



Pulling Apart

Facts and Figures on
Inequality in Kenya



SID

Society for International Development

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Popular Version



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Society for International Development

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This publication is part of the SID's contribution to the project *Rich and Poor: National Discourses on Poverty, Inequality, and Growth Project (RAPP)* that is being implemented jointly with the Ministry of Planning and National Development and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The publication, however, remains the responsibility of the SID.



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Ministry of Planning
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Development



Sida
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Table of contents

Preface	v
List of Abbreviations	vii
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
What is this booklet all about	1
What is Inequality	1
How is Inequality measured?	1
Chapter 2 The Rich-Poor Gap in Kenya	3
Distribution of Income and Wealth	3
Income earning opportunities	5
Chapter 3 Regional Inequality	8
Income opportunities	8
Provincial Disparities in Kenya	9
Basic socio-economic rights	13
Chapter 4 Gender Inequalities in Kenya	18
Income distribution	18
Income opportunities	19
Social economic rights	21
Political participation	22
Data Sources	24
Some ten striking features on Inequalities in Kenya	25

Preface

This publication is a short version of a more extensive report titled *Pulling Apart: Facts and Figures on inequality in Kenya*. It is part of the Society for International Development's contribution to a project on *Rich and Poor: National Discourses on Poverty, Inequality, and Growth* that is being implemented jointly with the Ministry of Planning and National Development, the Swedish Embassy in Nairobi and the SID. The publication, however, remains the responsibility of the SID.

Inequalities in Kenya are manifested in different forms. Differences in share of income and social services are observed across regions, genders and even specific segments of the population. For instance, this publication shows that the country's top 10% households control 42% of total income while the bottom 10% control less than 1% and that the difference in life expectancy between the Central and Nyanza provinces is a staggering 16 years. The report you are about to read further shows that the doctor-patient ratio is about 1:20,700 in Central but 1:120,000 in North Eastern. Last but not least, the publication also shows that about 93% of women in North Eastern province have no education at all, compared with only about 3% in Central province.

Inequality and poverty are not just a result of the lack of economic growth. This is because while economic growth is necessary for poverty reduction it is not sufficient for uplifting the poor. Increased equality can create faster growth but without an equitable distribution of benefits from growth, its effects on poverty reduction will be marginal. In addition, inequality is also a matter of human rights, as inequalities can give rise to exclusion and the failure of people's voice being heard.

Inequality evokes strong passion and stirs controversy. Despite this, or maybe because of this, there is a deafening silence in the public debate in Kenya on the subject. With this booklet we hope to help break the silence and lay the foundation for this debate. It is our hope that those in politics and policy making, politicians and legislators alike, will begin to confront this problem

in a more direct, honest and bold manner. For the civil society, research organisations and the public we hope that inequality will start to be a topic of discussion and enquiry, and that this report will provide useful information in this regard. Ultimately, this document shall have achieved its objective if it gives rise to a debate about the nature and causes of inequality in Kenya but, more importantly, what we can call do about it.



Duncan Okello
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SID, Eastern Africa Office

List of Abbreviations

AIDs	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GDI	Gender Development Index
GEM	Gender Empowerment Measures
GER	Gross Enrolment Ratio
GRI	Gender Related Development Index
HDI	Human Development Index
HDR	Human Development Report
HIV	Human Immuno Virus
HPI	Human Poverty Index
IDS	Institute of Development Studies, University of Nairobi
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MP	Member of Parliament
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RAPP	Rich and Poor: National Discourses on Poverty, Inequality and Growth Project
SD	Standard Deviation
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WMS	Welfare Monitoring Survey

Pulling Apart

Facts and Figures on Inequality in Kenya

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 What is this booklet about

This publication presents facts and figures on inequality in Kenya. It relied Solely on secondary data and official publications. It summarises the striking aspects of inequality in Kenya and is based on a much larger report titled *Pulling Apart: Facts and Figures on Inequality in Kenya*. This report focuses on three broad and key dimensions of inequality: income, regional and gender inequalities. It presents facts and figures on inequality in both opportunities and outcomes across regions, genders and populations groups.

1.2 What is inequality

Inequality is the degree to which distribution of economic welfare generated in an economy differs from that of equal shares among its inhabitants. It may also entail comparison of certain attributes or well-being between two persons or a group of people to assess the *differences* in share of these attributes. Inequality is observed not only in incomes but also in terms of social exclusion and the inability to access social services and socio-political rights by different population groups, genders and even races.

Though related, inequality and poverty are different. Inequality concerns variations in living standards across a whole population. By contrast, poverty focuses only on those whose standards of living fall below a given threshold, commonly referred to as the poverty line.

1.3 How is inequality measured

Since inequality is multi-dimensional its measurement entails making choices as to the form and dimension to focus on. When the focus is on overall well-being, the analysis goes beyond income and expenditure to focus on non-income variables such as education, health and participation in the political process. Measurement of inequality will depend to a great degree on availability of information on incomes, expenditure and other dimensions of well being. The gini coefficient is the most widely used measure of

inequality that utilizes the division of populations into equal groups and assessing how much of a variable each group controls relative to other groups. The gini index is based on the famous Lorenz curve.

