



# Gender in Society Perception Study



**Knowledge  
Attitude  
Practice**

**National Survey Results**

**2016**

# **Gender in Perception of Society**

## **(National Survey Results)**

Bishkek - 2016



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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Study "Gender in the perception of society" provides an opportunity to study comprehensively gender perspective in the five areas of the Study: political participation of women; economic empowerment of women; violence against women in the form of bride abduction and underage marriages; religious radicalization of women; participation of women in labor migration.

The extensive reliable information enabling to study in details each of the areas is collected for the first time in the country at national level. There is an information collected about knowledge among women and men, their opinion was identified through developed questions, and there were also identified those practices used by women and men in different situations in life.

The results of the study can become a basis for development of a policy on gender balance for the next period.

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### **Notation Conventions**

“-” - This phenomenon does not take place

“...” - Data is unavailable

“0.0” - The indicator is lower than the measurement unit

The proportion in the Tables are calculated on the basis of weighted data and the absolute unweighted data on the basis of the sample are in columns "number of women", "number of men".

### **List of Abbreviations**

AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HVC	Higher Vocational College
HH	Household
EAEC	Eurasian Economic Union
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
KKH	Collective Peasant Farm
KR	Kyrgyz Republic
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
IOM	International Organization for Migration
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UPF	Unified Peasant Farm
UN	United Nations Organization
RF	Russian Federation
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
FMS	Federal Migration Service
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities

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# 1 Introduction

Gender equality is an important component of the democracy, and is one of the political and social priorities in all countries. Commitments of the Kyrgyz Republic on gender equality are ratified in the universal conventions of the United Nations on human rights, enshrined in the declarations and international commitments, and are specifically emphasized in the UN Security Council Resolutions with regard to peace and security issues.

Following international and national commitments, the Kyrgyz Republic develops a policy and adopts special programs that ensure gender parity in all areas of development, including in the political, economic, marital and family spheres.

In 2012, the Kyrgyz Republic approved a long-term document for the first time - the National Strategy for Gender Equality to 2020, outlining development priorities such as: women in the economy, education for girls and women, access to justice and political equality. In order to improve the role of women in peace and security, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2013, and later in 2015, approved the National Action Plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

Thanks to efforts of various institutions of the state and society, the Kyrgyz Republic adopted the Law on State Guarantees of Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in 2008 banning gender discrimination and guaranteeing equal opportunities for persons of different sex to participate in the public administration through ensuring gender representation of persons in all branches of state power through legal, organizational and other mechanisms.

However, despite the progressive legislation and various programs in many areas, the Kyrgyz Republic failed to achieve the goals outlined in these documents. Economic sphere is characterized by lower economic activity of women, occupational segregation in the labor market, thereby persisting differences in wages - the women's to men's wages ratio in 2014 amounted to 75.5%<sup>1</sup>. At the same time, development of entrepreneurship among women is confronted by different barriers, including economic, political, legal and socio-cultural. Women are actively involved in labor migration and therefore face specific problems in the host countries, as well as after returning to their home country.

Marriage and family relations in the country are characterized by increasing number of juvenile, unregistered marriages, as well as forced marriages, including through forced abduction of women.

Despite measures taken to ensure gender parity in the political sphere, the target recommended by the Economic and Social Council and the UN Beijing Platform for Action: "at least 30% of women in the legislative body of the country" - has not been reached yet. Moreover, since 2007, there has been annual decline in the number of women in the highest representative body of the country - the Jogorku Kenesh.

Among new challenges faced by the Kyrgyz Republic are the religious extremism and terrorism that involve not only men, but also women of the country.

Development of the world based on the principle of gender equality requires clear understanding of its preconditions and threats. No extensive researches have been undertaken yet in the country to cover a wide range of gender issues, and this need was noted by the core UN Committee in its concluding observations on the fourth periodic report of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. Comprehensive National survey of public attitude towards gender is

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<sup>1</sup> According to data of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic. Available at: <http://www.stat.kg/ru/statistics/gender-naya-statistika>

provided for in the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for 2015-2017<sup>2</sup> as part of the Kyrgyz Republic National Strategy on gender equality to 2020<sup>3</sup>.

In this regard, the project "Gender in the perception of society" funded by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund was initiated and is implemented jointly with the UN Women, UNFPA and IOM in the Kyrgyz Republic. Project partner is the Ministry of Labour and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic. Development of methodology and research tools was supported by the leading representatives of local Higher Vocational Colleges (HVC), research institutions, public organizations, ministries and administrative agencies, including the Kyrgyz Republic President Apparatus, National Academy of Science, National Defense Council, Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic. The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic is the Executive Agency for the quantitative component implementation, including household survey.

The overall goal of the project is to collect data at the national, community and society levels and information about key risk factors for gender inequality, as well as threats of violence affecting women and girls (what do they know, what they believe in, and what they practice). Specific objectives of the project are as follows:

- (1) To understand relevant issues at interpersonal and structural levels that lead to gender discrimination, violence and exploitation;
- (2) To understand tendencies at the community and changing public perception of gender stereotypes and attitudes;
- (3) To understand the link between gender inequality and potential triggers of conflict, including the role of women in peacebuilding.

The objectives are achieved through qualitative and quantitative research of political participation of women, economic empowerment of women, violence against women in the form of bride kidnapping and marriage of minors, religious radicalization of women and its impact on migration, as well as participation of women in labor migration. These topics were surveyed by using CAP methodology (knowledge, attitudes, and practices).

Results of the study may be useful for public institutions in developing policies and programs on gender equality and inclusive peace building, as well as for international agencies, including members of the UN Country Team and partner non-governmental organizations for the establishment of lasting peace and empowerment of women.

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<sup>2</sup> Approved by the Kyrgyz Republic Government on November 20, 2015, P 786.

<sup>3</sup> Approved by Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on June 27, 2012, N 443.

## **2 National Context**

The Kyrgyz Republic is located in the northeast of Central Asia. It borders with Kazakhstan in the north, Uzbekistan - in the south-west, Tajikistan - in the south and China - in the east and southeast. The total length of Kyrgyzstan's borders is 4.5 thousand kilometers, and its territory - 199.9 thousand square kilometers.

Kyrgyzstan is a country of high mountains, where nearly 90% of the area is more than 1,500 meters above the sea level.

As of 1 January 2016, permanent population of the Republic amounted to 6.0 million people. Density of the population is on average 30 people per 1 square kilometer.

Bishkek is the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic with the population of more than 900 thousand people.

### **2.1 DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF POPULATION**

As of 1 January 2016, permanent population of the Kyrgyz Republic was 6,020,000 people, including 3,039,000 women and 2,981,000 men. One third of the resident population (34%) live in urban and two-thirds (66%) - in rural areas.

Population distribution by sex is heterogeneous across the country. In urban areas, the proportion of women is higher than men amounting to 52.5%, on the contrary, in rural areas, where the birth rate is higher, the number of men is slightly higher - 50.6%. Composition of the country population is notable for its young people: 33.3% of the total population are children and adolescents under 16 years old, about 60% are working age population, and 7.1% are persons above working age.

According to the UN classification, population is considered as elderly, if the proportion of people above 65 years among residents is more than 7%. As of beginning of 2016, 4.4% of Kyrgyz citizens were in the above age groups.

The process of demographic aging is more common for women than men. Therefore, at the beginning of 2016, the proportion of women above 65 years old in the total number of women was 5.3%, the proportion of men - 3.5%.

Representatives of more than 100 nationalities live in the Kyrgyz Republic, the most numerous of them are Kyrgyzs (72.8% of the total population), Uzbeks (14.5%) and Russians (6.2%). The proportion of other nationalities generally accounts for 6.5%<sup>4</sup>.

### **2.2 POVERTY AND INEQUALITY**

Transition to market economy led to significant changes in the socio-economic sphere of the Republic. Large-scale political and economic reforms affected not only the national economy, but above all, living standards of the population. People being pushed out of the labor market and public economy were losing their guaranteed jobs and sustainable of income. Many found themselves in the category of the poor. Therefore, one of the main priorities of the modern social policy of the country is improvement of living standards and poverty reduction.

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<sup>4</sup> Demography yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic 2010-2014. The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek, 2015. Available at the website: <http://www.stat.kg>

The main indicator of poverty is the proportion of poor people (the poverty level in the country) defined as the proportion of the population, whose per capita consumption is below the poverty line.

According to the results of the integrated household budget survey, the poverty rate increased from 30.6% in 2014 to 32.1% in 2015. The poverty rate among men and women across the country in general is not strongly disproportional and corresponds to the demographic structure of the population.

The level of poverty in 2015 in households headed by women was lower (15.2%) than in households headed by men (27.1%), and the level of extreme poverty was 0.8% and 0.9%, respectively.

The poverty rate in rural areas in 2015 had increased by 1.0 percentage points compared to 2014, while in urban areas - by 2.4 percentage points. In 2015, there were 1,931,000 people below the poverty line, of whom 67.7% were rural residents.

The poverty level growth in 2015 compared to the previous year was recorded in all regions of the country, except for the Osh and Jalal-Abad regions. Prevalence of poverty is uneven across regions of the country - the poverty rate in the Batken, Jalal-Abad, Naryn regions and the city of Osh in 2015 exceeded the average country level, while in other regions, it was lower on the contrary.

The tendency towards uneven income distribution is also evidenced by the Gini coefficient, which shows distribution of the total households' income between its separate groups and ranges from 0 to 1. The lower is this ratio, the more evenly income is distributed.

The dynamics of the Gini coefficient shows that in 2015 inequality in income distribution has decreased from 0.429 in 2014 to 0.408 - in 2015. However, despite this, in 2011 this indicator was 0.382.

### **2.3ECONOMIC SITUATION OF WOMEN**

According to the integrated survey of the household budgets and labor force in 2015, the number of economically active population aged 15 and above<sup>5</sup> was 2,544.3 thousand people, of which 2,352.1 thousand people were employed, and 192.2 thousand people were unemployed. The proportion of women in the economically active population was 41% or 1,043.3 thousand people.

The economic activity rate of the population aged 15 years and older (the economically active population of a certain age group to the total population in this age group ratio) was 62%. Men are more active in the labor market, which is illustrated by the results of the Labour Force Survey. Thus, the level of economic activity of men is 75%, and women - 50%.

The employment rate of men in all age groups is higher than that of the women, but the most significant gap in the age group of 25-34 years old. At this age, women often leave their job due to childbirth. However, in the age group of 40-49 years old, the level of employment of men and women is similar. Usually women in this age group already have grown up children, and they return to work.

Distribution of working men and women by types of economic activity is quite different due to their different capabilities and established traditions. The highest proportion of women among working population is in the services sector, especially in health and social services (84%), education (79%), as well as in hotels and restaurants (59%).

In 2015, the average wage of men was 1.3 times higher than that of the women amounting to 14,743 soms compared to 11,125 soms.

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<sup>5</sup> Economically active population is part of population, who during the surveyed period ensured supply of labor force for the production of goods and services listed in the national accounts system. Economically active population includes both working people and unemployed.

The average salary of men is higher than that of the women. In 2015, women's wages was slightly more than 75% of the men's wages. In general, the difference in wage levels of women and men is due to structure of sectoral segregation in the context of gender. Thus, in the total number of people working in the educational institutions more than 78% are women, in health care - more than 83%, in real estate transactions - more than 93%, i.e. in sectors, where wages are not high.

#### **2.4 REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT BODIES AND MANAGEMENT**

As of 1 January 2016, there were 18.1 thousand civil servants.

As of beginning of 2015, 26.4% of the total number of political and special posts were held by women and 73.6% – by men. Among civil servants holding administrative positions, 40.7% were women and 59.3% – were men.

The proportion of women in the total number of civil servants as of 1 January 2016 was more than 40%. A large number of women are represented in the system of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (73.7%), the Ministry of Labour and Social Development (73.4%), Ministry of Healthcare (70.0%), State Registration Service (61.8%), while in the Chamber of Accounts – the proportion of women is not significant and amounted to 26.1%, and in the General Prosecutor's office and in the State Customs Service of the Kyrgyz Republic - 18.3% in each.

As for regional breakdown of female civil servants, the largest proportion is in the Issyk-Kul region (49.9%), Chui region (48.8%) and Naryn region (47.2%).

As of 1 January 2016, the proportion of women among heads of state bodies holding political and special state positions was 14.2%.

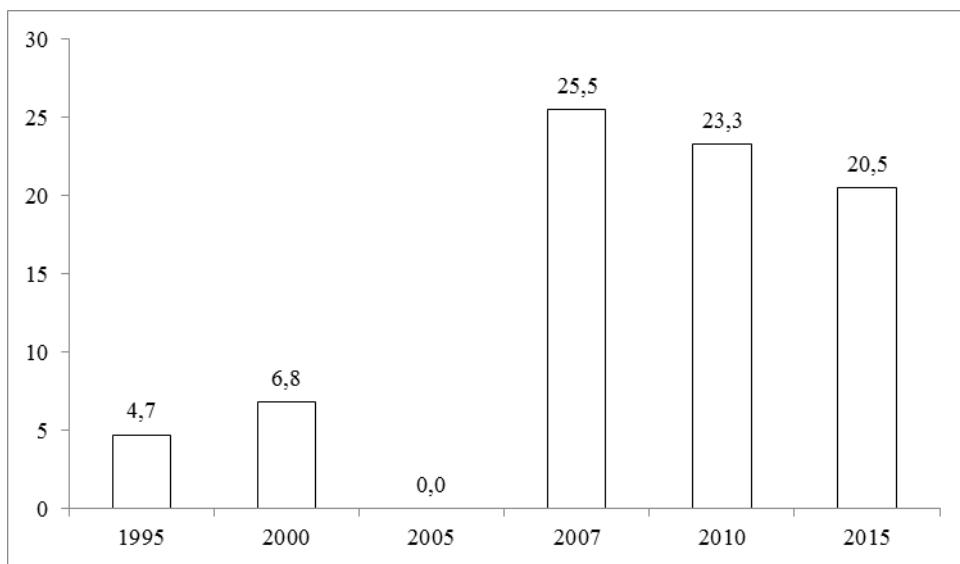
The number of municipal employees in the local self-governments amounted to 8.5 thousand people, of whom about one-third were women.

The number of women in the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic of the I-st convocation (1995-2000) was 4.7%, while their representation in the Parliament of the II-nd convocation (2000-2005) had increased to nearly 7.0%. The proportion of women in the Jogorku Kenesh of the III-rd convocation (2005-2007) was zero, after which the election legislation was amended to introduce gender quotas. Currently, the Law on Elections provides<sup>6</sup> that when determining the list of candidates a political party is obliged to ensure representation of not more than 70% of candidates of the same sex in the country's Parliament, and the difference in priority on the list of candidates for women and men nominated by political parties shall not exceed three positions. However, despite this, since 2007 women's representation in the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic continuously declines (Figure 2.1).

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<sup>6</sup> Article 60 of the KR Constitutional Law "On elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated July 2, 2011, No 68

**Figure 2.1 Women's representation in the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic (in %)**



Thus, it can be stated that the target indicator recommended by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations – representation of at least 30% of women in the legislative body of the country has not been reached yet.

## 2.5 MARRIAGE RATE

There is a favorable tendency of family formation in the country. It rests upon sustainable traditional norms of marriage and family behavior of the population.

Meanwhile, compared with the data of the 1999 Census, the number of married people had decreased due to a significant increase in the number of yet unmarried young people born in 1980-ies; this period was marked by the baby boom in the country. This conclusion is also evidenced by an increase in the number of persons, who have never been married: from 31.4% in 1999 to 36.3% of men in 2009, and from 21.2% to 25.8% of women, respectively.

The number of registered marriages tends to grow notably in the Kyrgyz Republic. During 15 years (2000-2015) the number of marriages registered annually by the Office for Registration of Civil Acts increased 2.2-fold, and divorces – 1.6-fold. It should be noted that the lowest marriage rate since the Second World War was in 2000 - 24 thousand marriages or 5.0 per 1,000 population.

There was a notable decrease in the marriage and divorce levels in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2015.

According to the Population and Housing Census of 2009, most people aged 15 and older are married - 57% of men and 55% of women. Celibacy is not common: only 1.2% of men and 1.5% of women above 50 years old were never married. In 2009, the proportion of people, who never married notably increased: from 31 to 36% among men, and from 21 to 26% among women, which is due to a significant increase in the number of young people aged 20 to 30 years old.

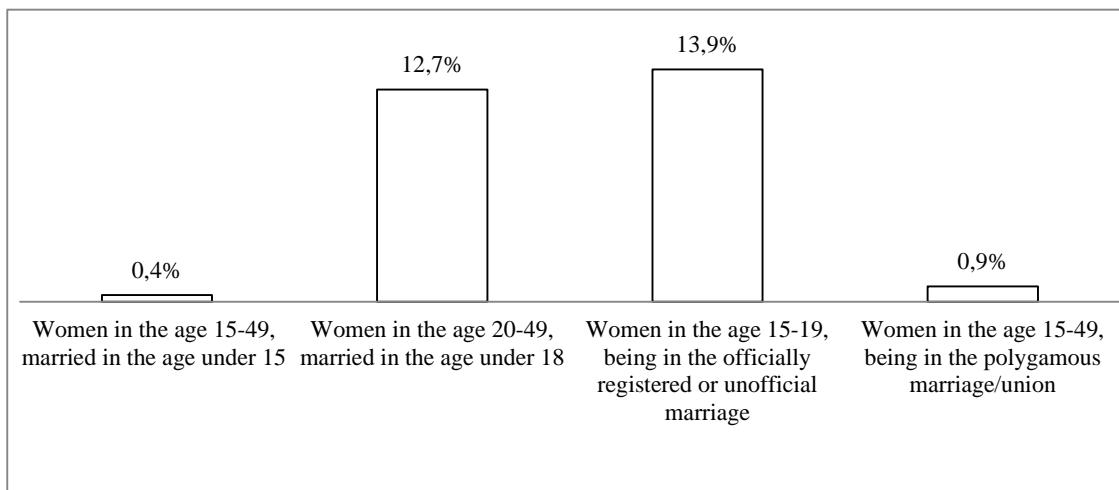
The Family Code<sup>7</sup> establishes the minimum marriage age in the Kyrgyz Republic - 18 years old for both men and women. According to MICS-2014<sup>8</sup>, 0.4% of women in the age group of 15-49 years old were

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<sup>7</sup> The Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic dated August 30, 2003, N 201

married before the age of 15 years old, and 12.7% of women in the age group of 20-49 years old married before the age of 18. Nearly one in seven women aged 15-19 years (13.9%) are currently officially or informally married. There are cases of polygamy (0.9% of women aged 15-49 are in a polygamous marriage/union).

**Figure 2.2: Early marriage and polygamy**  
(in %)



According to the Population and Housing Census 2009, 4.2% of men and 4.8% of women aged 15-49 are married informally. Most often, men aged 25-29 years old (7%) and women aged 20-29 years old (6.5%) do not legally formalize their marital relationships at.

Bride abduction and early marriages are the most common types of gender-based violence in the Kyrgyz Republic. The growing number of early marriages is evidenced by the increasing number of births among women of premarital age.

In 2011, health authorities conducted a survey among 118 young pregnant women, who were registered regarding their pregnancy and delivery with the FMC-19 in Bishkek. The average age of patients was  $17.0 \pm 0.6$  years old, of whom 67% were under the legal age of adulthood. Out of 79 pregnant minors covered by the survey, 5.1% of women had repeated pregnancy, and 4.2% of women already had first pregnancy terminated. The survey showed that 70.3% of pregnant minors had informal or religious marriage, 26.3% had officially registered their marriage and 3.4% were single mothers<sup>8</sup>.

According to official data, since 2006 there is a steady growth in births among women of the age group of 15-17 years old: from 4.4 children per 1,000 women of this age group in 2006 to 7.4 children - in 2014. In addition, the birth rate is increasing among women in the age group 18-19 years - from 62.7 children per 1,000 women of this age in 2008 to 92.7 children - in 2014.

Abduction of women for marriage and marriage with minors are common types of gender-based violence in the Kyrgyz Republic. In 2013, the Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic was amended to provide for 7 to 10 years of imprisonment for abduction of a person. However, the tendency of abduction for marriage is growing in practice across all regions of the country. According to the research of the Freedom House conducted as part of the project "Assistance to prevent bride abduction in Kyrgyzstan", about 10

<sup>8</sup> The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Republic of Kyrgyzstan. Multi-indicator cluster survey 2014 - Final Report. Bishkek. Available at: <http://www.mics2014.kg/index.php/ru/>

<sup>9</sup> According to the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, ref. No 393 of March 4, 2013

thousand cases of abduction of women are registered in the country annually. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic<sup>10</sup>, there is a significant increase in the number of forced marriage – from 6 in 2010 to 23 - in 2015, or 3.8-fold. The analysis shows that 30 to 50% of the abducted girls marry with their abductors.

Given the increasing number of forced marriages, the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic approved the draft law in June this year providing for criminal liability for religious sanctification of a marriage with minors. This draft law was adopted in the first reading.

## 2.6 MIGRATION

The Kyrgyz Republic is characterized by a negative net migration - the excess of people leaving for permanent residence (or for a long period) over the number of arriving people. In 2015, 3.6 thousand people arrived in the country for permanent residence, and 7.8 thousand people left the country, the migration outflow was -4.2 thousand people (in 2014 3.9 thousand people arrived and 11.7 thousand people left the country, the migration outflow was -7.8 thousand people). Thus, the migration balance has decreased almost 2-fold. The intensity of migratory outflow (migration balance per 1,000 population) also decreased from -1.3 persons in 2014 to -0.7 persons in 2015.

Emigration of population for permanent residence in 2015 further reduced. It should be noted that the main factor in reducing external migration are changes in the migration legislation of the Russian Federation, as well as economic crisis in Russia. Among the CIS countries, the second biggest country of emigration after Russia is Kazakhstan. The emigration flow to other countries is insignificant.

In 2015, Russians were among the five most numerous ethnic groups of immigrants - 43.5%, followed by Kyrgyzs - 27.5%, Uzbeks - 8.0%, Tatars - 3.8% and Ukrainians - 3.5%. In comparison with 2014, the proportion of Russians, Ukrainians and Tatars had increased in this group, while the number of Kyrgyzs and Uzbeks in this group decreased.

The intensity of the population outflow from the country compared to 2014 decreased by one third (from 20 to 13 people per 10 thousand of population). However, the outflow indicators in Bishkek and Chui region had exceeded the average country rate by more than twice and amounted to 27-28 people per 10 thousand of population respectively.

Surveys<sup>11</sup> in the host countries show that many migrants do not have working permits, as a result, there are numerous cases of violation of their labor rights, and the majority of migrants have limited access to health services. Most of the migrants come from the remote rural areas of the Kyrgyz Republic, who have no proper knowledge about healthy lifestyles, reproductive health, sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Due to poor awareness about contraception means, many migrants regulate fertility through abortion. Frequent abortions, malnutrition and cold climate contribute to the development of complications and disorders of the reproductive health of female migrants. Cases of HIV, sexually transmitted infections, tuberculosis are annually detected in the host countries among citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Migrant women are exposed to excessive risk of gender-based violence, including from representatives of the radical organizations, which perform acts of violence aimed at, as they claim to, "improve moral image of female migrant workers" in the host countries. At the same time, female migrant

<sup>10</sup> Statistical Yearbook "Crime and the rule of law in the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 2015.

<sup>11</sup> Monitoring services provided by diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. Situation Analysis of the rights of migrant workers of Kyrgyz Republic working in Russia and Kazakhstan (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Astana, Almaty are used as examples), Bishkek, 2013 - NGO "Human Rights Movement: Bir Duino Kyrgyzstan" (Bishkek) and the Foundation "Center for international protection promotion"(Osh city). Available at: <http://birduino.kg/>

workers affected by their illegal actions are actually unable to receive timely professional legal assistance, and are not informed about organizations, where they could seek help.

## **2.7 RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM**

Combating religious extremism is currently increasingly relevant, as religious extremism poses a threat to the security of the states and sustainable development of the society. Unfortunately, the number of supporters of radical Islamism is increasing.

This problem has also affected of Central Asia countries. Some time ago, the Kyrgyz Republic faced lack of religious literacy among Muslim intelligentsia and religious clergy, which led to a decline in their authority. The extremist forces took advantage of this and started inculcation of their ideas. Religion has become an ideological tool that can be used to justify any means and methods. Not only still immature and not well established young people, but also men and women, who are already faced with life difficulties and do not know how to solve their problems, are easily recruited by the religious extremists.

Activity of 20 extremist and terrorist religious movements and organizations is currently banned in the country<sup>12</sup>. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, 189 members (152 men and 37 women) of "Hizb-ut-Tahrir" are registered only in Bishkek; this is one of the banned most active religious extremist organization. According to law enforcement officials, its members are interested in social and political life of the country, and keep banned literature and even ammunition and armament at their houses.

According to the State Commission on Religious Affairs under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, as of beginning of 2015, the number of religious associations and organizations registered on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic amounted to 2.6 thousand, of which 85% are associations and organizations professing Islam.

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<sup>12</sup> The list of organizations, whose activities are prohibited in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic by the courts of different instances. Available online: [http://www.religion.gov.kg/ru/not\\_registration\\_union.html](http://www.religion.gov.kg/ru/not_registration_union.html)

### **3 Survey methodology**

#### **3.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE SURVEY**

The purpose of the survey "Gender in the perception of society" 2015-2016 is to collect a significant credible evidence base on political participation, economics, business, religious beliefs and practices, migration, early marriage and bride abduction at the community level that pose risks to the empowerment of women and their participation in conflict resolution.

The National Survey "Gender in the perception of society" is a sample survey, being representative at the national and regional levels (7 regions and the cities of Bishkek and Osh) and with breakdown by type of area (urban / rural).

Target groups of the survey are women and men aged 18 years and older living in households. The survey did not cover citizens residing in special institutions, such as nursing homes for the elderly and persons with health disabilities, as well as those being in prisons.

For the effective implementation of the project, an interagency working group was established, composed of representatives of the key ministries, NGOs and international organizations, scientists and experts. The Working Group participated in the workshop, where the sampling model, questionnaire and survey plan were discussed, finalized and approved.

#### **3.2 QUESTIONNAIRE**

During the household survey, a questionnaire developed by an interagency working group was used (Appendix E). The survey was conducted in the Kyrgyz or Russian languages taking into account preferences of the respondents.

The Questionnaire consists of eight sections: Section "A" includes questions related to the definition of kinship, marital status, education and ethnicity of household members aged 15 years and older; Section "B" defines the employment status of household members aged 15 years and older; Section "C" aims to determine the level of wealth and asset ownership (subjective welfare level, housing and land ownership); Section "E" includes questions about decision-making on revenue and expenditure, employment and distribution of gender roles, as well as micro lending and entrepreneurial activity; Section "R" provides questions to identify religious beliefs and practices of the respondents; Section "F" is devoted to marriage practices, including early marriages and bride abduction; Section "G" has questions on participation of men and women in politics; Section "M" aims to research migration and its impact on migrants' religious beliefs.

#### **3.3 SAMPLE GENERATION AND INTERVIEWING METHOD**

The main objective of the sample generation was to obtain statistically reliable assessment of the opinions of women and men aged 18 years and older at the national level with breakdown by urban and rural areas and nine regions of the country. In the process of generating the sample, the population of each region (Batken, Chui, Jalal-Abad, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Talas and Osh regions, and cities Bishkek and Osh) was split into two strata - urban and rural. The multistage cluster sampling with stratification was used for generation of the sample frame for this survey.

The sample frame received for the survey "Gender in the perception of society" in the Kyrgyz Republic covered 6,000 households. Early marriages (under 18 years) were used as a key indicator to determine the sample size. The following formula was used for this indicator to assess the required sample size:

$$n = \frac{4 \times r \times (1 - r) \times deff}{(RME \times r)^2 \times p \times \bar{n} \times RR}$$

Where:

- $n$  - The required sample size, expressed as the number of households for the key indicator;
- 4 – The indicator for achieving appropriate level of confidence of 95%;
- $r$  - Forecasted or estimated index expressed as the ratio;
- $RR$  - Rate of non-response;
- $deff$  - Design effect of the indicator;
- $RME$  - The reasonable margin of error at 95% confidence level;
- $p$  - The proportion in total population, on which the indicator  $r$  is based;
- $\bar{n}$  - The average household size (number of household members).

The following assumptions was made during calculations:  $r$  (rate of early marriage before 18 years old) - 13%. The value of  $deff$  (design effect) – 1.5,  $p$  (percentage of women aged 20-49 in the general population) - 21.9%, and the average household size was 4.5 based on sampling frame,  $RME$  - 0.25. The estimated response rate is 98%. The number of households - 665 for each region - a total of 5,985 households for the nine regions (7 regions and the cities of Bishkek and Osh).

The number of households in one cluster for the survey was 15 based on indicators of the design effect , budget, and time of the field works. In total, 400 clusters were selected for the survey.

In each region, the clusters (primary sampling units) were distributed between urban and rural areas in proportion to the size of the urban and rural population in certain region. The initial sample was adjusted in two cases. First, the sample was increased by six clusters in the Jalal-Abad region, and reduced by the same number of clusters in the city of Osh. On the one hand, this was due to the fact that the Jalal-Abad region is a large and diverse region, while the city of Osh is much more homogeneous. Secondly, distribution between urban and rural areas in the Osh region was adjusted by increasing the urban sample by three clusters and reducing the rural one. Table 3.1 shows distribution of clusters in the sampling strata.

**Table 3.1 Distribution of clusters with breakdown by regions**

	Total	<b>Total number of clusters</b>	
		Urban area	Rural area
<b>Total</b>	400	166	234
<b>Region</b>			
Batken	45	13	32
Jalal-Abad	50	16	34
Issyk-Kul	45	16	29
Naryn	45	10	35
Osh	45	8	37
Talas	43	9	34
Chui	45	12	33
Bishkek city	44	44	-
Osh city	38	38	-

The 2009 Census data were used as a basis for selection of the clusters. The enumeration areas of the census were selected as primary sampling units (PSUs), which were selected in each strata using systematic PPS-selection (selection with probability proportional to size) based on the number of households in each enumeration area from the materials of the Census of Population and Housing 2009.

Sampling was made in two stages. At the first stage, the required number of enumeration areas in urban and rural strata in each of the seven regions and two cities were selected. At the second stage, within the selected enumeration areas (clusters) lists of households were generated, and 15 households were selected from each cluster using systematic method.

Since the sampling frame (Census of Population and Housing 2009) is not the latest, a new list of households was generated for selecting households across all selected enumeration areas. For this purpose, teams were formed to compile the lists, and these teams visited each enumeration area and prepared lists of all households based on the location map.

To ensure representativeness, the sample was weighed. Probability weights were calculated at each stage of the selection process and used in calculating the results of the survey; this ensured that each response was taken into account in the final value in accordance with the proportional distribution. The probability weights were adjusted taking into account non-response factors and official population statistics. The main component of weight is reciprocal value of a sample proportion, which is multiplication of probability of selecting the first level units (clusters / EA) by the second level units (households).

Probability in sampling was calculated using the following formulas:

Prob1 =	$\frac{\text{Number of selected clusters}}{\text{Number of households in the strata}}$	$\frac{\text{Number of households in the cluster}}{\text{Number of households in the strata}}$
Prob2 =	$\frac{\text{Number of selected households in the cluster}}{\text{Number of households in the cluster (separately by the each property)}}$	

Total weight is calculated using the formula:  $1 / (\text{Prob1} * \text{Prob2})$ .

After completion of the field works, response rates for each selected strata were calculated and were taken into account in adjusting the final sample weights.

The information about estimation of sampling errors is in Appendix C.

### **3.4 LISTING**

Listing was made in October-November 2015 and covered 400 clusters. A 1.5-day training for 45 listers and cartographers was held as a preparation for listing. The training covered work with the census portfolios, filling the lister's profiles, preparation of schematic maps, specifics of household census. At the time of the listing, all household clusters were informed about the survey, which greatly improved access for interviewers to households. The listing was made in teams (two cartographers and two enumerators). In order to ensure access to the households, each lister had a support letter from the Chairman of the KR National Statistics Committee.

