women in the process of societal change. This is the case because (1) women make up a disproportionately large portion of the poorest of the poor, and (2) women commonly bear the major responsibility for supplying themselves and their families with food, water, fuel, health care, sanitation, education, and so forth. Women are, in effect, simultaneously the group most in need and the "front line" providers of basic human needs. Development projects that overlook or misconstrue their capabilities and contributions run the serious risk of being ineffective or, even worse, counterproductive.*

(c) Data Needs on Women

Planners and administrators who have recognized the need to take women into account, both as contributors to, and/or beneficiaries of, the development process, are often frustrated by the lack of solid, accessible statistical evidence of women's situations. In the absence of reliable data, decisions must be made on the basis of impressions, hunches, or even prejudices. At stake are substantial investments of both human and financial resources. Data bases which fail to address the unique situations of women provide little guidance for policy planning, and little basis for judging the results of initiatives taken to further women's integration in development. Hence the crucial need for a reliable, up-to-date, accessible data base on women in development.

Within the Agency, it is now generally recognized that beginning with the policy stage and continuing through the project programming, implementation and evaluation cycle, data must be obtained which reflect the differential conditions of men and women. The assumption that when benefits and costs accrue to production aggregates (ranging from nations to households), they will be felt in some comparable way by the various units (ranging from subgroup to individuals) of which they are comprised, has proven patently false. Many projects now require the gathering of baseline socioeconomic data pertinent to women's status, e.g., the sexual division of labor, decision-making in the household, the pattern of expenditure of household cash earnings and so forth. Project evaluations and impact assessments increasingly focus on

*See, for example, The Nemow Case, Case Studies of the Impact of Large Scale Development Projects on Women: A Series for Planners, Working Paper No. 7, September 1979, Agency for International Development, Washington,

changes in the differential access of men and women to both the means and fruits of production.*

(d) Problems and Prospects

Problems with the statistical data base on women and women's situations in society emerge from two theoretically distinct sources. One set of problems arises from the concepts and indicators which have been used in the construction of the data base. For example, there are intrinsic limitations to operational definitions of concepts and measurements designed to capture employment trends in census practices. These combine with cultural biases against women's employment, and together result in the underreporting and undercounting of women's participation in the market place.** Too often the economic value of what women do in the home and subsistence production is given short shrift in census and many survey data. Necessary changes in the concepts and the operations of data gatherers represent a challenge extending into the future, although some measure of improvement is possible in the short run in some areas.

A second set of problems with the statistical data base on women arises from the lack of availability of data at appropriate levels of aggregation; i.e., data are not disaggregated by sex. Although census and survey data have frequently been collected in such a way as to allow the tabulation of responses separately for men and women, because of the past insensitivity to questions concerning differing conditions and responses by sex, separate tabulations have either not been made or have not been reported. This is an area where improvements can be made within relatively short time periods.

One of the goals adopted by the Office of Women in Development (WID) in AID*** is improvements in the collection, reporting and analysis of data concerning the status of women in society and their role in national development. In order to further the goal of reliable information on women in development issues, the WID Office has been supporting a variety of efforts to develop a reliable and internationally comparable data base in these areas. One of these efforts has been to examine existing data sources, and, where possible, provide tabulations of the information separately by sex. The data presented in this series of country booklets represent the product of that effort.

*Assessing the Impact of Development Projects on Women, A.I.D. Program Evaluation Discussion Paper No. 8, Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination, Agency for International Development, May, 1980.

**Limitations and biases regarding employment statistics for women are discussed in Appendix E, "A Cautionary Note Regarding Use of Employment Statistics for Women."

***The Women in Development Office was established within the Agency to help meet the objectives of the Percy Amendment.

It is clearly recognized that the data captured in this project do not represent an ideal or complete set of information on the status and role of women necessary for project and/or program needs.* Rather they reflect to a substantial degree what is currently accessible to the research team members. We do feel, however, that it may be useful to publicize basic data available to AID missions, generalists in the development community, and program planners who may be interested in comparisons within regions and comparisons between men and women. In addition we hope this kind of presentation will help create a demand for more detailed and sophisticated information on women in the future, especially if future publications point out current gaps in information.

An assumption underlying the project was that the availability of data on women in developing countries might remind planners of the importance of incorporating women in their programs, help suggest programs and speed up the orientation of more development programs toward women. In other words, the project was expected to have a "consciousness-raising" function.

A more specific concern however, was to build up a solid set of data on characteristics of women in developing countries which could be updated when new information became available. The 1980 round of censuses will provide more information as will the country specific studies now being done in many countries. The data base does provide a solid benchmark of what was available from the 1970s and can serve as a source for future comparisons.