Chapter 2

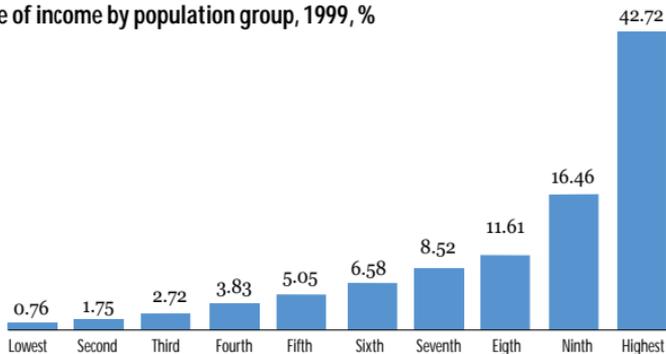
The Rich-Poor Gap in Kenya

The rich-poor gap is characterised by a situation where one segment of the population has a disproportionately large share of income than other segments of that population. This often gives rise to very visible differences in the lifestyles and standards of living in a society. This chapter presents some facts and figures that characterise the gap between the rich and the poor in Kenya.

2.1 Distribution of Income and Wealth

Recent statistics for Kenya show that income is heavily skewed in favour of the rich and against the poor. The country's top 10% households control 42% of the total income while the bottom 10% control less than 1% (see figure 1.1). This means that for every shilling earned by the poorest 10% households, the richest 10% earn about Kshs 56. It is notable that the 8th, 9th and 10th population groups account for over 70% of the income.¹

Figure 1.1: Income inequality in Kenya
Share of income by population group, 1999, %

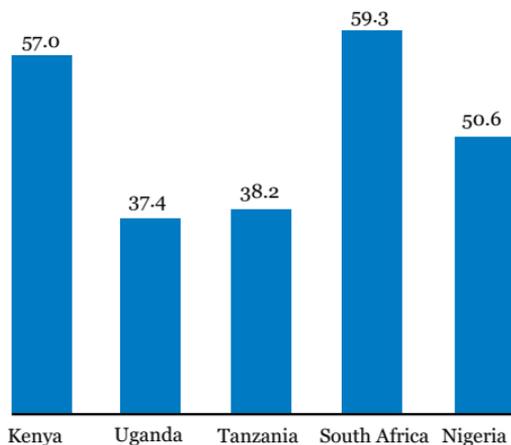


Source: Computed from 1998/99 Intergrated Labour Force Survey data

¹ It is important to assess difference in well-being both in terms of incomes earned and consumption expenditure incurred as some households could be better off because their expenditure is over and above the incomes they earn particularly when they receive transfers (incomes received but not earned) from relatives or friends.

Kenya compares unfavourably with her neighbours in the region but fairly favourable with other countries on the continent, going by gini indices from selected survey years (figure 2.1). Generally speaking, the level of inequality in Kenya is higher than that in Uganda and Tanzania. Inequality in Kenya is however slightly lower than that in South Africa.

Figure 2.2: Gini index for Kenya and her Peers, %



Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2004

In what specific activities are the wealthy in Kenya engaged?

Employment is a major source of income and an important dimension of inequality. It matters whether one is working in the private or in the public sector, in the industrial or the agricultural sector, in the formal or informal sector or whether one is employed or self-employed. Most of the poor people are employed in agriculture. The majority of these are women. About 70% of the lowest wealth group are employed in agriculture as opposed to the top wealth groups who are employed in professional and managerial activities, sales and services sectors. There are more women from the top wealth group in domestic service (about 21%) than there are women for the bottom wealth group (less than 2%) in the same occupation.

Table 1.1: Main occupation by wealth group, %

Wealth Group	Percent distribution of persons employed (main occupations)							
	Professional/Technical Managerial		Sales and services		Unskilled manual		Agriculture	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lowest	0.8	0.8	9.9	20.6	15.2	4.3	69.0	2.3
Second	5.5	2.1	10.5	19.6	19.7	6.7	60.9	68.9
Middle	5.2	3.5	12.0	20.7	18.7	7.4	55.9	64.7
Fourth	10.5	7.2	13.5	27.1	21.9	5.9	44.4	51.2
Highest	18.0	14.1	30.7	37.3	26.8	10.6	8.6	9.5

Source: 2003, Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

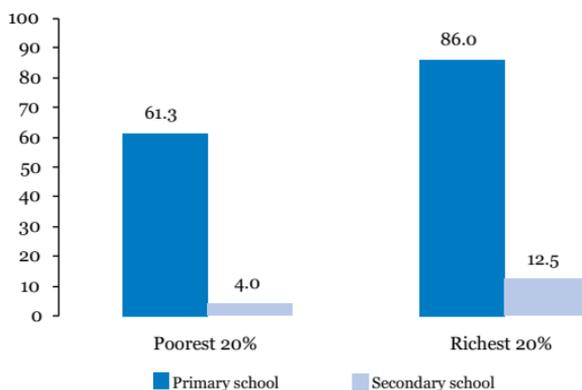
2.2 Income opportunities and socio-economic rights

How do the rich and the poor compare in terms of socio-economic outcomes?