### **3.5 PRELIMINARY SURVEY (PRETEST)**

Preliminary survey among 40 households (pretest) was conducted prior to the main field works to test the questionnaire, determine views and see how women and men understand questions, check quality of the translation of the questionnaire into the Kyrgyz language and duration of the interview. Pretest was conducted in the central and residential areas of Bishkek.

According to the results of the pilot survey, the questionnaire in Russian and Kyrgyz languages was improved, and the workload and the total number of interviewers were defined depending on the interview duration.

### **3.6 TRAINING SUPERVISORS AND INTERVIEWERS**

The field staff (regional coordinators, supervisors, interviewers) was collected on the basis of their experience of conducting household surveys. The main training was held for all the field staff (December 2015) and refresher training was organized before the actual start of the field works (February 2016).

The training program covered the following issues: specificity of gender studies; survey methodology; procedure for completing the questionnaire and interviewers documents; respondent selection procedure; work with maps and sample; standard confidentiality of the gender related surveys; psychological aspects of interviewing; characteristics of surveying respondents on sensitive topics; use of cards; control procedures and requirements for the interviewer's quality of work; appearance and safety of the interviewer. Training sessions were conducted using interactive methods, including work in small groups and role plays.

Each field worker was provided with specifically developed guidance for interviewers to collect data, which included all issues covered by the training program.

### **3.7 FIELD WORKS**

There were 81 employees involved for undertaking the field works: 54 persons interviewers, supervisors 18, region coordinators from the heads of territorial departments of the state statistical bodies - 9 people. Among the recruited staff the 78% were women, and 22% - men.

Field works were conducted simultaneously in all regions of the country from 24 February 2016 to 31 March 2016.

A total of 5,950 households were surveyed with 16,145 members aged 15 years old and above, including 8,469 women and 7,676 men.

### **3.8 DATA CONTROL**

The multilevel control system was used during data collection and processing. During Regional supervisor implemented daily control of the fieldworks by interviewers, he checked each completed questionnaire for correctness of household selection, completeness of questionnaires and correctness of paperwork. When errors were detected, the data was additionally collected during repeated visits to the household.

During the fieldworks, specifically trained inspectors implemented external monitoring of the survey quality=, including repeated visits to households, validation and selection of the household respondents, accuracy and completeness of filling in questionnaires, duration of the interviews, respondents' feedback on the quality of the interviewers' work. In total, more than 5% of the questionnaires were checked in each region. Information about identified errors was promptly disseminated by telephone messages to all supervisors so that to prevent similar mistakes in other regions. The next level of control over questionnaires was implemented in the course of coding and entering into the database.

### **3.9 DATA PROCESSING**

Data were processed centrally. In parallel with the data entry, statistical task for the production of output tables was formulated. More than 100 analytical tables were developed on all sections of the questionnaire.

The data entry program was developed on a specialized CSPro package; it allowed for arithmetic and logical control of the data, check for completeness and duplication of data. The data entry operators were trained to use data entry program. Data entry, cleaning and generation of output tables were conducted from 1 April to 25 May 2016.

Data quality control tables are in Appendix D.

### **3.10 DEFINING LIVING STANDARDS OF HOUSEHOLDS**

Welfare level was defined as quintile<sup>13</sup> of income per capita. Household had the following sources of income:

- Wages;
- Income from farming / agribusiness (agriculture, livestock, agro-processing);
- Income from activities not related to farming (shop etc.), services (transportation, tutoring, babysitting, etc.);
- Self-employment, not associated with farming activities (hand-made products - carpets, toshoks, carving wood and other);
- Income from subsidiary farming;
- Pensions / scholarships / grants;
- Income from lease of land, house, equipment, personal property, private lending;
- Remittances from household members and relatives, who are in labor migration abroad or in the country (transfers);
- Gifts and other income.

The first income quintile is characterized by a minimum income of the 20% of poorest households, and the fifth level - the income of the 20% richest households.

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<sup>13</sup> The surveyed households were ranked based level of household income and were split into five equal parts (quintiles) starting from the lowest (poorest), and ending with the highest (richest).

## 4 Characteristics and composition of households

### Key findings

- 5,950 surveyed households had 16,145 people aged 15 years old and above, including 8,469 women and 7,676 men.
- Heads of the majority of households (71%) were men, while women headed only 28% of households. The average household size was 3.7 persons.
- At the time of the survey, 65% of women aged 15 years and older were married, 18% - never married, 10% - widowed and 7% - divorced.
- The most common way of marriage among women is registration of marriage with the Office for Registration of Civil Acts (ORCA), along with the nikah / church wedding - 53%; and the least common way is cohabitation with neither marriage registration with the ORCA, nor Nikah / church wedding - 1%. At the same time, answers of men about preferred ways of marriage in many cases coincided with the responses of women. Nikah ceremony without official registration of marriage is common almost everywhere (4-6% of women aged 15 years and older).
- The average age at first marriage for women was 20.8 years. About 8% of women married for the first time before the age of 18 years old. Early marriages are 2.5 times more common in rural than in urban areas.
- One-fifth of marriages in Kyrgyzstan are through abduction of a bride (with or without her consent). Marriages through abduction of women without their consent, to a greater or lesser extent, are observed all over the country: from 2% in Bishkek to 21% - in the Naryn region. Most abducted women have only primary education or have no education, and they are from the poorest households.
- At the time of the survey, 65% of men were married, 29% - never married, 3% - divorced, and 2% - widowers. The proportion of never married men aged 15-49 is 1.6 times higher than the proportion of women, because they marry later.
- The internal migration flow shows that half of migrated women and nearly as many men went to another city outside the region. In general, women went to visit their relatives or friends (37%), and men - to work (47%). Women from the richest households and men from the middle and richest households were less mobile.

This Chapter provides information on the size and composition of the population aged 15 years and older in the households covered by the survey, as well as their marital status, education level, employment status and welfare of households. The Chapter presents data on participation of the population aged 15 years and older in the internal and external migration, purposes of migration and host countries.

## Distribution of household members aged 15 years and above with breakdown by age and sex

In 5,950 interviewed households there were 16,145 people aged 15 years and older, including 8,469 women and 7,676 men. Table 4.1 provides data on distribution of the population by age group, gender and type of settlement.

**Table 4.1 Number of people in the households aged 15 years and older with breakdown by age groups, sex and type of settlement**

Proportion of people in the households with breakdown by age group, sex and type of settlement									
	Urban			Rural			Total population		
	Women	Men	Both sexes	Women	Men	Both sexes	Women	Men	Both sexes
<b>Total</b>	54.0	46.0	100.0	49.7	50.3	100.0	51.2	48.8	100.0
<b>Age, years</b>									
15-17	4.1	5.9	5.0	7.7	8.1	7.9	6.3	7.4	6.9
18-20	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.8	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.5
21-30	27.5	29.2	28.3	25.8	28.3	27.1	26.5	28.6	27.5
31-40	19.1	20.6	19.8	19.2	19.9	19.5	19.1	20.1	19.6
41-50	16.9	16.1	16.5	14.8	15.2	15.0	15.6	15.5	15.5
51-60	12.5	12.1	12.3	13.3	11.9	12.6	13.0	12.0	12.5
61-70	7.1	5.8	6.5	6.1	5.1	5.6	6.5	5.4	5.9
70+	4.5	2.2	3.5	4.3	2.9	3.6	4.4	2.7	3.6
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

The age structure of the population of households reflects influence of the past demographic trends in the country, in particular, high level of fertility in the past. Thus, about 43% of household members are persons in the age group of 15-30 years. In rural area their proportion is slightly higher than in urban areas (43.7% and 41.5%, respectively). The number of women in urban and rural areas in this age group is lower than the number of men, with the exception of rural youth aged 18-20 years, where the number of young men is less than women, which is probably due to more intensive migration of rural men compared to women. In other age groups female population almost universally prevails over men, which corresponds to the demographic trends in the country.

### **4.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER**

Some aspects of the households composition may affect distribution of resources (financial and others) available to household members. Thus, in cases, where households are headed by women, financial resources are often limited.

As shown in Table 4.2, the majority of the households heads in the Kyrgyz Republic (72%) - are men; women head only 29% of households. In urban areas, the proportion of women-headed households is higher than in rural areas (37% and 22%, respectively).

**Table 4.2 Characteristics of household members aged 15 years and older**

Proportion of households with breakdown by gender of the household head, household size and type of settlement			
	Type of settlement		<b>Total</b>
	Urban	Rural	
<b>Head of household</b>			
Woman	36.5	21.8	28.5
Man	63.5	78.2	71.5
Both sexes	100	100	100
<b>The number of permanent members of the household</b>			
1	17.0	5.3	10.6
2	25.8	18.7	21.9
3	20.3	18.2	19.2
4	19.6	18.0	18.7
5 and more	17.3	39.7	29.6
Total	100	100	100
Average size of household, people	3.1	4.2	3.7

The average size of households covered by the survey was 3.7 persons: 3.1 people in urban areas and 4.2 people in rural areas. Nearly three quarters of households consist have two to five people. In rural areas, the proportion of households of this size is 82%, in urban area - 76%. In urban compared to rural areas, the proportion of households consisting of one to four people is higher, households in rural area consist of five or more people. This is due to a significant difference in the everyday life of urban and rural residents. Fertility in urban areas is lower, living in the same household with their parents or other relatives is less common, and the proportion of households with one member only is much higher.

## 4.2 HOUSEHOLD WELFARE

To determine welfare of the household, subjective assessments of financial welfare and income mentioned by respondents were used. According to respondents, 49% of surveyed households are middle-income, and 33% of households have income below average. The level of welfare is uneven across the country. Thus, the largest number of households in all regions, with the exception of the Batken and Naryn regions and city of Osh define themselves as medium level income.

**Table 4.3 Subjective assessments of the household welfare**

Proportion of households with breakdown by subjective assessment of welfare							Total
	Income is enough for food	Income is enough for food and clothing	Income is enough for food and clothing, but not enough to buy household appliances	Income is enough for food, clothing, and purchase of home appliances	Income is sufficient to buy a real estate	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	
<b>Total</b>	2.4	33.3		49.0	14.3	0.7	0.2
<b>Type of settlement</b>							100.0
Urban	2.3	31.9		48.3	16.4	0.7	0.4
Rural	2.5	34.5		49.5	12.7	0.7	0.1
<b>Region</b>							100.0
Batken	4.6	45.0		39.3	10.8	0.4	0.0
Jalal-Abad	1.1	21.7		61.4	14.8	0.9	0.1
Issyk-Kul	2.5	22.3		59.9	14.5	0.7	0.1
Naryn	2.6	48.2		41.5	7.5	0.2	0.0
Osh	2.7	50.1		39.1	7.6	0.4	0.1
Talas	2.6	41.3		50.4	4.6	0.9	0.1
Chui	2.6	27.0		49.4	19.2	1.1	0.7
Bishkek city	1.6	32.2		46.3	19.3	0.5	0.1
Osh city	7.2	38.5		36.9	15.0	1.3	1.0

Data in Table 4.4 show that the main sources of income for the majority of households, both in urban and rural areas are their wages (47%). This is followed by pensions/scholarships/allowances (16%), as sources of livelihood that are equally important for urban and rural households. The third important source of income in urban areas is income generated from activities unrelated to farming - provision of services (10%), while in rural areas, of course, it is income from farming/agricultural entrepreneurship (20%).

The largest proportion of remittances of household members and relatives being in labor migration abroad or in the country (transfers) is in the southern regions of the country; and income from household farming – in the Osh region (13%).

**Table 4.4 Structure of household income**

(in%)	Wages	Income from farming/agricultural entrepreneurship (agriculture, livestock, processing of agricultural products)	Income from activities not related to farming (shop etc.), Services (transportation , tutoring, babysitting, etc.).	Self-employment , not related to farming activities (hand-made products, - carpets, toshoks, carving wood and other)	Income from the household and farming	Pension / scholarship p / allowance	Income from lease of land, housing, equipment , personal property, private lending	Remittances from HH members relatives in labor migration abroad or in the country (transfers)	Gifts and other income	Total
<b>Total</b>	46.5	11.2	8.9	3.2	3.7	16.2	0.7	6.8	2.9	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	60.1	2.6	10.4	4.1	1.7	11.4	0.8	4.7	4.3	100
Rural	33.3	19.5	7.6	2.4	5.6	20.9	0.5	8.8	1.4	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	31.1	14.2	12.2	1.8	3.5	25.4	0.2	10.0	1.6	100
Jalal-Abad	26.0	24.0	13.2	1.8	4.5	16.9	1.2	8.8	3.5	100
Issyk-Kul	50.0	15.3	8.0	1.8	1.1	19.0	0.5	2.6	1.7	100
Naryn	42.6	12.5	7.1	1.4	1.2	28.7	1.1	0.9	4.7	100
Osh	25.9	8.3	9.6	1.4	12.5	22.7	0.5	17.9	1.1	100
Talas	30.6	27.2	17.4	0.6	1.5	17.8	0.7	3.1	1.2	100
Chui	52.0	9.8	7.9	7.4	2.2	13.3	0.5	5.5	1.4	100
Bishkek city	75.9	0.0	3.7	3.7	0.9	10.3	0.4	0.7	4.4	100
Osh city	54.2	2.7	11.9	4.5	1.3	9.5	0.8	10.1	5.0	100

According to the survey, 41% of households have one source of income, the same number of households (41%) have two sources (Table 4.5). There are differences by area: most households in urban areas have one source of income only. In all regions, with the exception of the Chui region, cities of Bishkek and Osh, the largest specific weight of households have two sources of income.

**Table 4.5 Number of households' income sources**

	Proportion of households having various income sources						Total
	1 source	2 sources	3 sources	4 sources	5 sources and more		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	64.5	29.0	4.3	0.5	1.8	1.8	100
Rural	28.8	47.7	19.2	2.5	1.8	1.8	100
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	24.9	48.6	24.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	29.9	46.4	18.5	2.8	2.4	2.4	100
Issyk-Kul	33.6	41.6	19.4	2.8	2.5	2.5	100
Naryn	29.8	54.3	11.7	0.9	3.4	3.4	100
Osh	20.2	51.4	24.0	3.7	0.6	0.6	100
Talas	28.4	50.9	19.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	100
Chui	54.9	34.8	4.7	0.0	5.6	5.6	100
Bishkek city	77.7	22.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	100
Osh city	61.0	33.0	5.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	100

The average monthly income per person in the country is 5,463.3 soms. The average monthly income of urban residents (6,971.9 soms) is higher than that of rural residents (4,249.4 soms).

#### 4.3 KEY FEATURES OF WOMEN

The information collected during the survey provides characteristic of women by marital status, age at first marriage, way of marriage, and the latter is surveyed for the first time in the country. In addition, it provides information about migration among women. All these indicators will be discussed with breakdown

by age groups of women, location, type of settlement and ethnicity. Thus, we will try to determine the most problematic issues, which will enable to identify ways to address them in future.

Table 4.6 shows that at the time of the survey 65% of women aged 15 years and older were married<sup>14</sup>, 18% - never married, 10% - widowed and 7% - divorced.

Office for Registration of Civil Acts (ORCA)

**Table 4.6 Marital status of household members aged 15 years and older / women**

Marital status of women aged 15 years and older with breakdown by type of settlement, region and age groups									
Number of women	of them:								
	Never married	Only registration with Office for Registration of Civil Acts (ORCA)	Only Nikah / Church Wedding	ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding	Cohabitation without ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding	Divorced	Widowed	Total	
Total	8,469	18.0	7.5	4.2	52.8	0.8	6.5	10.1	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>									
Urban	3,226	22.1	13.0	3.7	38.7	0.9	10.8	10.9	100
Rural	5,243	15.6	4.3	4.5	61.3	0.8	4.0	9.6	100
<b>Region</b>									
Batken	1,077	14.7	0.3	4.2	66.5	0.5	5.4	8.4	100
Jalal-Abad	1,071	17.4	1.9	6.1	62.3	0.6	3.8	8.0	100
Issyk-Kul	853	14.9	5.4	4.2	55.8	1.6	5.8	12.3	100
Naryn	914	16.3	0.4	1.9	65.5	0.4	3.3	12.2	100
Osh	1,086	15.3	1.6	5.0	65.7	0.6	3.9	7.9	100
Talas	961	16.3	1.0	2.2	66.3	0.1	2.8	11.3	100
Chui	877	14.7	14.8	4.4	43.0	1.6	7.6	13.9	100
Bishkek city	826	27.7	22.1	2.7	22.7	0.7	13.5	10.5	100
Osh city	804	18.7	1.5	3.0	61.3	0.5	6.0	9.0	100
<b>Age, years</b>									
15-17	379	96.7	0.0	1.8	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
18-20	508	61.7	1.6	5.7	29.1	0.2	1.6	0.0	100
21-30	1,833	19.9	5.8	6.0	62.1	1.0	4.7	0.4	100
31-40	1,621	3.2	9.0	4.8	71.1	0.9	9.0	2.0	100
41-50	1,531	2.1	10.1	3.8	63.5	1.3	12.1	7.1	100
51-60	1,342	1.9	11.9	2.4	55.0	0.9	8.6	19.3	100
61-70	768	1.1	12.5	2.1	37.9	0.5	4.2	41.7	100
70+	487	1.0	4.7	2.0	15.4	0.0	2.7	74.3	100
Of them:									
15-49	5250	25.3	6.2	5.1	55.2	0.7	6.1	1.4	100

The results of this survey, as well as materials of other surveys<sup>15</sup> carried out in the Kyrgyz Republic show that the majority of women marry at least once in their life, while the proportion of never-married declines with age. The proportion of women who at the time of the survey were married increases until the age group 41-50 years, and then declines among older women. Among women above 50 years, only 1-2% were never married<sup>16</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> Here, as well as in the Section "Basic characteristics of men and the main differences from characteristics of women", married people include persons, who married: only in the ORCA, only Nikah / Church Wedding, ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding and Cohabitation without ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding.

<sup>15</sup> Demographic and Health Survey of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2012. National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic with the support of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) within the framework of MEASURE DHS. - Bishkek, 2014.

Multi-cluster Survey in the Kyrgyz Republic, monitoring the situation of children and women, 2014. National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic with the support of UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as the co-financing of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - Bishkek 2015.

<sup>16</sup> The indicator adopted in the international practice for measuring the level of celibacy.

Since marital status of women was almost the same as in previous surveys, the most interesting is new information obtained by this survey - way of marriage. Thus, it showed that registration of marriage with the ORCA along with the Nikah/Church Wedding is most common (53%) among women and less common is cohabitation with neither marriage registration in the ORCA, nor ceremony of Nikah/Church Wedding (0.8%).

Registration of marriage in the ORCA with Nikah/Church Wedding is more common in rural than in urban areas, as well as in the Batken, Talas, Osh and Naryn regions. Here, the main age group of women is from 21 to 60 years, i.e., this custom was quite widespread in the past among the older generation, and became popular among the younger generation of the surveyed households.

Women from Bishkek (22% of surveyed women aged 15 years and older) and Chui region (15%) think that it is enough to register their marriage only with the ORCA.

New tendency, such as Nikah ceremony without official registration of marriage, as a result of which many women in case of divorce may be left without means of subsistence, is most common in the Jalal-Abad (6% of the surveyed women aged 15 years and older), Osh (5%), Batken, Issyk-Kul and Chui regions (4.2-4.4%), i.e. almost everywhere, except Naryn and Talas regions, Bishkek and Osh cities (2-3%).

This rite was favored mostly by women of 18-30 years old (6%) with no education or with a low level of education, mainly from poor households of the second quintile (4.7-5.2%), than by women from the richest (2%) and of different ethnicity: Uzbek women (5%), Kyrgyz (5%) and other (except Russian) ethnicities (5%). Girls aged 15-17, who have not reached the legal adult age, are married off either through Nikah (2%), or Nikah plus official registration of marriage with the ORCA (2%). At the same time, according to official statistics of marriage, this procedure is performed by employees of the registry office extremely rarely (about 200 marriages of 15-17 year old women are registered each year ), as the minimal age of marriage established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic is 18 years for women and men.

Cohabitation with neither registration of marriage with the ORCA, nor Nikah / Church Wedding is common in the Issyk-Kul and Chui regions, and among the Russian population (quite large Russian Diaspora lives in these regions).

The first marriage is an important social and demographic indicator, as in many societies it represents the time of life, when having a child becomes desirable for the first time.

Table 4.7 shows that among women aged 15 and older, the average age at first marriage was 20.8 years old. Less than one% of women married for the first time at age 15, and about 8% - before they age of 18. Nearly half (48%) of the women were married at the age of 18-20 years and more than a third (37%) - at the age of 21-25 years and about 7% of women - above the age of 25 years.

**Table 4.7 Marriage age of household members 15 years old and above / women**

	Proportion of women aged 15 years and above with breakdown by age of marriage, type of settlement, region					
	Women, years					
	15	16-17	18-20	21-25	25 and older	The average age at marriage
Total	0.4	7.5	48.2	37.3	6.6	20.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	0.4	3.6	39.8	45.1	11.1	21.7
Rural	0.4	9.7	52.8	33.0	4.1	20.2
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	0.3	6.5	58.6	31.7	2.9	20.2
Jalal-Abad	0.4	6.5	53.5	36.4	3.2	20.4
Issyk-Kul	0.2	7.2	46.0	38.8	7.8	21.0
Naryn	0.5	12.1	49.5	32.2	5.7	20.3
Osh	0.1	9.3	55.6	32.3	2.6	20.0
Talas	1.0	10.4	50.3	33.4	4.9	20.3
Chui	0.4	12.1	45.4	35.8	6.3	20.5
Bishkek city	0.8	1.6	29.3	49.6	18.7	22.8
Osh city	0.1	4.5	52.4	39.3	3.7	20.6

Early marriages (under 18 years) in rural areas are 2.5-fold more common than in urban areas (10% and 4%, respectively). Early marriages of women are noted across all regions, but they are mostly widespread in the Naryn and Chui regions (about 13%), the smallest proportion is in Bishkek (2.4%).

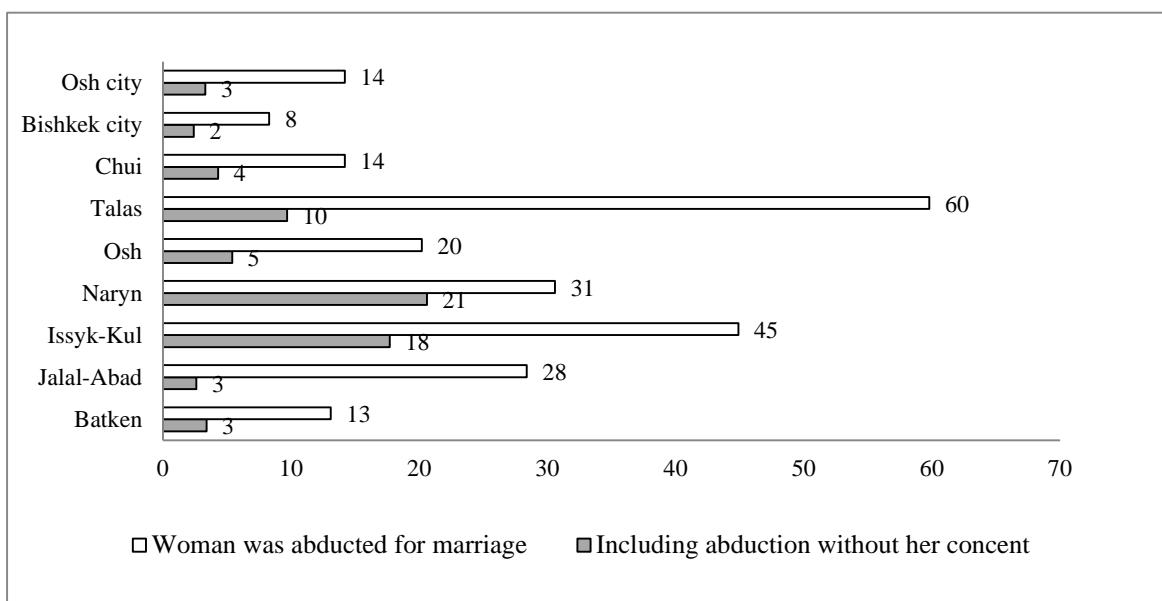
Bride abduction (Kyz Ala Kachuu) as a form of marriage was rare<sup>17</sup> in the past. Table 4.8 shows that more than 20% of marriages in the Kyrgyz Republic are through bride abduction (with or without her consent). Thus, woman abduction for marriage in rural areas is almost twice more often than in urban areas.

**Table 4.8 Ways of marriage of household members aged 15 years and older**

	Proportion of married respondents aged 15 years and older, with breakdown by the way of marriage, type of settlement and region						
	The woman was abducted for marriage	Including: abducted with her consent abducted without her consent		The woman was not abducted for marriage	Other	Total	
Total	22.1	16.3		5.8	77.6	0.3	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	14.7	10.7		4.0	84.9	0.5	100
Rural	25.9	19.2		6.7	73.9	0.2	100
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	13.1	9.7		3.4	86.8	0.2	100
Jalal-Abad	28.4	25.8		2.6	71.6	0.0	100
Issyk-Kul	44.9	27.2		17.7	54.4	0.7	100
Naryn	30.6	10.0		20.6	69.4	0.0	100
Osh	20.2	14.8		5.4	79.7	0.2	100
Talas	59.8	50.1		9.7	40.2	0.0	100
Chui	14.2	9.9		4.3	84.7	1.2	100
Bishkek city	8.3	5.9		2.4	91.6	0.1	100
Osh city	14.2	10.9		3.3	85.5	0.3	100

Figure 4.1 shows that bride abduction as a form of marriage is more common in the Talas region (about 60% of married respondents), Issyk-Kul (45%), Jalal-Abad and Naryn regions (28-31%). Thus, forced marriage without consent of women is most common in the Naryn (21%), Issyk-Kul (18%) and Talas (10%) regions.

**Figure 4.1 Proportion of women aged 15 and above married by abduction with breakdown by area (in %)**



<sup>17</sup> "The Kyrgyz and their ethno-genetic, historical and cultural ties", S. M .Abramzon, popular science publication, Frunze (Bishkek), 1990.

Abducting women for marriage without her consent is observed in the country to a greater or lesser extent everywhere: from 2% in Bishkek to 18% in the Issyk-Kul and 21% in Naryn regions. Girls having only primary education are abducted more often (10%) and girls with no education (8%), as well as those, who are from the poorest households (7%).

Cohabitation without registration of marriage with the ORCA and Nikah/church wedding makes a small proportion (0.8%), while forced marriage of women in the form of abduction is 6%.

#### **4.4 KEY FEATURES OF MEN AND MAIN DIFFERENCES WITH CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN**

During the survey of the main characteristics of men, the same aspects were considered as those for women: education level, marital status, age at first marriage, way of marriage, employment status and migration of men. We will further present the main differences in the characteristics of women and men.

Table 4.9 shows that at the time of the survey, the number of men aged 15 years or older was as follows: 65% - married, 29% - never married, 3% – divorced and 2% - widowed. The proportion of men aged 15-49, who were never married, is 1.6 times higher than that of women, which is due to later age of first marriage.

Men, as well as women marry at least once in their lifetime, while the proportion of never-married declines with age, and only 1.5% of men older than 50 years have never been married.

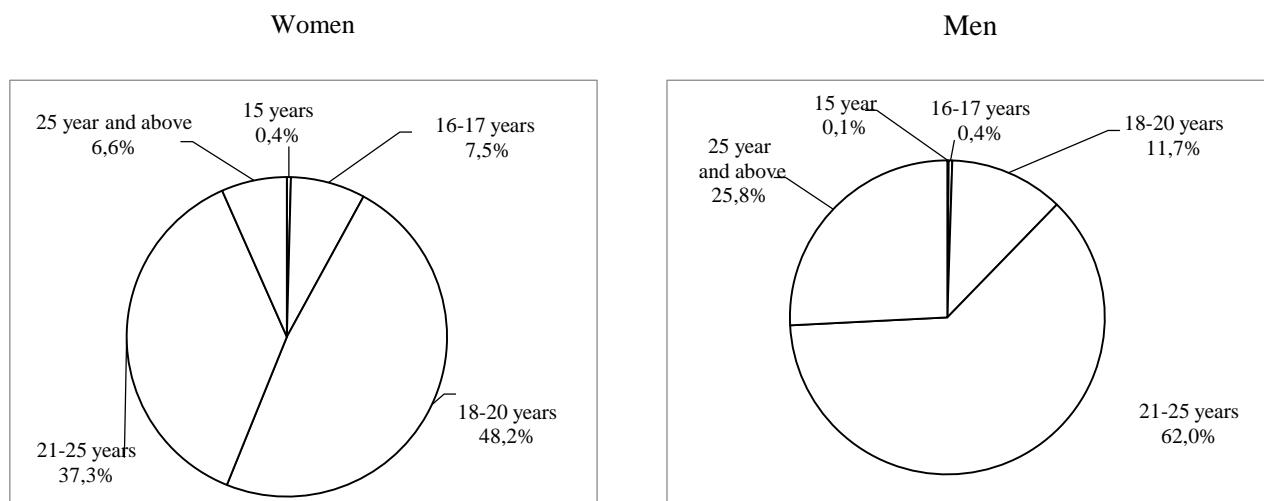
According to the survey results, the average age at first marriage for women is 20.8 years, and for men - 24.0 years; early marriages are not typical for men of the Kyrgyz Republic.

**Table 4.9 Marital status of household members aged 15 years or older/ men**

Marital status of men aged 15 years and above with breakdown by type of settlement, region and age group										
	Number of men	Of them:								Total
		Never married	Only registration in the ORCA	Only Nikah / Church Wedding	ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding	Cohabitation without ORCA and Nikah / Church Wedding	Divorced	Widowed		
Total	7,676	29.2	7.7	4.1	53.3	0.8	3.0	1.9	100	
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	2,663	31.2	14.9	3.9	43.7	0.9	3.3	2.1	100	
Rural	5,013	28.2	4.1	4.2	58.1	0.8	2.9	1.8	100	
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	995	26.3	0.2	3.7	65.4	0.7	2.4	1.3	100	
Jalal-Abad	930	28.6	1.6	4.6	61.1	0.7	1.9	1.4	100	
Issyk-Kul	770	30.0	4.9	3.9	52.8	1.8	4.4	2.2	100	
Naryn	888	30.2	0.3	1.9	62.8	0.4	2.9	1.5	100	
Osh	992	27.0	1.7	5.1	62.5	0.5	1.8	1.4	100	
Talas	925	30.0	0.8	2.2	62.9	0.1	2.6	1.4	100	
Chui	835	28.2	15.0	4.5	42.3	1.5	5.5	3.0	100	
Bishkek city	627	34.0	26.9	3.2	29.1	0.6	3.7	2.4	100	
Osh city	714	31.0	1.7	3.4	59.6	0.5	1.5	2.3	100	
<b>Age, years</b>										
15-17	411	99.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
18-20	457	96.8	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	100	
21-30	1,718	43.1	4.2	5.1	45.0	0.7	1.8	0.0	100	
31-40	1,481	5.1	8.6	5.1	75.1	1.2	4.7	0.2	100	
41-50	1,480	1.8	10.7	5.8	74.1	1.0	5.7	1.0	100	
51-60	1,173	0.8	15.3	2.4	73.4	1.2	3.6	3.2	100	
61-70	616	0.4	17.0	3.3	65.7	0.8	4.1	8.6	100	
70+	340	0.3	12.7	6.1	47.2	0.0	0.5	33.2	100	
Of them:										
15-49	5,000	39.2	5.5	4.3	47.5	0.8	2.7	0.1	100	

Figure 4.2 shows that the majority of the male population marries at the age of 21-25 years, and women - at the age of 18-20 years.

**Figure 4.2 Distribution of women and men aged 15 years and older with breakdown by age at first marriage**  
*Proportion of women and men aged 15 years and older with breakdown by age at marriage*



It should be noted that the proportion of men, who reported that they married by abducting a woman without her consent is 3 times lower than the proportion of women, who reported marriage by abduction without their consent (2% vs. 6%).

Migration has significant impact on the population size and structure. The survey analyzed absence of household members for more than one month in the last 12 months prior to the survey, as well as destinations, period and purpose of the last migration (separately for internal and external migration).