*Because of their lack of detail, the data would not be very useful for project planning. It is possible some AID field missions, especially those with smaller staffs, will use the information in their annual Country Development Strategy Statement (CDSS) although many missions may be closer to the data for their own country than the compilers in Washington could be. Regional comparisons might re-emphasize the continued existence of certain problems, e.g., the relatively low life expectancy of females in South Asia.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 1. UNADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1953. BURMA

01 THE ONLY COMPLETE, MODERN-ERA BURMESE CENSUS WAS CONDUCTED IN 1973 (SEE TABLE 2). A 1953-1954 MULTI-STAGE CENSUS WAS ATTEMPTED, BUT VARIOUS DIFFICULTIES LIMITED COVERAGE TO ABOUT 30% OF THE POPULATION. FOR AN ESTIMATED 1953 POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE SEE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDIX 4.3.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 2. SMOOTHED AND PARTIALLY ADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE	URBAN TOTAL	URBAN MALE	URBAN FEMALE	RURAL TOTAL	RURAL MALE	RURAL FEMALE
TOTAL	28417820	14127139	14290681	6847797	3455717	3392080	21570023	10671422	10898601
0-4	4593568	2308503	2285065	1092998	552604	540394	3500570	1755899	1744671
5-9	3934224	1979798	1954426	883728	471896	411832	3050496	1507902	1542594
10-14	3421764	1717692	1704072	826239	417266	408973	2595525	1300426	1295099
15-19	2914105	1445038	1469067	725215	366709	358506	2188890	1078329	1110561
20-24	2351617	1156182	1195435	601092	304498	296594	1750525	851624	898841
25-29	1858080	915316	942764	474148	240453	233695	1383932	674863	709069
30-34	1640151	809101	831050	413901	209208	204693	1226250	599893	626357
35-39	1587599	786877	800722	390623	196357	194266	1196976	590520	606456
40-44	1412242	703124	709118	339923	169588	170335	1072319	533536	538783
45-49	1202359	599378	602981	287670	142896	144774	914689	456482	458207
50-54	991603	492633	498965	238185	118061	120124	753418	374577	378841
55-59	810704	400274	410430	190380	92948	97432	620324	307326	312998
60-64	634029	310216	323813	144520	68346	76174	489509	241870	247639
65 AND OVER	1065775	503002	562773	239175	104887	134288	826600	398115	428485

- 01 SOURCE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDIX 3.1.
- 02 THE 1973 CENSUS ADOPTED AN ESSENTIALLY DE JURE METHOD, ALTHOUGH THE DE FACTO METHOD WAS USED TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON NOMADS AND THE 'MOVING POPULATION'.
- 03 BASED ON UNOFFICIAL COMPUTER TABULATIONS OF 1973 CENSUS RESULTS, NYUNT SMOOTHED POPULATION FIGURES FOR AGES 6 AND OVER, AND ADJUSTED YOUNGER AGES FOR AN ESTIMATED UNDERENUMERATION OF 8.5%. FOR A FURTHER ADJUSTMENT WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR UNENUMERATED AND UNDERENUMERATED GEOGRAPHIC AREAS, SEE TABLE 4.
- 04 THE 1973 DEFINITION OF URBAN REFERRED TO ALL TOWNSHIP TOWNS AND OTHER TOWNS TO WHICH THE BURMA TOWNS ACT APPLIED, INCLUDING ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND NOTIFIED AREAS.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 3. ADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX, 1953. BURMA

01 FOR COMMENTS ON THE 1953 CENSUS SEE FOOTNOTE TO TABLE 1.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 4. ADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX, 1973. BURMA

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	28885864	14359315	14526049
0-4	4669224	2346524	2322700
5-9	3999021	2012405	1986616
10-14	3478121	1745983	1732138
15-19	2962101	1468838	1493263
20-24	2390348	1175224	1215124
25-29	1888682	930391	958291
30-34	1667164	822427	844737
35-39	1613747	799837	813910
40-44	1435502	714705	720797
45-49	1222162	609250	612912
50-54	1007935	500752	507183
55-59	824057	406857	417190
60-64	644471	315325	329146
65 AND OVER	1083329	511287	572042