Education

Wealthier groups in Kenya have generally better access to education than the poorer ones. The attendance ratio at primary school for the top wealth

Figure 1.3: Net attendance ratio by wealth group, %



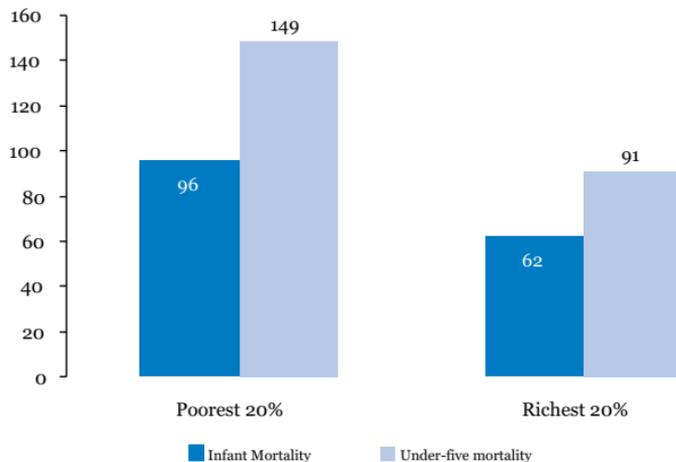
Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

group is 86% while that of the lowest wealth group is only 61%. Although attendance is much lower in secondary schools than in primary schools, the richer segments of the population still maintain their dominance. (See figure 1.3.)

Health

The mortality rate can be a general indicator of the overall health situation in a region or country. Both infant and mortality rates are lower among the wealthy groups and higher for poorer ones (figure 1.4). This means that the poorest 20% in Kenya lose 149 children before their fifth birthday, in every 1000 live births, as compared to only 91 for the richest 20%.

Figure 1.4: Infant mortality by wealth group, deaths per 1,000 live births

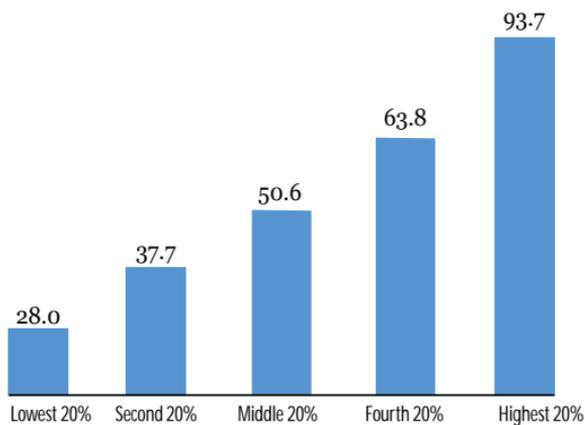


Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

Water

Water is not only a basic commodity for life but also determines one's health status. There are remarkable differences between wealth groups in Kenya in terms of access to safe drinking water. Again the richer segments of the population in Kenya has a comparatively better access to water than the poor segments. It is clear from figure 1.5 that access to water improves with increasing income.

Figure 1.5: Access to safe drinking water by wealth group, %



Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (2000) Report

Chapter 3

Regional Inequality

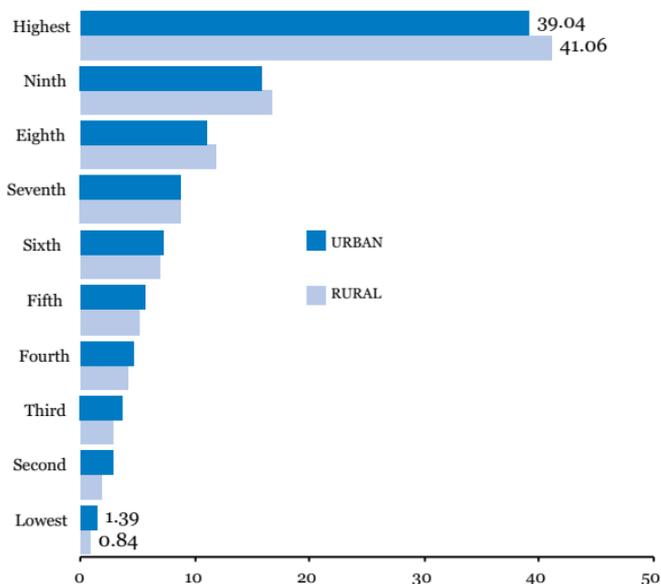
Inequalities in well-being often take a regional dimension. In Kenya regional or geographic differences in well-being may mean ethnic differences in well-being as ethnic groups often reside in given geographical regions. There are stark differences in development opportunities and outcomes across Kenya's rural-urban divide, and other regions too.

3.1 Income opportunities

Is income inequality higher in urban areas?

Figure 3.1 shows the distribution of income by wealth groups, from the lowest to the highest and divided into urban and rural. It can be seen that the top

Figure 3.1: Distribution of income by wealth group, %

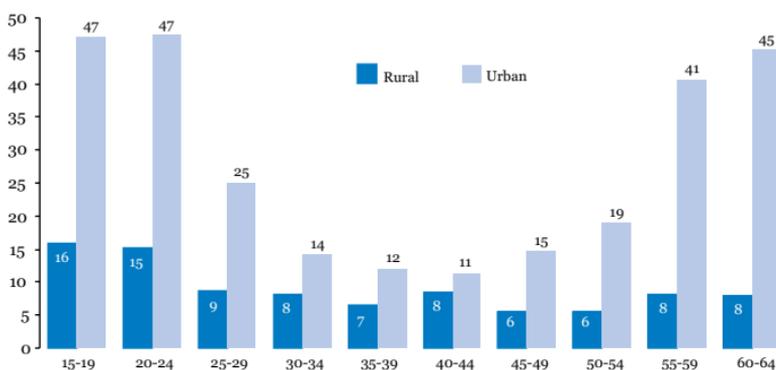


Source: Computed from Integrated Labour Force Survey, 1998/99

10% of households in urban areas account for about 39% of income while those in rural areas account for 41%. The bottom 10% of households in both urban and rural areas account for about 1% of income.