Table 4.10 shows that half in the internal migration flow are women and nearly as many men aged 15 years and older, who went to another city outside the region (probably to Bishkek) and much less – to another village outside the region (13% of women and 12% of men). Women and men from the Naryn region are leading in the internal migration flow to other cities outside the region (more than 80%), the level of education and welfare of the respondents had no any impact.

Data in Table 4.10 show that women from the richest households (10%) are less mobile in the internal migration flow, as well as men from the middle and richest households (7% and 15%, respectively).

**Table 4.10 Internal migration of household members aged 15 years and older with breakdown by the level of welfare**

Welfare level	Women					Men					Total
	To another village within the region	To another village outside the region	To another town/city within the region	To another town/city outside the region	Total	To another village within the region	To another village outside the region	To another town/city within the region	To another town/city outside the region	Total	
Poorest	13.0	28.6	35.7	42.6	33.3	25.0	20.0	23.5	38.8	30.3	
Second	21.7	35.7	14.3	29.6	26.7	14.3	40.0	29.4	22.4	23.9	
Medium	26.1	21.4	21.4	5.6	14.3	10.7	13.3	5.9	4.1	7.3	
Fourth	30.4	7.1	21.4	11.1	16.2	39.3	6.7	23.5	20.4	23.9	
Richest	8.7	7.1	7.1	11.1	9.5	10.7	20.0	17.6	14.3	14.7	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

The main purposes of the internal migration of women are visiting relatives or friends (37%), while men are leaving to work (47%). This was followed by study – among women and men (25 and 20%, respectively). Visiting relatives or friends was dominating among women from Bishkek and Osh, while leaving to work – among men of the Issyk-Kul and Chui regions. Young men and women aged 15-20 years were mainly leaving to study. The duration of last trip (for all purposes) was quite long - almost 2.5 months among women, and more than three months among men.

Currently, emigration of the population of the republic is closely linked to socio-economic status of immigrants. With the accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEC), due to the abolition of customs posts and other preferences, citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic can freely move within the territory of the EAEC member states, including for the purpose of employment.

Table 4.11 shows that external migrants mainly go to the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan - EAEC member states. Women and men from all regions of the country mainly migrate to Russia, while migration to Kazakhstan is mainly from the neighboring Talas and Chui regions.

The main purpose of emigration among women and men is job (50% and 82%, respectively), followed by visiting relatives and friends (32% and 12%, respectively). Women are almost six times more often than men leave to study (14% and 3%, respectively). Women under the age of 50 years leave to work, as well as men under 60 years old; young people under 30 years old leave to study. Majority of emigrants, both women and men, have general secondary and vocational education (60-70% of the total number of emigrants)..

**Table 4.11 Internal migration of household members aged 15 years and above**

Proportion of women and men aged 15 years and above, who in the last 12 months left the country for more than one month with breakdown by region, age group, level of education and well-being																	
	Women							Men									
	Russia	Kazakhstan	Turkey	USA	UAE	China	Other	Total	Russia	Kazakhstan	Turkey	UAE	South Korea	China	Other	Total	
<b>Total</b>	79.1	9.1	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	4.6	100	89.0	5.7	1.5	0.3	0.8	0.4	2.3	100	
<b>Region</b>																	
Batken	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	98.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	100	
Jalal-Abad	94.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	100	95.9	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	100	
Issyk-Kul	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Naryn	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	84.8	0.0	15.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Osh	81.7	9.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.4	100	90.3	5.1	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.0	1.8	100	
Talas	43.3	29.8	11.3	15.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	70.3	29.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Chui	46.2	36.5	0.0	10.6	0.0	0.0	6.7	100	67.0	21.6	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	7.8	100	
Bishkek city	33.3	0.0	33.3	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	100	68.5	31.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Osh city	62.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37.5	100	55.3	0.0	22.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.4	100	
<b>Age, years</b>																	
15-17	87.9	0.0	0.0	12.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	80.5	19.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
18-20	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	83.4	7.1	9.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
21-30	76.9	4.6	4.8	0.0	4.8	4.5	4.5	100	91.6	4.2	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.0	2.0	100	
31-40	81.5	16.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	100	90.3	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	5.0	100	
41-50	97.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	89.0	7.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	100	
51-60	64.8	10.0	0.0	12.1	0.0	0.0	13.1	100	89.5	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
61-70	51.8	26.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.0	100	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.0	100	
70+	75.8	24.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
<b>Level of Education</b>																	
No education	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Primary school (1-4 forms)	60.5	39.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Basic general (5-9 forms)	90.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	100	72.0	16.8	0.0	4.1	4.1	0.0	2.9	100	
Secondary general (10-11 forms)	85.4	10.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	3.4	100	93.1	4.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	100	
Vocational primary /secondary	86.6	13.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	95.7	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Incomplete higher	58.1	0.0	21.5	0.0	0.0	20.3	0.0	100	63.1	22.5	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Higher	69.3	5.0	1.1	5.9	6.8	0.0	11.9	100	88.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	2.6	6.4	100	
<b>Level of welfare</b>																	
Poorest	76.4	13.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9	100	86.5	4.6	2.1	1.4	0.0	1.6	3.9	100	
Second	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	89.7	10.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
Medium	70.1	18.0	0.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	4.6	100	91.1	5.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	100	
Fourth	81.3	0.0	10.0	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	100	94.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	100	
Richest	74.1	9.3	0.0	2.1	0.0	9.4	5.1	100	83.4	3.2	4.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	6.3	100	

Table 4.12 reflects differences in the external migration of women and men. Thus, almost all men (94%) go to the Russian Federation to work, while more than a quarter of women go there to visit their relatives or friends (28%), more often – to visit their husbands or parents. More than two-thirds of men (68%) go to the Republic of Kazakhstan to work, in contrast to 79% of women, who go to visit their relatives or friends. Almost the same number of men go to Turkey to work or study (47% and 43%, respectively), in contrast to women, who mostly (79%) go to Turkey to study.

**Table 4.12 The purpose of external migration**

	Proportion of women and men, who migrated abroad to work, study, visit, as well as for other purposes												
	Women						Men						
	Work	Study	Purpose of last trip				Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Work	Study	Purpose of last trip			
			Visit	Other						Visit	Other	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Russian Federation	67.7	1.6	28.1	2.5	0.0	100	94.4	0.3	4.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	100
Republic of Kazakhstan	20.8	0.0	79.2	0.0	0.0	100	68.1	0.0	31.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Turkish Republic	20.6	79.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	46.8	42.7	0.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	100
Syrian Arab Republic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The Republic of Iraq	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
USA	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
European countries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United Arab Emirates	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100
South Korea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
People's Republic of China	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100

Women go to the United Arab Emirates to work (100%), while men go there without the purpose to work, study or stay.

## 5 Ownership of assets, employment and income

### Key findings

- The vast majority of households (89%) live in their own houses / apartments, and only 10% - rent houses. The proportion of households renting houses in urban areas (19%) is 6 times higher than in rural areas (3%).
- Most houses (62%) are registered in men's name, and only 29% – in women's name. At the same time, one in ten houses (9%) are registered in the name of persons, who are not household members.
- All other assets of households are mainly registered in men's name: living premises / houses / apartments, in addition to those, where families live - 66%; commercial real estate - 61%; land - 80%; passenger vehicles - 90%; cargo transport - 93%; agricultural transport - 93%. Women have lesser opportunities to dispose of household assets compared to men. Women have limited rights to dispose of residential and commercial real estate due to the fact that their right to dispose of the property acquired during marriage is limited by the need for the consent of both spouses.
- The employment rate of men aged 15 years and older is higher than among women: 56% of men are employed compared to only 29% of women. Employment rate of urban men and women is higher than in rural areas.
- Women aged 15 years and older are housewives (38%) more often than in urban areas (23%).
- The number of unemployed men aged 15 years and older is twice more than unemployed women (12% vs. 6%).
- Physical persons, sole proprietors or citizens employ the largest proportion of both men (42%) and women (33%) aged 15 years and older.
- The largest proportion of self-employed men (76%) and women (58%) aged 15 years and above work without formation of a legal entity (without employees).
- The proportion of women, who are unpaid family workers, is more than twice higher than the proportion of men (26% and 11%, respectively). Rural women (32%) are 4 times more often engaged in unpaid domestic work than urban women (8%).

The household survey included questions aimed to define ownership of assets in the household, who can manage them, employment status of the respondents, as well as structure of household income.

## 5.1 OWNERSHIP AND MANAGING ASSETS

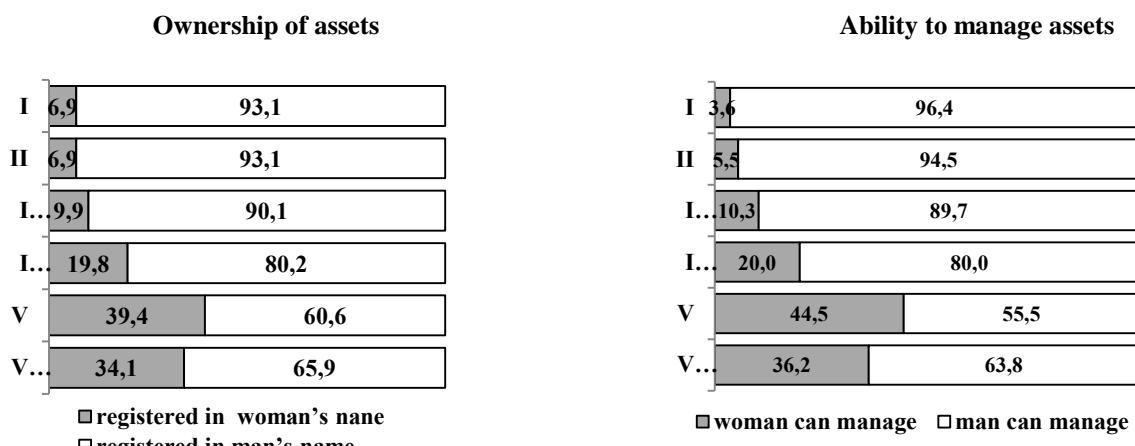
The survey results showed that 89% of households live in their own house / apartment, and only 10% - rent houses. However, the proportion of households renting houses in urban areas (19%) is much higher than in rural areas (3%). There were no differences depending on sex of the household heads.

Most houses (62%) are registered in men's name, and only 29% – in women's name. At the same time, one in ten houses (9%) are registered in the name of persons, who are not household members.

The rights to land, housing and property are important for ensuring equality, welfare and independence of women. Women's rights to land and its disposal, the right to housing and property rights are factors defining conditions of women's lives. In this regard, the respondents were asked some questions in order to find out, what assets belong to the household, whose name they are registered in, and whether the respondent can manage them. The results of survey showed that all assets were mainly registered in the name of men (father, husband, son, etc.). In addition, the right to dispose of the property also belongs mostly to men.

Data in Table 5.1 and Figure 5.1 show that according to two thirds of respondents (66%), the existing dwellings / houses / apartments in addition to those, where families live, are registered in men's name, and more than 60% said that commercial property is also registered in men's names. The vast majority of respondents said that the following assets are also registered in men's names: land (80%), transport: passenger vehicles (90%), cargo and agricultural transport (by 93% each). The right of men and women to dispose of the household assets coincides with the ownership of all assets, except for real estate. The right to manage residential and commercial real estate among women is higher than the ownership level, as the right to manage the property acquired during marriage is subject to the consent of both spouses.

**Figure 5.1 Ownership of assets and ability to manage the assets (in %)**



- I Agricultural vehicles
- II Cargo transport
- III Passenger transport
- IV Land
- V Commercial estate
- VI Living premises / houses / apartments, beside those in which the household live

**Table 5.1 Socio-demographic characteristics of owners of assets**

	Ability to manage																			
	Living premises / houses / apartments, beside those in which the household live			Commercial real estate			Land			Passenger transport			Cargo transport			Agricultural vehicles				
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men
<b>Total</b>	36.2	63.8	100	44.5	55.5	100	20.0	80.0	100	10.3	89.7	100	5.5	94.5	100	3.6	96.4	100		
<b>Type of settlement</b>																				
Urban	36.9	63.1	100	53.8	46.2	100	25.9	74.1	100	14.2	85.8	100	16.0	84.0	100	0.0	100	100		
Rural	35.6	64.4	100	38.5	61.5	100	19.3	80.7	100	8.2	91.8	100	3.2	96.8	100	3.9	96.1	100		
<b>Region</b>																				
Batken	26.4	73.6	100	68.7	31.3	100	21.4	78.6	100	10.2	89.8	100	7.3	92.7	100	6.4	93.6	100		
Jalal-Abad	37.2	62.8	100	37.1	62.9	100	20.5	79.5	100	13.3	86.7	100	8.5	91.5	100	0.0	100	100		
Issyk-Kul	44.9	55.1	100	65.4	34.6	100	19.6	80.4	100	10.7	89.3	100	3.9	96.1	100	6.1	93.9	100		
Naryn	28.5	71.5	100	57.6	42.4	100	16.4	83.6	100	6.3	93.7	100	7.9	92.1	100	17.1	82.9	100		
Osh	21.9	78.1	100	40.2	59.8	100	17.1	82.9	100	5.6	94.4	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	100	100		
Talas	29.2	70.8	100	43.6	56.4	100	21.0	79.0	100	8.0	92.0	100	4.8	95.2	100	3.7	96.3	100		
Chui	46.3	53.7	100	36.8	63.2	100	24.7	75.3	100	9.3	90.7	100	4.7	95.3	100	0.0	100	100		
Bishkek city	29.6	70.4	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	57.5	42.5	100	10.9	89.1	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Osh city	49.0	51.0	100	0.0	100	100	25.5	74.5	100	10.9	89.1	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	0.0	0.0		
<b>Age, years</b>																				
15-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21-30	37.9	62.1	100	29.2	70.8	100	15.4	84.6	100	5.8	94.2	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	100	100		
31-40	41.0	59.0	100	31.0	69.0	100	7.9	92.1	100	8.9	91.1	100	6.8	93.2	100	1.8	98.2	100		
41-50	29.4	70.6	100	69.7	30.3	100	13.3	86.7	100	8.3	91.7	100	5.0	95.0	100	0.0	100	100		
51-60	43.0	57.0	100	41.7	58.3	100	19.0	81.0	100	9.9	90.1	100	4.0	96.0	100	1.5	98.5	100		
61-70	27.1	72.9	100	46.8	53.2	100	32.7	67.3	100	15.7	84.3	100	0.0	100	100	21.9	78.1	100		
70+	32.9	67.1	100	71.0	29.0	100	36.7	63.3	100	28.6	71.4	100	41.7	58.3	100	0.0	100	100		
<b>Level of education</b>																				
No education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	73.9	26.1	100	53.0	47.0	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	100	55.4	44.6	100	37.2	62.8	100	45.0	55.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	12.2	87.8	100	39.4	60.6	100	26.4	73.6	100	22.1	77.9	100	6.7	93.3	100	0.0	100	100		
General secondary (grades 10-11)	38.6	61.4	100	18.2	81.8	100	18.0	82.0	100	7.7	92.3	100	6.3	93.7	100	2.1	97.9	100		

	Ability to manage																				
	Living premises / houses / apartments, beside those in which the household live						Commercial real estate			Land			Passenger transport			Cargo transport			Agricultural vehicles		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Vocational primary / secondary	43.4	56.6	100	67.8	32.2	100	17.3	82.7	100	9.4	90.6	100	1.2	98.8	100	9.2	90.8	100			
Incomplete higher	7.0	93.0	100	0.0	100	100	21.5	78.5	100	20.7	79.3	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Higher	33.1	66.9	100	51.7	48.3	100	16.7	83.3	100	10.3	89.7	100	3.1	96.9	100	0.0	100.0	100			
<b>Level of welfare</b>																					
Poorest	25.8	74.2	100	33.8	66.2	100	15.3	84.7	100	8.3	91.7	100	4.5	95.5	100	0.0	100.0	100			
Second	50.2	49.8	100	24.3	75.7	100	21.8	78.2	100	8.3	91.7	100	1.4	98.6	100	7.5	92.5	100			
Medium	37.5	62.5	100	35.0	65.0	100	23.1	76.9	100	9.9	90.1	100	8.4	91.6	100	6.4	93.6	100			
Fourth	32.7	67.3	100	56.6	43.4	100	19.9	80.1	100	9.6	90.4	100	2.4	97.6	100	0.0	100.0	100			
Richest	37.5	62.5	100	59.0	41.0	100	21.3	78.7	100	14.8	85.2	100	11.1	88.9	100	0.0	100.0	100			
<b>Nationality</b>																					
Kyrgyz	36.4	63.6	100	52.0	48.0	100	19.8	80.2	100	9.4	90.6	100	6.0	94.0	100	5.2	94.8	100			
Uzbek	18.8	81.2	100	17.1	82.9	100	19.6	80.4	100	14.0	86.0	100	1.5	98.5	100	0.0	100.0	100			
Russian	74.4	25.6	100	14.6	85.4	100	37.4	62.6	100	14.2	85.8	100	0.0	100	100	0.0	100.0	100			
Other	38.9	61.1	100	0.0	100	100	17.4	82.6	100	9.5	90.5	100	10.5	89.5	100	3.4	96.6	100			

## 5.2 EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND MEN

Employment can be a source of empowerment. This is especially important for women, but it is difficult to measure women's employment. This is due to the fact that certain works performed by women are often not perceived by women as employment. In order to avoid underestimation of employment in the survey, the respondents were asked a few questions to clarify their employment status and ensure full coverage of employment status in the formal and informal sectors.

Women's employment status is different from that of men. This was evidenced by the survey data. Thus, 56% of men employed and only 29% of women out of the respondents aged 15 years and above were employed (Table 5.2). In general, the employment rate among women and men increases with age. There was a correlation between employment status, education and wealth: high proportion of employed respondents with higher levels of education and welfare. There is a higher employment rate among urban men and women compared to those from rural areas.

33% women aged 15 years and above are housewives: 39% in rural areas and 23% in urban areas.

The number of unemployed men is twice more than unemployed women (12% vs. 6%).

**Table 5.2 Employment status of household members aged 15 years and older**

Employment status of women and men aged 15 years and above with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Women							Men								
	Works in labour migration	Employed	Hou-se-wife	Une mplo yed	Pensi oner	Stu-dent	On leave for child care	Total	Works in labour migration	Empl oyed	Hou-se-owner	Une mplo yed	Pensi oner	Stu-dent	On leave for child care	
<b>Total</b>	0.3	29.0	33.0	5.7	17.7	11.3	3.0	100	1.1	56.1	8.8	11.9	9.7	12.3	0.1	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	0.2	39.9	23.4	4.1	16.3	12.7	3.3	100	1.2	63.2	3.3	7.9	9.3	15.1	0.1	100
Rural	0.4	22.5	38.7	6.7	18.5	10.5	2.8	100	1.1	52.5	11.5	13.9	10.0	10.9	0.0	100
<b>Region</b>																
Batken	0.9	19.6	41.2	4.8	16.9	12.1	4.5	100	5.3	46.1	17.7	8.2	10.5	12.2	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	0.7	27.4	30.2	8.3	16.1	11.6	5.7	100	1.8	67.0	5.7	7.6	8.2	9.7	0.0	100
Issyk-Kul	0.0	26.9	32.9	3.8	20.9	13.1	2.4	100	0.0	63.6	2.4	10.0	11.8	12.3	0.0	100
Naryn	0.0	26.9	22.5	10.9	26.0	12.2	1.4	100	0.4	43.3	18.5	10.7	14.2	12.9	0.0	100
Osh	0.2	14.2	51.3	4.8	18.0	10.8	0.8	100	0.7	41.1	10.2	27.9	9.4	10.5	0.2	100
Talas	0.0	52.0	15.9	3.0	17.8	8.7	2.6	100	0.2	76.9	1.1	1.7	10.1	9.9	0.0	100
Chui	0.5	26.3	33.9	8.2	19.5	7.1	4.5	100	1.0	48.6	17.8	10.7	10.8	11.0	0.1	100
Bishkek city	0.1	50.9	15.3	2.7	15.8	13.6	1.5	100	0.3	69.0	0.8	3.9	8.3	17.6	0.0	100
Osh city	0.0	22.5	42.6	5.1	12.8	14.1	2.8	100	0.3	57.2	4.5	9.3	8.9	19.6	0.1	100
<b>Age, years</b>																
15-17	0.8	2.5	5.9	4.6	0.0	86.2	0.1	100	1.0	4.7	2.5	5.7	1.9	84.2	0.0	100
18-20	0.0	9.2	30.6	12.7	0.0	46.2	1.3	100	1.4	28.9	7.7	16.1	0.9	45.0	0.0	100
21-30	0.4	30.3	46.7	7.4	0.8	6.8	7.6	100	1.8	64.7	10.3	14.3	0.9	8.0	0.1	100
31-40	0.4	44.0	46.5	4.6	0.9	0.2	3.5	100	1.1	74.1	10.1	13.1	1.5	0.1	0.0	100
41-50	0.5	48.9	39.0	5.1	5.1	0.1	1.3	100	1.1	75.1	9.6	10.8	3.3	0.1	0.0	100
51-60	0.1	28.6	19.3	4.9	46.9	0.1	0.1	100	0.5	62.1	11.2	12.7	13.4	0.0	0.1	100
61-70	0.0	3.7	1.4	0.3	94.6	0.0	0.0	100	0.1	14.2	2.5	4.0	79.1	0.1	0.0	100
70+	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.8	98.1	0.4	0.0	100	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.4	97.5	0.0	0.0	100
<b>Level of education</b>																
No education	0.0	2.5	19.2	2.0	76.3	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	11.4	0.0	3.6	69.5	15.5	0.0	100
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	0.0	7.0	14.1	2.5	70.9	5.5	0.0	100	0.0	25.2	2.8	13.7	41.2	17.1	0.0	100
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	0.3	7.4	31.1	8.0	24.4	27.0	1.8	100	0.6	31.9	9.8	15.0	12.3	30.3	0.1	100
General secondary (grades 10-11)	0.5	16.9	43.9	7.1	16.8	12.7	2.1	100	1.4	54.5	11.0	14.4	7.3	11.3	0.1	100
Vocational primary / secondary	0.1	40.9	27.1	4.8	19.2	5.2	2.6	100	0.8	62.6	7.6	10.5	12.7	5.7	0.0	100
Incomplete higher	0.2	15.9	21.7	6.4	1.0	51.4	3.3	100	2.8	28.7	5.5	4.1	1.1	57.9	0.0	100
Higher	0.3	58.4	19.6	2.9	11.9	0.7	6.4	100	0.7	.7	5.0	7.1	9.8	0.6	0.1	100

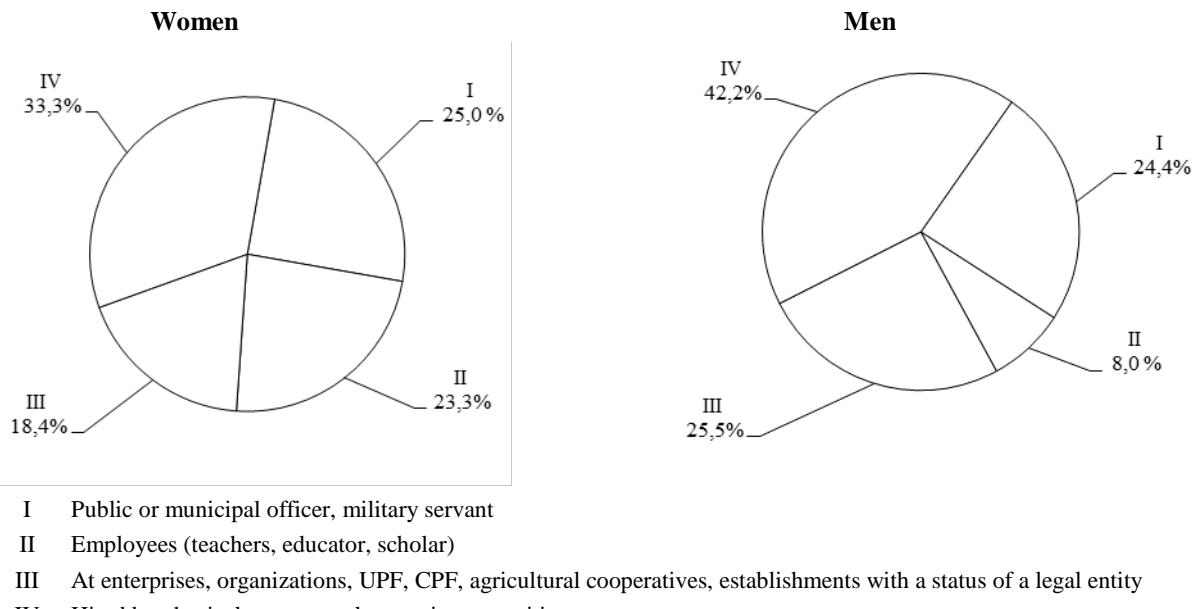
Employment status of women and men aged 15 years and above with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Women								Men							
	Works in labour migration	Employed	Hou-se-wife	Une mplo-yed	Pensi-oner	Stu-dent	On leave for child care	Total	Works in labour migration	Empl oyed	Hou-se owner	Une mplo-yed	Pensi-oner	Stu-dent	On leave for child care	Total
<b>Level of welfare</b>																
Poorest	0.3	14.0	48.1	8.9	13.9	11.4	3.4	100	1.4	45.1	14.2	19.8	7.1	12.2	0.1	100
Second	0.5	22.6	37.7	7.2	18.0	10.7	3.4	100	0.9	54.2	10.0	13.1	8.9	12.9	0.0	100
Medium	0.1	28.5	33.5	3.5	20.1	12.0	2.3	100	1.2	59.6	6.5	9.0	12.8	10.9	0.0	100
Fourth	0.5	37.1	21.5	4.5	21.0	12.6	2.7	100	0.8	60.6	5.6	7.5	11.7	13.7	0.0	100
Richest	0.3	51.3	16.7	2.9	16.2	9.6	3.0	100	1.3	69.6	3.4	4.3	9.5	11.8	0.1	100
<b>Nationality</b>																
Kyrgyz	0.4	30.1	31.1	5.5	16.3	13.3	3.3	100	1.1	56.0	9.2	11.0	8.8	13.8	0.1	100
Uzbek	0.2	17.4	51.7	7.1	14.6	6.6	2.4	100	1.9	56.8	5.1	18.9	8.2	9.0	0.0	100
Russian	0.0	39.8	14.3	4.1	31.5	7.9	2.3	100	0.0	63.6	4.5	5.0	21.5	5.3	0.0	100
Other	0.0	27.4	37.7	7.3	20.6	4.5	2.4	100	1.6	47.2	16.5	13.1	11.2	10.4	0.0	100

The respondents were asked questions in order to distinguish between the employed and self-employed respondents aged 15 years and above. As the survey results show, the proportion of hired workers and self-employed respondents was 50% in each group.

The largest proportion of employed aged 15 and older were hired by physical persons, sole proprietors or citizens, the proportion of hired male workers (42%) is higher than that of women (33%). A quarter of women and men (25% and 24%, respectively) are public or municipal servants or military personnel. Men more often than women work at the enterprises, organizations, UPF, CPF, agricultural cooperatives, establishments with a status of legal entities (26 and 18%, respectively). In contrast, the number of women working as teachers, educators, scientists is three times higher the number of men in the same fields (23% and 8%, respectively).

**Figure 5.2 Hired workers aged 15 years and above  
(in percent)**



Data on hired employees by types of settlements and regions show territorial difference. For example, the largest number of rural women and women from the Jalal-Abad, Issyk-Kul and Osh regions

work as teachers, educators, scientists, and women from the Batken, Naryn, Talas regions and city of Osh are engaged mainly in the public and municipal services or are military servants.

**Table 5.3 Hired workers aged 15 years and above**

Proportion of women and men aged 15 years and above working on hire, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Women					Men				
	Public or municipal officer; military service man	Employees (teachers, educators, scholars)	At enterprises, organizations, UPF, CPF, agricultural cooperatives, establishments with a status of a legal entity	Hired by physical entities, sole proprietors or citizens	Total	Public or municipal officer; military service man	Employees (teachers, educators, scholars)	At enterprises, organizations, UPF, CPF, agricultural cooperatives, establishments with a status of a legal entity	Hired by physical entities, individual entrepreneurs or individual citizen	Total
Total	25.0	23.3	18.4	33.3	100	24.4	8.0	25.5	42.2	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	24.6	16.4	14.0	45.1	100	25.7	5.6	18.7	49.9	100
Rural	25.6	33.2	24.6	16.6	100	22.8	10.7	33.4	33.0	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	40.0	28.3	21.5	10.2	100	34.4	8.9	27.2	29.5	100
Jalal-Abad	24.0	53.4	14.1	8.5	100	34.5	27.4	23.2	15.0	100
Issyk-Kul	19.0	36.2	12.6	32.1	100	21.7	15.1	28.2	35.0	100
Naryn	60.7	29.1	2.5	7.7	100	68.5	15.4	6.7	9.4	100
Osh	18.7	40.4	25.4	15.5	100	17.6	9.8	18.6	54.0	100
Talas	54.1	20.5	3.7	21.7	100	52.7	7.2	5.4	34.7	100
Chui	16.1	16.4	46.5	21.0	100	10.1	2.8	58.0	29.0	100
Bishkek city	22.2	10.3	10.6	56.9	100	25.8	2.8	13.2	58.2	100
Osh city	38.9	22.5	10.4	28.2	100	24.7	5.5	15.6	54.2	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
15-17	50.8	25.4	0.0	23.8	100	8.9	0.0	0.0	91.1	100
18-20	25.7	11.3	26.4	36.6	100	9.0	0.0	20.7	70.3	100
21-30	21.6	22.4	19.4	36.6	100	24.0	6.6	25.9	43.6	100
31-40	25.3	23.3	17.9	33.4	100	23.5	7.8	22.9	45.8	100
41-50	25.4	21.1	19.9	33.7	100	26.5	8.6	25.3	39.6	100
51-60	29.0	29.5	16.0	25.5	100	26.1	10.9	30.9	32.1	100
61-70	27.4	28.9	9.0	34.7	100	28.8	14.8	30.3	26.1	100
70+	25.0	25.0	0.0	49.9	100	33.8	19.8	0.0	46.4	100
<b>Level of education</b>										
No education	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	100	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	6.0	57.1	0.0	37.0	100	27.9	26.5	0.0	45.6	100
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	7.4	10.4	26.4	55.8	100	2.8	2.3	20.8	74.0	100
General secondary (grades 10-11)	19.3	13.1	25.5	42.0	100	13.5	6.0	28.2	52.3	100
Vocational primary / secondary	23.4	13.7	20.7	42.3	100	21.7	4.5	27.3	46.5	100
Incomplete higher	28.1	10.0	20.3	41.6	100	21.1	9.3	23.6	46.0	100
Higher	28.8	35.0	13.8	22.4	100	40.0	12.9	23.0	24.1	100
<b>Level of welfare</b>										
Poorest	29.6	30.0	19.2	21.2	100	19.6	11.1	20.1	49.2	100
Second	28.3	26.7	20.0	25.1	100	25.1	9.8	27.6	37.4	100
Medium	31.8	23.3	17.7	27.1	100	27.2	7.3	26.4	39.1	100
Fourth	23.8	24.4	16.3	35.5	100	24.3	5.6	24.1	46.0	100
Richest	19.6	19.4	19.5	41.5	100	24.2	7.8	27.6	40.3	100
<b>Nationality</b>										
Kyrgyz	28.7	24.7	18.3	28.3	100	29.3	9.2	26.2	35.3	100
Uzbek	16.1	34.5	21.2	28.2	100	9.8	7.6	14.9	67.7	100
Russian	13.1	13.5	18.3	55.0	100	11.4	3.4	27.1	58.1	100
Other	19.5	21.5	15.3	43.7	100	16.2	3.6	31.0	49.2	100

The largest proportion of self-employed respondents do not create legal entities (work without employees). Moreover, this type of self-employment is significantly higher among men (76%) than among women (58%). The number of employers with the status of a legal entity is low among both women and men

(3% each). At the same time, the highest proportion of female employers with a status of a legal entity are from the Issyk-Kul region (12%) and Bishkek city (10%), while the largest proportion of men are from the Osh city (12%).

The proportion of women, who are unpaid family workers, is more than twice higher than that of men (26% and 11%, respectively). Rural women (32%) 4 times more often than urban women (8%) are engaged in unpaid household work. The largest proportion of women with this employment status is in the Talas region (68%), followed by the Osh (43%) and Chui (37%) regions, while in other regions this indicator is below 7%.

