
AFRICA

Lesotho

Selected Statistical Data by Sex



Economic and Social Data Services Division
Development Information Utilization Service
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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 subjection, 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 those 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, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	852361	368255	484106
0-4	122259	60550	61709
5-9	126133	63352	62781
10-14	121998	61137	60861
15-19	88433	39831	48602
20-24	53827	16526	37301
25-29	45830	14338	31492
30-34	46588	15289	31299
35-39	37958	14158	23800
40-44	33572	15137	20435
45-49	40887	17388	23499
50-54	33001	13499	19502
55-59	23960	10402	13558
60-64	20320	8203	12117
65 AND OVER	54588	19070	35518
UNKNOWN	3007	1375	1632

01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, 1974, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1973,
NEW YORK, TABLE 6.

02 DATA EXCLUDE ABSENTEE WORKERS AMOUNTING TO 12% OF THE TOTAL
POPULATION AT THE TIME OF THE CENSUS.

03 DE FACTO POPULATION.

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

TABLE 2. UNADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1976. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	1213960	586870	627090

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1977, ANNUAL STATISTICAL
BULLETIN 1976, MASERU, TABLE 6.

02 PRELIMINARY DE JURE POPULATION.

03 THE UNITED NATIONS (1978, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1977, NEW YORK,
TABLE 7) HAS PUBLISHED DE JURE POPULATION ESTIMATES BY AGE, SEX
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE FOR 1972. HOWEVER, THESE ARE OF
QUESTIONABLE RELIABILITY, AND APPEAR INCONSISTENT WITH MORE RECENT
UNITED NATIONS ESTIMATES.

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

TABLE 3. ADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX, 1966. LFSOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

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

TABLE 4. ADJUSTED POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX, 1976. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

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

TABLE 5. POPULATION BY PROVINCE, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1976. LESOTHO

PROVINCE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	1213960	586870	627090
BUTHA-BUTHE	77835	37630	40205
LERIBA	207274	99757	107517
BEREA	143676	69345	74331
MASERU	265030	128451	136579
MAFETENC	148985	72110	76875
MOHALE,S HOEK	134889	65536	69353
QUTHING	89076	42512	46564
QACHA'S NEK	75431	36511	38920
MOKOTLONG	71764	35018	36746

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, ANNUAL STATISTICAL BULLETIN 1976,
MASERU, 1977, TABLE 6.
02 FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY.
03 DE JURE POPULATION.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 6A. POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUP, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

ETHNIC GROUP	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	852361	368255	484106
AFRICAN	850013	367087	482926
EUROPEAN	1582	801	781
ASIAN	766	367	399

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, POPULATION CENSUS REPORT 1966,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 2.

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

TABLE 6B. POPULATION BY RELIGION, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1966. LESOTHO

RELIGION	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	850013	367087	482926
ROMAN CATHOLIC	328793	130185	198608
EVANGELICAL	206340	85388	120952
ANGLICAN	88631	35392	53239
OTHER CHRISTIAN	71238	29283	41955
NON-CHRISTIAN	155011	86839	68172

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, POPULATION CENSUS REPORT 1966,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 8.

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

TABLE 6C. POPULATION BY NATIONALITY, SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

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,
1966. LESOTHO

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, 1976. LESOTHO

01 RELIABLE DATA NOT AVAILABLE. THE UNITED NATIONS (1981, WORLD
POPULATION PROSPECTS AS ASSESSED IN 1980, NEW YORK, UNPUBLISHED
DATA) ESTIMATES LIFE EXPECTANCIES AT BIRTH OF 46.7 FOR MALES AND
48.9 FOR FEMALES, FOR THE PERIOD 1970-1975.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 8. SELECTED MORTALITY MEASURES, BY SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1971. LESOTHO

MEASURE AND YEAR	TOTAL TOTAL
IMR (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS) 1971	114

- 01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS REPORT,
JULY 1979, NEW YORK, PAGE 5.
02 ESTIMATE BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC COMPONENT OF
THE RURAL HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

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

TABLE 2. PERCENT OF NATIVE-BORN POPULATION BORN OUTSIDE OF PROVINCE
OF CURRENT RESIDENCE, BY AGE AND SEX, 1966. LESOTHO

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 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY MARITAL
STATUS, AGE, AND SEX, 1966. LESOTHO