Figure 3.2 summarizes information on participation in the labour market in rural and urban areas. On the overall unemployment rates are higher in urban areas than in the rural areas, almost three times over for the very young (15 - 29 years) and the very old (from 50 years) in the labour force.

Figure 3.2: Unemployment rates in urban and rural areas by age group, %



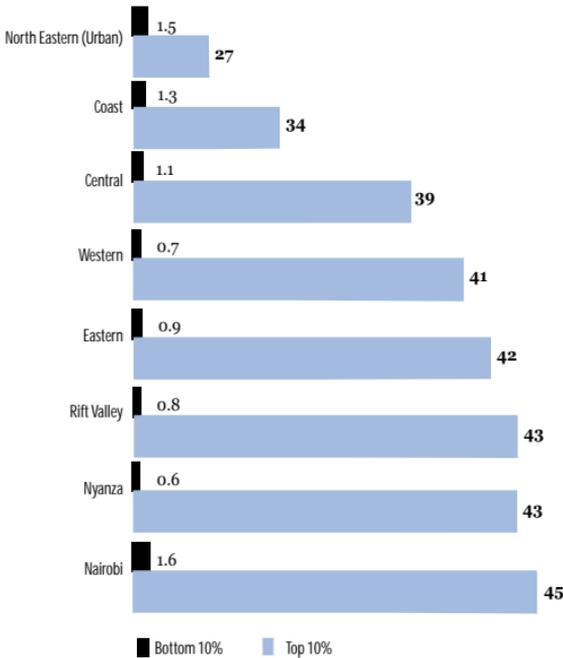
Source: 1998/99 Labour Force Survey Report

3.2 Provincial Disparities in Kenya

How is income distributed within the provinces?

Like at the national level, the distribution of incomes is skewed in favour of the higher wealth groups across Kenya's eight provinces. In Nairobi for example, the top 10% of the households command about 45% of the total income while the bottom 10% command less than 2%. Nairobi, Nyanza and Rift Valley provinces seem to have the widest income inequalities. See figure 3.3.

Figure 3.3: Income distribution by province



Source: Computed from the 1998/99 Intergrated Labour Force Survey

How different are provinces in terms of income opportunities and basic socio-economic rights?

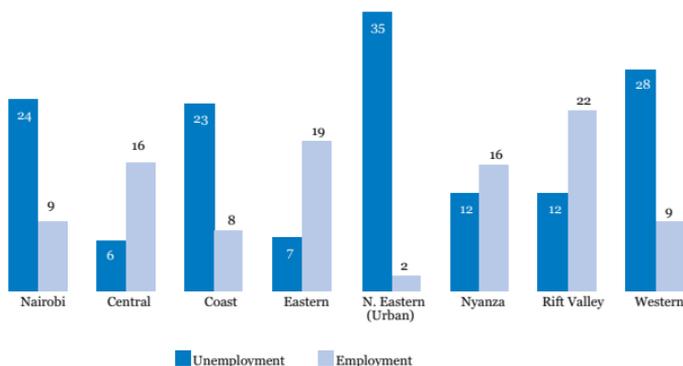
Employment

Employment is a major source of income and an important determinant of socio-economic outcomes. From figure 3.4 it can be seen that in Nairobi, Coast, Western and North Eastern provinces more people are unemployed than employed.

Access to land

Land is an important resource in Kenya and can be a source of inequality. From table 3.1 presents information on selected land types. It can be seen that there is a wide discrepancy in the share of high and low potential land

Figure 3.4: Employment and Unemployment by province, %



Source: 1998/99 Labour Force Survey Report

by province.¹ While 97% of land in Nyanza province is classified as high potential none of the land in North Eastern is. Indeed all the land in North Eastern is classified as low potential.

Table 3.1: Selected land types by region ('000 ha), 1998

Province	High potential		Low potential	
	Area	%	Area	%
Nairobi	16	24	38	56
Central	909	69	41	3
Coast	373	5	5,663	68
Eastern	503	3	11,453	74
N. Eastern (Urban)	-	-	12,690	100
Nyanza	1,218	97	-	-
Rift Valley	3,025	18	12,230	72
Western	741	90	-	-
Kenya	6,785	12	42,115	74

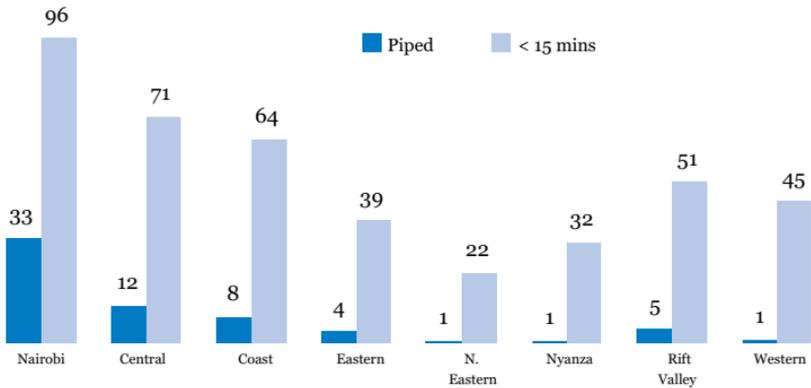
Source: Statistical Abstract, 2003

¹ It is important to bear in mind that the dichotomy between high- and low-potential lands is contestable. In Kenya this categorisation falsely presupposes that the former is always better land than the latter, yet there are viable and lucrative practices, agricultural and otherwise, that can be based on arid and semi-arid areas

Access to water

Wide disparities are evident in access to water. Only about 1% of households in North Eastern province have water piped to their houses compared to about 12% in Central province and about 33% in Nairobi. On the overall, water access is low in Kenya with only 7.6% of households having access of piped water. The proportion of people having access to water in less than 15 minutes is high in all regions but wide disparities are evident with Nairobi maintaining the lead.