- 01 SOURCE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDIX 4.2.
- 02 THE 1973 CENSUS ADOPTED AN ESSENTIALLY DE JURE METHOD, ALTHOUGH THE DE FACTO METHOD WAS USED TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON NOMADS AND THE 'MOVING POPULATION'.
- 03 DURING THE 1973 CENSUS, 6 OF BURMA'S 314 TOWNSHIPS WERE COMPLETELY OMITTED FROM ENUMERATION, WHILE 54 TOWNSHIPS WERE ONLY PARTIALLY ENUMERATED. TABLE 4 REFLECTS A FURTHER ADJUSTMENT OF THE FIGURES IN TABLE 2, AN ADJUSTMENT WHICH INCLUDES ESTIMATES FOR THE UNCOVERED AREAS. THE TOTAL IN TABLE 4 REPRESENTS THE OFFICIAL 1973 CENSUS FIGURE.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 5. POPULATION BY STATE/DIVISION, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

STATE/DIVISION	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE	URBAN TOTAL	URBAN MALE	URBAN FEMALE	RURAL TOTAL	RURAL MALE	RURAL FEMALE
TOTAL	28884267	14345794	14538473	6951285	3480794	3470491	21932982	10865000	11067982
KACHIN	735144	364914	370230	155105	77727	77378	580039	287187	292852
KAYAH	126492	64158	62334	30059	15847	14212	96433	48311	48122
KAREN	856218	423756	432462	99736	50003	49733	756482	373753	382729
CHIN	323094	156489	166605	37106	18779	18327	285988	137710	148278
SAGAING	3115502	1519303	1596199	383053	189913	193140	2732449	1329390	1403059
TENASSERIM	717607	360879	356728	166829	82641	84188	550778	278238	272540
PEGU	3174109	1571487	1602622	611094	298583	312511	2563015	1272904	1290111
MAGWE	2632144	1286123	1346021	407922	200635	207287	2224222	1085488	1138734
MANDALAY	3662312	1803004	1859308	964653	486811	477842	2697659	1316193	1381466
MON	1313111	657005	656106	374234	185932	188302	938377	471073	467804
ARAKAN	1710913	845050	865863	248124	120842	127282	1462789	724208	738581
RANGOON	3186886	1616699	1570187	2218073	1125223	1092850	968813	491476	477337
SHAN	3178214	1609781	1568433	572161	292980	279181	2606053	1316801	1289252
IRRAWADDY	4152521	2067146	2085375	683136	334878	348258	3469385	1732268	1737117

01 SOURCES: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM, NO. A-129, OCTOBER 24, 1973, FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY RANGOON; CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION, 1977, STATISTICAL ABSTRACT 1976, RANGOON, TABLE 11.

02 FIGURES FOR TOTAL MALES AND FEMALES ARE PRELIMINARY CENSUS RESULTS. FIGURES FOR URBAN AND RURAL AREAS IN EACH STATE/DIVISION HAVE BEEN CALCULATED BASED ON A REPORTED PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE URBAN/RURAL POPULATION BY STATE/DIVISION.

03 FIGURES MAY NOT SUM TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 6A. POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUP, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND. THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT BURMA COUNTRY PROFILE (1980, OFFICE OF FOREIGN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE, WASHINGTON, D.C., P. 4) INDICATES THE
FOLLOWING ETHNIC/SOCIOCULTURAL PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN: BURMANS,
72%; KARANS, 10%; SHANS, 6%; KACHINS, 2%; CHINS, 2%; INDIANS AND
PAKISTANIS, 3%; CHINESE, 2%; OTHER, 3%.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 5B. POPULATION BY RELIGION, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND. 75%-85% OF THE POPULATION
IS SAID TO BE THERAVADA BUDDHIST (AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE, 1980,
BURMA COUNTRY PROFILE, WASHINGTON, D.C., P. 4).

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 6C. POPULATION BY NATIONALITY, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT DESIRED NATIONAL BREAKDOWN NOT AVAILABLE. THE 1975 UNION OF BURMA STATISTICAL YEARBOOK (CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION, 1976, RANGOON, TABLE 9) REPORTS THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS OF FOREIGN NATIONALS RESIDING IN BURMA IN 1975: CHINESE, 114,666 (52,294 FEMALES); INDIAN, 58,459 (25,167 FEMALES); PAKISTANI, 11,569 (2,260 FEMALES); OTHER, 20,513 (9,655 FEMALES). THE CORRESPONDING 1975 OFFICIAL POPULATION ESTIMATE IS 30,170,000 (15,176,000 FEMALES).