SEX AND AGE	TOTAL	SINGLE	MARRIED	CONSENSUAL	WIDOWED	SEP/DIV.	NOT STATED
TOTAL COUNTRY	480275	116462	282322	0	70771	10447	273
TOTAL MALES	182369	63306	108259	0	7255	3410	139
15-19	39788	39307	470	0	1	9	1
20-24	16451	12577	3791	0	29	42	12
25-29	14254	4572	9493	0	78	105	6
30-34	15187	2065	12644	0	196	276	6
35-39	14049	1220	12206	0	211	378	4
40-44	13044	791	11480	0	358	410	5
45-49	17274	746	15227	0	677	618	6
50-54	13430	500	11636	0	774	520	0
55-59	10342	295	8936	0	745	359	7
60-64	8164	222	6925	0	774	242	1
65 AND OVER	19015	356	14884	0	3339	431	5
UNKNOWN	1371	655	567	0	43	20	86
TOTAL FEMALES	297906	53156	174063	0	63516	7037	134
15-19	48544	37849	10531	0	71	88	5
20-24	37237	7743	28360	0	474	642	18
25-29	31404	2398	27226	0	946	821	13
30-34	31200	1362	26701	0	2050	1075	12
35-39	23711	835	19561	0	2358	945	12
40-44	20349	618	15724	0	3205	798	4
45-49	23416	609	16029	0	5885	886	7
50-54	19409	389	10991	0	7380	641	8
55-59	13480	238	6415	0	6418	404	5
60-64	12061	198	4618	0	6976	267	2
65 AND OVER	35467	360	7273	0	27373	446	15
UNKNOWN	1628	557	634	0	380	24	33

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 6.
02 DE FACTO AFRICAN POPULATION.

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, 1966. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

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, 1966. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT DATA BASETABLE 11. MINIMUM LEGAL AGE AT MARRIAGE AND AGE AT WHICH SPECIFIED
PERCENT ARE EVER MARRIED, BY SEX AND URBAN/RURAL
RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

ITEM	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
MINIMUM LEGAL AGE	18	16
AGE 25% EVER MARR.	23	18
AGE 50% EVER MARR.	25	19
AGE 75% EVER MARR.	29	21

01 SOURCE: FOR MINIMUM LEGAL AGE, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,
POPULATION REPORTS, SERIES M, NUMBER 4, NOVEMBER 1979, P. M-151.
FOR QUANTILES EVER MARRIED, BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION
CENSUS REPORT, VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 6.

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, 1966. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.

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

TABLE 13. HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE AND, SEX
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

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, 1977. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND. RESULTS ARE NOT YET
AVAILABLE FROM LESOTHO'S 1977 FERTILITY SURVEY, CONDUCTED AS
PART OF THE WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY.

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

TABLE 14B. SELECTED FERTILITY MEASURES, BY URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE,
1971. LESOTHO

MEASURE AND YEAR	TOTAL
CBR (PER 1000 POP) 1971	37
TFR (PER WOMAN) 1971	A
GRR (PER WOMAN) 1971	A
NRR (PER WOMAN) 1971	A

01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, 1979, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1978,
NEW YORK, TABLE 4.

02 THE CRUDE BIRTH RATE WAS ESTIMATED BASED ON RESULTS FROM THE
DEMOGRAPHIC COMPONENT OF A RURAL HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION AND
EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

03 THE AVAILABILITY OF FERTILITY MEASURES IS ANTICIPATED UPON
PUBLICATION OF RESULTS FROM LESOTHO'S 1977 FERTILITY SURVEY.

A DATA NOT AVAILABLE.

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, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	337247	98133	239114
10-14	57076	18392	38684
15-19	64398	20908	43490
20-24	41618	9009	32609
25-34	65265	14559	50706
35-44	45279	12989	32290
45-54	36174	12140	24034
55-64	16160	5768	10392
65 AND OVER	10582	4072	6510
UNKNOWN	695	296	399

01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, 1972, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1971,
NEW YORK, TABLE 18.

02 LITERACY IS DEFINED AS THE ABILITY TO READ AND WRITE.

03 FIGURES EXCLUDE ABSENTEE WORKERS (APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF
THE TOTAL POPULATION), EUROPEANS, AND ASIANS.

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

TABLE 15B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 15C, 1966.
LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	599376	242243	357133
10-14	121356	60812	60544
15-19	87949	39621	48328
20-24	53482	16390	37092
25-34	91669	29319	62350
35-44	70872	26990	43882
45-54	73252	30572	42680
55-64	43860	18400	25460
65 AND OVER	54277	18937	35340
UNKNOWN	2659	1202	1457

01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, 1972, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1971,
NEW YORK, TABLE 18.

02 FIGURES EXCLUDE ABSENTEE WORKERS (APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF
THE TOTAL POPULATION), EUROPEANS, AND ASIANS.