Figure 3.6: Access to water, %

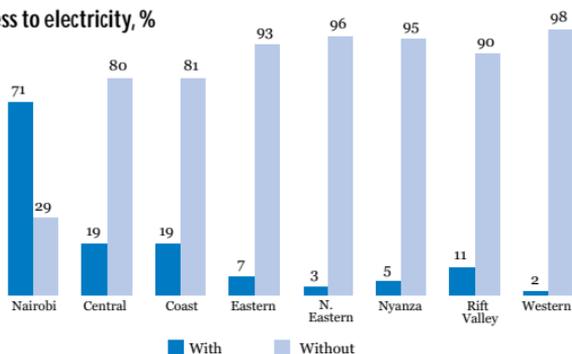


Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

Access to electricity

Electricity access also has a wide urban-rural gap despite the country having had a rural electrification programme for many years. Nairobi is the only province where there are more people with electricity than those without, 71% and 29% respectively. On the overall only 4.6% of residents in rural areas have electricity compared to about half of the residents in urban areas.

Figure 3.7: Access to electricity, %



Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

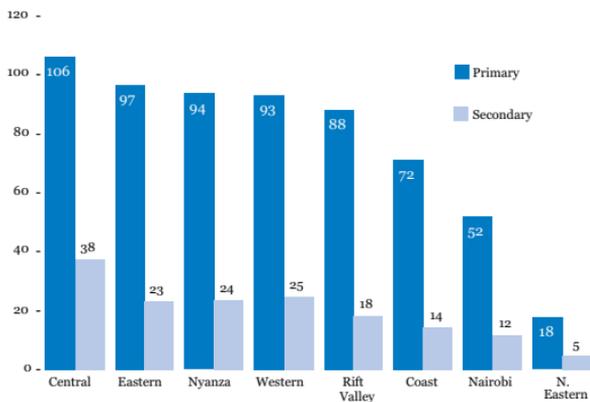
1.3 Basic socio-economic outcomes

How do the Provinces differ in terms of key socio-economic indicators?

Education

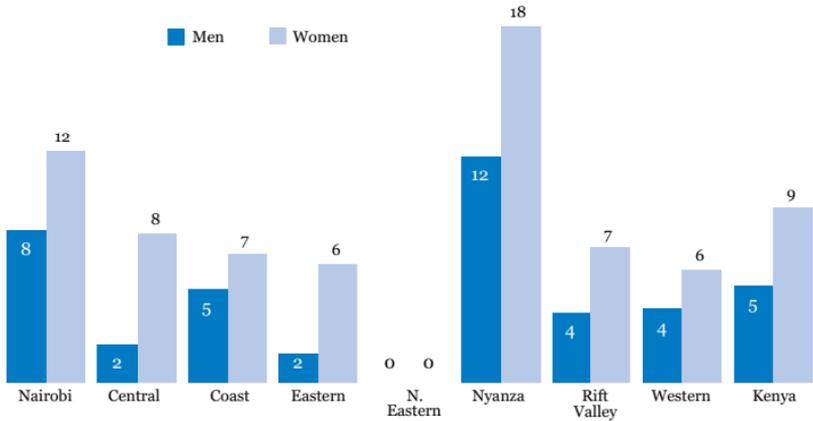
There are disparities in education indicators across the provinces. In Central province gross enrolment rates in primary school in 2000 was 106% compared to only 18% in North Eastern Province. The corresponding figures for secondary education for the two regions are about 38% and 5%, respectively.

Figure 3.8: Gross enrollment by province, 2000, %



Source: Ministry of Education, Statistics Division

Table 3.9: HIV prevalence by region and gender, %



Source: *Analytical Report on Mortality. 1999 Population and Housing Census*

HIV/Aids

HIV/Aids is one of the most serious health issues today. In Kenya the prevalence and distribution of persons infected varies across regions and genders as well. HIV infections are highest in Nyanza province, among both men and women, and lowest in North Eastern province. In all regions HIV infections are higher in women than in men. See figure 3.9 above.

HIV infections also exhibit stark differences across ethnic groups. Table 3.2 shows that HIV prevalence in Kenya is heterogeneous by ethnic group. It is, for example, lowest among Kisii men, Somali women but highest among Luo men and women.