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 6D. POPULATION BY LANGUAGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 7. LIFE EXPECTANCY AT SELECTED AGES, BY SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT RELIABLE DATA NOT AVAILABLE. THE UNITED
NATIONS (1979, WORLD POPULATION TRENDS AND PROSPECTS BY COUNTRY,
1950-2000: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE 1978 ASSESSMENT,
NEW YORK, TABLE 2) ESTIMATES A COMBINED-SEX
LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF 52.5 YEARS FOR THE PERIOD 1975-1980.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 8. SELECTED MORTALITY MEASURES, BY SEX
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT RELIABLE DATA NOT AVAILABLE. THE CENTRAL
STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION (N.D., STATISTICAL ABSTRACT 1978,
RANGOON, TABLE 9) REPORTS AN INFANT MORTALITY RATE OF 43.7 FOR
1978; HOWEVER, THIS FIGURE IS BASED ON INCOMPLETE VITAL
REGISTRATION STATISTICS FROM VARIOUS URBAN AREAS.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 9. PERCENT OF NATIVE-BORN POPULATION BORN OUTSIDE OF
PROVINCE OF CURRENT RESIDENCE, BY AGE AND SEX, 1973.
BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 10A. TOTAL POPULATION 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY MARITAL
STATUS, AGE, AND SEX, 1973. BURMA

01 ABSOLUTE FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE. FOR PERCENTAGES SINGLE AND
MARRIED BY AGE AND SEX, BASED ON UNOFFICIAL 1973 CENSUS
TABULATIONS, SEE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL
RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF
POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDICES 5.1 AND 5.2.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 10B. URBAN POPULATION 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY MARITAL
STATUS, AGE, AND SEX, 1973. BURMA

01 ABSOLUTE FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE. FOR PERCENTAGES SINGLE AND
MARRIED BY AGE, SEX AND URBAN RESIDENCE, BASED ON UNOFFICIAL
1973 CENSUS TABULATIONS, SEE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978,
ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE
FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF
DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA,
APPENDICES 5.1 AND 5.2.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 10C. RURAL POPULATION 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY MARITAL
STATUS, AGE, AND SEX, 1973. BURMA

01 ABSOLUTE FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE. FOR PERCENTAGES SINGLE AND MARRIED BY AGE, SEX AND RURAL RESIDENCE, BASED ON UNOFFICIAL 1973 CENSUS TABULATIONS, SEE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDICES 5.1 AND 5.2.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 11. MINIMUM LEGAL AGE AT MARRIAGE AND AGE AT WHICH SPECIFIED PERCENT ARE EVER MARRIED, BY SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

ITEM	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE	URBAN MALE	URBAN FEMALE	RURAL MALE	RURAL FEMALE
MINIMUM LEGAL AGE	18X	18X	18X	18X	18X	18X
AGE 25% EVER-MARR.	20	19	22	18	20	18
AGE 50% EVER MARR.	23	20	25	21	23	20
AGE 75% EVER MARR.	27	24	29	26	26	24

01 SOURCE: DAW T.T. NYUNT, 1978, ESTIMATION OF VITAL RATES FOR BURMA AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE SIZE OF POPULATION, M.A. THESIS, DEPARTMENT OF DEMOGRAPHY, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, APPENDIX 5.1 (FOR PERCENTAGES SINGLE); PERSONAL COMMUNICATION, EMBASSY OF BURMA, WASHINGTON, D.C. (FOR MINIMUM LEGAL MARITAL AGE).

X THIS MINIMUM LEGAL AGE IS THE ONE IN EFFECT IN 1981; IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THE SAME MINIMUM AGE WAS IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF THE 1973 CENSUS.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 12. NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS BY SIZE, MEAN SIZE AND MEDIAN SIZE,
BY URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO COMPREHENSIVE DATA FOUND. THE CENTRAL
STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION (1977, STATISTICAL ABSTRACT 1976,
RANGOON, TABLE 39) REPORTS AN AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE RANGING
FROM 4.98 TO 5.97 AMONG FIVE TOWNSHIPS COVERED DURING THE 1976
RURAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 13. HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, SEX
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 14A. AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES (PER 1,000 WOMEN), BY
URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND. DEFICIENCIES IN THE
EXISTING VITAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM PRECLUDE RELIABLE ESTIMATES
OF BURMESE AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 14B. SELECTED FERTILITY MEASURES, BY URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1973. BURMA

01 RELIABLE DATA NOT AVAILABLE. MOST ESTIMATES OF THE CRUDE BIRTH RATE DURING THE PERIOD 1973-1980 FALL IN THE 37-39 RANGE. BASED ON 1973 CENSUS FIGURES AND A MULTIPLE REGRESSION TECHNIQUE SUGGESTED BY BOGUE AND PALMORE. TIN TIN MYINT (1980, 'LEVELS OF FERTILITY AND MORTALITY AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR BURMA, 1973-2003', INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR POPULATION STUDIES, BOMBAY, TABLE 3) ESTIMATES A 1973 TFR OF 5.6 AND A GRR OF 2.7; HOWEVER, THE QUALITY OF THESE ESTIMATES IS UNKNOWN.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 15A. NUMBER OF LITERATE PERSONS 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY
AGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT ABSOLUTE NUMBERS NOT AVAILABLE. FOR
PERCENTAGES LITERATE SEE TABLE 15C.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 15B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 15C, 1973.
BURMA