**Table 5.4 Self-employed household members aged 15 years and older**

Proportion of self-employed women and men aged 15 years and above with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age group, level of welfare, education and nationality

	Women							Men						
	The employer as a legal entity	An employer without a legal entity	Self-employed with the status of a legal entity (including owners of Private Entrepreneurs, Individual Entrepreneurs, LLC, PA, NGO without employees)	Self-employed unincorporated (non-employees)	Members of producers' cooperatives	Unpaid family workers	Total	The employer as a legal entity	An employer without a legal entity	Self-employed with the status of a legal entity (including owners of Private Entrepreneurs, Individual Entrepreneurs, LLC, PA, NGO without employees)	Self-employed unincorporated (non-employees)	Members of producers' cooperatives	Unpaid family workers	Total
Total	3.3	0.4	12.1	58.0	0.3	25.9	100	2.6	0.3	10.9	76.0	0.2	10.1	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	7.7	1.8	18.4	63.6	1.0	7.5	100	6.9	1.2	19.6	69.3	0.4	2.5	100
Rural	1.9	0.0	10.2	56.3	0.1	31.5	100	1.6	0.1	8.9	77.5	0.1	11.8	100
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	1.1	0.3	5.7	55.2	0.4	37.3	100	4.0	0.2	5.8	83.2	0.3	6.5	100
Jalal-Abad	3.8	0.4	5.2	84.1	0.0	6.5	100	2.8	0.2	4.1	84.8	0.1	8.0	100
Issyk-Kul	11.6	0.0	14.0	67.8	0.0	6.6	100	2.2	0.6	7.5	88.1	0.0	1.6	100
Naryn	1.1	0.0	85.3	12.6	0.0	1.0	100	1.0	0.0	85.5	13.4	0.0	0.0	100
Osh	2.9	0.0	2.1	52.1	0.0	42.9	100	1.3	0.0	2.3	76.9	0.0	19.5	100
Talas	1.2	0.0	8.8	22.4	0.0	67.7	100	1.4	0.2	6.1	67.5	0.1	24.7	100
Chui	1.8	0.6	6.9	53.7	0.0	37.0	100	3.5	0.0	9.9	74.1	0.0	12.4	100
Bishkek city	9.8	2.4	5.2	79.5	3.1	0.0	100	1.4	2.9	15.9	78.5	0.0	1.4	100
Osh city	5.0	0.0	42.9	44.1	1.6	6.5	100	11.5	0.9	33.4	47.4	3.7	3.2	100
<b>Age, years</b>														
15-17	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.6	5.1	70.4	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	63.4	0.0	36.6	100
18-20	0.0	0.0	5.0	50.1	1.2	43.7	100	0.7	0.0	4.0	74.2	0.0	21.0	100
21-30	2.6	0.0	6.9	56.6	0.0	33.9	100	2.4	0.1	10.0	73.0	0.1	14.4	100
31-40	4.7	0.5	15.9	57.6	0.2	21.2	100	3.3	0.6	12.1	75.7	0.0	8.2	100
41-50	3.6	0.4	14.8	64.6	0.0	16.6	100	2.3	0.6	12.5	80.2	0.1	4.2	100
51-60	2.9	0.3	17.2	64.5	0.0	15.1	100	3.6	0.0	11.7	80.6	0.7	3.3	100
61-70	8.2	0.0	9.4	40.6	0.0	41.8	100	0.8	0.0	15.6	72.0	0.0	11.6	100
70+	0.0	37.5	0.0	62.5	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	20.1	60.2	0.0	19.6	100
<b>Level of education</b>														
No education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	30.9	69.1	0.0	0.0	100
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	100
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	0.0	0.0	5.2	65.0	3.1	26.7	100	2.2	0.0	7.2	76.9	0.0	13.7	100
General secondary (grades 10-11)	1.1	0.3	10.8	55.5	0.2	32.1	100	1.1	0.2	8.9	77.7	0.2	12.0	100
Vocational primary/secondary	1.9	0.7	13.7	64.0	0.0	19.7	100	3.2	0.8	13.2	76.8	0.2	5.8	100
Incomplete higher	1.0	0.0	10.6	79.7	0.0	8.6	100	8.8	0.0	18.3	62.7	0.0	10.2	100

Proportion of self-employed women and men aged 15 years and above with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age group, level of welfare, education and nationality

	Women										Men				
	The employer as a legal entity	An employer without a legal entity	Self-employed with the status of a legal entity (including owners of Private)	Self-employed unincorporated (non-employees)	Members of producers' cooperatives	Unpaid family workers	Total	The employer as a legal entity	An employer without a legal entity	Self-employed with the status of a legal entity (including owners of Private)	Self-employed unincorporated (non-employees)	Members of producers' cooperatives	Unpaid family workers	Total	
	Entrepreneurs, Individual	Entrepreneurs, LLC, PA, NGO	without employees)					Entrepreneurs, Individual	Entrepreneurs, LLC, PA, NGO	without employees)					
<b>Higher Level of welfare</b>	14.4	0.8	18.2	50.1	0.0	16.6	100	8.4	0.5	18.5	67.6	0.1	4.9	100	
Poorest	0.3	0.0	11.4	47.8	0.2	40.3	100	0.7	0.2	10.3	74.5	0.1	14.3	100	
Second	2.1	0.2	9.9	61.1	0.0	26.7	100	1.4	0.4	8.5	78.8	0.1	10.8	100	
Medium	1.2	0.0	9.4	67.7	0.4	21.3	100	3.0	0.0	9.0	80.3	0.2	7.6	100	
Fourth	4.5	0.9	15.2	60.6	1.2	17.5	100	3.8	0.6	15.4	71.5	0.1	8.6	100	
Richest	14.5	1.9	18.7	58.2	0.0	6.7	100	9.7	0.9	17.6	69.7	0.5	1.7	100	
<b>Nationality</b>															
Kyrgyz	3.5	0.3	13.9	56.2	0.4	25.7	100	2.5	0.3	12.2	75.1	0.2	9.7	100	
Uzbek	1.1	0.3	5.9	64.1	0.0	28.6	100	2.6	0.1	8.4	78.1	0.0	10.8	100	
Russian	17.9	4.7	25.2	35.7	0.0	16.5	100	12.0	0.0	11.1	74.6	0.0	2.4	100	
Other	0.0	0.0	3.0	70.5	0.0	26.5	100	1.1	0.7	3.6	79.8	0.0	14.8	100	

These data show that there is a gender imbalance in the ownership and possibility to manage the assets, as well as in employment. The main part of household assets - dwellings / houses / apartments, commercial property, land, cars, trucks and agricultural vehicles – are registered in men's name. Accordingly, women have less possibilities to manage household assets than men.

The survey showed gender disparities in the employment status and the areas of employment: employment rate among men is higher than that among women. There is a correlation between the employment status, education and wealth: the biggest proportion among the employed respondents are people with higher education and higher welfare level. Women, particularly rural ones, much more often than men are unpaid family workers. In some regions, the number of these women exceeds two thirds. Women are also often work in the public sector. Thus, it can be stated that women more often than men work in sectors, where wages are either low or non-existent at all.

The survey shows high employment rates among women and men hired by individuals, self-employed and housewives. In this category of employees there are, as a rule, no social guarantees - paid leave for temporary disability, pregnancy, childbirth, and annual leave. In many cases no any Records of Employment are maintained, and no social and tax deductions are made. All this reduces social security of women, men and families in general.



## 6 Economic aspect

### Key findings

#### Taking decisions on income and expenditures

- The majority of respondents (more than 70%) believe that the decision on distribution of income in the household must be made jointly. One-fifth of women (21%) and men (19%) believe that the decision on distribution of income should be taken by the head of household alone
- There were no any significant differences in the opinion on how income should be distributed and how it is distributed in practice. However, about 40% among those, who make decisions jointly, are unhappy with the status quo. Urban women (50%) and men (53%) are more unhappy with the distribution of income in household than rural women (21%) and men (17%).
- In cases where the head of the household takes a decision on income and expenditures solely, women (47%) are more dissatisfied than men (39%). Among those, who are not satisfied with the way how income is distributed, the proportion of young people aged 18-20 years is especially high: 65% of women and 50% of men.
- About a quarter of the respondents (24% of women and 26% of men) are free to decide on how to spend the money they have earned, and more than two thirds (68% of women and 69% of men) make decisions together. Other household members decide how to spend the money earned by women in 8% of cases, and only in 5% of cases they decide how to spend money earned by men.
- Men and women are aware of the earnings of their spouses, although this proportion among men (78%) is slightly lower than among women (86%).
- About 80% of women and men believe that a woman must take care of the house and children, and men should earn money.
- When choosing a job salary is equally important for both men and women. Women prefer jobs, where they would spend less time on transportation and would be able to combine it with the household duties. In contrast, men more often than women focus on career development, interest and prestige of the work. Professional interest twice more important for men (15%) than for women (7%), and prestige of the work is important only for 3% of women and 12% of men.
- Both men and women are not well aware of their property and labor rights. About 70% of men and women believe that without registration with the ORCA women have right to their joint property. Only 28% of respondents are aware that the law of the Kyrgyz Republic provides men with the parternity leave for childcare until the child reaches 3 years of age.

#### Microloan

- 22% of the interviewed women and 26% of men –received loans. Rural women receive loans more often (25%) than urban women (16%). The situation is similar among men (30 and 17%, respectively).
- Urban women (35%) are more independent in making loan related decisions than rural women (16%).
- The average amount of the latest loan received by women is lower than that of men and is approximately 93 thousand soms compared to loans of 110 thousand soms received by men
- 92% of women and 91% of men used their loans to the intended purpose.
- In general, both women and men take loans due to the same problems: to expand the business or for agricultural works (34%), repair / build a house (23%), buy some important things for consumption (12%), buy a car (7%), for family event, anniversary / wedding / funeral (5 %).
- A distinctive feature of women is that they more often than men take loans for the repair / construction of the house (30% vs. 39%, respectively) and for buying items for consumption (16% vs. 9%, respectively).

- In contrast, men more often than women take loans for buying a vehicle (8% vs. 5%), as well as for family ceremonies, such as weddings and funerals (7% vs. 4%).
- Women in rural areas take loans for expansion of the business / agricultural work almost 3 times more often (39% vs. 13%), and 1.6 times more often by men (42% vs. 26%). In contrast, the respondents often take loans for the repair / construction of houses (32% of urban women and 13% of rural women; 28% of urban men and 18% of rural men), as well as for buying consumer goods (24% of urban women and 13% of rural women; 15% of urban men and 8% of rural men ).

## **Entrepreneurship**

- Out of the total number of interviewed women 4% were engaged in entrepreneurship, which is twice less than that of men (8%).
- There is gender segregation by areas of entrepreneurship: men more often do business in areas with higher incomes, while women are concentrated in areas with lower incomes.
- The vast majority of women - 74% are in trade; 7% are in the garment manufacture and another 6% provide personal services. Women are rarely engaged in other areas of entrepreneurship.
- 45% of men are engaged in trade and men twice more often than women are engaged in wholesale trade (17% vs. 8%, respectively).
- Areas of entrepreneurship among men are more diverse compared to women: transport services (22%), agricultural production and processing (13%), repair of motor vehicles and household goods (6%), health and education services (4%).
- Most women (98%) and men (89%) have entered into the local markets. At the same time, men 3 times more often than women sell their products in the regional (33% and 12%, respectively) and national markets (7% and 3%, respectively). Activity of women and men in the international markets slightly differs (5% and 2%, respectively).
- As shown by the survey results, to resolve the problems in doing business, in most cases women (57%) and men (66%) prefer to go directly to the management of the body with which problems arise. One third part of the interviewed female entrepreneurs solve all their problems on their own, while only 16% of interviewed male entrepreneurs can independently resolve their problems.
- Starting a business had equally improved quality of life, family relationships, increased personal self-esteem of both men and women. A quite common myth in the society that female entrepreneurship can destroy their family life, is not true. Business run by women has improved educational opportunities for their children than business run by men (36 and 31%, respectively)
- Women 1.7 times more often than men to close their business due to the lack of time for running business, as well as household duties and childcare (24% and 14%, respectively).

Women's economic empowerment is one of the most important conditions for the elimination of discrimination against women in the economic sphere of the Kyrgyz Republic. Problematic areas cause continuing economic inequality of women, especially in rural areas, including limited opportunities for income-generating activities by women, decline in the economic activity and employment rates of women, unequal access for women to the labor market and unequal access to resources, and others. The survey researched certain aspects of women's economic opportunities. This chapter provides information on decision-making on income and expenditure, employment related issues, distribution of gender roles, gender aspects of entrepreneurship and micro crediting. In-depth analysis of the collected data will support a political choice for the development of skilled labor force among women, taking into account the needs of the local economy and would empower women to break off the rural and urban poverty.

## **6.1 TAKING DECISIONS ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURES, AND DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER ROLES**

Decision-making is one of the key issues in the field of gender equality and women's economic independence. Prevalence of gender stereotypes and traditional ideas about the distribution of family and gender roles significantly affect the way of how decisions are made. This survey aimed to explore views about gender equality and current practices in the field of decision-making in the economic and labor spheres. Since one of the main problems affecting financial independence of women is distribution of income within the household, during the interviews the attempt was made to find out views about income and its distribution in practice.

As results show, there is no significant difference between men and women on how income should be distributed in the family (Table 6.1). 71% of women and 74% of men believe that the decision should be taken jointly. One fifth of the respondents believe that the decision should be taken by the head of the household alone (21% of women and 20% of men). These views are supported in rural and urban areas. Most households are headed by men (72%) and men (80%) manage the assets, such as land, property or vehicles. However, in the Osh city (44%), Osh (30%) and Jalalabad (29%) regions the proportion of respondents, who believe that income must be managed by the head of household, is significantly higher than Bishkek (8%). At the same time, traditional gender and family roles do not depend on the level of education and welfare of the respondents in the distribution of income. However, this proportion is lower among Russian women and men (9%).

Thus, we can say that traditional norms in income distribution do not dominate in all regions. Practices, where each family member keeps their income alone is not spread among the population of the country. It is not habitual in the households to contribute part of earnings for general needs of the household and keep the rest money for personal use.

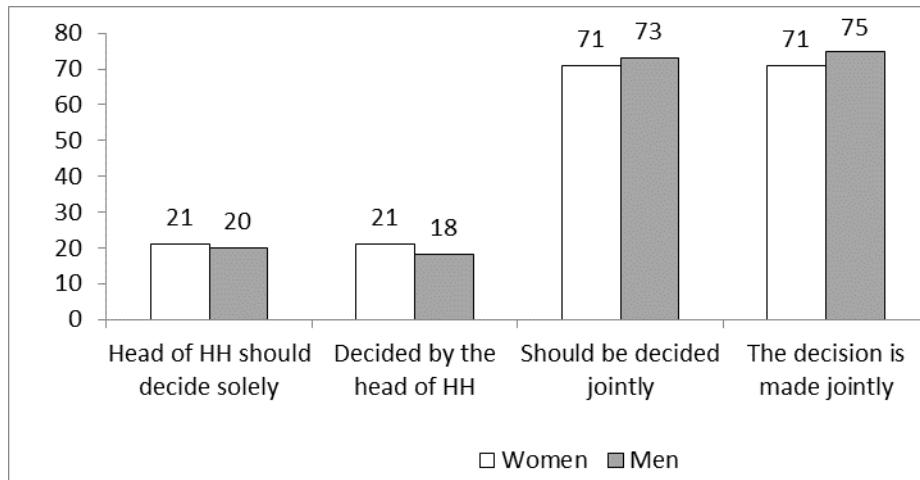
**Table 6.1 Respondents' opinion on distribution of income in households**

Proportion of women and men with breakdown by opinions on distribution of household income - decision solely by HH head; by a HH member, who earns more; by a HH member who takes care of the household; jointly with breakdown by settlement type, region and nationality

	Head of HH - solely	HH member, who earns more - should decide	HH member, who takes care of the HH - should decide	The decision should be taken jointly	Decision on distribution of income		All HH members should put together earned money, and then everyone should take as much as he/she needs	Other	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
<b>Total</b>	20.6	0.5	3.3	71.8	0.8	1.3	1.1	0.0	0.5	100
<b>Gender</b>										
Women	21.4	0.4	3.6	70.6	1.0	1.2	1.3	0.0	0.5	100
Men	19.7	0.6	3.0	73.3	0.5	1.3	1.0	0.0	0.5	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	18.8	0.4	3.2	70.5	1.5	3.0	1.6	0.0	0.9	100
Rural	21.6	0.6	3.4	72.6	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.2	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	13.7	0.4	3.2	80.4	0.1	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	29.4	0.5	3.5	66.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	100
Issyk-Kul	15.3	1.3	4.0	78.5	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	100
Naryn	12.8	0.4	9.8	76.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	100
Osh	30.3	0.7	2.0	66.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	100
Talas	12.3	0.7	5.4	80.6	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	100
Chui	14.9	0.2	3.0	75.7	1.7	0.8	2.8	0.0	0.9	100
Bishkek city	8.4	0.1	2.2	78.7	2.0	4.8	2.3	0.0	1.5	100
Osh city	43.9	1.5	4.8	42.1	2.0	4.5	1.1	0.1	0.0	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>										
Kyrgyz	19.4	0.6	3.4	73.6	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.4	100
Uzbek	29.8	0.4	3.2	64.3	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.2	100
Russian	9.3	0.8	2.6	76.0	3.7	3.3	2.9	0.0	1.5	100
Other	28.7	0.0	3.6	63.0	0.6	0.7	2.9	0.0	0.6	100

It should be noted that the respondents' views are in line with the practice of income distribution: 73% reported that the decision is made jointly and 20% say that the head of household distributes incomes (Figure 6.1).

**Figure 6.1 Proportion of men and women, who answered the question of how the decision on distribution of income should be made in the HH and how it is made in practice (in percentages)**



These results show that the majority of respondents do not distinguish between the real situation and its "ideal" way of how decisions should be made. On the other hand, the distribution mechanism has probably various hidden problems, a detailed description of which needs in-depth analysis using qualitative methods.

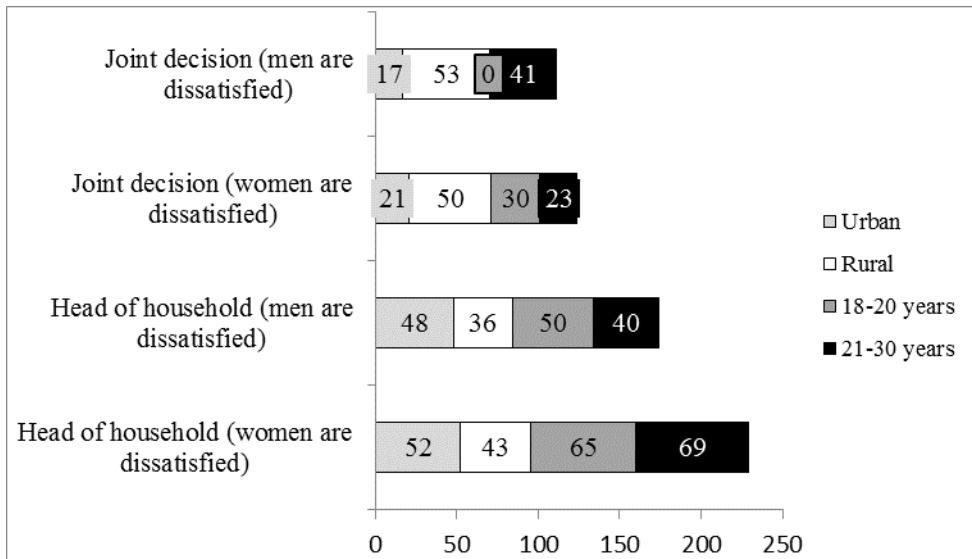
A significant proportion of respondents were dissatisfied with the way income is distributed in their households. In households, where the decision is made jointly, the relative majority is dissatisfied with the distribution of income - 41% of women and 43% of men. At the same time, the proportion of dissatisfied women in urban areas is 21% and men - 17%, while in rural areas this indicator is significantly higher: 50% of women and 53% of men are dissatisfied with the way of income distribution. In cases, when the decision on income distribution is made by the HH head, 47% of women are dissatisfied with the decisions taken on expenditures, as well as 39% of men. The difference between urban and rural women in this case is not so significant: 52% of women in urban and 48% - in rural areas. However, this type of income distribution is less popular among men in urban area (45%) than in rural areas (36%). Thus, rural men are more often dissatisfied in the case, where the decision is taken jointly (53%) than in cases when the decision is made by the head of the household (36%), while nearly half of rural women turned are dissatisfied in both cases. Urban women are much more often satisfied with the joint decision-making than women in rural areas, while the proportion of urban women, who are dissatisfied with decisions taken solely by heads of HH, is higher than among rural women.

It should be noted that the proportion of those dissatisfied with sole decision-making is also high among young people under 20 years old - 65% of young women aged 18-20 years (and it is twice more often than in case of joint decision - 30%) and 50% of young men of the same age, whereas none of young men expressed dissatisfaction with the income distribution in case of joint decision. It is obvious that in families, where young people follow traditional norms more strictly, they have much less opportunities for participation in decision-making on income/revenue and girls have even less chances than boys.

Gender dynamics change dramatically in the following age group - young people aged 20 to 30 years old, when young people create their own families. In this group, the proportion of women dissatisfied with sole decision-making is 70%, and among men - 40%, that is, the proportion of dissatisfied women is increasing, while the number of dissatisfied young men is declining. However, in households, where the decisions are made jointly, the proportion of dissatisfied women is much smaller - 23%, while the proportion

of dissatisfied men is nearly twice bigger - 41%. As young families sometimes have no their own household and often depend on older relatives, young men are probably more displeased with such situation, as they want to participate in the decision making on major expenditures. Women have often access to income as related to housekeeping, which is discussed jointly. Most likely, the topic of common discussion are household maintenance costs and expenses for small children, and since at this age the life of young women in large households is often linked with the above topics, they do not feel so restrained (Figure 6.2).

**Figure 6.2 Proportion of women and men, who are dissatisfied with the fact that the decision on the distribution of income is taken solely by head of the HH or jointly (in %)**



This assumption is evidenced by answers to the question of how they spend the money earned by the respondents (Table 6.2). In general, there are no any serious gender differences here. 24% of women and 26% of men manage their wages themselves, and 68% of women and 69% of men take joint decisions.

There are no any strong gender differences between urban and rural areas in terms of joint management of the money. However, the proportion of urban women, who manage their earnings themselves is almost twice higher than in rural areas (33% and 18%, respectively). The difference between urban and rural men is less significant: 30% of urban respondents spend their earnings themselves, as well as 24% of men in rural area. The decision on how to spend money earned by women is also influenced by other relatives: in 9% of cases in rural areas and 6% - in urban areas. Thus, rural women obviously have less opportunities to manage their earnings than men and obviously less than women in urban areas.

The least autonomy in the decision on how to spend earned money have women and men aged 18-20 years (14% and 6%, respectively). In addition, women in this age group are most dependent on other relatives compared with women in older age groups.

Women and men with higher levels of education and welfare depend less on opinions of other relatives and more often decide on their own, how to spend their earnings.

**Table 6.2 Who usually decides in the household how to spend money earned by the respondents**

Proportion of the responses of men and women to the question on who decides how their earnings will be spent, with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Who usually decides how the money will be spent:									
	Earned by women					Earned by men				
	Women	Other members of the HH	Jointly with HH members	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	Men	Other members of the HH	Jointly with HH members	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	24.1	7.9	67.9	0.1	100	26.0	5.0	69.0	0.1	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	33.2	5.7	61.2	0.0	100	29.7	5.0	65.3	0.0	100
Rural	18.0	9.4	72.4	0.1	100	24.2	4.9	70.8	0.1	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	14.1	18.0	67.8	0.0	100	15.3	6.7	78.1	0.0	100
21-30	18.2	9.3	72.5	0.0	100	21.7	6.6	71.7	0.0	100
31-40	21.8	9.7	68.5	0.0	100	24.4	5.2	70.1	0.3	100
41-50	24.5	7.0	68.3	0.2	100	29.9	3.9	66.2	0.0	100
51-60	26.1	5.2	68.5	0.2	100	27.8	2.0	70.2	0.0	100
61-70	36.5	3.3	60.2	0.0	100	33.6	6.2	60.2	0.0	100
70+	37.7	6.1	56.2	0.0	100	28.2	9.2	62.6	0.0	100
<b>Level of education</b>										
No education	29.8	10.7	59.5	0.0	100	33.0	8.6	58.4	0.0	100
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	18.7	10.6	70.5	0.2	100	24.8	4.4	70.7	0.2	100
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	28.7	3.9	67.4	0.0	100	25.5	5.5	69.0	0.0	100
General secondary (grades 10-11)	26.1	6.8	67.0	0.0	100	26.4	4.3	69.2	0.0	100
Vocational primary/secondary										
Incomplete higher	17.2	12.2	70.6	0.0	100	24.1	6.1	69.5	0.3	100
Higher	19.5	10.3	70.2	0.0	100	27.2	7.4	65.4	0.0	100
<b>Level of welfare</b>										
Poorest	15.7	6.2	78.1	0.0	100	19.9	4.6	75.5	0.0	100
Second	28.3	5.9	65.5	0.4	100	26.2	3.2	70.6	0.0	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>										
Kyrgyz	40.8	4.2	55.0	0.0	100	35.2	2.3	62.5	0.0	100
Uzbek	20.7	7.6	71.7	0.0	100	24.1	4.7	71.1	0.1	100
Russian	22.0	12.7	65.0	0.3	100	21.9	7.4	70.7	0.0	100
Other	34.3	10.2	55.6	0.0	100	39.9	2.7	57.4	0.0	100

Distribution of roles at the level of a nuclear family suggests that women often live in families where husbands earn more (43%). Wives of 38% of men earn more money. Approximately equal income with their spouses have 14% of women and 21% of men. Thus, both men and women are aware of earnings of their spouses, although this proportion among men (78%) is slightly lower, than among women (86%), and they often find it difficult to answer this question (Table 6.3).

**Table 6.3 Size of the earnings of spouses**

Proportion of married women and men, who know salary size of their spouse/partner, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Number of men in marriage	Wife/Husband earns more	Size of earnings of spouses		Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
			The spouses have equal income	Other		
<b>Total</b>	4,230	38.9	17.0	26.8	17.4	100
<b>Gender</b>						
Women	2,306	43.3	13.8	29.2	13.7	100
Men	1,924	33.7	20.7	24.0	21.7	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	1,513	36.3	17.9	15.4	30.4	100
Rural	2,717	40.0	16.5	32.0	11.4	100
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	518	41.3	17.1	17.1	24.5	100
Jalal-Abad	573	39.2	18.6	30.8	11.4	100
Issyk-Kul	467	66.0	19.2	12.3	2.5	100
Naryn	515	42.6	19.6	34.2	3.5	100
Osh	520	37.0	8.3	48.1	6.6	100
Talas	490	49.0	46.1	2.9	2.1	100
Chui	437	34.1	16.3	30.5	19.1	100
Bishkek city	322	26.5	18.3	1.7	53.5	100
Osh city	388	33.9	14.7	30.5	20.9	100
<b>Age, years</b>						
18-20	60	38.3	2.5	45.2	14.0	100
21-30	772	37.1	10.0	33.7	19.2	100
31-40	1,155	40.5	17.0	25.5	17.0	100
41-50	1,047	44.3	17.3	23.2	15.2	100
51-60	760	38.6	19.7	24.3	17.5	100
61-70	338	28.6	31.1	18.8	21.5	100
70+	98	18.5	36.1	29.3	16.1	100
<b>Level of education</b>						
No education	249	27.7	18.1	32.7	21.5	100
Primary School (Grades 1-4)	1,991	40.0	13.5	32.6	13.9	100
Basic general (Grades 5-9)	993	38.4	20.6	21.1	19.9	100
General secondary (grades 10-11)	997	40.1	20.2	18.6	21.0	100
Vocational primary / secondary						
Incomplete higher	1,140	32.2	13.9	37.0	16.8	100
Higher	966	40.4	15.5	30.2	14.0	100
<b>Level of welfare</b>						
Poorest	809	40.3	18.1	23.7	17.8	100
Second	757	41.7	19.7	17.4	21.1	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	3,228	39.4	17.7	27.3	15.6	100
Uzbek	568	41.5	11.1	33.0	14.3	100
Russian	237	32.7	22.6	12.7	32.0	100
Other	197	32.4	17.1	20.6	29.9	100

Overall, the results suggest that in many households, especially in rural areas, the traditional scheme of gender roles distribution is still present, where women play a subordinated role and men are dissatisfied, when their access to decision-making is limited.

This conclusion is confirmed by the attitude towards the stereotypical statements that relate to gender roles (Table 6.4). A significant proportion (about 80%) of men and women, both in the rural and urban areas, believe that "Woman should take care of home and children, while a man should earn".

**Table 6.4 Opinions of women and men on distribution of gender roles in working sphere**

Proportion of men and women, who agreed with the below statements on gender roles distribution in employment in the total number of women and men in this category with breakdown by type of settlement and level of educational attainment												
	The number of women and men	The woman in the family should be responsible for small daily purchases and man should take decisions on major expenditures	A woman can not stay long at work, because she has household duties	Wife's career is less important than career of her husband	A woman, who delivered a child, must quit her and thoughts about career	Woman should take care of the house and children, and man should earn	Wife should work equally with her husband to support the family	A real woman is willing to do housekeeping - it is a pleasure for her	Housekeeping is a hard work, which the couple must split evenly	Woman's works has negative impact on the family and children	If a child earns money, he/she can spend as he/she wants	Men are better leaders than women
Total	4,230	81.2	81.1	55.3	65.6	81.1	61.8	84.6	79.4	39.9	44.3	78.0
<b>Sex</b>												
Women	2,306	78.3	77.8	51.2	61.0	79.5	63.4	84.1	80.7	37.7	42.6	74.0
Men	1,924	84.9	85.2	60.5	71.5	83.3	59.9	85.2	77.6	42.8	46.4	83.1
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
<i>Urban</i>												
Women	853	66.7	68.3	41.4	50.4	76.6	60.9	82.1	83.7	30.7	43.2	67.3
Men	660	78.1	78.1	53.1	60.6	81.6	57.5	85.3	78.9	35.4	41.2	77.5
<i>Rural</i>												
Women	1,453	85.4	83.7	57.2	67.5	81.2	65.0	85.3	78.9	42.0	42.2	78.1
Men	1,264	88.2	88.6	64.1	76.9	84.0	61.1	85.1	77.0	46.4	48.9	85.9
<b>Level of education</b>												
<i>Women</i>												
Basic general (including primary)	119	89.0	84.3	61.9	79.7	87.4	62.8	90.6	78.7	52.6	36.6	78.2
Secondary general	1,086	84.2	82.9	57.5	66.6	82.5	64.3	86.7	78.4	43.3	42.7	79.0
Primary and secondary vocational	536	71.1	73.3	46.6	56.2	75.5	60.9	80.1	82.5	31.8	40.8	65.4
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	565	70.5	70.4	40.1	48.4	74.8	64.2	80.7	84.1	27.6	46.2	71.4
<i>Men</i>												
Basic general (including primary)	130	88.0	87.2	62.8	77.1	87.4	51.1	87.5	78.9	40.2	50.9	82.3
Secondary general	905	85.5	89.6	67.3	75.7	85.3	59.9	86.2	73.4	49.7	47.8	86.9
Primary and secondary vocational	457	87.7	81.4	56.8	69.7	84.9	61.5	83.7	80.3	39.2	40.4	79.3
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	432	79.8	78.9	49.3	62.6	76.0	61.8	83.5	83.2	33.2	47.3	79.4

At the same time, more than half of respondents (51% of women and 61% of men) believe that "wife's career is less important than career of her husband," and even less of the respondents agree that "Woman's work has negative impact on family and children", including 38% of women and men - 43%. There are practically no gender differences among the majority of respondents, who agree that: "A real woman is willing do housekeeping - it is a pleasure for her": 84% of the interviewed women and 85% of men. At the same time, only 63% of women and 60% of men agree that "The wife should work equally with her husband to support the family".