Table 3.2: HIV prevalence rate by gender and ethnic group

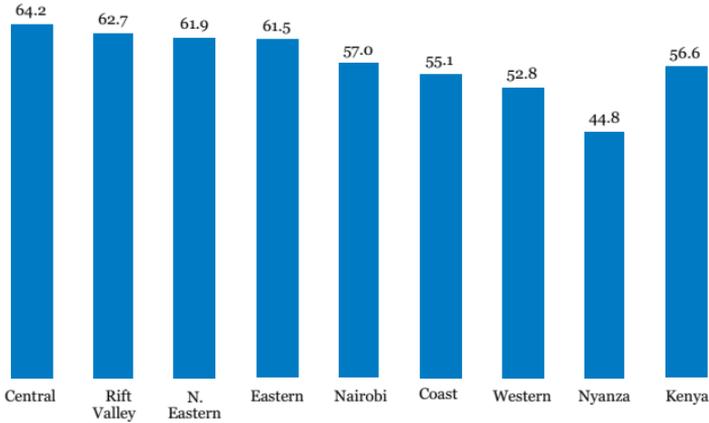
Ethnic	Women	Men	Total
Embu	(2.8)	(3.7)	3.3
Kalenjin	4.9	2.0	3.4
Kamba	8.6	1.6	5.4
Kikuyu	6.6	2.8	4.9
Kisii	7.4	0.5	4.0
Luhya	7.9	5.1	6.6
Luo	25.8	17.5	21.8
Masaai	2.8	2.2	2.5
Meru	6.1	1.2	3.7
Miji Kenda/Swahili	3.8	3.0	3.5
Somali	0.9	1.8	1.3
Taita Taveta	11.7	7.1	9.7
Turkana	6.5	5.1	5.7
Kuria	-	(5.2)	2.7
Other	6.7	5.6	6.1

Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey. Figures in brackets are based on 25-49 unweighted cases

Life expectancy

Finally, it is notable that there are wide regional disparities in the life expectancy. Thus while an average person in Central province would have been born to live for 64.2 his/her counterpart in Nyanza province would have lived for is only 44.8 years—some 19 years less. See figure 3.10

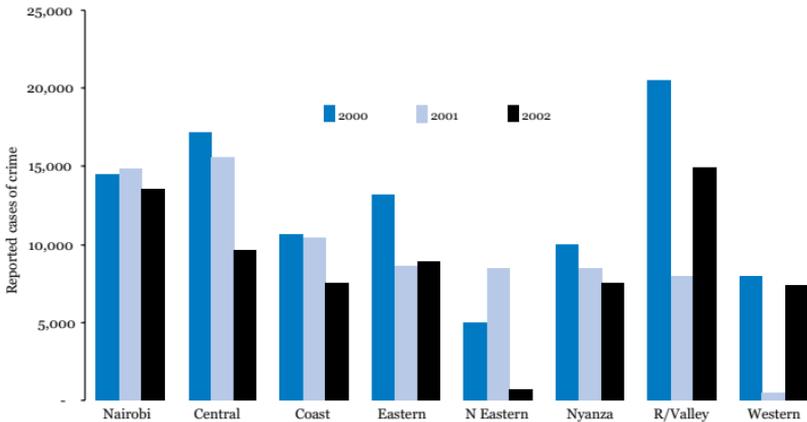
Table 3.10: Life expectancy in Kenya, 1989 - 99 period



Source: Analytical Report on Mortality, 1999 Population and Housing Census

Level of crime in an area or region can determine to a great extent whether or not people feel secure to lead normal and productive lives. Figure 3.11 shows the total number of reported crime by province from 2000 to 2002.

Table 3.11: Number of reported crime by province



Source: Statistical Abstract, 2003

Crime was high in Nairobi, Central and Rift Valley provinces with an average of over 14,000 cases reported annually. There were sharp swings in crime in Rift Valley and Western provinces between 2000-2001.

Political representation

To the extent that an MP represents the views of people in his/her constituency and articulates their views in parliament, then evidently there are wide disparities in representation in Kenya. More people are represented in Nairobi by the same MP than Coast or North Eastern provinces. At constituency level Embakasi in Nairobi, which covers a total area of square 208 kilometres, has a population of 434,884 is represented in parliament by one MP just like Lamu East in Coast which has a population of 16,794, spread over an area of 1,663 square kilometres.

Table 3.3: Representation burden in Kenya by province, 2000

Province	Number of Constituencies	Population per Constituency/MP	Average size of constituencies (in Sq Kms)
Nairobi	8	267,907	87
Central	29	128,419	456
Coast	21	118,441	3,944
Eastern	36	128,661	4,263
N.Eastern	11	87,468	11,648
Nyanza	32	137,256	392
Rift Valley	49	142,593	3,725
Western	24	139,949	344
Kenya	210	136,603	2,770

Source: Electoral Commission of Kenya, Population and Housing Census 1999

Chapter 4

Gender Inequalities in Kenya

There is increasing recognition of the significant role women play in the socio-economic and political development of a society. However, the full participation of women in development continues to be hampered by a number of obstacles. These challenges essentially put them at a disadvantaged position (relative to men) in so far as realising their full potential and freedoms is concerned. This chapter presents some information on the various aspects of inequality from a gender perspective.

4.1 Income distribution

Is there a difference in income distribution between male and female-headed households?

To answer this question data from the *Integrated Labour Force Survey*, 1999 was grouped according to the gender of the household head and the distribution of income assessed for each group. The resulting income decile for each group is shown in table 4.1. The lowest deciles for the male-headed

Table 4.1: Income distribution by household head

Income distribution-male and female headed households (1999)	Male	Female
Lowest	15	8
Second	17	7
Third	16	10
Fourth	9	7
Fifth	10	10
Sixth	11	12
Seventh	6	9
Eighth	6	12
Ninth	5	12
Highest	4	12

Source: Computed from the 1998/99 *Integrated Labour Force data*

household accounted for 15% of total income while that of the female headed accounted for only 8%. The corresponding figures for the highest deciles are 4% for the male-headed household and 12% for the female-headed households. It is significant that among the male headed households, income tends to be concentrated in the lower deciles than is the case with female headed households.