01 PRECISE BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 15C ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 15C. PERCENTAGES LITERATE 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, SEX,
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	71.9	83.4	60.8

01 SOURCE: CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION, N.D., STATISTICAL
ABSTRACT 1978, RANGOON, TABLE 11.
02 A DEFINITION OF LITERACY IS NOT AVAILABLE.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 16A. NUMBER OF PERSONS ENROLLED IN SCHOOL BY AGE, SEX AND
URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1978. BURMA

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL
TOTAL	4591819

- 01 SOURCE: CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION, N.D., STATISTICAL
ABSTRACT 1978, RANGOON, TABLE 31.
- 02 THIS FIGURE PRESUMABLY REFERS TO ENROLLMENT AT ALL LEVELS DURING
1978, AND IS COMPOSED OF 3,711,464 PUPILS IN THE PRIMARY
DEPARTMENT (LEVEL), 721,857 IN THE MIDDLE DEPARTMENT, AND
158,498 IN THE HIGH DEPARTMENT.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 16B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 16C, 1978.
BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 16C. PERCENTAGE ENROLLED IN SCHOOL BY AGE, SEX, AND
URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1978. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 17A. NUMBER OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE PERSONS 10 YEARS OLD AND
OVER, BY AGE, SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973.
BURMA

- 01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT ABSOLUTE NUMBERS NOT AVAILABLE. FOR
PERCENTAGES ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE SEE TABLE 17C.
02 ABSOLUTE NUMBERS MIGHT BE ESTIMATED BY APPLYING THE PERCENTAGES
IN TABLE 17C TO CORRESPONDING POPULATION FIGURES IN TABLE 2.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 17B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 17C, 1973.
BURMA

01 SEE FOOTNOTE TO TABLE 17A.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 17C. PERCENTAGE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER,
BY AGE, SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	52.2	72.7	32.6
10-14	15.5	16.4	14.6
15-59	61.3	86.4	37.4
60 AND OVER	48.1	72.0	26.9

01 SOURCE: CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION, N.D., STATISTICAL
ABSTRACT 1978, RANGOON, TABLE 10.

02 'ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE' INCLUDES BOTH EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED
SEGMENTS OF THE LABOR FORCE AS WELL AS PERSONS DESIGNATED AS
SEASONAL WORKERS.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 18. ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION BY STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT,
SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

TABLE 19. INCOME DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN INCOME, BY SEX AND
URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. BURMA

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

APPENDIX A

"Women in Development" Countries

AFRICA

Angola
 Benin
 Botswana
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Cape Verde
 Chad
 Djibouti
 Ethiopia
 The Gambia
 Ghana
 Guinea
 Guinea Bissau
 Ivory Coast
 Kenya
 Lesotho
 Liberia
 Madagascar
 Malawi
 Mali
 Mauritania
 Mauritius
 Mozambique
 Niger
 Nigeria
 Rwanda
 Sao Tomé and Príncipe
 Senegal
 Seychelles
 Sierra Leone
 Somalia
 South Africa
 Sudan
 Swaziland
 Tanzania
 Togo
 Uganda
 Upper Volta
 Zaire
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe

ASIA/OCEANIA

Australia
 Bangladesh
 Burma
 People's Republic of China
 Republic of China - Taiwan
 Hong Kong
 India
 Indonesia
 Japan
 Kampuchea
 North Korea
 South Korea
 Malaysia
 Nepal
 Pakistan
 Philippines
 Sri Lanka
 Thailand
 Vietnam

EUROPE

Austria
 Belgium
 Bulgaria
 Czechoslovakia
 Denmark
 Finland
 France
 German Democratic Republic
 Federal Republic of Germany
 Greece
 Hungary
 Italy
 Netherlands
 Poland
 Portugal
 Romania
 Spain
 Sweden
 Switzerland
 United Kingdom
 Yugoslavia

APPENDIX A (continued)

Latin America/Caribbean

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Venezuela

Near East/North Africa

Afghanistan
Algeria
Cyprus
Egypt
Iran
Iraq
Israel
Jordan
Lebanon
Morocco
Saudi Arabia
Syria
Tunisia
Turkey
Yemen Arab Republic