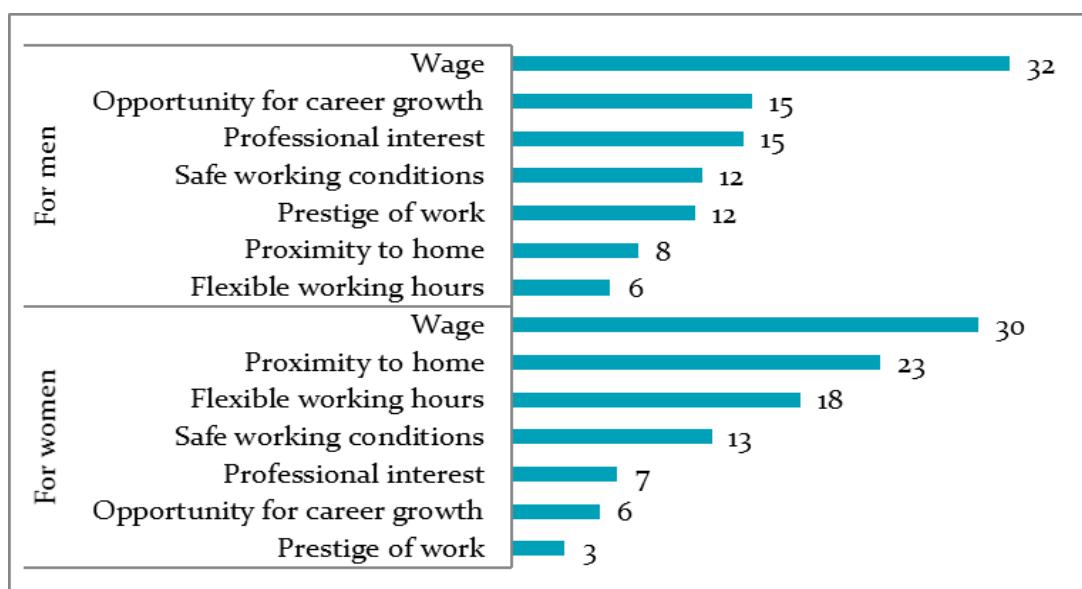
High variability in the attitude towards gender-stereotyped statements depending on the location and level of education of women and men should be noted. Residents of rural areas, as well as respondents with lower education, regardless of gender or other characteristics, are more exposed to gender stereotypes about gender roles distribution in labor than urban residents and respondents with higher levels of education. The biggest difference (16 percentage points in favor of rural respondents) was in responses to the following statements: "Woman should be responsible for small daily purchases and man should take decisions on major expenditures" and "A woman, who has delivered a child, must quit her job and thoughts about career".

This traditional opinion about women's roles is also due to poor awareness among women and men about women's rights. Both men and women are not well aware of their property and labor rights. About 70% of men and women believe that without registration with the ORCA, women have no right to property acquired jointly by spouses during their marriage. Only 28% of respondents are aware that the law of the Kyrgyz Republic provides men with the paternity leave until the child becomes 3 years old.

Data in Figure 6.3 and Table 6.5 show that key factors in choosing a job by men are: salary (32%), career opportunities and professional interest (15% each), safe work conditions and prestige of the work (12% each). The following are important for women, when choosing a job: salary (30%), proximity to home (23%), flexible working hours (18%) and safe work conditions (13%). The following two factors are important for both women and men: wages and safe work conditions.

Thus, it is clear that women largely prefer jobs that would allow them to spend less time on transportation and be able to combine it with the household duties. Women extremely rare care for career growth and prestige. In contrast, men are more than women aim at career growth, interest and prestige of work.

**Figure 6.3 Criteria when choosing a job by men and women (in%)**



In regional breakdown, the highest proportion of men aimed at career growth (21%) are in Bishkek. Among women, career opportunities are of most interest for young women aged 18-30 years and women of older generation aged 61-70 years (up to 7%) compared to middle-aged women, most of whom have family responsibilities and take care of children. In contrast, men in all age groups are interested in career growth.

**Table 6.5 Three main factors in choosing a job by women and men**

Proportion of women and men, who have chosen three most important factors, when choosing a job with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age group, education level, welfare and nationality

	Women							Men								
	Salary/ wage	Opportun- ity for career growth	Flexible working hours	Proxi- mity to home	Safe work conditions	Professio- nal inter- est	Prestige of work	Total	Salary /wage	Oppor- tunity for career growth	Flexible working hours	Proximit y to home	Safe work condi- tions	Professiona l interest	Prestige of work	Total
Total	29.7	5.6	18.4	23.5	12.8	6.7	3.4	100	31.7	15.3	6.3	8.0	12.1	14.8	11.7	100
<b>Sex</b>																
Women	30.0	5.6	18.0	22.9	12.9	6.9	3.6	100	31.8	15.3	6.2	8.0	12.0	14.8	11.9	100
Men	29.3	5.6	18.8	24.2	12.6	6.5	3.1	100	31.5	15.3	6.4	8.1	12.3	14.8	11.5	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	29.4	6.4	19.4	19.4	13.5	8.0	3.8	100	32.2	18.6	4.7	5.2	10.1	16.2	13.1	100
Rural	29.9	5.1	17.8	25.7	12.3	6.0	3.1	100	31.4	13.5	7.2	9.7	13.3	14.0	11.0	100
<b>Region</b>																
Batken	30.3	1.6	15.8	28.0	9.4	8.2	6.7	100	32.2	12.0	5.7	7.1	13.2	19.2	10.6	100
Jalal-Abad	29.7	4.0	19.0	28.2	15.1	2.6	1.5	100	31.3	15.8	9.2	13.0	13.7	7.7	9.2	100
Issyk-Kul	32.4	6.2	21.1	21.9	6.9	8.4	3.2	100	31.6	10.0	5.5	10.1	16.7	14.3	11.9	100
Naryn	32.4	7.2	18.5	19.3	11.7	6.1	4.8	100	32.2	13.2	8.2	7.8	11.2	12.9	14.5	100
Osh	29.4	4.1	17.0	27.7	11.5	7.5	2.7	100	32.3	11.3	8.4	9.9	13.2	15.8	9.1	100
Talas	32.5	3.3	15.9	28.9	8.1	6.9	4.4	100	32.5	15.1	3.1	3.9	12.0	16.7	16.8	100
Chui	28.3	8.9	16.1	21.0	16.4	5.5	3.7	100	29.7	18.1	4.8	7.2	10.7	16.4	13.0	100
Bishkek city	28.5	7.4	21.5	15.7	14.4	8.6	3.7	100	32.6	21.3	3.0	2.5	7.9	17.9	14.9	100
Osh city	29.3	6.2	19.3	17.6	11.5	11.8	4.3	100	31.7	16.0	6.3	5.6	13.3	15.6	11.5	100
<b>Age, years</b>																
18-20	29.0	5.6	18.0	23.0	14.6	5.3	4.4	100	31.5	16.3	5.1	9.0	14.7	13.6	9.9	100
21-30	28.7	6.6	18.8	22.8	12.0	7.3	3.7	100	31.9	16.7	6.7	7.4	10.9	15.2	11.2	100
31-40	29.7	5.5	18.0	23.8	13.7	6.7	2.7	100	32.0	15.3	6.4	8.1	12.1	14.9	11.3	100
41-50	29.8	5.5	18.7	23.7	12.1	6.8	3.3	100	31.4	15.0	6.2	8.5	12.0	15.2	11.7	100
51-60	30.9	4.6	18.6	24.1	12.3	6.4	3.0	100	31.6	14.5	6.3	8.1	12.7	14.7	12.1	100
61-70	30.0	6.4	17.8	22.8	13.0	6.1	3.9	100	31.6	13.4	5.7	8.3	11.9	14.7	14.4	100
70+	30.7	2.7	17.2	23.7	13.9	7.5	4.2	100	31.4	14.1	6.9	7.5	14.1	13.1	12.9	100

The results of the survey show poor awareness of both women and men about the right to paternity leave under the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic until the child becomes 3 years of age. Thus, according to Table 6.6, only 29% of the interviewed women and 28% of men were confident about this right. The lowest awareness was among residents of the Jalal-Abad region - only 8% of surveyed population. It can be stated that the people throughout the country are not well aware about this right - only 28% of respondents on average in the country.

Men and women are to equal extent aware about the right of women with permanent job in private sector to maternity leave (75% of the interviewed men and 74% of women).

Majority of surveyed men and women did not agree with the statement that "a spouse has sole right to dispose of the property, because it is registered in his/her name". Only 36% of women and 39% of men agreed with this statement.

69% of women and 73% of men are sure that under the law women have no right to claim joint property, if marriage has not been officially registered.

65% of women and 67% of men believe that under the law an employee has no right to claim his/her salary through the court, if he/she has no written labor agreement. These figures raise concern and may indicate that people do not believe in the efficiency of the labor legislation in defending their labor rights.

**Table 6.6 Awareness of women and men about certain property and labor rights**

Proportion of women and men, who agree with the below statements with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Statements				
	Under the law, women have no right to claim joint property, if marriage has not been officially registered	In case of officially registered marriage, a spouse has sole right to the property, because it is registered in his/her name	Under the law, women with permanent job in private sector have the right to maternity leave	Under the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic, men have the right to paternity leave until the child becomes 3 years of age	Under the law an employee has no right to claim his/her salary through the court, if he/she has no written labor agreement
Total	70.7	37.3	74.3	28.3	65.7
<b>Sex</b>					
Women	69.0	36.3	74.2	28.6	64.7
Men	72.8	38.6	74.5	27.9	66.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	68.0	33.9	72.3	30.1	66.8
Rural	72.2	39.2	75.5	27.2	65.0
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	70.2	34.8	58.8	25.1	62.1
Jalal-Abad	82.3	27.0	86.5	7.7	60.7
Issyk-Kul	59.6	29.4	78.2	37.1	51.4
Naryn	51.4	43.4	69.2	37.0	63.8
Osh	73.3	51.0	83.0	44.7	75.2
Talas	98.4	43.1	70.8	25.9	68.6
Chui	63.4	42.6	59.8	17.2	60.8
Bishkek city	64.3	23.3	69.0	33.9	72.0
Osh city	76.6	61.3	84.6	38.7	66.3
<b>Age, years</b>					
18-20	69.0	42.3	70.8	25.7	58.3
21-30	70.5	38.6	75.3	29.1	65.6
31-40	70.6	35.0	77.0	28.2	64.8
41-50	72.0	36.1	74.3	28.7	68.6
51-60	70.6	37.5	73.7	27.4	67.4
61-70	71.5	35.7	73.8	28.8	65.6
70+	68.2	41.0	65.9	27.5	61.9
<b>Level of education</b>					
Basic general (including primary)	70.0	41.8	68.3	24.7	56.0
Secondary general	73.7	38.8	76.7	25.9	64.9
Primary and secondary vocational	66.2	35.6	72.4	31.2	66.3

Proportion of women and men, who agree with the below statements with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity					
	Statements				
	Under the law, women have no right to claim joint property, if marriage has not been officially registered	In case of officially registered marriage, a spouse has sole right to the property, because it is registered in his/her name	Under the law, women with permanent job in private sector have the right to maternity leave	Under the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic, men have the right to paternity leave until the child becomes 3 years of age	Under the law an employee has no right to claim his/her salary through the court, if he/she has no written labor agreement
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	69.5	34.5	73.8	31.3	70.2
<b>Welfare level</b>					
Poorest	73.2	43.3	74.4	28.5	64.7
Second	71.7	38.2	75.7	25.9	67.1
Average	75.5	37.4	76.1	28.6	69.3
Fourth	65.4	31.8	73.2	27.6	62.3
Richest	65.7	33.2	71.3	31.5	64.9
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Kyrgyz	70.2	36.4	74.4	27.1	65.7
Uzbek	79.2	49.7	82.8	30.9	70.6
Russian	65.1	25.6	67.5	33.4	62.5
Other	64.4	35.3	63.1	28.4	57.7

Thus, data show that more than half of the respondents perceive the role of women within the traditional model. At the same time, given that a significant part of the working-age women are working, it can be stated that women have double workload combining work in the public sphere and family. At the same time, women participate in decision-making in their household to a limited extent.

## 6.2 MICROLOANS

The following relevant topics were covered by the survey: access to and use of microloans by both women and men, for whom loans make life easier or vice versa, and the impact of microloan on gender equality.

In modern conditions access to microloans is a kind of prerequisite for future stabilization of macroeconomic development of the country. Microloans support entrepreneurship, which is a factor in strengthening economic potential of the country addressing, first of all, the problem of unemployment.

Microloans are offered to the population with low incomes, so that they could improve their standard of living, create jobs and build up their assets, both in business and in households. The main recipients of microloans are rural residents. Unemployment is forcing them to receive loans. Loans are mainly intended for agricultural activities: cultivation of vegetables, fruit, livestock breeding, seed production and processing of harvest.

However, along with the willingness to obtain loans, there is a downside – timely repayment of loans. Various reasons emerge in the course of life, due to which borrowers fail to repay their loans: unforeseen circumstances, inappropriate allocation of funds and the lack of a sales market. It is not so difficult to obtain a loan, but it is difficult to get profit and repay the loan. Another reason, why borrowers have problems with loan repayment is the lack of proper financial skills and knowledge. It is clear that against this background women, to a greater extent than men, would not be able to develop their business.

As results of the survey show (Tables 6.6 and 6.7), 21.6% of the interviewed women and 26.0% of men received loans. At the same time, rural women received loans more often (25%) than urban women (16%). The situation is similar among men (30% and 17%, respectively).

On average, women received two loans over the past five years, while men - slightly less (1.8 loans). In regional breakdown, residents of the Chui region (2.4 loans) are the most frequent borrowers, followed by residents of Bishkek (1.5 loans).

The average size of the latest loan is smaller for women than men, and amounted to approximately 93,000 soms, whereas for men it was 110,000 soms.

92% of women and 91% of men used loans to the intended purpose.

The 69% of women and 64% of men are positive about loans.

**Table 6.7 Experience of obtaining loans and credit history of women**

	Proportion of women, who received loans, %	The average number of loans received by women over the past five years	The average size of the latest loan, thousand som	Proportion of loans used to the intended purpose	Proportion of women, who are positive about loans
Total	21.6	2.0	92.9	91.9	69.0
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	16.1	1.8	98.1	90.5	75.2
Rural	25.1	2.1	90.9	92.5	66.5
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	17.8	2.0	80.5	85.2	83.2
Jalal-Abad	26.1	1.7	132.5	92.0	72.7
Issyk-Kul	26.7	2.1	78.8	89.7	78.9
Naryn	31.3	2.3	84.6	95.5	48.2
Osh	18.3	2.0	70.7	97.0	64.1
Talas	53.3	2.3	104.1	94.1	43.3
Chui	25.9	2.4	102.2	90.2	71.2
Bishkek city	11.4	1.5	51.7	94.6	84.7
Osh city	12.3	1.6	79.5	73.1	56.3
<b>Age, years</b>					
18-20	11.8	1.8	54.8	100	81.1
21-30	17.3	2.0	66.8	88.8	71.4
31-40	21.9	1.8	114.9	90.6	67.8
41-50	29.5	1.9	85.6	95.0	66.6
51-60	28.2	2.1	124.5	91.3	71.1
61-70	18.9	2.1	75.9	96.2	70.8
70+	10.3	2.9	52.2	78.3	41.7
<b>Level of education</b>					
Basic general (including primary)	10.4	2.3	62.9	87.7	63.6
Secondary general	22.6	1.9	85.8	92.6	66.3
Primary and secondary vocational	22.7	2.1	88.4	92.9	64.3
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	23.1	2.0	114.6	90.7	78.8
<b>Welfare level</b>					
Poorest	20.2	2.1	65.6	90.6	55.6
Second	22.0	2.1	104.5	89.9	62.5
Average	25.9	1.7	91.2	96.1	76.5
Fourth	21.5	2.3	91.0	93.0	71.9
Richest	18.6	1.6	123.7	89.5	85.1
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Kyrgyz	26.7	2.0	97.2	91.7	68.9
Uzbek	12.5	1.8	54.0	94.4	65.5
Russian	7.9	1.8	67.3	91.1	74.6
Other	5.1	2.5	118.8	94.6	78.0

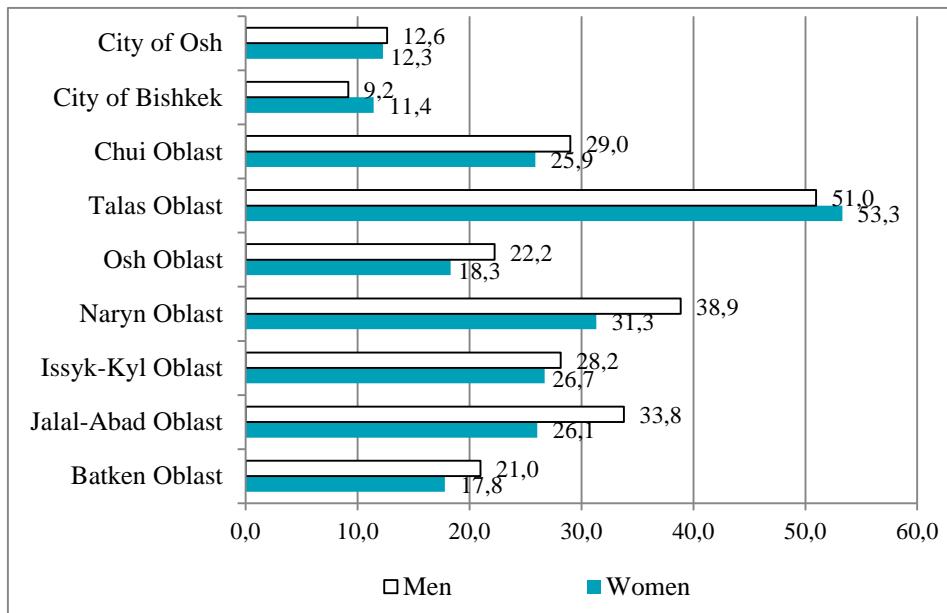
**Table 6.8 Experience of obtaining loans and credit history of men**

Proportion of men, who received loans / microloan from the bank, micro-lending company or individuals, pawnshop, and credit history with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Proportion of men, who received loans, %	The average number of loans received by men over the past five years	The average size of the latest loan, thousand som	Proportion of loans used to the intended purpose	Proportion of men, who are positive about loans
Total	25.5	1.8	109.8	91.4	63.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	17.1	1.7	114.5	90.6	67.6
Rural	29.6	1.9	108.5	91.7	62.7
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	21.0	1.8	132.5	87.2	82.7
Jalal-Abad	33.8	1.6	118.5	90.8	65.0
Issyk-Kul	28.2	2.0	116.9	93.0	70.2
Naryn	38.9	2.0	91.3	89.5	56.7
Osh	22.2	1.6	84.4	98.9	57.5
Talas	51.0	2.0	110.6	91.3	44.5
Chui	29.0	2.4	134.6	90.5	65.0
Bishkek city	9.2	1.5	61.9	82.3	78.0
Osh city	12.6	1.8	105.8	82.3	69.9
<b>Age, years</b>					
18-20	14.2	1.3	51.3	87.6	38.3
21-30	19.9	2.1	95.9	91.9	67.8
31-40	24.9	1.7	110.5	88.8	69.3
41-50	33.4	2.0	87.3	93.7	68.2
51-60	34.7	1.8	139.5	90.5	54.1
61-70	24.1	1.6	158.6	93.1	66.2
70+	5.2	2.3	49.7	100	73.3
<b>Level of education</b>					
Basic general (including primary)	15.8	1.7	100.4	87.8	44.9
Secondary general	27.2	1.8	92.5	92.9	66.1
Primary and secondary vocational	29.0	1.8	119.8	89.1	60.5
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	22.3	1.9	143.0	91.6	67.0
<b>Welfare level</b>					
Poorest	24.3	1.8	79.7	89.8	63.3
Second	29.8	1.8	89.6	94.0	59.4
Average	23.1	1.8	118.9	92.5	68.6
Fourth	23.2	2.1	129.1	84.8	54.2
Richest	26.8	1.6	163.8	95.4	76.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Kyrgyz	29.4	1.9	117.7	91.2	64.5
Uzbek	17.4	1.6	75.5	90.5	62.7
Russian	4.2	2.1	45.9	94.7	80.8
Other	20.4	1.5	62.2	95.3	50.3

Distribution of loan recipients by regions is uneven (Figure 6.4). The largest proportion of men and women, who have extensive experience of obtaining loans (microloans) in a bank, microlending company or borrow at interest from individuals, in a pawnshop was in Talas (51% of men and 53% of women), Naryn (39 and 31%, respectively), Jalalabad (34 and 26%), Chui (29 and 26%) and Issyk-Kul regions (28 and 27%, respectively).

**Figure 6.4 Distribution of men and women, who received loans with breakdown by regions (in %)**



In answers to the question, who influenced on the decision to obtain the latest loan, for 34% of the interviewed rural women - their husbands, and joint decision was made by both spouses in 31% of cases, while 16% of rural woman decided themselves (Table 6.9). At the same time, the proportion of urban women, who made decision on their own is twice more (35%); husbands influenced on the decision of 28% of urban women and joint decision was made by 24% of urban women. This tendency indicates that urban women are more independent in the loan related decisions than rural women, who are much influenced by their husbands and his relatives (4 and 8%, respectively) in addition to woman's relatives (1 and 6%, respectively).

In the regional breakdown, the highest proportion of women, who make loan related decisions is in the Osh (50%) and Bishkek cities (42%), and is the lowest is in the Jalal-Abad and Naryn regions (17% in each region).

Responses of men regarding the decision to obtain the latest loan show that the decision is mainly made jointly by both spouses (37%). 31% of urban and 24% of rural men make decisions on their own.

Men from the Naryn (43%) and Talas (45%) regions relied more on their spouse in making decisions.

**Table 6.9 Initiative in obtaining loans by women and men**

Proportion of women and men, who initiated obtaining a loan in the total number of the interviewed recipients of loans / microloans from the bank, microlending company or individuals and pawnshops, with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age group and level of education

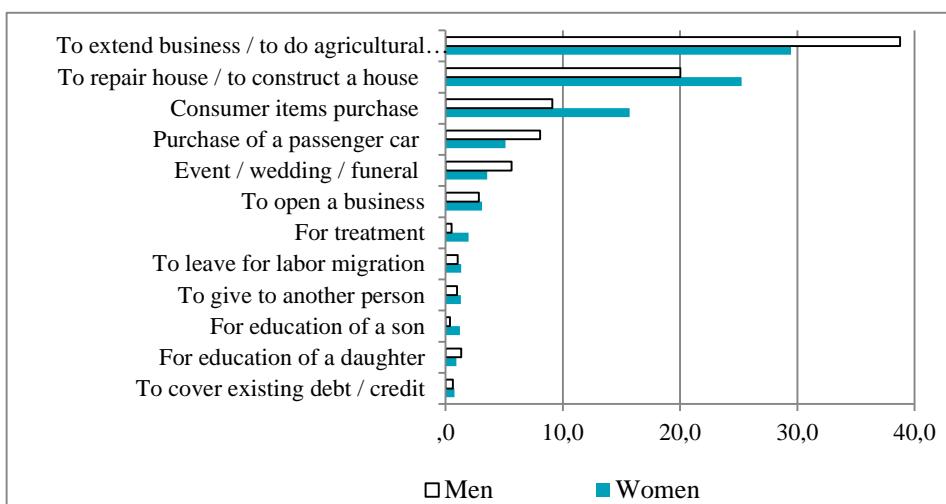
	Interviewed Women - Who decided to obtain the latest loan							Interviewed Men - Who decided to obtain the latest loan								
	The woman	Spouse/ Partner	Relatives of the woman	Relatives of the spouse / partner	Jointly with the spouse / partner	Other	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	The man	Spouse/ Partner	Relatives of the man	Relatives of the spouse / partner	Jointly with the spouse/ partner	Other	Does not want to answer/ Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	21.8	32.2	4.6	7.2	29.2	2.2	2.8	100	25.2	21.8	4.4	6.6	36.5	3.1	2.4	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	35.4	28.3	1.4	4.2	24.2	2.5	4.1	100	30.5	19.0	7.1	0.4	36.9	2.7	3.3	100
Rural	16.4	33.8	5.9	8.4	31.3	2.0	2.3	100	23.6	22.6	3.7	8.4	36.4	3.2	2.1	100
<b>Region</b>																
Batken	22.2	53.8	0.9	13.8	6.3	0.0	3.1	100	25.5	21.0	3.6	12.6	33.9	3.5	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	17.1	48.7	6.1	9.1	17.0	1.3	0.7	100	25.4	30.4	6.8	11.5	23.0	0.0	2.9	100
Issyk-Kul	19.6	23.4	7.8	1.5	47.6	0.0	0.0	100	25.1	13.6	4.6	4.2	52.5	0.0	0.0	100
Naryn	17.1	37.5	0.0	4.5	28.3	3.2	9.4	100	9.3	43.1	0.0	6.8	26.4	5.4	9.0	100
Osh	26.3	25.9	7.3	14.3	22.3	0.0	3.7	100	39.6	14.2	7.8	6.9	27.9	1.8	1.9	100
Talas	12.9	37.7	4.2	9.4	32.0	3.3	0.5	100	5.5	45.3	4.2	8.3	28.1	5.8	2.8	100
Chui	14.9	19.4	4.7	0.0	52.0	6.1	2.9	100	22.1	4.4	1.6	0.0	62.0	9.8	0.0	100
Bishkek city	41.9	22.5	0.0	4.8	24.1	2.6	4.1	100	32.7	12.5	0.0	0.0	54.9	0.0	0.0	100
Osh city	49.9	17.9	2.3	9.1	10.4	0.0	10.4	100	36.6	13.7	0.0	0.0	33.7	0.0	16.1	100
<b>Age, years</b>																
18-20	0.0	5.4	0.0	26.0	50.5	15.4	2.6	100	22.9	2.8	13.3	13.4	17.8	17.4	12.4	100
21-30	9.1	39.8	7.2	9.1	30.1	1.6	3.1	100	12.9	14.5	12.9	7.3	40.4	10.4	1.6	100
31-40	18.8	37.4	4.5	3.9	31.2	0.0	4.2	100	27.6	26.2	2.9	5.1	36.0	0.3	1.9	100
41-50	28.2	32.0	1.9	6.7	27.5	1.8	1.9	100	33.5	28.6	2.2	2.2	29.5	1.1	3.0	100
51-60	26.4	32.9	5.9	5.9	26.3	0.8	1.8	100	25.1	20.2	1.2	8.7	42.8	0.4	1.6	100
61-70	31.1	15.4	4.9	7.3	31.4	9.5	0.5	100	22.7	21.4	1.3	11.7	42.0	0.0	0.9	100
70+	55.6	8.3	7.6	4.5	10.2	0.0	13.7	100	35.5	16.1	0.0	20.9	18.4	0.0	9.1	100
<b>Level of education</b>																
Basic general (including primary)	52.4	20.7	11.9	2.5	0.0	4.9	7.6	100	23.9	23.0	10.8	15.7	18.9	0.0	7.6	100
Secondary general	16.5	36.1	4.0	10.6	28.0	1.7	3.1	100	25.2	24.9	5.4	8.8	30.8	2.6	2.3	100
Primary and secondary vocational	28.0	30.5	2.4	4.6	30.4	3.2	0.8	100	26.2	16.7	1.0	1.0	49.2	2.8	3.0	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	20.4	28.8	6.5	4.2	35.2	1.5	3.4	100	23.9	20.1	4.4	5.5	40.1	5.3	0.6	100

Table 6.10 and Figure 6.5 describe purpose of the latest loans obtained by men and women. In general, men and women are forced to borrow money for addressing the same problems: to expand business or for agricultural works (34%), for the house repair / construction (23%), for buying important items for consumption (12%), for buying a vehicle (7%), for a family event - anniversary / wedding / funeral (5%), as well as for other needs, such as children's education, repayment of previous loans, and others.

Women more often than men receive loans for house repair / construction (30% vs. 39%, respectively) and for the purchase of items for consumption (16% vs. 9%, respectively). In contrast, men more often than women receive loans for buying a vehicle (8% vs. 5%) and family rituals, such as weddings and funerals (7% vs. 4%). There were practically no any differences in other purposes of obtaining loans.

#### **Figure 6.5 Purpose of the latest loan**

*(Proportion of women and men, who reported about the purpose of obtaining a loan)*



Urban and rural populations received loans for different purposes – rural women received loans for business expansion / agricultural work almost 3 times more often (39% vs. 13%) than urban women, while rural men received loans for the same purposes 1.6 times more often than urban men (42 versus 26%). In contrast, urban respondents often take loans for the repair / construction of houses (32% of urban women and 13% of rural women; 28% of urban men and 18% of rural men), as well as for buying consumer goods (– 24% of urban women and 13% of rural women; 15% of urban men and 8% of rural men).

There are also some regional differences. For example, the Osh city has the highest proportion of respondents, who take loans for starting a business (26%) and family events (18%), while in Bishkek - for buying a car (11%), consumer goods (21%) and repair / construction of a house (40%), Osh and Batken regions - consumer loans (19 and 21%, respectively), Jalal-Abad and Issyk-Kul regions – for business expansion (48 and 47%, respectively), and Chui region - for buying a car (15%).