4.2 Income opportunities

How do men and women compare in terms of income earning opportunities?

Employment

Table 4.2 summarizes some of the important dimensions of the gender dimension of inequality in regards to employment in the formal, informal

Table 4.2: Gender disparities in employment opportunities

Sector	Units	Female	Male
Mean monthly earnings from paid employment (1999)	Kshs	5,752	8,440
Labour force participation rates (1999)	Percent	72.6	74.7
Informal sector employment	"	45.0	55.0
Formal sector employment	"	28.0	71.9
Unemployment rates (15-64 years)	"	19.3	9.8
Wage employment by grades (public-2002)	Percent		
Bottom 5: A	"	70	30
B	"	65	35
C	"	67	33
E	"	77	33
F	"	89	23
Top 5: Q	"	19	81
R	"	15	85
S	"	10	90
T	"	6	94
U	"	30	70

Source: 1998/99 Integrated Labour Force Survey, and Records of Directorate of Personal Management

and public sectors. Men not only have higher monthly incomes, but they also have higher participation rates. They account for over 70% of formal employment and occupy the high posts in the public service. For instance for the job group “U” there are 70% men and only 30% women. Unemployment levels are higher among women than in men, about 20% and 10% respectively.

The unemployment situation in Kenya not only takes a skewed gender dimension but also an age angle as well. By disaggregating unemployment by age group, gender and the rural urban divide table 4.3 presents the striking bias of unemployment of young women in urban areas compared to their male counterparts. For instance, there were 72,824 unemployed men of age 20-24 years in urban areas compared to 274,395 for women in the same age and region. There is an alarming difference in the unemployment level of women in urban areas.

Table 4.3: Number of unemployed by gender age groups, 1999

Age group	Urban		Rural	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
15-19	52,729	87,643	60,854	68,991
20-24	72,824	274,395	98,702	87,157
25-29	32,820	165,447	36,672	56,740
30-34	20,177	83,603	21,667	60,480
35-39	15,055	53,382	27,114	44,596
40-44	13,554	27,585	37,524	34,501
45-49	18,197	26,593	11,685	32,121
50-54	9,889	24,960	14,110	17,881
55-59	18,658	13,217	15,833	16,527
60-64	6,160	11,793	8,242	20,544
Total	260,063	768,618	332,403	439,538

Source: 1998/99 Labour Force Survey Report

4.3 Socio-economic outcomes

Is there are gender gap in basic socio-economic rights?

Education

The enrolment rates for women are lower than that of men. Illiteracy, among females is almost twice that of males, about 22% and 14% respectively. While 91.8 % of the female in the Nairobi are literate, only 6.4% are in North Eastern Province. About 93% of women in North Eastern province have no education at all. On the overall, these education indicators are worse off in respect to women than men.

Table 4.4: Literacy by gender and region, %

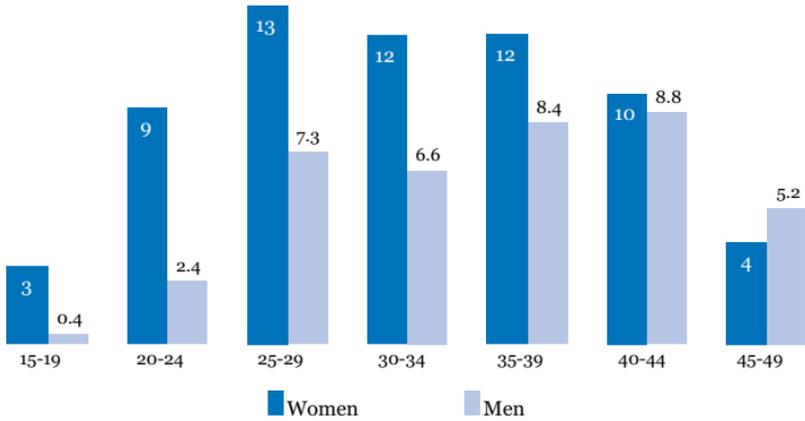
Province	Literacy		No education at all	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Nairobi	91.8	94.2	5.6	4.9
Central	91.1	94.4	2.6	1.5
Coast	65.6	88.2	29.6	10.0
Eastern	81.6	91.7	8.4	3.5
N. Eastern	6.4	29.5	93.4	71.1
Nyanza	79.8	89.4	7.1	1.8
Rift Valley	73.2	83.9	17.4	10.2
Western	77.4	84.4	9.0	3.4
Kenya	78.5	88.1	21.6	13.8

Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

HIV/Aids

Figure 4.1 shows the percentage of women and men how are infected with HIV. The high percentage of women with HIV compared to men illustrates that women are may be at a higher risk of contracting the virus.

Figure 4.1: HIV prevalence by age group and sex, 2003



Source: 2003 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

4.4 Political participation

How is the participation of women in politics and public service compared to that of men in Kenya?