North America

Canada
United States

Soviet Union

Soviet Union

APPENDIX B

A List of Variables Used in the "Women in Development" Tables

1. Unadjusted Population by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence (earlier census), 19__
2. Unadjusted Population by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence (latest census), 19__
3. Adjusted Population by Age and Sex (earlier census), 19__
4. Adjusted Population by Age and Sex (latest census), 19__
5. Population by Province, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 6a. Population by Ethnic Group, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 6b. Population by Religion, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 6c. Population by Nationality, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 6d. Population by Language, Sex and Urban Rural Residence, 19__
7. Life Expectancy at Selected Ages, by Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
8. Selected Mortality Measures, by Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__ to 19__
9. Percent of Native-born Population Born Outside of Province of Current Residence, by Age and Sex, 19__
- 10a. Total Population 10 Years Old and Over, by Marital Status, Age and Sex, 19__
- 10b. Urban Population 10 Years Old and Over, by Marital Status, Age and Sex, 19__
- 10c. Rural Population 10 Years Old and Over, by Marital Status, Age and Sex, 19__
11. Minimum Legal Age at Marriage and Age at which Specified Percent are Ever Married, by sex and, 19__
Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
12. Number of Households by Size, Mean Size and Median Size, by Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
13. Heads of Household 10 Years Old and Over, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 14a. Age-Specific Fertility Rates (per 1,000 women), by Urban/Rural Residence, 19__ to 19__
- 14b. Selected Fertility Measures, by Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 15a. Number of Literate Persons 10 Years Old and Over, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 15b. Population Bases for Percentages in Table 15c, 19__
- 15c. Percentage Literate 10 Years Old and Over, by Age, Sex, and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 16a. Number of Persons Enrolled in School 5 to 24 Years Old, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 16b. Population Bases for Percentages in Table 16c, 19__
- 16c. Percentage Enrolled in School 5 to 24 Years Old, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 17a. Number of Economically Active Person: 10 Years Old and Over, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
- 17b. Population Bases for Percentages in Table 17c, 19__
- 17c. Percentage Economically Active 10 Years Old and Over, by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
18. Economically Active Population by Status in employment, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__
19. Income Distribution and Median Income (in _____), by Sex, and Urban/Rural Residence, 19__

APPENDIX C

TABLE CHARACTERISTICS

INTERNATIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC DATA CENTER, U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASE

COUNTRY 482--BURMA

MAY 4, 1983

-----TABLE CHARACTERISTICS-----

	YEAR	ROWS	COLUMNS	STANDARD	NONSTANDARD	BLANK
TABLE 01	1953	0	0			X
TABLE 02	1973	15	0		X	X
TABLE 03	1953	0	0			
TABLE 04	1973	15	3		X	
TABLE 05	1973	15	9		X	
TABLE 06A	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 06B	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 06C	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 06D	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 07	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 08	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 09	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 10A	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 10B	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 10C	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 11	1973	4	6	X		X
TABLE 12	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 13	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 14A	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 14B	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 15A	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 15B	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 15C	1973	1	3		X	
TABLE 16A	1978	1	1		X	
TABLE 16B	1978	0	0			X
TABLE 16C	1978	0	0			X
TABLE 17A	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 17B	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 17C	1973	4	3		X	
TABLE 18	1973	0	0			X
TABLE 19	1973	0	0			X

COUNTRY FILE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING TABLE TYPES:

1 STANDARD TABLES
6 NONSTANDARD TABLES
24 BLANK TABLES

APPENDIX D

"A. OBJECTIVE

"The objective of this contract is two-fold: (1) to develop and make accessible a body of reliable and internationally comparable data which will facilitate better understanding of the statuses and roles of women worldwide, and their participation in national development, and (2) to promote institutionalization of WID issues and concerns in national and international census and survey activities. Our purpose is to update, expand and make more relevant and accessible, both now and in the future, the census and survey data available to the Agency and AID participating countries pertinent to Women in Development (WID) issues and concerns.

"B. SCOPE OF WORK

"The contractor will pursue this goal through the accomplishment of a number of basic tasks: (1) expansion of the data base of social, economic and demographic information related to the status and roles of women worldwide; (2) preparation of a hard copy publication(s) providing a worldwide statistical portrait of women, accompanied by interpretative text and an analytical critique of the indicators and the data base as they relate to an understanding of the conditions of women; (3) encouraging through consultation and coordination ongoing and contemplated BuCen programs for statistical training and technical assistance to take into consideration the needs for the conceptualization, design, collection, tabulation and analysis of data pertinent to women in development issues; (4) function as a repository for international WID data and provide dissemination of assembled international WID data base in response to user requests (U. S. and international) utilizing specific transportable medium (tape, card, diskette, etc.) as appropriate, and to include documentation; (5) preparation of special tabulations from census samples and surveys to provide data concerning WID issues which have not previously been available, e.g., micro data from censuses and surveys may be exploited to prepare data on women migrants, women-headed households, male/female income differentials; and (6) compilation of data on subject areas less frequently included in population censuses and general purpose household surveys, e.g., access to credit, political participation.