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

TABLE 15C. PERCENTAGE LITERATE 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, SEX,
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	56.3	40.5	67.0
10-14	47.0	30.2	63.9
15-19	73.2	52.8	90.0
20-24	77.8	55.0	87.9
25-34	71.2	49.7	81.3
35-44	63.9	48.1	73.6
45-54	49.4	39.7	56.3
55-64	36.8	31.3	40.8
65 AND OVER	19.5	21.5	18.4
UNKNOWN	26.1	24.6	27.4

01 SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, 1972, DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK 1971,
NEW YORK, TABLE 18.

02 LITERACY IS DEFINED AS THE ABILITY TO READ AND WRITE.

03 FIGURES EXCLUDE ABSENTEE WORKERS (APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF
THE TOTAL POPULATION), EUROPEANS, AND ASIANS.

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

TABLE 16A. NUMBER OF PERSONS ENROLLED IN SCHOOL 5 TO 24 YEARS OLD,
BY AGE, SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	164703	64562	100141
5-9	42058	15790	26268
10-14	79066	29932	49134
15-19	39489	16280	23209
20-24	4090	2560	1530

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 4.
02 FIGURES ARE FOR AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY.

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

TABLE 16B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 16C, 1966.
 LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	389747	180528	209219
5-9	125884	63227	62657
10-14	121843	61062	60781
15-19	88332	39788	48544
20-24	53688	16451	37237

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
 VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 2.
 02 AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY.

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

TABLE 16C. PERCENTAGE ENROLLED IN SCHOOL 5 TO 24 YEARS OLD, BY AGE,
SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	42.3	35.8	47.9
5-9	33.4	25.0	41.9
10-14	64.9	49.0	80.8
15-19	44.7	40.9	47.8
20-24	7.6	15.6	4.1

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLES 2 AND 4.
02 FIGURES ARE FOR AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY.

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

TABLE 17A. NUMBER OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE PERSONS 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966.
LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	370743	142909	227834
15-19	34129	17449	16680
20-24	39834	11071	28763
25-29	38695	12091	26604
30-34	40914	13610	27304
35-39	33828	12833	20995
40-44	30303	12144	18159
45-49	37256	16246	21010
50-54	30016	12626	17390
55-59	21699	9708	11991
60-64	18207	7598	10609
65 AND OVER	44254	16795	27459
UNKNOWN	1608	738	870

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT, VOLUME 1, MASERU, TABLE 5.

02 DE FACTO AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY, EXCLUDING THOSE PERSONS ATTENDING SCHOOL. ALSO EXCLUDED ARE 65,953 PERSONS WHOSE EMPLOYMENT STATUS WAS GIVEN AS 'OTHER' (SEE TABLE 18). EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THESE PERSONS COULD QUITE CONCEIVABLY BE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE (E.G., UNEMPLOYED BUT SEEKING WORK).

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

TABLE 17B. POPULATION BASES FOR PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 17C, 1966.
LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	480275	182369	297906
15-19	88332	39788	48544
20-24	53688	16451	37237
25-29	45658	14254	31404
30-34	46387	15187	31200
35-39	37760	14049	23711
40-44	33393	13044	20349
45-49	40690	17274	23416
50-54	32839	13430	19409
55-59	23822	10342	13480
60-64	20225	8164	12061
65 AND OVER	54482	19015	35467
UNKNOWN	2999	1371	1628

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 2.
02 DE FACTO AFRICAN POPULATION.

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

TABLE 17C. PERCENTAGE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY AGE, SEX, AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1966. LESOTHO

AGE	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL	77.2	78.4	76.5
15-19	38.6	43.9	34.4
20-24	74.2	67.3	77.2
25-29	84.7	84.8	84.7
30-34	88.2	89.6	87.5
35-39	89.6	91.3	88.5
40-44	90.7	93.1	89.2
45-49	91.6	94.0	89.7
50-54	91.4	94.0	89.6
55-59	91.1	93.9	89.0
60-64	90.0	93.1	88.0
65 AND OVER	81.2	88.3	77.4
UNKNOWN	53.6	53.8	53.4

- 01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT, VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLES 2 AND 5.
- 02 PERCENTAGES BASED ON THE DE FACTO AFRICAN POPULATION ONLY, WHICH EXCLUDES THOSE PERSONS ATTENDING SCHOOL. ALSO EXCLUDED ARE 65,953 PERSONS WHOSE EMPLOYMENT STATUS WAS GIVEN AS 'OTHER' (SEE TABLE 18), EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THESE PERSONS COULD QUITE CONCEIVABLY BE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE (E.G., UNEMPLOYED BUT SEEKING WORK).