Women's participation in decision-making at the household and national level has increasingly been seen as an important ingredient in their socio-economic development. Table 4.5 presents information on women who stood for election in 2002 for both parliament and civic authorities. Of the 44 women who stood for election to Parliament only 9 were voted in. Of the 2,043 elected councillors in the last election only 97 (about 5% of total) are women.

Holders of public offices in Kenya may tend to offer services based on ones socio-economic characteristics. The status of women in Kenya, and the degree to which they enjoy their freedoms and rights, depends a great deal on how well they are represented in senior positions of influence. Table 4.6 shows the composition, by gender, of senior positions in government and in the diplomatic service. Women are poorly represented as permanent secretaries,

Table 4.5: Women's candidature by region and post, 2002

Province	Parliament						Civic	
	Candidates		Elected		Candidates		Elected	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Nairobi	54	8	7	1	305	18	54	1
Central	165	7	27	2	902	42	211	8
Coast	110	4	20	1	672	44	173	11
Eastern	191	10	34	2	1,136	78	307	20
North Eastern	54	0	11	0	270	2	112	1
Nyanza	150	3	32	0	1,068	71	353	19
Rift Valley	169	9	47	2	1,657	68	645	21
Western	98	3	23	1	615	59	188	16
Total	991	44	201	9	6,625	382	2,043	97

Source: Gender Monitoring Report, AWC Features Service, 2003, as sourced from ECK data

district commissioners and officers. Until 2000 there was no woman provincial commissioner and the ratio of women to men district commissioners was 1:13 as of March 2002.

Table 4.6: Administrative and diplomatic ranks by gender

District	Men			Women		
	1998	2000	Mar-02	1998	2000	Mar-02
Provincial Commissioners	8	7	7	0	1	1
Permanent Secretaries	26	15	14	4	3	4
District Commissioner	68	67	65	1	3	5
Deputy Secretary	69	71	72	13	14	14
District Officers	644	647	644	68	82	85
Ambassadors/H.Commissioners	31	28	28	2	5	6

Source: Analytical Report on Gender Dimensions, Population Census, 1999

Data Sources

The data used in this booklet is from different sources and of varying quality. It is therefore important to explain the sources, the quality and the underlying concepts. This is important to facilitate understanding and interpretation of the data. The data used is from three main sources: the 1999 population and housing census; household surveys; and administrative records.

The 1999 population and Housing Census:

This is mainly demographic data and covers population sizes, its distribution and the socio-economic characteristics of the population. The data was collected by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). This data is comprehensive and covers all the districts, locations and divisions in the country. Information was also obtained from the various census analytical reports that take a particular aspect of the population (e.g. housing, gender) and analyse separately.

Household surveys by the Central Bureau of Statistics

Most of the data used in the booklet are from socio-economic surveys conducted by the CBS. The main ones are:

- The welfare monitoring surveys of 1992, 1994 and 1997
- The Kenya Demographic and Health Survey of 1998 and 2003
- The Integrated Labour Force Survey of 1998/99
- The Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICs) of 2000

The data from CBS are based on samples and therefore suffer from limitation associated with use of samples and sampling techniques. The data is also in most cases not comprehensive as they do not cover all the current districts. In certain areas particularly in North Eastern province, the data only covers urban areas leaving out the rural. A second problem with the data is the aggregation level. The survey results are reasonable at the national and the provincial levels. The precision of the aggregation however declines as the results are disaggregated at the district level.

Epilogue

Some ten striking features on inequality in Kenya

1. **Differences in income.** The 10% richest households in Kenya control more than 42% of all incomes while the poorest 0.76% of income. This means that while the top rich Kenyan earns 56 shillings, the bottom poor earns 1 shilling.
2. **Differences in life expectancy.** A person being born in Nyanza province can expect to live 19 years less than his fellow citizen in Central province. At the district level, life expectancy in Meru is double that in Mombasa, 68.6 and 33.1 years respectively.
3. **Differences in unemployment between men and women.** For the age group 20-24 years, there are about 274,000 unemployed women in urban areas compared to about 73,000 in the case of men of the same age group.
4. **Differences in HIV/AIDs prevalence.** In Nyanza province 15% of the population are infected with the HIV/AIDs virus while the infection rate in North Eastern province is negligible, estimated at about 0%.
5. **Differences in school enrolment.** Going by the enrolment rates, practically every child in Central province attends primary school compared to about one out of three children in North Eastern go to school. For secondary school the difference is even bigger.
6. **Differences in access to water.** The proportion of households with piped water in their houses in urban areas is five times that in rural areas, about 19.2% and 3.8% respectively.
7. **Differences in health reach.** In Central province 20,000 people share one doctor while in North Eastern province one doctor is shared by 120,000 people.

8. **Difference in immunisation and mortality.** The coverage of child immunization in Nyanza province is less than half that in Central, that is, 38% compared to 79% respectively. There are about twice as many infants dying before their first birthday in Nyanza province compared to Rift Valley, that is, 133 and 61 deaths per 1000 live births, respectively.
9. **Differences in gender outcomes.** About 93% of women in North Eastern province have no education at all, compared to 3% in Central province. Of the 2,140 elected councillors in 2002, only 97 were women. Of the 210 elected Members of Parliament in 2002 only 9 are women.
10. **Differences in Poverty levels .** Poverty levels can vary within and without regions. For instance, although the proportion of people living below the poverty line in Nairobi is 44%, poverty levels range from 8% in Nairobi West, Kibera Division to 77% in Makongeni, Makadara Division.