"Under this new contract agreement BuCen will (1) assess the variables included in the previous stage of work to determine whether new variables should be added to the data base, (2) extend the data capture activities to include, in addition to the 69 AID-participating countries, all countries of 5 million or more population, (3) update the data presented under the previous contract to reflect most recent information available, and (4) drawing on the information presented in this expanded data base, prepare for hard copy publication a worldwide statistical portrait of women using the most recent data available, to include interpretive text and an analytical critique of the data base.

Dissemination and utilization of these data is a primary objective. As indicated above, the data will be made available in two forms: (1) in machine-readable form according to agreed-upon file specifications; and (2) a world handbook, or regional handbooks, which select and display data from the automated file in a maximally useful analytic mode and provide(s) a critique of the data base and indicators. The BuCen will function as repository for these data, and will create a reproductive capacity and disseminate the data in response to user requests, both U. S. and international, in a form consistent with user capabilities.

"An additional priority focus in the contract effort is the institutionalization of an integrated concern and capability for assessing the roles and status of women, in a manner which accurately reflects women's real social and economic contributions and conditions in society, in national and international census and survey data collection, reporting and analysis activities. To this end, BuCen will consult and coordinate with ongoing Census Bureau programs. Examples of these programs are the Census Bureau's regular training programs for population analysis, POPSTAN workshops, assistance to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) program of national surveys on internal migration and the Survey and Evaluation Unit (SEU) Resource Support Services Agreement (RSSA) agreement with AID to assist AID-participating countries in data collection, processing and compilation efforts and to provide on-the-job training for host country nationals in data collection and information management."

APPENDIX E

A Cautionary Note Regarding the Use of Employment Statistics for Women^{1/}

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The Agency's commitment to promoting productive employment as an integral component of its programmatic emphasis has important bearing on development efforts on behalf of women. The relationship between increasing the use of women's economic resources and improving the economic picture of underdevelopment is only now beginning to surface. AID projects have recently begun to address women in their productive role. However, fuller planning efforts are thwarted by the absence in the Third World of a system of statistics showing the reality of women's economic contribution. National censuses, which are the primary source of data for development planning, have up to now consistently undervalued the productive contribution of women to the national economy. Unless corrective action is introduced women will continue to be excluded from social and economic development planning.^{2/}

The perennial problem is that internationally adopted standards, the operational definitions of concepts, and measures of employment are grounded in a system of identification and evaluation of economic activity based on developed and industrialized economies. Methodologically, such an approach is inadequate for developing economies, because it focuses on stable wage-earners and thereby fails to capture the totality of men's and women's productive contributions. The census statistics for women, more than for men, are fraught with ambiguities and sex related biases. This tendency is due to the interaction between two factors: (a) the inappropriate conceptualization of female labor force activity and its underenumeration by means of censuses, and (b) the cultural bias against acknowledging the types and level of work that women perform that leads to distorted reporting and recording of women's contribution to total employment.

The following pages single out some of the limitations intrinsic to current operational definitions and measurement of work in standard census practices.

^{1/} This is a condensed version of a larger paper entitled "Sex-Related Biases in Census Counts" in the report Priorities in the Design of Development Programs: Women's Issues, Bureau of Development Support, AID, Washington, D. C.

^{2/} A basic critique of the situation can be found in the U.N. Secretariat "Sex Biases and National Data Systems," (ST/ESA/STAT/99), (June 1980).

MEASUREMENTS OF WORK: WOMEN'S PRODUCTIVITY

Standard census practices use the labor force approach in collecting data on economic characteristics and in classifying populations as economically "active" or "inactive". According to this approach, the economically active population is identified as 1) at work for pay or profit during a specified brief period, either one week or one day; 2) with a job but not at work, or 3) actively seeking employment. This measure, originally developed in the United States during the Depression to assess the extent of unemployment, fails to capture the reality of working conditions in developing economies for the following reasons: a) much of production is family-based and for home consumption; b) the agricultural cycle generates sharp seasonal variation in activity; c) the length of working days is not uniform; d) most wage work is for daily wages; and e) individuals engage in not one, but a variety of economic activities in the course of a single year.

The flaws intrinsic to this conventional measure are more acute for women than for men because of a deeply entrenched bias against female employment. This bias takes the form of failure to report on the productive contribution of women to economic life, not only through the self-reporting process (because women do not consider their work to be economically important), but also in instructing the interviewer to accept a married woman's designation of herself as a "housewife" (hence to be counted "economically inactive") without further probing into a possible distinction between the economic and non-economic value of the activities she performs.