**Table 6.10 Purpose of the latest loan**

	Proportion of women and men with breakdown by the purpose of the latest loan, settlement type, region, age, education, welfare and nationality													
	To start a business	To expand business / agricultural works / purchase of machinery, seeds, etc.	To purchase a passenger car	Buy things for consumption (clothing, household appliances, furniture, jewelry, etc.)	for house repair / construction	To send in labor migration one of the HH members	For events with relatives/friends (celebration, wedding, funeral)	For education of a son	For education of a daughter	For treatment	To repay existing debt / loan	To give to another person	Other	Total
<b>Women</b>														
Total	3.1	29.5	5.1	15.7	25.2	1.3	3.6	1.2	0.9	2.0	0.8	1.3	10.4	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	6.2	13.2	4.7	23.7	32.1	1.6	4.9	1.2	0.7	2.2	1.3	2.4	5.8	100
Rural	1.9	35.9	5.2	12.5	22.5	1.2	3.0	1.2	1.0	1.9	0.5	0.9	12.2	100
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	4.6	32.3	4.5	20.0	19.8	2.0	1.3	3.3	1.6	6.8	0.0	0.0	3.6	100
Jalal-Abad	1.8	42.8	0.7	13.8	19.5	3.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	2.6	0.0	1.3	13.2	100
Issyk-Kul	1.8	42.0	2.8	11.7	28.9	1.8	3.1	1.3	1.9	1.5	0.9	0.8	1.5	100
Naryn	1.6	11.5	1.9	4.6	25.8	0.0	6.4	2.0	0.7	9.6	0.0	0.8	35.0	100
Osh	2.1	29.4	0.0	27.5	25.5	1.2	2.3	2.0	2.7	0.9	0.8	4.4	1.3	100
Talas	1.2	30.2	6.7	10.1	23.5	2.1	4.1	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.5	0.0	17.0	100
Chui	2.8	27.0	16.4	3.7	25.3	0.0	2.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.9	18.7	100
Bishkek city	3.7	6.7	3.8	36.5	38.5	0.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	100
Osh city	29.2	15.4	6.2	9.1	23.2	0.0	16.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	0.0	42.2	0.0	8.5	29.4	0.0	15.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	2.6	100
21-30	3.5	34.1	6.1	18.7	12.6	0.8	3.3	0.3	0.4	2.8	0.4	1.1	15.9	100
31-40	3.5	24.1	4.8	22.1	25.6	0.0	3.5	2.1	0.5	0.6	1.4	1.2	10.4	100
41-50	3.8	34.0	2.4	10.3	29.0	0.8	2.8	1.2	2.6	3.1	0.7	2.1	7.3	100
51-60	2.7	22.3	7.4	15.8	28.6	4.4	2.6	2.0	0.2	1.3	0.6	0.0	12.0	100
61-70	.5	27.2	9.8	4.7	36.2	1.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	4.0	8.7	100
70+	4.3	32.3	3.0	35.4	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	2.7	36.5	14.5	23.3	5.9	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	7.4	100
Secondary general	3.0	35.1	1.5	17.4	23.5	2.1	1.9	0.8	1.3	2.1	0.5	2.2	8.5	100
Primary and secondary vocational	4.2	21.5	8.9	15.3	24.7	0.7	5.6	1.7	0.6	0.9	0.0	1.2	14.6	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	2.4	25.7	6.3	11.8	32.0	0.7	4.4	1.6	0.6	2.2	2.0	0.0	10.5	100
<b>Welfare level</b>														
Poorest	1.9	35.8	5.4	13.5	23.2	0.6	2.1	0.8	1.8	1.5	0.1	0.8	12.5	100
Second	3.3	37.5	2.9	11.0	21.1	1.4	3.0	0.8	0.9	3.7	1.5	0.3	12.6	100
Average	3.3	28.5	4.8	18.8	23.9	1.8	3.4	1.8	0.9	0.1	1.0	3.8	7.9	100

Proportion of women and men with breakdown by the purpose of the latest loan, settlement type, region, age, education, welfare and nationality														
	To start a business	To expand business / agricultural works / purchase of machinery, seeds, etc.	To purchase a passenger car	Buy things for consumption (clothing, household appliances, furniture, jewelry, etc.)	for house repair / construction	To send in labor migration one of the HH members	For events with relatives/friends (celebration, wedding, funeral)	For education of a son	For education of a daughter	For treatment	To repay existing debt / loan	To give to another person	Other	Total
Fourth Richest	2.9	24.4	8.7	12.2	30.5	2.4	3.5	0.7	0.6	3.2	0.0	1.1	9.8	100
Richest	4.9	14.5	3.6	27.1	30.1	0.0	7.2	2.4	0.0	0.9	1.3	0.0	8.1	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>														
Kyrgyz	2.5	30.5	4.8	14.6	25.9	1.5	3.8	0.8	1.0	1.9	0.7	1.1	10.9	100
Uzbek	10.9	23.3	0.6	28.9	21.6	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	2.9	6.4	100
Russian	0.0	21.2	15.3	15.1	18.4	0.0	0.0	11.2	0.0	0.0	4.3	1.7	12.8	100
Other	0.0	22.0	26.5	8.6	25.2	0.0	0.0	9.6	3.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
<b>Men</b>														
Total	2.8	38.8	8.1	9.1	20.0	1.0	5.6	0.4	1.3	0.5	0.6	1.0	10.8	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	7.8	26.3	11.0	14.4	27.6	0.0	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	5.1	100
Rural	1.4	42.3	7.2	7.6	17.9	1.3	5.3	0.5	1.7	0.5	0.7	1.2	12.4	100
<b>region</b>														
Batken	2.8	27.1	10.6	22.4	21.9	0.0	6.0	2.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	6.1	100
Jalal-Abad	4.2	54.2	8.3	9.3	13.4	0.0	5.3	0.0	1.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	100
Issyk-Kul	1.5	51.8	5.6	2.7	23.6	0.0	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.8	5.4	100
Naryn	2.0	14.1	4.4	10.4	14.2	0.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	0.5	1.1	0.0	46.3	100
Osh	1.3	50.8	0.0	10.4	18.8	5.9	3.3	0.0	0.9	0.6	1.8	4.2	1.9	100
Talas	0.0	27.0	7.4	14.1	17.9	0.0	6.5	0.4	0.0	0.8	2.7	1.0	22.3	100
Chui	1.5	23.2	14.5	4.8	26.2	0.0	7.3	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.7	100
Bishkek city	4.2	23.4	18.8	5.5	41.7	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	100
Osh city	21.8	22.4	9.9	5.8	15.7	0.0	19.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	100
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	9.4	14.8	16.1	11.7	34.1	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	7.5	100
21-30	2.2	39.2	7.5	9.8	13.9	0.0	10.1	0.0	2.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	13.2	100
31-40	3.3	32.0	14.1	3.8	26.6	0.0	5.7	0.0	0.3	0.3	2.6	1.1	10.2	100
41-50	2.8	39.0	7.4	12.3	22.3	2.5	2.2	0.5	2.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	7.9	100
51-60	3.0	42.8	5.9	8.6	16.5	1.6	4.9	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.1	3.1	11.8	100
61-70	0.0	52.7	0.0	7.6	17.5	0.0	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7	100
70+	0.0	41.6	0.0	33.2	0.0	0.0	10.8	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	100
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	10.2	20.4	4.6	10.9	36.2	0.0	1.7	1.4	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	9.1	100
Secondary general	0.5	43.2	6.4	11.0	17.1	1.4	5.9	0.1	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.1	11.4	100

Proportion of women and men with breakdown by the purpose of the latest loan, settlement type, region, age, education, welfare and nationality														
	To start a business	To expand business / agricultural works / purchase of machinery, seeds, etc.	To purchase a passenger car	Buy things for consumption (clothing, household appliances, furniture, jewelry, etc.)	for house repair / construction	To send in labor migration one of the HH members	For events with relatives/friends (celebration, wedding, funeral)	For education of a son	For education of a daughter	For treatment	To repay existing debt / loan	To give to another person	Other	Total
Primary and secondary vocational	4.2	32.4	11.0	5.9	24.7	1.3	6.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.0	3.1	10.2	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	4.9	40.5	9.5	7.7	17.1	0.0	5.3	0.8	2.4	0.5	0.1	0.8	10.5	100
<b>Welfare level</b>														
Poorest	1.0	43.8	9.5	12.5	19.1	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.2	9.9	100
Second	1.7	43.3	4.6	10.6	16.8	2.5	5.9	0.1	1.8	1.1	1.5	0.0	10.2	100
Average	3.1	42.2	7.2	6.9	18.7	0.0	3.7	1.8	3.9	0.4	0.8	0.0	11.3	100
Fourth	2.5	34.0	13.8	9.3	17.9	2.4	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	3.8	12.4	100
Richest	8.0	23.5	6.7	3.1	31.0	0.0	13.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	2.1	11.1	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>														
Kyrgyz	2.2	37.7	7.5	9.7	20.1	0.5	5.9	0.4	1.6	0.5	0.7	1.2	12.1	100
Uzbek	10.2	44.9	7.7	7.0	16.6	6.5	4.3	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	100
Russian	0.0	25.3	7.0	15.7	37.6	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	100
Other	0.0	47.6	17.5	2.0	21.8	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	100

The survey also analyzed the respondents' opinions about the loans (Table 6.11).

The majority of respondents, regardless of gender, 87% of women and 86% of men agreed with the statement "It is dangerous to take a loan - you can lose all your property". Giving and taking money at interest is deemed as a sin by 70% of women and 72% of men. Both men and women (63%) equally agreed with the statement that repayment of loan worsens relationships in the family. "The loan helps to improve welfare of the family" - 59% of women and 60% of men agreed with this statement. ""It is difficult to live without a loan" - was supported by 23% of women and men.

Thus, it can be stated that there are no any differences between men's and women's attitude towards loans and loans impact on the family.

**Table 6.11 Opinions and attitudes of women and men to obtaining a loan**

Proportion of women and men, who agree with the statements below					
	It is dangerous to take a loan - you can lose all your property	Loan helps to improve welfare of the family	Repayment of loan worsens relationships in the family	It is impossible to make ends meet without the loan	Lending and borrowing money at interest is a sin
<b>Women</b>					
Total	86.7	58.5	63.5	23.0	69.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	82.5	55.0	61.2	19.7	59.0
Rural	89.3	60.7	64.9	25.1	76.5
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	87.8	48.1	57.6	26.4	70.5
Jalal-Abad	91.6	57.7	70.3	24.3	91.7
Issyk-Kul	84.6	66.2	68.9	20.5	77.7
Naryn	82.5	76.6	68.0	44.1	90.1
Osh	89.2	66.6	69.0	26.9	82.1
Talas	96.2	51.4	75.2	24.0	84.8
Chui	89.4	57.0	50.2	21.4	47.4
Bishkek city	75.4	52.3	58.2	13.9	42.9
Osh city	92.2	54.6	69.5	24.0	80.3
<b>Men</b>					
Total	86.4	59.6	63.3	22.7	71.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	83.1	57.9	62.1	20.8	63.7
Rural	88.0	60.5	63.8	23.7	75.9
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	88.5	48.3	58.2	28.2	71.0
Jalal-Abad	88.4	54.5	61.7	20.4	85.8
Issyk-Kul	84.8	63.8	73.1	24.8	83.0
Naryn	83.2	72.1	65.4	47.6	86.3
Osh	88.8	68.0	70.5	25.9	80.3
Talas	95.3	47.4	74.4	14.5	86.3
Chui	86.1	62.1	50.6	18.2	48.6
Bishkek city	78.5	55.8	60.5	16.4	49.7
Osh city	89.9	58.0	67.9	23.2	77.7

Overall, the data on loans show that women and men have similar experience with the loans, but the average size of the loans received by women is less than that of the men. The survey did not confirm widely spread opinion in the society that the majority of loans are not used to the intended purpose, which was the case in less than one case out of ten.

In most cases reasons, why women and men take loans, are the same. However, women more than men take loans to improve various aspects of the family life - for house repair / construction and for buying consumer goods. In contrast, men more often take loans to expand their business, for agricultural activities, to buy a car and for family celebrations and ceremonies.

Loan related decisions are mainly taken by both spouses. At the same time, urban men and women with higher education are more independent in this issue.

The vast majority of the survey respondents are aware of the loan related risk of losing all property. Religious belief that lending or borrowing money at interest is a sin is quite common among the population. Both women and men believe that loan repayment worsens relationships in the family. At the same time, the respondents see positive impact of loans and agree that loans help to improve family welfare, and in some cases, it is impossible to cope loans.

### **6.3 ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Private sector represented by small and medium enterprises is a foundation of any market economy and plays an important role. SMEs do not require large upfront investment, have high resources turnover and can quickly and efficiently generate and saturate the market with consumer goods, as well as promote restructuring of the economy in condition of instability and limited financial resources.

Therefore, this sector of the Kyrgyz Republic's economy is potentially effective and can solve many social problems; it responds to market changes more dynamically, it is flexible and has highly adaptive capacity at low cost. Growth of living standards of people, every family and every person in the country largely depends on entrepreneurial activity.

Specific layer of entrepreneurs - social layer of owners has developed in the Kyrgyz Republic in recent years. They have created enterprises of various organizational and legal forms in virtually all sectors of the economy, but they still aim at rapid enrichment and accumulation of capital.

The respondents of this survey were asked about the problems faced by entrepreneurs in the course of their activity.

Thus, according to Table 6.12, 4% of the interviewed women were engaged in entrepreneurship: 6% of urban and 3% of rural women. The proportion of male entrepreneurs, who define themselves as "self-employed", was 8% of the respondents with equal distribution in both urban and rural areas (8% each).

The results suggest that men twice more often than women decide to start their business. At the same time, urban women are engaged in entrepreneurial activity more often than rural women. Limited participation of women in business is mainly due to the lack of access to assets that can be used as collateral for the bank in order to start business and this is the most significant obstacle. In Section "Ownership and management of assets" it was discussed in details that women can possess and dispose of the household assets to a much lesser extent than men.

Residents of the Osh city are most actively involved in entrepreneurship with 7% of female and 14% of male entrepreneurs in the total number of the respondents. In addition, there are more male entrepreneurs in the Osh region (14%), but at the same time the smallest number of self-employed women (2%). In other regions, the proportion of male entrepreneurs varies from 3 to 8% and female entrepreneurs - from 3 to 5% of the total number of respondents.

21% of women and 41% of men initiated their entrepreneurial activity on their own. When starting entrepreneurial activity, 75% of women and 56% of men were supported by their families, which was typical for both urban and rural areas. A relative majority of women, who have opened their own business themselves (40%) are women aged 41-50 years with secondary general education (35%)

**Table 6.12 Entrepreneurial experience of women and men**

Proportion of women and men with entrepreneurial experience and initiators of their business with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups and level of education

	Women					Men				
	Proportion of entrepreneurs in the total number	Woman	Together with family members	Together with non-family members	Did not participate in decision-making on starting a business	Proportion of entrepreneurs in the total number	Man	Together with family members	Together with non-family members	Did not participate in decision-making on starting a business
Total	3.6	21.0	74.8	4.1	0.0	8.0	41.4	55.8	1.9	0.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	5.7	20.5	77.3	2.2	0.0	8.1	42.9	51.3	2.9	2.9
Rural	2.5	21.7	72.0	6.3	0.0	8.0	40.8	57.7	1.5	0.0
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	4.4	56.4	43.6	0.0	0.0	7.4	57.6	42.4	0.0	0.0
Jalal-Abad	3.9	16.6	83.4	0.0	0.0	8.2	54.5	45.5	0.0	0.0
Issyk-Kul	3.5	7.7	92.3	0.0	0.0	7.4	19.0	69.6	0.0	11.4
Naryn	4.3	26.6	73.4	0.0	0.0	5.0	4.8	95.2	0.0	0.0
Osh	1.9	11.5	63.2	25.3	0.0	13.6	47.3	52.7	0.0	0.0
Talas	4.8	10.2	89.8	0.0	0.0	5.8	15.1	84.9	0.0	0.0
Chui	3.1	10.7	89.3	0.0	0.0	5.3	14.0	75.2	10.8	0.0
Bishkek city	3.6	32.4	67.6	0.0	0.0	2.6	41.3	58.7	0.0	0.0
Osh city	7.4	10.0	78.1	11.8	0.0	13.9	45.9	43.2	10.9	0.0
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	4.1	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	14.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
21-30	2.4	12.2	84.9	2.8	0.0	8.2	20.9	73.3	5.8	0.0
31-40	4.4	16.2	83.8	0.0	0.0	10.8	56.2	43.8	0.0	0.0
41-50	4.9	40.0	57.9	2.1	0.0	7.3	49.2	49.7	1.1	0.0
51-60	2.8	11.3	88.7	0.0	0.0	8.9	31.9	65.5	2.6	0.0
61-70	2.5	8.0	12.2	79.8	0.0	2.5	45.2	54.8	0.0	0.0
70+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	100	0.0	0.0
<b>Level of education</b>										
Basic general (including primary)	1.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	2.6	9.2	90.8	0.0	0.0
Secondary general	2.3	35.5	62.0	2.4	0.0	9.4	38.9	58.0	1.6	1.6
Primary and secondary vocational	5.6	21.0	69.7	9.3	0.0	5.5	58.7	41.3	0.0	0.0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	4.8	7.9	92.1	0.0	0.0	9.4	39.7	56.3	4.0	0.0

**Table 6.13 Areas of entrepreneurial activity of women**

Proportion of women involved in entrepreneurial activity with breakdown by types of activities, type of settlement, region, age groups and level of education														
	Wholesale	Retail	Network marketing	Apparel industry	Agricultural production and processing	Production of food products	Catering	Personal services	Repair of motor vehicles, household items	Construction	Medical and educational services	Transportation services	Industrial production	Other
Total	8.1	65.9	0.4	7.1	1.9	1.3	2.6	6.2	0.9	0.5	1.2	4.0	2.7	1.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	6.8	61.7	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.4	4.5	4.4	1.9	0.7	2.5	5.8	5.3	2.8
Rural	9.4	70.3	0.9	6.8	3.7	1.3	0.6	8.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.9
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	0.0	55.4	4.2	7.7	0.0	0.0	4.4	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9	0.0	4.0
Jalal-Abad	3.2	64.2	0.0	9.8	3.9	5.7	4.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
Issyk-Kul	6.2	68.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	22.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Naryn	0.0	70.2	0.0	9.1	0.0	2.1	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	5.9
Osh	18.5	76.6	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Talas	6.1	86.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chui	22.4	77.6	0.0	0.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bishkek city	0.0	47.5	0.0	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	10.6	21.1	21.1	0.0
Osh city	7.4	53.2	0.0	11.7	0.0	0.0	11.7	1.9	10.2	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	0.0	34.9	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.1	35.1	0.0
21-30	7.4	82.2	0.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
31-40	9.3	72.0	0.0	7.7	3.5	1.8	3.7	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.5
41-50	6.0	65.8	1.5	1.1	0.0	2.7	0.0	9.9	3.1	0.7	4.2	5.0	0.0	0.0
51-60	0.0	53.7	0.0	13.2	8.0	0.0	7.1	9.7	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.1
61-70	64.0	6.3	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
70+	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	13.1	71.7	0.0	2.2	12.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary general	0.9	71.6	0.0	10.1	2.3	1.5	1.8	7.0	2.6	1.5	0.0	2.8	0.0	1.2
Primary and secondary vocational	10.8	63.8	0.0	3.8	0.0	2.7	1.7	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.7	8.2	0.0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	13.4	58.7	1.7	8.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	5.5	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.8	5.4

**Table 6.14 Areas of entrepreneurial activity of men**

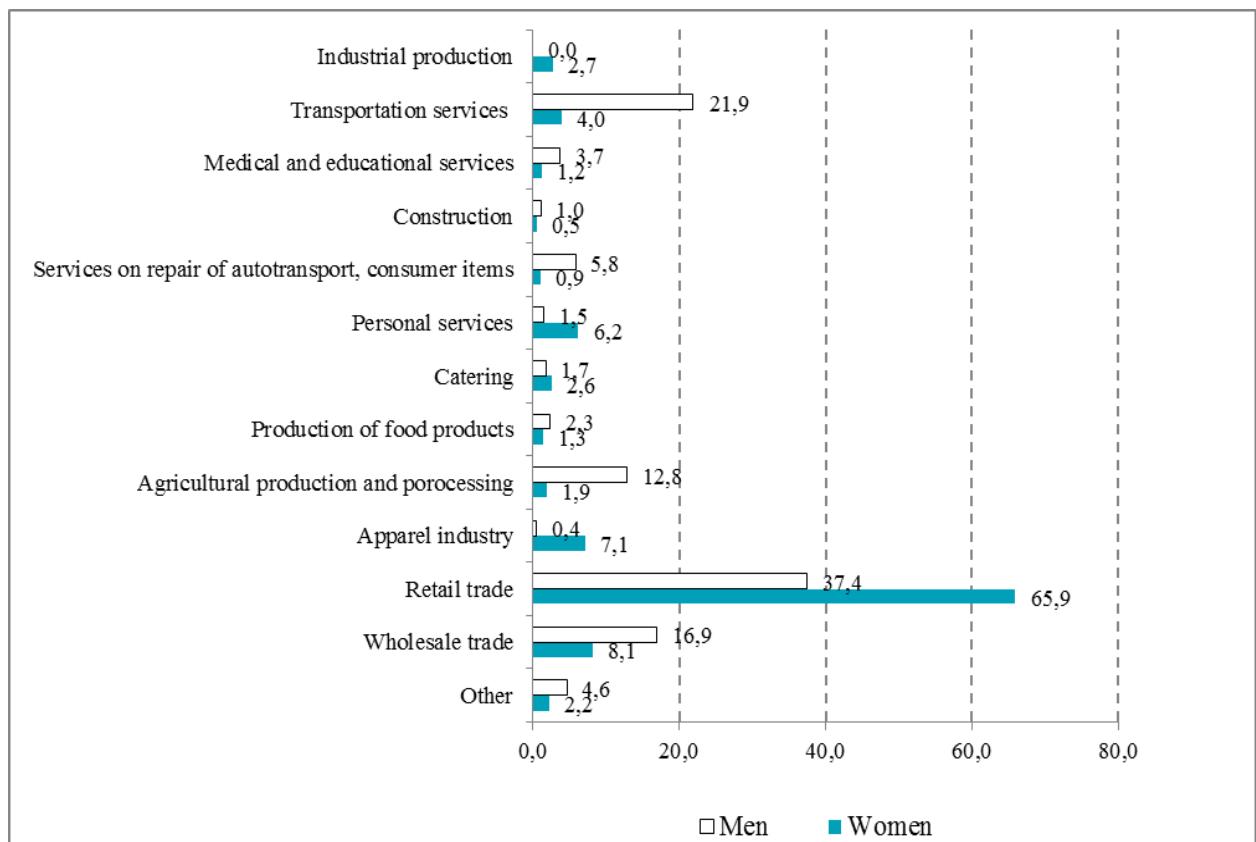
Proportion of men involved in entrepreneurial activity with breakdown by types of activities, type of settlement, region, age groups and level of education														
	Wholesale	Retail	Network marketing	Apparel industry	Agricultural production and processing	Production of food products	Catering	Personal services	Repair of motor vehicles, household items	Construction	Medical and educational services	Transportation services	Real Estate Services	Other
Total	16.9	37.4	1.3	0.4	12.8	2.3	1.7	1.5	5.8	1.0	3.7	21.9	0.2	3.0
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	21.1	48.5	1.1	1.3	1.7	3.3	1.3	0.0	7.2	2.7	5.6	16.7	0.7	0.0
Rural	15.0	32.4	1.4	0.0	17.8	1.9	1.9	2.1	5.2	0.3	2.8	24.2	0.0	4.3
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	0.0	53.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	6.1	4.1	0.0	0.0	30.4	0.0	0.0
Jalal-Abad	24.1	36.7	4.6	0.0	11.8	6.4	6.4	0.0	9.6	0.0	0.0	22.3	0.0	2.7
Issyk-Kul	12.8	68.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	25.6	0.0	0.0
Naryn	4.8	59.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	6.1	0.0	4.8	0.0	14.3
Osh	17.1	32.2	1.0	0.0	17.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	5.3	31.5	0.0	0.0
Talas	18.7	50.5	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	11.5
Chui	16.7	24.5	0.0	0.0	36.4	0.0	0.0	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.9
Bishkek city	32.2	12.0	0.0	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.7	6.4	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Osh city	6.0	40.8	0.0	0.0	7.7	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	21.1	2.9	0.0
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	48.4	60.5	0.0	0.0	14.1	0.0	0.0	25.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
21-30	23.7	39.4	1.5	0.0	5.4	2.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	15.0	14.5	0.0	0.0
31-40	20.0	41.9	3.1	1.4	13.5	4.3	4.3	2.0	4.7	2.7	0.0	22.5	0.0	2.1
41-50	13.2	27.8	0.0	0.0	16.3	0.0	2.1	0.6	13.7	1.1	0.0	22.3	1.0	2.8
51-60	7.8	33.3	0.0	0.0	18.6	2.6	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	30.9	0.0	8.5
61-70	0.0	54.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.9	0.0	0.0	20.3	0.0	0.0
70+	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	40.2	65.2	14.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0
Secondary general	16.5	42.6	1.7	0.0	15.5	1.9	0.8	0.6	2.0	0.4	0.0	24.7	0.0	1.8
Primary and secondary vocational	9.9	27.3	0.0	0.0	11.7	0.0	0.0	3.6	6.0	0.0	0.0	40.4	1.4	9.8
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	19.3	29.8	0.0	1.5	9.4	4.7	4.7	2.2	14.0	3.0	13.2	7.8	0.0	2.0

Analysis of the distribution of women and men by areas of entrepreneurial activity (Tables 6.13, 6.14 and Figure 6.6) shows that the vast majority of women (74%) are engaged in trade. 7% of women are in the garment industry, and 6% provide personal services. In other areas, women are engaged in entrepreneurship to a much lesser extent.

The proportion of men engaged in trade is 45%, it is considerably lower than the number of women in trade; however, men are twice more often than women engaged in wholesale trade (17% vs. 8%, respectively). Men are engaged in the following areas: transport services (22%), agricultural production and processing (13%), repair of vehicles and household items (6%), as well as health and educational services (4%)

Thus, it can be stated that there is gender segregation by area of entrepreneurship: men are more represented in areas with higher income, while women – in sectors with lower incomes.

**Figure 6.6 Distribution of men and women by areas of entrepreneurial activity (in %)**



Reasons, why men and women do business are in Table 6.15 and Figure 6.7

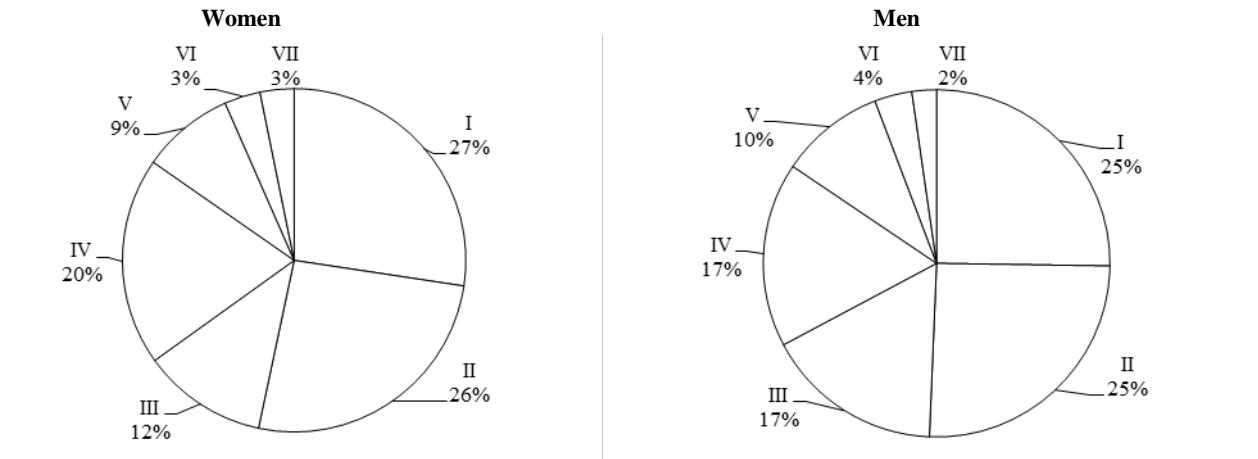
**Table 6.15 Reasons, why men and women do business**

Proportion of women and men engaged in entrepreneurial activity with breakdown by reasons, settlement type, region, age group and level of education

	Women							Men								
	I want to be independent	I see opportunities for profitable business in the market	I could not find any job	In business I can work whenever and however I want	I do not have any qualification to do other work	I have lost my job	Other	Total	I want to be independent	I see opportunities for profitable business in the market	I could not find any job	In business I can work whenever and however I want	I do not have any qualification to do other work	I have lost my job	Other	Total
<b>Total</b>	27.4	25.9	11.8	19.6	8.7	3.4	3.2	100	25.2	25.4	16.6	17.2	9.8	3.5	2.3	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	31.6	30.2	6.3	18.2	8.7	4.2	0.9	100	24.4	31.8	10.1	14.7	9.0	4.7	5.4	100
Rural	23.1	21.6	17.4	21.1	8.8	2.6	5.5	100	25.6	22.6	19.5	18.3	10.2	2.9	0.9	100
<b>Region</b>																
Batken	37.1	11.7	21.8	15.8	11.4	0.0	2.2	100	30.5	23.8	14.9	11.4	19.4	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	27.3	36.8	3.8	22.0	5.2	4.1	0.8	100	25.3	26.2	13.8	4.4	17.3	11.1	1.9	100
Issyk-Kul	29.2	40.6	8.4	21.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	43.5	21.9	9.5	18.3	1.7	3.5	1.7	100
Naryn	31.1	18.5	17.7	9.0	8.0	13.2	2.4	100	19.7	10.2	24.5	33.1	7.1	3.0	2.4	100
Osh	8.5	15.1	28.3	15.8	20.4	4.9	7.0	100	20.3	25.6	22.2	23.7	7.8	0.4	0.0	100
Talas	28.4	24.0	2.9	37.4	3.6	3.7	0.0	100	22.0	16.6	16.6	37.1	1.8	5.8	0.0	100
Chui	27.8	20.4	6.7	19.0	11.4	3.9	10.9	100	29.1	30.6	7.0	11.4	12.7	0.0	9.1	100
Bishkek city	47.5	34.1	2.5	15.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	28.8	30.4	16.1	11.3	0.0	0.0	13.4	100
Osh city	18.3	25.8	15.8	23.3	12.0	3.8	1.0	100	20.7	27.2	14.8	21.9	8.4	7.0	0.0	100
<b>Age, years</b>																
18-20	41.3	0.0	8.7	35.5	8.7	5.7	0.0	100	36.9	42.9	7.1	13.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
21-30	27.1	32.4	17.1	11.0	3.3	9.0	0.0	100	16.8	28.9	23.9	13.2	13.7	0.0	3.6	100
31-40	26.4	26.5	10.3	15.9	12.4	2.2	6.3	100	28.2	30.5	15.7	14.6	4.5	2.9	3.6	100
41-50	30.8	31.8	10.9	17.2	4.6	0.3	4.3	100	26.1	22.5	11.4	17.8	14.8	6.4	1.0	100
51-60	21.9	28.9	3.2	30.8	5.5	8.9	0.8	100	30.4	14.8	16.1	23.0	10.0	5.0	0.6	100
61-70	36.7	13.0	1.3	49.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	14.0	32.5	7.3	35.5	0.0	10.7	0.0	100
70+	0.0	10.8	39.2	10.8	39.2	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
<b>Level of education</b>																
Basic general (including primary)	2.3	10.6	26.4	13.7	33.9	0.0	13.1	100	22.6	20.7	18.9	6.4	31.3	0.0	0.0	100
Secondary general	23.2	26.4	13.4	16.9	13.9	2.8	3.3	100	25.1	25.4	14.2	17.3	13.7	2.4	2.0	100
Primary and secondary vocational	33.8	25.8	10.7	22.7	2.3	1.8	2.9	100	19.6	20.9	21.1	23.4	7.0	7.1	0.9	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	33.4	30.1	6.2	21.6	1.3	7.1	0.4	100	28.9	28.3	18.7	14.7	1.6	4.0	3.8	100

Thus, a relative majority of men (25%) and women (27%), have started their business because they wanted to be independent. More than a quarter of respondents engaged in entrepreneurial activity, both men and women, believe that there are opportunities for profitable business in the market, that is why they started their business. 20% of self-employed women and 17% of men enjoy freedom of activities in business. 12% of women and 17% of men have started their business, as they could not find any job. 9% of women and 10% of men of the total number of respondents in the respective groups have no necessary skills to do other job.

**Figure 6.7 Reasons why women and men are engaged in entrepreneurial activity (in %)**



- I They want to manage independently
- II See opportunities for profitable business at the market
- III Can not find a work anywhere else
- IV Doing business can work when and how they want
- V No qualifications to engage in other activities
- VI Lost previous job
- VII Other

In terms of organizational and legal form of the business, Table 6.16 shows that both men and women do not always register their businesses: 32% of female entrepreneurs and 47% of male entrepreneurs. The remaining female entrepreneurs are mainly registered as "sole proprietors" (64%), as well as 42% of men. "Peasant farm" is also a typical organizational and legal form of the business among men - 8%.

Although the number of women involved in business is less than men, female entrepreneurs hire workers to the same extent as men. As shown in Table 6.17, enterprises run by men have on average 3 employees, while enterprises run by women - 2 employees.

According to 62% of the interviewed female entrepreneurs, they fully participate in the management of their company and decision-making; every fourth woman said that she can implement control in decision-making together with her business partners, 6% of women make decisions only on a limited range of issues and 2% of women do not take part in business related decision-making.

Men play the following role in the management of their enterprises: 69% of the interviewed men make all decisions solely; together with business partners - 24%, 3% take decisions only on a limited number of issues and only 1% of men do not participate in business related decision-making.