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, 1966. LESOTHO

STATUS	TOTAL TOTAL	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	436696	163529	273167
EMPLR. & SELF-EMP.	A	A	A
EMPLOYERS	A	A	A
SELF-EMPLOYED	169225	78212	91013
EMPLOYEES	43030	31641	11389
UNPD. FAM. WORKERS	158488	33056	125432
OTHERS AND UNKNOWN	65953	20620	45333

01 SOURCE: BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 1966 POPULATION CENSUS REPORT,
VOL. 1, MASERU, TABLE 5.

A NO DATA ON EMPLOYERS ARE AVAILABLE.

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

TABLE 19. INCOME DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIAN INCOME (IN RANDB), BY SEX,
AND URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, 1973. LESOTHO

01 SEARCH CONDUCTED BUT NO DATA FOUND.
02 A PER CAPITA INCOME OF 100 RANDB FOR 1973-74 WAS REPORTED IN
THE ANNUAL STATISTICAL BULLETIN 1976, MASERU.

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 Tome and Principe
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 Persons 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

MAY 4, 1983

COUNTRY 632--LESOTHO

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

	YEAR	ROWS	COLUMNS	STANDARD	NONSTANDARD	BLANK
TABLE 01	1966	16	3		X	
TABLE 02	1976	1	3		X	
TABLE 03	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 04	1976	0	0			X
TABLE 05	1976	10	3		X	
TABLE 06A	1966	4	3		X	
TABLE 06B	1966	6	0			X
TABLE 06C	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 06D	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 07	1976	0	0		X	
TABLE 08	1971	3	1			X
TABLE 09	1966	0	0		X	
TABLE 10A	1966	27	7			X
TABLE 10B	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 10C	1966	0	0		X	
TABLE 11	1966	4	2			X
TABLE 12	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 13	1966	0	0			X
TABLE 14A	1977	0	0		X	
TABLE 14B	1971	11	1		X	
TABLE 15A	1966	10	3		X	
TABLE 15B	1966	10	3		X	
TABLE 15C	1966	10	3		X	
TABLE 16A	1966	5	3		X	
TABLE 16B	1966	5	3		X	
TABLE 16C	1966	5	3		X	
TABLE 17A	1966	13	3		X	
TABLE 17B	1966	13	3		X	
TABLE 17C	1966	13	3		X	
TABLE 18	1966	7	3			X
TABLE 19	1973	0	0			

COUNTRY FILE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING TABLE TYPES:

0 STANDARD TABLES
19 NONSTANDARD TABLES
12 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/}

Nadia H. Youssef
International Center for Research on Women
Washington, D.C.

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.

APPENDIX F

ORDER FORM FOR TAPE
(Includes 120 Countries)

SEND TO: Center for International Research
U. S. Bureau of the Census
Washington, D. C. 20233

Customer Services (Microfiche and Tapes)	Name		RETURN TO: Data User Services Division Customer Services Bureau of the Census Washington, D.C. 20233 Phone: 301/753-4100		Date		T
	Organization				CHECK ONE <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is check or money order, payable to "Commerce-Census" <input type="checkbox"/> Charge to Census Bureau Deposit Account No. _____		
	Address						
	City, State, ZIP						
	Telephone						
	Name of Data File, Documentation* or Microfiche		Order No.	No of Reels	No. of Microfiche	No. of Document copies	Cost
*One copy of the Technical Documentation is sent at no extra charge With tape orders; additional copies are \$5.00 each.					TOTAL \$		
Characteristics of Tape (Check One): <input type="checkbox"/> 9 track, 1600 bpi, EBCDIC <input type="checkbox"/> 9 track, 6250 bpi, EBCDIC <input type="checkbox"/> 9 track, 1600 bpi, ASCII <input type="checkbox"/> 9 track, 6250 bpi, ASCII				Labeling (Check One): <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Unlabeled			
Other characteristics are available by special arrangement.							

USER COMMENTS

If subsequent efforts in this data capture/dissemination activity are to be improved in a manner maximally responsive to user needs, the major ideas for such improvement must come from the persons who actually use the data to meet policy program and project needs. This tear-out form is placed here in multiple copies to make it easy for successive users to submit constructive comments.

It would be helpful if the reader would clearly identify on this form the features of the Data by Sex booklet considered particularly effective in contributing to its usefulness. Such supportive "feedback" is necessary to ensure that the strong points of this report will be retained in the future.

It is suggested that the Introduction and Foreword be read once more before this form is completed, in order that the reader may have a clear idea of just what the data base is meant to be, as well as what it is not meant to be.

AID field officers should air pouch the completed form to the address on the left, and others mail it to the address on the right:

Statistical Data by Sex
PPC/E-DIU/ESDS
AID/Washington

Statistical Data by Sex
PPC/E-DIU/ESDS
Agency for International Development
Washington, D. C. 20523
U. S. A.

Please record your comments below, on the reverse side, and if necessary, on additional sheet(s).