THE LABOR FORCE APPROACH AND WOMEN WORKERS

A rigorous interpretation of the concept "economic activity", as utilized in the labor force approach, is disadvantageous to women because of the following:

Domestic Production: The concept excludes activities connected with family production which do not result in the actual production of market goods, such as personal services and home consumption goods.

Reference Periods: Women are more likely to be misclassified as economically inactive because the reference period or time frame in which women perform work is often not according to "standard" reference periods used in the census. To facilitate accurate recall, censuses and labor surveys inquire about work performed in the last week or month. Since most men work almost every week or month of the year, the short reference period will accurately reflect men's long-term labor force status. Many women however, work irregularly, since they either constitute a seasonal labor force used to meet agricultural peak labor demands, or in urban areas, they may engage intermittently in informal sector activities.

Subsistence Activities: Women who work in traditional subsistence activities tend to be excluded from the labor force count. Many agricultural societies are characterized by heavy reliance upon traditional subsistence activities, which remain outside the sphere of formal markets although supporting a high proportion of the rural population. Work activities in those traditional societies are family labor, in-kind exchange labor, and labor provided to meet social obligations at the village level. Such work is typically regarded by enumerators as having no economic significance, often because no form of cash is exchanged. Given that the subsistence economy is mostly in female hands, excluding such forms of labor operates to decrease further the number of women reported in the statistics as part of the labor force.

Unpaid Family Workers: The category of "unpaid family labor" is meant to exclude household work such as food preparation, childcare, and care of livestock used for family consumption, but may include any farm activities which result in the cash sale of products and services.

Follow ILO specifications, most surveys and censuses require that a person work at least one-third time during the short reference period (typically the past week or month) to qualify as an "unpaid family worker". This specification has proved to be disadvantageous to women, in that the uncertainty surrounding what constitutes "one-third" of cash producing work by "unpaid" female workers in particular, are misclassified by census enumerators as "economically inactive".

Informal Sector: Women's work in informal sectors of the economy is unrecognized in census statistics. A widespread phenomenon in Third World countries, particularly in the urban areas, is the build-up of an extensive shadow economy, developing as a necessary complement to the expanding formal sector wage labor. Most activities in the informal sector are on the periphery of the job market, and these jobs are not integrated into any industry coding, or detailed occupational breakdown, as exists for the formal sector.

Since informal sector jobs often fall outside taxation structures, lack a set location to transact business, or may even be quasi-legal, the tendency is to exclude informal sector activities from the labor force count. This has led to a considerable underestimation of the number of urban women who are actually economically active.

Multiple Roles: Multiple economic roles of women are not captured in census counts. According to the standard definitions, individuals are classified as economically active or inactive on the basis of a series of questions clustered around the concept of principal economic activity. In developing economies, however, the formulation of such a question does not reflect the totality of work involvement, for both sexes are engaged in a multiplicity of economic activities at different levels of productivity.

The rigidity of standard definitions leads to a distortion once more, and it is the women who go unreported, because their day--more so than that of men--is characterized by a constant and subtle alternation between numerous activities with both economic and non-economic significance. No statistical acknowledgement is made of women who intermittently engage in small-scale trade and in short duration income-earning activities, which are interspersed between housework.

The Underestimation of Unemployment: The standard labor force approach works to the disadvantage of including women in unemployment rates.

Many women who are unemployed are, in fact, not counted. First of all, there is a tendency among census takers to automatically attribute the status of "unemployed" housewife to a married woman who is not working at the time of the census, without probing whether or not she is currently in search of work. Further, the conventional practice of defining the actively unemployed as those who sought work in the previous week leaves out of the count the passively unemployed group of women: those wanting or needing work but who are discouraged, and the groups of women who wanted a job and would have accepted one had it been offered. Inclusion of the passively unemployed group (which may have more members among women than men) in the unemployment rate would reflect a more accurate measure of the proportion of women available for employment.

POLICY RELEVANCE OF SOUND STATISTICS ON WOMEN'S WORK

Women will continue to be dropped from the labor force count unless more categories of activity status (full-time, part-time, seasonal worker, and the like) are introduced, unless occupational classifications are set up to fit the specific types of work women pursue, and unless interviewers themselves are trained and sensitized to probe into the economic value and functions of the activities women perform.

Assigning a social and economic value to women's labor force participation has implications beyond the improvement of statistics. The development of sensitive measures which address the critical questions "What types of work do women perform?" and "What are the occupational characteristics and skill levels of women who are active in the labor force?" directly bears upon formulation of employment policies for women.