**Table 6.16 Organizational legal form of the businesses of women and men**

Proportion of women and men engaged in entrepreneurial activities with breakdown by type of organizational-legal forms of business, type of settlement, region and age groups																				
	Women									Men										
	Unregistered business	IE, PE	PF	Partnership	Cooperatives	LLC	AO	Other	Eco-nomic union	Total	Unregistered business	IE, PE	PF	Partnership	Cooperatives	LLC	AO	Other	Eco-nomic union	Total
Total	31.6	64.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.1	0.0	1.0	100	47.0	41.6	7.6	1.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.8	0.2	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>																				
Urban	28.7	68.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	30.9	64.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	100
Rural	34.5	59.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	2.1	100	54.3	31.3	9.7	1.7	0.0	1.9	0.0	1.1	0.0	100
<b>Region</b>																				
Batken	41.6	58.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	51.5	48.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	43.4	52.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	100	43.9	35.1	15.3	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Issyk-Kul	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	15.7	84.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Naryn	45.8	54.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	19.8	75.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	100
Osh	50.3	35.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	100	73.7	19.2	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Talas	3.7	92.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	100	24.9	71.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	100
Chui	15.0	85.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	14.4	46.0	17.9	0.0	0.0	14.5	0.0	7.2	0.0	100
Bishkek city	20.2	69.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	44.7	55.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Osh city	34.0	66.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	17.7	73.6	4.6	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	100
<b>Age, years</b>																				
18-20	48.2	51.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	25.4	74.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
21-30	34.4	65.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	48.7	41.1	5.4	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
31-40	25.0	75.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	33.6	42.2	16.6	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	2.1	0.5	100
41-50	32.9	55.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	7.2	0.0	0.7	100	73.2	24.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	100
51-60	19.0	73.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	100	45.1	50.3	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
61-70	2.5	97.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	20.3	79.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
70+	78.5	21.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	

**Table 6.17 Number of employees at the enterprises and the role in the management**

The average number of employees at the enterprise, the role of men and women in business management with breakdown by the settlement type, region, age group and level of education

	The average number of employees in the companies run by women	Women						Men						
		Role of women in the management						The average number of employees in the companies run by men	Role of men in the management					
		Take all decisions	Decide together with business partners and/o employees	Decide only on a limited range of issues	Do not participate in business related decision-making	Does not want to answer/ Find difficult to answer	Total		Fully take all decisions	Decide together with business partners and/o employees	Decide only on a limited range of issues	Do not participate in business related decision-making	Does not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	
Total	2.4	61.8	25.0	5.9	2.3	5.0	100	3.0	68.5	24.3	3.2	0.8	3.2	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	3.1	59.4	31.6	4.9	0.8	3.3	100	2.3	66.4	29.0	3.9	0.0	0.7	100
Rural	1.8	64.2	18.3	6.9	3.9	6.8	100	3.3	69.4	22.2	2.8	1.2	4.3	100
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	1.5	64.3	21.5	6.5	0.0	7.7	100	1.3	78.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	2.2	74.1	24.4	0.0	0.0	1.5	100	4.1	90.5	6.2	0.0	0.0	3.3	100
Issyk-Kul	1.7	39.0	47.5	13.5	0.0	0.0	100	2.7	29.4	57.8	12.8	0.0	0.0	100
Naryn	2.3	55.7	26.1	0.0	18.2	0.0	100	4.9	63.7	31.5	0.0	0.0	4.8	100
Osh	2.6	53.9	18.5	13.7	0.0	14.0	100	1.8	70.7	25.1	4.2	0.0	0.0	100
Talas	1.9	49.4	33.0	6.5	7.5	3.6	100	7.2	36.0	38.6	18.8	6.7	0.0	100
Chui	1.2	66.7	18.7	0.0	7.3	7.3	100	5.6	28.4	39.3	0.0	6.9	25.4	100
Bishkek city	6.2	61.6	27.8	10.6	0.0	0.0	100	2.1	93.6	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Osh city	1.7	64.8	24.0	5.8	0.0	5.4	100	2.6	74.1	24.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	100
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	5.1	71.8	10.8	0.0	17.4	0.0	100	16.8	25.4	0.0	60.5	14.1	0.0	100
21-30	1.7	55.5	21.7	22.8	0.0	0.0	100	2.0	56.4	37.3	6.3	0.0	0.0	100
31-40	2.4	52.5	32.6	3.5	3.5	8.0	100	3.4	84.1	12.6	0.8	2.1	0.5	100
41-50	2.0	74.5	10.8	5.4	0.4	9.0	100	2.5	70.5	19.5	0.0	0.0	10.0	100
51-60	2.5	44.4	55.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	3.1	61.9	31.4	2.1	0.0	4.6	100
61-70	2.3	36.0	64.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	1.8	66.5	33.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
70+	3.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	100
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	2.5	87.1	0.0	0.0	12.9	0.0	100	1.8	49.2	50.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Secondary general	1.6	67.8	19.6	3.4	2.2	6.9	100	2.3	67.0	24.0	4.5	1.1	3.3	100
Primary and secondary vocational	2.8	63.4	24.3	8.2	0.4	3.8	100	3.0	71.1	15.6	3.0	1.5	8.8	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	3.1	43.9	40.8	8.5	1.6	5.1	100	4.5	71.8	27.1	0.8	0.0	0.3	100

Data in Table 6.18 show that entrepreneurs sell their goods in several markets, and the majority of women (98%) and men (89%) have work in the local markets. At the same time, men are 3 times more often than women sell their products in the regional (33% and 12%, respectively) and national markets (7% and 3%, respectively).

5% of women and 2% of men work in the international markets. The majority of women in the international markets are from the Jalal-Abad and Chui regions, while men are from the Naryn and Jalal-Abad regions and Bishkek city.

The majority of entrepreneurs working in the national and international markets are above 40 years old.

**Table 6.18 Preferred sales markets for products / services**

Proportion of women and men selling their products / services at the local, regional, national and international markets with breakdown by the settlement type, region and age groups

	Sales markets preferred by women				Sales markets preferred by men			
	Local	Regional	National	International	Local	Regional	National	International
Total	97.6	11.8	2.8	5.2	88.9	32.6	6.6	1.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	97.3	9.4	4.7	1.7	100	7.5	2.1	2.1
Rural	97.9	14.3	0.9	8.8	84.0	43.9	8.7	1.9
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	100	4.2	4.2	4.2	100	6.6	0.0	0.0
Jalal-Abad	98.0	15.8	0.0	13.7	93.8	38.3	15.5	5.7
Issyk-Kul	97.6	2.4	0.0	2.4	95.3	4.7	0.0	0.0
Naryn	100	3.3	0.0	3.3	100	23.3	11.1	11.1
Osh	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	81.7	45.3	5.0	0.0
Talas	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	91.1	8.9	0.0	0.0
Chui	92.6	29.1	0.0	7.1	71.9	66.4	14.4	0.0
Bishkek city	100	15.3	15.8	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	6.4
Osh city	91.8	20.0	5.5	5.5	100	9.7	0.0	0.0
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	89.2	40.8	0.0	30.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0
21-30	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	85.8	35.7	8.8	1.4
31-40	95.0	24.9	7.5	5.0	80.4	37.4	5.1	4.5
41-50	100	2.6	1.5	1.5	96.9	21.3	9.9	1.1
51-60	98.4	8.7	1.7	11.3	95.1	39.5	4.6	0.0
61-70	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0
70+	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 6.19 Bodies and organizations, with which women have problems in doing business**

Proportion of women, who have problems in doing business with certain bodies and organizations / groups with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups and level of education														
	Women, who have problems with agencies and organizations / groups in doing business													
	Tax Inspection	Sanitary Surveillance Service	Ministry of Justice	Fire authorities	Local government	Customs authorities	Police	Environmental control	State Agency for Architecture and Construction	Market Administration	Social Fund	State Registration Service	Bodies and organizations of energy sector	Criminal groups
Total	27.2	14.9	0.8	4.2	4.0	1.6	8.3	2.0	4.5	6.4	14.9	3.0	15.2	0.0
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	30.6	19.6	0.0	3.9	5.1	1.9	8.3	3.9	5.8	7.7	15.3	5.1	20.8	0.0
Rural	23.6	10.2	1.7	4.5	2.9	1.3	8.2	0.0	3.2	5.2	14.5	0.9	9.5	0.0
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	41.7	15.3	0.0	0.0	4.4	6.2	27.8	0.0	12.1	26.6	48.0	0.0	14.1	0.0
Jalal-Abad	21.9	21.1	3.9	2.0	2.0	0.0	11.6	2.0	5.7	7.1	23.3	3.2	21.7	0.0
Issyk-Kul	24.2	18.2	0.0	11.5	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.3	0.0	12.9	6.2	13.9	0.0
Naryn	40.2	25.1	0.0	22.6	11.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.4	0.0	0.0	20.7	0.0
Osh	10.2	10.2	0.0	5.1	5.1	4.2	4.2	5.1	0.0	8.4	6.8	0.0	4.9	0.0
Talas	26.1	13.4	0.0	1.3	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	0.0	16.0	0.0
Chui	25.9	2.5	0.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bishkek city	36.1	15.5	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	15.8	31.4	0.0
Osh city	37.3	18.3	0.0	0.0	6.2	3.7	12.5	8.2	12.0	3.9	8.0	0.0	18.5	0.0
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	34.9	17.5	0.0	11.5	6.7	0.0	0.0	10.8	10.8	0.0	12.6	0.0	10.8	0.0
21-30	5.8	4.2	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	3.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	5.2	0.0
31-40	32.2	7.8	0.0	4.0	1.8	0.0	10.2	0.0	2.8	9.3	11.6	8.8	13.1	0.0
41-50	32.2	24.9	0.0	4.9	6.3	4.4	11.9	2.2	5.3	8.3	24.5	1.5	23.9	0.0
51-60	33.6	17.2	8.0	6.9	6.1	3.2	4.1	5.4	8.7	12.0	17.1	0.0	9.6	0.0
61-70	6.3	11.0	0.0	1.9	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.9	0.0
70+	21.5	21.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	0.0	21.5	0.0
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	19.0	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.0	0.0	14.5	0.0
Secondary general	33.7	18.5	2.3	3.3	3.3	2.8	13.6	2.1	7.4	9.7	14.6	1.9	17.4	0.0
Primary and secondary vocational	23.5	9.2	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	5.9	14.3	0.0	7.5	0.0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	24.8	15.2	0.0	10.4	9.4	2.5	8.0	4.1	6.5	4.5	14.7	8.9	21.3	0.0

**Table 6.20 Bodies and organizations, with which men have problems when doing business**

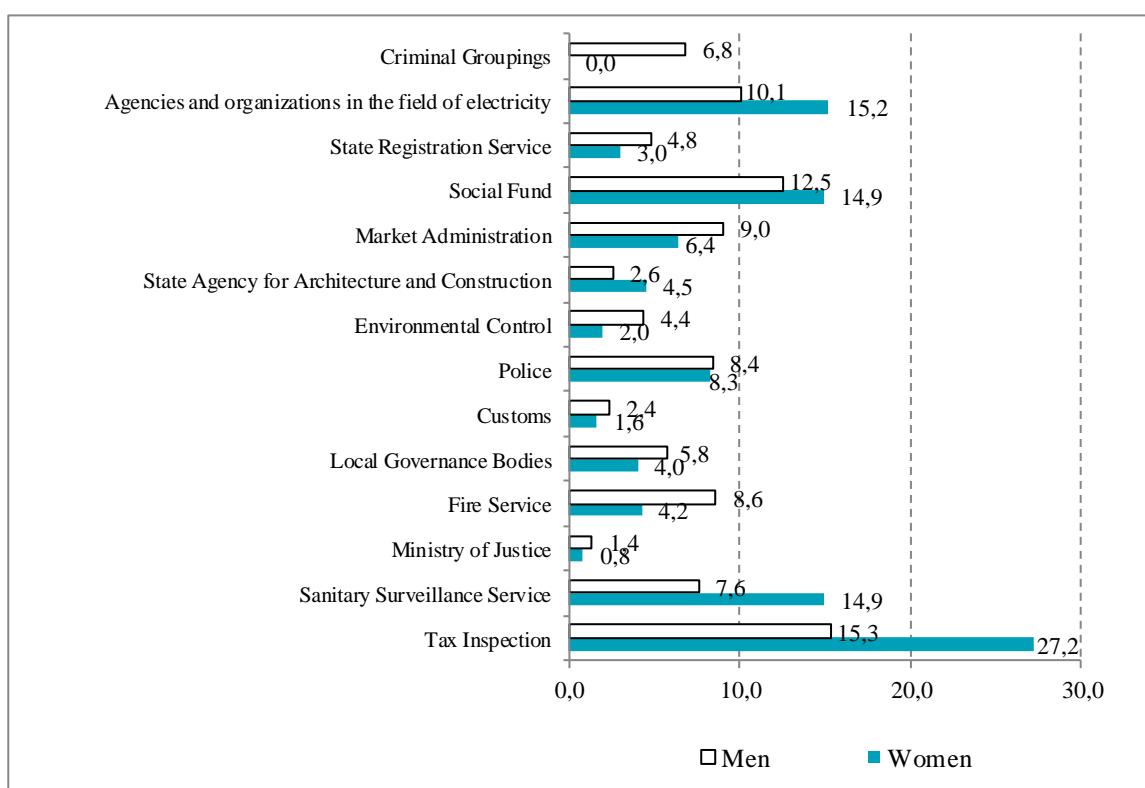
Proportion of men who have problems in doing business with certain bodies and organizations / groups with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups and level of education														
	Men, who have problems with agencies and organizations / groups in doing business													
	Tax Inspection	Sanitary Survei- llance Service	Ministry of Justice	Fire authorities	Local govern- ment	Customs authorities	Police	Environ- mental control	State Agency for Architectu- re and Construc- tion	Market Adminis- tration	Social Fund	State Regis- tration Service	Bodies and organiza- tions of energy sector	Criminal groups
Total	15.3	7.6	1.4	8.6	5.8	2.4	8.4	4.4	2.6	9.0	12.5	4.8	10.1	6.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	24.3	9.7	0.7	14.3	2.4	4.6	11.8	6.8	1.0	13.2	19.4	6.1	10.0	8.3
Rural	11.3	6.6	1.7	6.0	7.3	1.4	6.9	3.3	3.3	7.2	9.4	4.2	10.1	6.2
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	22.1	23.1	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	9.5	0.0	0.0	9.5	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jalal-Abad	20.6	5.7	5.7	9.8	6.8	4.6	4.9	17.2	0.0	15.2	24.3	17.2	23.9	7.1
Issyk-Kul	47.6	38.5	0.0	28.7	41.2	3.0	31.8	0.0	28.7	15.8	27.4	13.0	28.7	4.7
Naryn	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	14.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	14.4	0.0
Osh	5.9	1.5	0.0	2.5	0.7	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	6.2	3.6	0.0	3.4	12.6
Talas	17.8	8.8	0.0	9.4	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.0	3.3	8.8	0.0	16.4	0.0
Chui	9.0	9.1	0.0	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bishkek city	12.0	0.0	0.0	38.8	0.0	18.4	12.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Osh city	15.3	2.9	2.9	0.0	3.5	0.0	24.4	5.9	3.1	11.6	18.3	3.0	9.6	6.7
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	12.1	48.4	0.0	12.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
21-30	8.2	6.3	4.8	13.5	6.3	0.0	3.6	4.8	1.5	5.2	12.6	6.3	3.5	8.9
31-40	15.3	6.8	0.0	7.5	1.7	7.0	10.5	0.0	0.7	8.8	8.1	0.0	8.5	6.2
41-50	18.4	4.1	1.0	1.8	1.1	1.2	8.1	6.7	0.0	14.2	7.4	5.6	14.7	6.7
51-60	22.8	11.2	0.0	11.8	16.5	0.0	12.9	8.9	9.4	10.7	26.1	9.9	17.6	6.9
61-70	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
70+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	14.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary general	9.6	8.7	2.1	6.6	5.7	1.7	7.4	4.2	2.3	10.0	11.7	5.6	3.3	7.5
Primary and secondary vocational	20.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	1.6	12.0	9.9	0.7	2.8	13.5	9.9	10.5	9.9
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	23.7	8.9	0.7	17.9	6.0	4.3	8.6	2.3	4.5	11.3	13.5	0.8	24.1	4.5

Comparative analysis of women's and men's responses to the question "What agencies and organizations (groups) do you have problems with in doing business" in Tables 6.19, 6.20, and Figure 6.8. For example, women in doing business have problems mostly with tax authorities, Sanitary Surveillance service, Social Fund, as well as with energy sector authorities and organizations. At the same time, women have problems with Tax Inspections and Sanitary Surveillance service almost twice more often than men, while with energy sector authorities and organizations- 1.5 times more often than men.

In addition, in doing business men have problems with fire authorities, police, market administration and criminal groups.

The above organizations and authorities mainly implement various kinds of inspections, issue permits, deal with business registration and tax administration .

**Figure 6.8 Proportion of men and women, who have problems with certain bodies and organizations / groups in doing business (in %)**



**Table 6.21 Where do men and women seek help in case of any problems in doing business**

Proportion of entrepreneurs, who seek help of the organizations / groups with breakdown by settlement type, region and age groups										
	Bodies and organizations / groups									
	Resolve problems on their own	Management of the authority, with which problems arise	Law enforcement authorities	Courts	LSG	Professional / business associations, trade unions	Mass media	Relatives/ friends	Criminal groups	Total
<b>Total</b>	21.4	62.7	4.5	0.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	7.2	100
<b>Sex</b>										
Women	30.1	57.1	3.6	1.8	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	4.9	100
Men	15.6	66.3	5.1	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	8.8	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	26.2	57.2	3.8	1.7	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	100
Rural	17.9	66.6	5.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	8.0	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	25.8	62.0	5.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
Jalal-Abad	10.4	69.3	4.5	2.3	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6	100
Issyk-Kul	22.2	47.6	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2	100
Naryn	30.4	46.0	6.6	0.0	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	100
Osh	27.4	60.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.3	100
Talas	22.8	72.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	100
Chui	12.8	78.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	100
Bishkek city	23.2	69.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	100
Osh city	40.1	48.6	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	74.0	26.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100
21-30	13.6	65.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.0	100
31-40	12.5	78.1	0.9	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	100
41-50	23.2	62.0	4.8	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	6.6	100
51-60	30.6	39.1	14.4	4.5	9.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	100
61-70	15.0	60.3	18.3	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	100
70+	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100

Survey results show that in case of any problems in doing business women (57%) and men (66%) mostly seek help of the management of the body, with which they have problems (Table 6.21). One third of the interviewed female entrepreneurs resolve all their problems on their own, while only 16% of the interviewed male entrepreneurs are able to resolve their problems. It is noteworthy that some entrepreneurs seek help of the criminal groups (7%) rather than law enforcement agencies (5%). At the same time, men (9%) seek help of the criminal groups more often than women (5%).

A small number of entrepreneurs seek help of the local self-governments in case of business related problems: 2% of women and 4% of men. In contrast to men, female entrepreneurs also resolve their problems through courts (2% of the interviewed female entrepreneurs). Both women and men do not seek help of organizations, such as trade unions, professional associations, mass media and others.

According to the respondents, business has definitely improved quality of their lives. It is noteworthy that both men and women were almost unanimous on this issue (Table 6.22). So, 87% of the interviewed entrepreneurs reported improvement in the financial situation of their households (85% of women and 89% of men), 84% of respondents - personal financial situation - (85% of women and 83% of men), and 77% of the interviewed entrepreneurs said that they have become independent (75% of women and 78% of men), self-esteem of 66% of the respondents has increased, 65% of the entrepreneurs reported improvement of the relations in their families and 30% to 33% of the respondents can now spend money on the education of their children. Thus, it can be stated that business had equally improved quality of life, family relationships and increased personal self-esteem for both men and women. The survey showed that quite a common myth in the society that women's business can ruin their family is not correct. In addition, it should be noted that business of women increases educational opportunities for their children rather than business run by men (36% and 31%, respectively).

**Table 6.22 Improving certain aspects of life thanks to business**

Proportion of entrepreneurs, who reported improvement in the financial situation of HH, personal financial situation, family relationships, ability to pay for children's education, personal self-esteem and independence with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Aspects, where financial situation has improved						
	Financial situation of the HH	Personal financial situation	Relationships in the family	Ability to pay for daughter's education	Ability to pay for son's education	Personal self-esteem	Independence / self-sufficiency
Total	87.3	84.1	65.1	33.2	29.9	66.4	76.5
<b>Sex</b>							
Women	84.8	85.1	63.2	36.0	28.4	65.4	74.5
Men	89.0	83.4	66.3	31.4	31.0	67.1	77.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	81.5	75.8	62.9	32.2	28.4	69.3	77.7
Rural	91.5	90.1	66.7	33.9	31.0	64.3	75.6
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	100	86.9	87.7	31.3	25.0	78.6	78.8
Jalal-Abad	90.2	93.9	82.4	45.5	45.2	74.9	84.9
Issyk-Kul	69.1	52.6	56.4	21.3	21.6	52.5	52.6
Naryn	97.6	95.3	74.5	23.9	30.8	78.7	76.4
Osh	97.1	97.1	47.3	34.3	18.5	58.4	77.3
Talas	84.1	75.3	51.4	31.7	12.2	53.5	58.9
Chui	91.5	97.3	41.6	19.6	19.6	52.7	78.9
Bishkek city	45.9	60.6	56.9	45.9	45.9	78.5	78.5
Osh city	81.7	60.6	47.7	17.2	24.1	56.1	77.3
<b>Age, years</b>							
18-20	95.6	85.0	89.8	9.2	26.7	90.5	90.5
21-30	76.5	72.3	62.3	10.7	17.8	78.8	85.4
31-40	90.1	89.4	65.5	46.3	45.0	71.3	77.7
41-50	89.5	85.1	56.0	38.3	22.8	44.7	66.0
51-60	87.7	80.4	79.4	22.3	25.0	77.2	82.5
61-70	100	93.3	42.6	37.6	37.6	81.8	83.8
70+	0.0	90.7	90.7	90.7	0.0	0.0	0.0

Proportion of entrepreneurs, who reported improvement in the financial situation of HH, personal financial situation, family relationships, ability to pay for children's education, personal self-esteem and independence with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Aspects, where financial situation has improved						
	Financial situation of the HH	Personal financial situation	Relationships in the family	Ability to pay for daughter's education	Ability to pay for son's education	Personal self-esteem	Independence / self-sufficiency
<b>Level of education</b>							
Basic general (including primary)	65.1	100	75.5	26.7	8.4	56.5	66.8
Secondary general	91.7	86.9	72.2	35.3	29.4	69.7	78.9
Primary and secondary vocational	90.5	75.9	63.4	32.7	21.7	64.4	76.7
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	80.3	82.1	51.6	30.7	39.3	63.1	73.2
<b>Welfare level</b>							
Poorest	91.7	84.6	51.8	55.9	32.0	49.7	62.6
Second	85.4	85.8	67.7	30.6	28.4	69.7	75.2
Average	77.3	71.1	80.1	21.8	18.1	68.4	75.9
Fourth	89.9	85.7	55.3	21.2	21.0	65.6	80.0
Richest	91.4	90.6	69.2	38.8	46.9	74.3	84.8
<b>Ethnicity</b>							
Kyrgyz	85.6	84.8	62.6	30.7	27.5	66.1	74.7
Uzbek	94.9	75.2	83.8	35.5	36.9	64.4	86.4
Russian	100	100	66.3	94.1	66.3	72.3	72.3
Other	100	100	26.8	73.2	56.2	100	100

According to Table 6.23, usually to the respondents closed their business due to several reasons, many of them outlined three - four reasons, mostly financial losses and failure to generate income - 24% (26% of women and 23% of men).

Women 1.7 times more often than men close their business due to lack of time for running a business and the need to take care of the family and children (24% and 14%, respectively). Lack of time for running the business is more typical for rural women and reproductive age women from households with lower income.

In contrast, men often close their businesses as they lose interest (23% and 10%, respectively). Lack of funds for further running a business equally affects on business closure by both men and women (13% and 10%, respectively).

Reasons, such as raiding and forced closure of business are not widely spread, and more often take place in case of male entrepreneurs.

The respondents have outlined a number of other reasons (25%) for closure of the business, the most common of which were: emergence of more favorable areas of business, change of place of residence, labor migration, family related circumstances (illness, death of relatives, marriage / divorce).

**Table 6.23 Reasons, why women and men closed their business**

Proportion of women and men, who closed their business with breakdown by reasons, settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Financial losses / business does not generate income	Lack of time for running business	Loss of interest in business	I was forced to close the business	My business was taken over	Lack of skills for running business	Lack of the working capital	Other
Total	24.4	18.4	17.1	2.1	0.4	2.8	11.5	25.0
<b>Sex</b>								
Women	26.0	23.6	9.7	0.2	0.0	1.3	10.1	29.8
Men	23.1	13.9	23.4	3.6	0.7	4.0	12.7	20.9

Proportion of women and men, who closed their business with breakdown by reasons, settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Financial losses / business does not generate income	Lack of time for running business	Loss of interest in business	I was forced to close the business	My business was taken over	Lack of skills for running business	Lack of the working capital	Other
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	34.0	13.6	4.8	1.8	1.2	3.0	12.2	29.4
Rural	19.4	20.9	23.6	2.2	0.0	2.6	11.1	22.7
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	16.2	13.1	6.4	0.0	0.0	6.0	19.7	38.6
Jalal-Abad	8.9	24.7	32.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	28.0
Issyk-Kul	0.0	18.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	81.9	0.0
Naryn	23.7	22.0	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	54.3
Osh	31.1	19.1	12.8	7.2	0.0	4.0	4.2	26.6
Talas	4.2	31.6	0.0	3.1	0.0	4.2	43.9	13.0
Chui	19.1	12.9	29.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	26.1
Bishkek city	52.4	13.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	19.2	7.2
Osh city	37.8	8.1	14.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	7.9	25.9
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	42.3	0.0	46.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.2
21-30	33.8	15.1	16.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	25.8
31-40	29.5	23.9	3.9	2.6	0.0	5.2	11.5	29.3
41-50	26.4	19.8	11.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	19.0	24.1
51-60	11.1	16.4	29.2	0.0	1.6	2.0	9.2	30.6
61-70	10.5	22.3	28.5	15.7	0.0	12.2	10.9	0.0
70+	61.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	38.3
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	35.0	35.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.9
Secondary general	26.2	23.7	22.9	0.0	0.0	3.2	10.1	17.1
Primary and secondary vocational	20.2	12.1	21.8	0.0	0.0	1.7	16.5	28.6
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	24.5	14.6	7.3	7.5	1.4	3.8	10.3	31.3
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	35.4	9.0	11.5	2.8	0.0	5.5	16.1	24.6
Second	10.1	34.8	17.3	0.0	2.4	0.0	5.9	29.4
Average	25.3	21.3	19.3	4.9	0.0	5.2	8.6	15.5
Fourth	22.8	13.0	21.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	33.8
Richest	23.9	15.1	16.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8	29.1
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	23.6	18.3	17.1	2.0	0.0	1.7	12.3	27.3
Uzbek	19.8	24.5	15.5	3.2	2.0	0.0	12.5	22.6
Russian	54.0	22.6	17.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9
Other	40.1	0.0	22.1	0.0	0.0	22.9	2.9	12.0

The above data show that men are twice more often engaged in entrepreneurship than women, and the majority of female entrepreneurs are from urban areas.

The survey shows gender segregation by areas of entrepreneurship: men more often do business in areas with higher incomes, while women are concentrated in areas of business with lower incomes. For example, although women are 1.6 times more often engaged in trade than men, men are twice more often than women engaged in wholesale trade, where incomes are much higher.

In addition, women do business mainly in the following three areas (trade, garment manufacturing and personal services). In contrast, men are wider represented in areas of business, except those captured by

women: transport services, agricultural production, processing, repair of vehicle and household goods, as well as health and educational services.

The survey showed that statement that women's business can ruin their family is not correct. At the same time, female entrepreneurship helps to increase investment in girls' education.

Despite doing business, women have to perform their family duties, as a result, women of reproductive age, especially from rural areas, often have to close their business, because they need to care of children and family.

## 7 Religious practices and beliefs

### Key findings

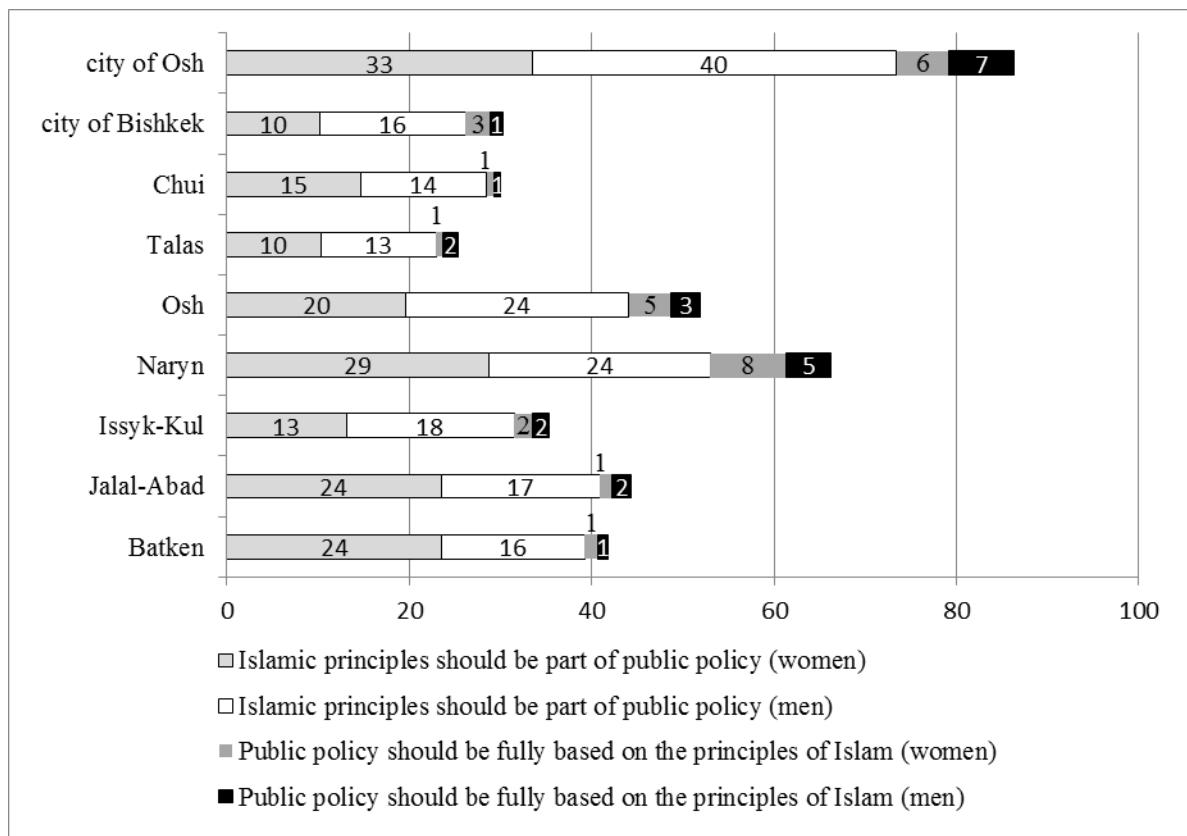
- There were no any gender differences at the national level in terms of whether religion should be part of the state policy or not. Thus, about 74% of men and women believe that "Religion should be a private affair and should have no influence on the state policy"; about 19% believe that "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy" and 3% agree that "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam."
- Small gender differences were in the attitude towards the increasing number of Moslems in the country. A significant proportion of the population (46% of women and 52% of men) think that "It is good and right." However, 39% of women and 31% of men "Have concerns or believe that it is a threat to our society". Almost half of men and women, who are positive about the increasing number of Moslems think that it "strengthens the family and proper upbringing of children". Half of the respondents, both men and women, who are concerned by this fact, believe that "This leads to more extremism."
- Minor gender differences were in the attitude towards certain statements supported by religious norms, as opposed to secular ones. 27% of women and 31% of men agree that "The laws of Islam from the God are more important than the state legislation". 16% of the interviewed women and 19% of men think that "It is better to follow advice of the mullahs and the Shariah, than appeal to the courts and law enforcement agencies", and 23% of women and 29% of men believe that "a true Moslem woman will not forbid her husband to marry other women".
- Significant regional differences show that religious norms are more strongly supported in the Jalal-Abad, Naryn, Osh regions and the city of Osh. The proportion of those, who support these norms is also significantly higher among the respondents, who believe that "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam"
- Very small proportion of people personally know men (about 1%) and women (less than 1%), who went to military zones in Syria.
- Sources of information on banned religious organizations for the majority of the respondents are the mass media (about 38%) and the Internet around (22%). About 10% of respondents find it difficult to answer this question, or think that this information "can be obtained anywhere".
- Men are slightly better than women aware of the liability for participation in extremist organizations. 64% of them are aware of imprisonment and 19% could not answer this question. 58% of women know about punishment, and 24% could not answer this question .

Conversion of many people to religion has become a notable event in the post-Soviet space. During Since independence, the number of mosques, churches and prayer houses has increased in the Kyrgyz Republic, like in other CIS countries. The number of young people studying in religious schools is growing. This chapter focuses on Islam, as the most widespread religion in the country. The growing influence of religious views leads to changing attitudes to many issues in the society, including gender and family roles. Among these, one of the key issues is the relation between the religious and secular values at the state and society levels.

First of all, the survey examined respondents' opinions about the role of the religion in the state policy. The respondents could select out of three statements. 74% of women and men agreed with the first statement "Religion should be a private affair and should not influence on the state policy". These figures show that the majority of respondents share values of the secular state and are for separation of the church from the state policy. At the same time, in some regions of the country this proportion is significantly lower: 55% of women and 45% of men in the Osh city and 61% of women and 67% of men in the Naryn region. The proportion of the respondents, who agree with this statement is low due to the fact that a significant number

of respondents in these regions believe that "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy" and "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam". In general, 18% of women and 19% of men agree with the first statement and 3% of women and 2% of men support the second statement across the country, however, these figures significantly vary depending on the region (Figure 7.1)

**Figure 7.1 The number of men and women, who agree with the statement "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy" and "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam" with breakdown by regions (in%)**



Thus, 34% of women and 40% of men in the Osh city, 20% of women and 24% of men in the Osh region and 29% of women and 24% of men in the Naryn region agree that "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy". The second statement "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam" was supported by 6% of women and 7% of men in the Osh city were agree, 5% of women and 4% of men in the Osh region and 8% of women and 5% of men in the Naryn region.

Certain gender differences should be noted in the attitude towards the statement that "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy". Among the urban respondents, men agree with this statement more often (20%) than women (17%), while there were no any differences in the rural areas (19% of women and men each).

Attitude towards the role of religion in the state varies depending on age: young respondents believe that the principles of Islam should be included into the state policies more than people above 60 years old. So, 21% of 18-20 years old young women and 28% of young men agree with the statement "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy". The proportion of supports among the generation of 61-70 years old respondents is 16% for both women and men. Attitude to this issue also depends on the welfare level: women from the poorest layers (23%) are almost twice more often agree with this statement, than women from the richest layer (12%). Almost the same tendency can be observed among men from the poorest and richest households: 24% and 13%, respectively.

Regarding the increase in the number of Moslems, the respondents' opinions vary considerably. Almost half of respondents (46% of women and 52% of men) mentioned that "It is very good and normal." However, more than one-third of respondents (39% of women and 31% of men) "are concerned by this fact" or think that "This is a threat to our society." In general, women more often express concerns about this fact, especially in urban areas, where 38% of women believe that it is "very good and normal", while 44% have concerns and perceive it as a threat. Among urban men, the proportion was 43% and 35% respectively. In Bishkek city, concerns are more noticeable than in other regions: 26% of women believe that it is "very good and normal" and twice more women feel fear and threat – 58% of respondents. This gap is much smaller among men, but fears still prevail (32% and 43%, respectively). A different situation is in rural areas, where 50% of women are positive about the increasing number of Moslems and 34% are concerned by this fact. However, among rural men, twice more respondents think that it is good (57%) than those, who have concerns (29%).

It can be stated that in regions, where many respondents agreed that the state policy should be partially or totally based on the principles of Islam, both men and women, are often expressed more positive to the increasing number of Moslems. At the same time, in the Jalal-Abad region, where many respondents favor introduction of the principles of Islam in politics, almost as many respondents among women feel anxiety, as those, who are positive about this fact (47% believe that it is good and normal, and 43% feel fear). Moreover, positive attitude prevails among men of this region (53% and 36%, respectively). In the Batken region, the proportion of women, who feel anxiety is even higher (55%) than those, who are positive about this fact (40%), but the difference among men is insignificant (49% and 46%, respectively).

Thus, along with a positive attitude towards the growth of religiosity, many people are increasingly worried by this fact, and this concern is clearly more pronounced among women than among men.

About 50% among those, who believe that the increasing number of Moslems is "very good and normal", think that it "helps to strengthen the family and proper upbringing of children", of which 50% of women and – 50% are men. In addition, many respondents think that it "develops and maintains order in the society" (26% of women and 26% of men) and "strengthens our national values" (12% of women and 14% of men, respectively). About 50% among those, who have concerns about this fact, think that "this leads to increased extremism" (50% of women and 52% of men). Some respondents believe that it is "a threat to individual freedoms and human rights" (18% of women and 14% of men) and "leads to intolerance and conflicts in the society" (13% of women and 14% of men).

Minor gender differences were in the attitude towards certain statements that favor religious norms, as opposed to secular ones. 27% of women and 31% of men agreed that "The laws of Islam from the God are more important than the state legislation". 16% of the interviewed women and 19% of men believe that "it is better to follow advice of the mullahs and the Shariah, than to appeal to courts and law enforcement agencies", and 23% of women and 29% of men think that "a true Moslem women will not forbid her husband to take other wives".

However, there are some significant differences depending on the region (Table 7.1).

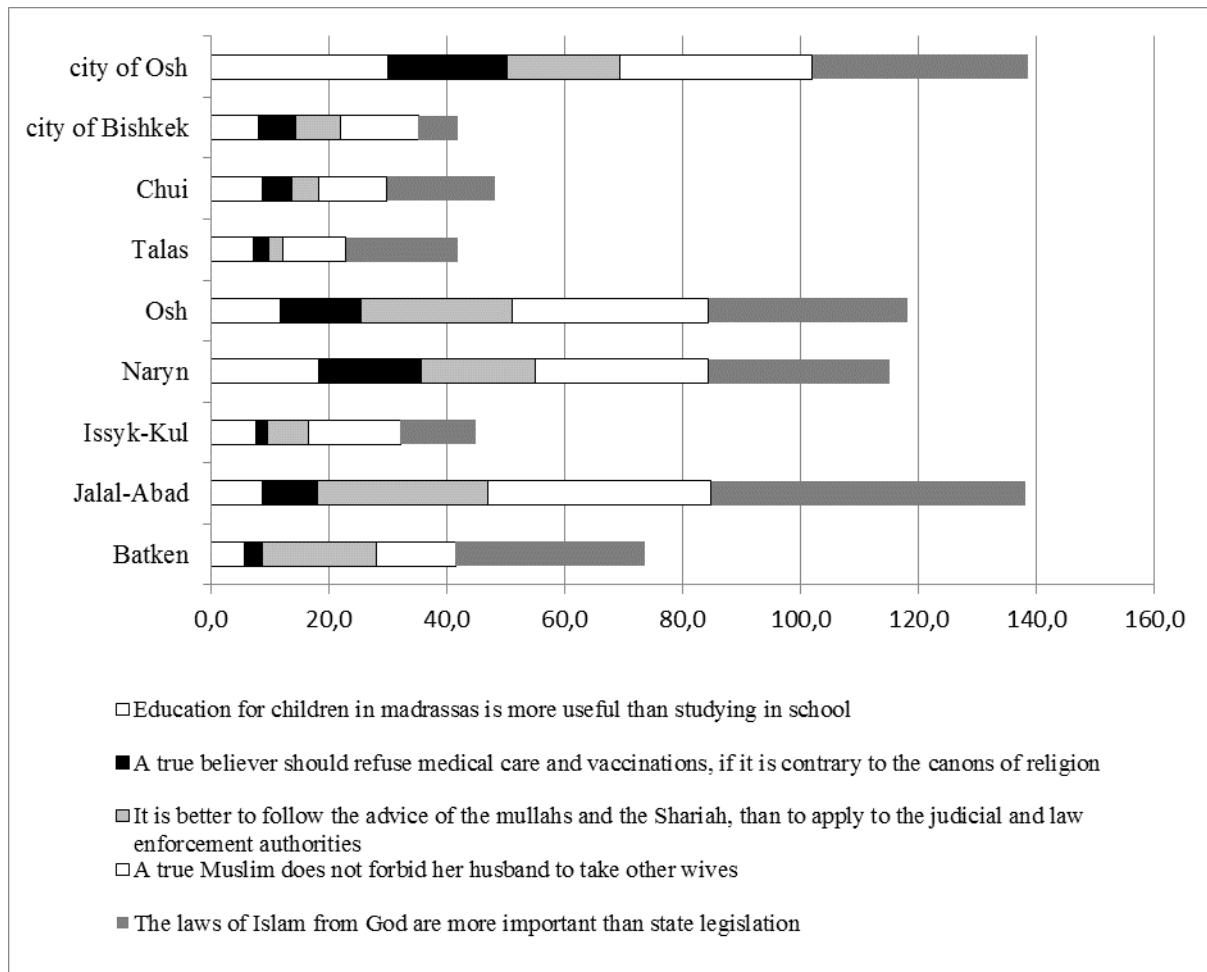
**Table 7.1 Proportion of women and men, who agree with the proposed stereotypical statements characterizing their adherence to religion**

Proportion of women and men, who agree with some stereotypical religious statements (excluding those, who could not answer the question) with breakdown by type of settlement and regions

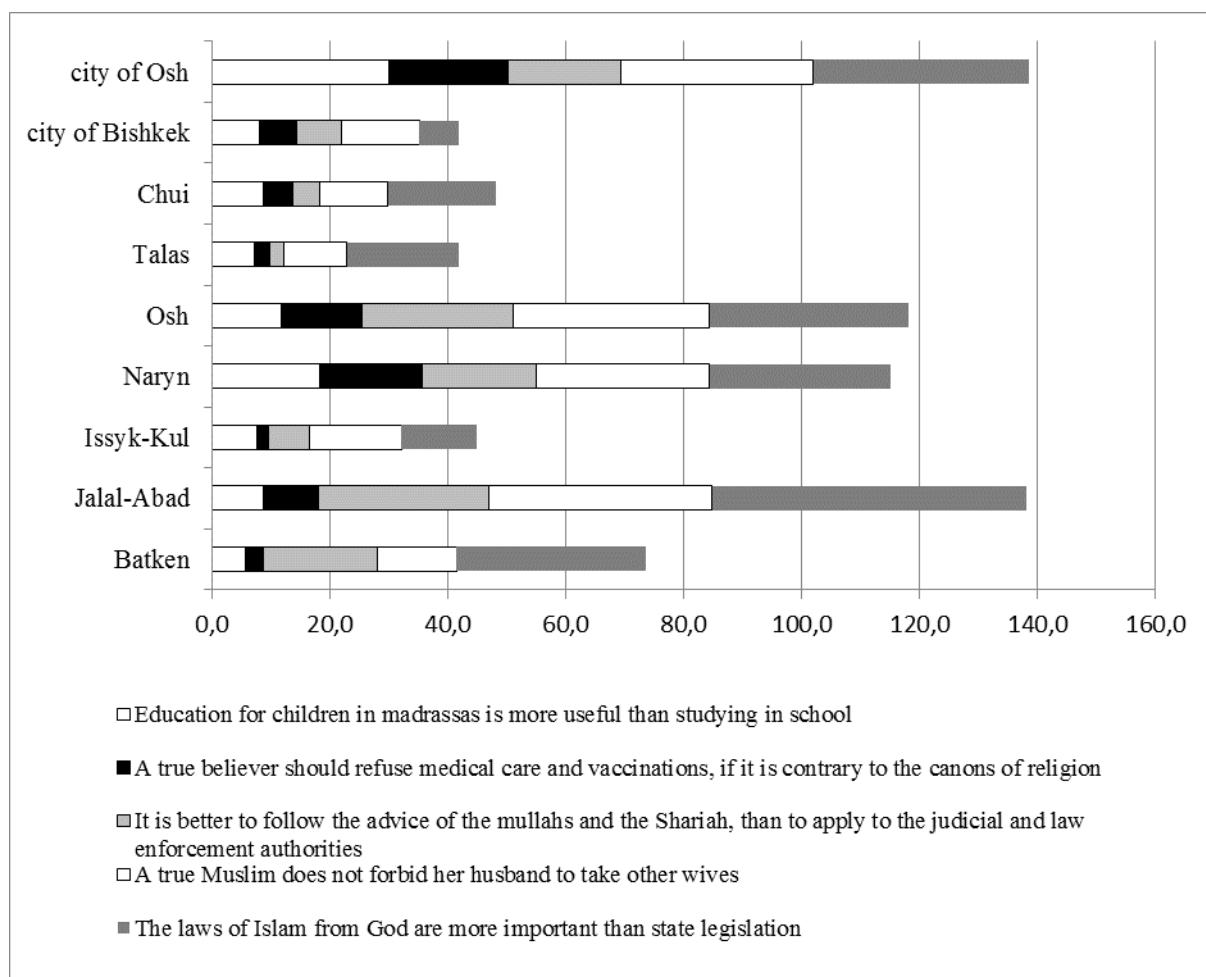
	Number of respondents	Education for children in madrassas is more useful than studying at school	A true Moslem should refuse medical care and vaccinations, if it contradicts to the canons of religion	Use of contraceptives contradicts to moral norms	Abortion is a murder of a human being	Laws of Islam from the God are more important than the state legislation	For the sake of protection of the Islamic values one can sacrifice own life	It is better to follow advice of mullahs and the Shariah, then to appeal to judicial and law enforcement authorities	A true Moslem woman won't forbid her husband to take other wives	Sex before and outside of marriage are unacceptable for women	Sex before and outside of marriage are unacceptable for men	A true Moslem woman should follow her husband anywhere, even in conflict zones
<b>Women</b>												
Total	3,435	10.1	8.5	36.2	89.7	27.2	13.6	16.0	22.8	85.0	77.6	19.1
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	1,481	10.3	7.2	31.1	86.4	18.5	7.7	12.0	20.5	82.1	68.1	15.2
Rural	1,954	10.0	9.2	39.3	91.8	32.5	17.2	18.5	24.2	86.8	83.4	21.5
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	410	5.6	3.1	39.8	89.5	32.2	11.4	19.3	13.3	89.9	83.6	18.7
Jalal-Abad	407	8.6	9.3	43.1	93.7	53.4	30.8	29.0	37.9	93.5	92.5	34.6
Issyk-Kul	370	7.5	2.1	25.2	91.8	12.7	3.2	6.9	15.6	88.5	82.6	14.0
Naryn	355	18.2	17.4	37.7	97.4	30.6	18.8	19.4	29.3	88.3	85.8	30.8
Osh	388	11.7	13.7	48.8	96.2	33.8	22.2	25.5	33.4	94.0	94.2	20.4
Talas	353	7.2	2.5	8.9	82.5	18.9	5.9	2.4	10.7	96.1	92.9	14.5
Chui	404	8.7	5.1	31.1	86.9	18.2	3.9	4.5	11.6	67.3	59.1	9.3
Bishkek city	426	7.9	6.3	20.5	80.8	6.6	3.8	7.8	13.2	74.1	49.3	7.0
Osh city	322	30.1	20.2	70.1	90.7	36.5	10.0	19.1	32.7	94.5	92.8	41.4
<b>Men</b>												
Total	2,514	12.9	9.8	37.9	88.0	30.8	18.6	18.8	29.2	86.3	80.7	21.4
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	944	14.8	8.3	34.8	83.0	18.7	11.3	14.9	27.0	80.5	70.5	16.3
Rural	1,570	12.0	10.6	39.4	90.5	36.8	22.2	20.8	30.3	89.1	85.7	23.8
<b>region</b>												
Batken	258	11.2	8.2	49.1	89.6	31.4	12.3	23.9	24.7	88.6	85.0	17.1
Jalal-Abad	328	10.4	8.7	47.4	95.6	56.6	37.0	34.6	41.2	97.8	98.3	33.5
Issyk-Kul	300	13.5	4.4	27.5	91.7	16.5	10.3	7.5	26.5	92.9	84.9	18.0
Naryn	311	22.8	19.6	38.8	97.5	29.6	12.4	19.4	28.8	85.5	84.2	34.3
Osh	286	12.6	13.2	44.7	89.7	40.9	28.8	20.6	39.8	95.8	91.6	20.6
Talas	291	11.3	4.0	9.0	81.6	24.7	10.3	5.2	13.3	95.1	90.9	16.8
Chui	265	8.8	7.8	29.4	85.7	17.9	6.1	7.0	12.4	67.5	60.1	16.7
Bishkek city	232	12.8	5.8	26.2	74.6	5.2	5.9	14.1	21.1	68.1	52.4	4.1
Osh city	243	30.5	25.8	58.1	87.4	32.6	15.2	19.5	37.6	94.0	90.9	45.8

Some statements should be discussed in more details, as there are significant differences between the regions (Figure 7.2 and 7.3). The Figures show that compared to other regions of the country, both men and women in the Osh city and Osh, Jalal-Abad, and Naryn regions more often believe that religious values are more important than secular ones than in. These Figures also show that men in all regions more often than women agree with almost all the above statements.

**Figure 7.2 Proportion of women, who agree with the proposed stereotypical statements characterizing their adherence to the religion, with breakdown by regions**



**Figure 7.3 Proportion of men, who agree with the proposed stereotypical statements characterizing their adherence to the religion with breakdown by regions**



It can be stated that secular values are losing their authority in some regions of the country, and many people are willing to change their way of life and switch to the rules of Islam.

Despite strong concerns about the growth of the religious extremism in the society, the respondents did not face it often. Only a few of the interviewed women and men (only 85 people out of nearly 6,000) know women, who have left for Syria to take part in military actions. The respondents know more men: from 0.2% in the Chui region to 3.3% in the Osh region). Almost all men believe that these women were forced to go there by "the religious organizations," and only 52% of women agree with this. Nearly half of female respondents (48%) think that these women were forced by their own husbands. Almost one-third (30%) of all respondents believe that these women went there on their own will, while about 80% believe that these women were deceived by religious organizations.

The sources of information about banned religious organizations for the majority of respondents are the mass media (about 38%) and the Internet (about 22%). About 10% of respondents could not answer this question or think that this information "is not available at all".

Men are slightly better than women aware of the "liability for participation in the extremist organizations", of whom - 64% are aware about imprisonment and 19% could not answer this question. 58% of the interviewed women are aware of the punishment and 24% could not answer this question.

In conclusion, the link between the choice of religious values and attitudes towards the role of Islam in the state policy should be underlined. Below are the three most representative statements as an example (Table 7.2)

**Table 7.2: Women and men, who agree with statements about the values and their opinion about the role of Islam in the state policy**

		Proportion of men and women, who agreed with the statements about the values and their opinion about the role of Islam in the state policy					
		Education for children in madrassas is more useful than studying at school		A true Moslem should reject medical care and vaccinations, if it contradicts to the canons of religion		It is better to follow advice of mullahs and the Shariah, than to appeal to judicial and law enforcement authorities	
		women	men	women	men	women	men
Religion should be a private affair and should not influence on the state policy		8.3	11.4	5.9	7.8	14.1	17
Islamic principles should be part of the state policy		13.4	18.3	13	14.9	22	24.3
The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam		47.5	26.3	46.8	41.1	42.9	39.4

These data show that the more the population supports the opinion that Islamic principles should become part or fully comply with the state policy, the more often they think that education in madrassas is more useful than at schools. At the same time, women support this opinion more than men. The same tendency is with regard to medical care and vaccinations, as well as appeals to law enforcement and judicial authorities.

Thus, although the majority of respondents share secular values and believe that religion should be separated from the state policy, a significant number of respondents in some regions of the country, such as the city of Osh, and Osh, Jalal-Abad, and Naryn regions believe that "Islamic principles should be part of the state policy" and "The state policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam".

Although most respondents are positive about the growth of religiosity, many people have concerns about this fact and this concern is higher among women than among men.

It can be stated that in some regions of the country, secular values are losing their authority among the Moslems. Under certain conditions many people will probably be willing to change their lifestyle and switch to the Islamic norms.



## 8 Matrimonial practice

### Key findings

#### General issues of nuptiality

- More than two thirds of respondents (65% of women and nearly 70% of men) deem religious rites of nikah and church wedding as a marriage. 74% of respondents in rural areas and 55% in urban area deem religious rites of nikah and church wedding as a fact of marriage,
- More than half of the adult population - 51%, of whom 54% are rural and 48% are urban people regardless of age supported the draftlaw banning religious ceremonies of nikah/ church wedding without official registration of marriage. 37% of women and 40% of men do not support this legislative initiative.
- Women and men are equally exposed to stereotypes about marital relations and differences are mainly due to the location, educationand ethnicity of the respondents: 89% of respondents agree that virginity of girls is the key to her happy family life; 82% agree that only families with children can be considered as full-fledged families; 86% agree that a girl can not develop normally without a mother; 77% agree that boy can not develop normally without a father.
- Men (63%) more often than women (58%) think that a woman must sacrifice everything to save the family.
- Most women and men adhere to traditional family values: 97% believe that it is necessary to receive approval of their parents before marriage.

#### Marriages of minors

- One in six respondents (17% of women and 16% of men) did not know the age, at which citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic may marry in accordance with the legislation.
- Every sixth woman (15%) and one men in ten (13%) reported an increase in the number of marriages involving underage girls.
- Every fifth respondent (20%) personally knows girls, who were married off, when they were minors. Just under half of girls (45%), who were married off before they reached the age of 18 were marries by decisions of adults.
- The number of underage marriages is growing for various reasons, such as: girls' willingness (23%), increase in poverty and family's willingness to marry off their girls as soon as possible (18%), early sexual activity of young people (17%), the growing influence of Islam and other religions allowing girls to marry at early age (16%), as well as the increasing number of abduction of minors for marriage (11%).
- Most women and men (over 60%) condemn parents, who marry off their daughters under the age of 18. At the same time, 27% of respondents think that it is purely up to the parents, whether to marry off their minor daughters or not.
- The vast majority of respondents (77%) believe that women, who married, when she was minor, often become extremely dependent on her husband, and will hardly acquire any profession.
- Less than half (46% of women and 48% of men) of respondents think that marriage with minors can not be excused. Slightly fewer respondents (44% of women and 42% of men) excuse marriage involving minors in the following cases:
  - Pregnancy of the underage girl (81%);
  - A girl is in love and wants to marry (54%);
  - A girl was kidnapped for marriage (23%);
  - A minor girl is at threat of a violence or rape (22%).
- Only a small proportion of respondents (less than 2%) supported the idea of reducing the marriage age for

women and men, while 40% of respondents are for increasing the marriage age for women and 57% of respondents supported the increase in the marriage age of men.

- More than half of the respondents (58% of women and 55% of men) believe that the state should take measures against parents, who marry off their minors daughters. One-third of respondents do not think that the state should take measures against such parents, and men (36%) more often oppose to this idea than women (31%).

### **Abduction of women for marriage**

- The overwhelming majority of respondents (81% of women and 78% of men) are against bride abduction. About 5% of respondents are positive and 12% – are neutral. The highest proportion of respondents, who are positive about bride abduction, are from the age group of 21-30 years, including both Kyrgyz women and men living in rural areas.
- More than half of women and men (55 and 56%, respectively) believe that the number of women abduction (without their consent) for marriage is declining in the past five years. Slightly fewer respondents (48% of each women and men) think that the number of non-violent abduction of women (with their consent) for marriage is also reducing. The same number of respondents (about 20%) believe that the dynamics of violent and non-violent abduction of brides has not changed within the last five years.
- Every tenth respondent (11% of women and 12% of men) reported more frequent non-violent abductions of brides in their communities over the past five years, and 4% of respondents reported an increase in the abduction of women for marriage without their consent.
- Urban residents (5% of women and 6% of men) almost twice more often than rural respondents reported an increase in violent abduction of women (3% of each interviewed women and men).
- The highest awareness of the violent abductions of women for marriage is among Kyrgyz men (9-11%) aged 18-30 years, with high level of education from the Naryn and Osh regions, and cities of Bishkek and Osh.
- Women (59%) more often than men (49%) have negative attitude towards girls' abduction for marriage. At the same time, men more often than women are positive (18% vs. 12%) or neutral to men, who commit such act (31% vs. 25%).
- According to women, the main reasons for abduction of women for marriage are as follows: the abductor does not want the woman to marry another man (30%); the abductor is afraid that the woman would reject him (24%); the abductor did not dare to get acquainted with the woman (21%) or has no money to pay the bride price (18%), as well as because parents/ relatives insisted on woman abduction (19%). In general, men have mentioned the same reasons, but they slightly more often reported difficulties of getting acquainted with women and lack of money to pay the bride price (kalym) (21%).
- Nearly one in five respondents (17% of women and 21% of men) believe that in the case of abduction, the girl should better stay and marry the abductor. Women and men with higher level of education and welfare think that girls should not marry their abductors. The proportion of men, who favor marriage with the abductor is higher than that of the proportion of women in all age groups, as well as among men with lower vocational-technical education, regardless of wealth and ethnicity.
- The following reasons were mentioned, why girls should better marry their abductors: condemnation by the community (39% of each of the interviewed men and women), stereotypical perception that a woman should obey man (25% of women and 34% of men), it would be difficult in the future (24% of women and 20% of men). The proportion of respondents, who think that girls should marry their abductors is twice higher in urban than in rural areas. .
- 25% of the interviewed women and 29% of men think that girls should not marry their abductors, if no sexual violence was committed against her.
- Although 58% of the interviewed women and 53% of men think that in case of sexual violence against the abducted girl, she should appeal to police, only 39% of women and 26% of men said that in the case of their daughters / sisters they would take them back home and appeal to police.

- According to more than half of respondents, regardless of gender, involvement of relatives in bride abduction is a folk tradition, custom (52-53%), and nearly one-third of women say that they should help their relative-abductor (31%). According to every tenth respondent, women participate in abduction, because they need a girl to help them in the household (12-13%) or because they have also been abducted for marriage (10% of women and 13% of men).
- Most women and men (70-71%), both in urban and rural areas, are aware of the legal liability for woman abduction for marriage. Less than half (41% of women and 44% of men) are aware about the punishment for abduction of women for marriage.
- The respondents mentioned the following measures that would stop women abduction for marriage: stricter requirements to the police and courts, when considering cases of abduction; punishment of the abductors (19%); bringing relatives and friends to liability, as accomplices, who help men to abduct and force a woman to marry (16%); inform population that bride abduction is a violation of rights of women (15%).

This chapter provides detailed information about marriage practices supported by women and men, their attitudes and opinions on various aspects of marital relationship, including unregistered marriage, religious marriage, marriage with minors, abduction of women for marriage (ala kachuu), as well as reasons, why women and families do not report violations of the women's rights to freedom of choosing a spouse and compliance with the requirement about the minimum age for marriage. This chapter examines issues related to the legislative initiatives banning the rituals of Nikah/ church wedding ceremonies without official registration and decision-making on marriage. It also provides respondents' opinions on measures to be taken by the state in order to stop harmful practices, such as marriage with minors, unregistered marriage and abduction of women for marriage.

## **8.1 GENERAL ISSUES OF MARRIAGES**

According to the Family Code<sup>18</sup>, a marriage is an equitable union between a man and a woman concluded with the free and full consent of the parties in the manner prescribed by law for the purpose of creating a family generating property and personal non-property relations between spouses. No religious rites are recognized as a marriage, and do not give rise to any property rights between women and men.

Data in Table 8.1 reflect poor awareness among the population that in accordance with the family law, only official registration with the ORCA is deemed as marriage. For example, more than two thirds of the adult population of the country perceives religious rites of Nikah among Moslems and church wedding among Christians, which do not give rise to any legal consequences as a marriage. At the same time, approximately every fifth respondent recognizes only a religious ceremony as a marriage.

So, two-thirds (65%) of women and nearly 70% of men deem religious ceremonies of Nikah and Church wedding as a marriage. At the same time, for 85% of women and 80% of men marriage means only official registration with ORCA. Thus, women more often than men favor formal marriage. The vast majority of women and men (94-95%) does not recognize cohabitation without religious ritual and official registration as a marriage.

Women and men in rural areas more than urban citizen recognize religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding as marriage. For example, the religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding are deemed as marriage by 74% of women and 75% of men in rural areas , and their proportion is significantly lower in urban –areas: 51% of the interviewed women and 58% of men.

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<sup>18</sup> Article 2 of the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of August 30, 2003, No 201.

The religious rituals are more favored by the women and men in the Batken region (94 and 95%, respectively), in the city of Osh (86 and 88%), and the following regions: Osh (83 and 85%), Talas (82 and 80%), Jalalabad (79 and 78%) and Naryn (79% and 82%) compared to Bishkek (30% and 40%) and Issyk-Kul region (48% and 55%, respectively).

The importance of the religious marriage declines with age of women: religious rituals of Nikah/church wedding are deemed as a marriage by 70% of the interviewed women in the age group of 18-20 years old and 58-59% in the age group above 60.

Respondents with higher levels of education favor more official marriage compared to respondents with lower educational. Thus, the official registration is considered as a marriage by 88% of women and 84% of men with higher education; and 80% of women and 82% of men with general secondary education. Among the respondents with general secondary education, the proportion of those, for whom religious rituals of Nikah/church wedding is a marriage (76% of women and 71% of men) is higher, in contrast to the respondents with higher education (55% of women and 63% of men).

There are some differences depending on the level of welfare and ethnicity. The importance of the religious marriage decreases with the growth of living standards. So, religious rituals of Nikah/ church wedding are deemed as a marriage by 74% of the interviewed women and 77% of men in the poorest households , and their proportion is much lower in the richest households: 47% of women and 55% of men.

The respondents, who married through religious rituals, deem Nikah/ church wedding as a marriage more often compared to unmarried, divorced or officially married respondents.

**Table 8.1 What do women and men deem as marriage**

Proportion of women and men, for whom marriage is cohabitation, religious rite or official registration of marriage with the ORCA, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare, ethnicity and marital status

	Women				Men			
	Cohabita-tion (without registra-tion and religious cere-monies)	Reli-gious rite (nikah / church wed-ding)	Regis-tration with ORCA	Do not know/ Do not want to answer	Cohabita-tion (without registration and religious ceremony)	Reli-gious rite (nikah / church wedding)	Regis-tration with ORCA	Do not want to answer /Find dif-ficult to answer
Total	4.7	65.2	84.8	0.7	4.1	69.2	80.4	1.0
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	5.1	51.2	86.7	0.8	4.8	58.0	81.2	1.2
Rural	4.5	73.9	83.6	0.6	3.7	74.7	79.9	0.9
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	10.7	93.6	87.5	0.2	8.5	95.2	90.5	0.0
Jalal-Abad	0.6	79.3	71.4	0.9	2.0	77.6	64.5	1.5
Issyk-Kul	3.5	47.8	91.8	0.5	1.5	55.2	84.0	0.8
Naryn	2.5	78.7	61.7	0.9	2.1	82.4	59.8	1.0
Osh	6.6	82.8	86.6	0.0	3.4	85.0	84.1	1.5
Talas	0.3	81.9	95.0	0.0	0.0	80.5	96.3	0.0
Chui	5.5	50.4	89.9	1.2	6.9	48.8	89.6	0.5
Bishkek city	1.4	30.3	89.6	1.2	1.8	39.7	83.0	1.1
Osh city	18.6	85.8	84.9	0.7	17.4	87.6	79.8	1.3
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	3.4	69.5	91.5	0.0	1.2	70.5	75.1	1.4
21-30	5.0	64.5	83.8	1.5	3.6	70.5	77.7	0.7
31-40	5.7	69.2	84.6	0.2	4.8	69.2	81.0	0.5
41-50	4.2	65.3	83.4	1.1	4.2	70.6	81.4	2.4
51-60	3.6	65.2	87.3	0.2	4.6	68.3	83.1	0.6
61-70	5.9	57.6	84.0	0.4	4.8	60.1	84.7	0.8
70+	4.1	59.2	80.9	0.4	3.6	75.4	76.7	1.1
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	1.9	76.2	80.2	0.5	2.7	70.9	81.7	1.4
Secondary general	5.9	74.1	82.5	0.6	4.4	73.9	77.0	1.3
Primary and secondary vocational	4.0	55.0	87.3	1.0	4.0	64.9	83.4	0.4
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	4.3	54.8	88.4	0.8	4.0	63.1	83.8	0.9

Proportion of women and men, for whom marriage is cohabitation, religious rite or official registration of marriage with the ORCA, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare, ethnicity and marital status

	Women				Men			
	Cohabita-tion (without registration and religious ceremony)	Reli-gious rite (nikah / church wed-ding)	Regis-tration with ORCA	Do not know/ Do not want to answer	Cohabita-tion (without registration and religious ceremony)	Reli-gious rite (nikah / church wedding)	Regis-tration with ORCA	Do not want to answer /Find dif-ficult to answer
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	4.0	74.4	84.4	0.5	3.0	76.5	80.5	1.1
Second	5.4	74.9	83.2	0.5	3.6	74.7	80.2	0.9
Average	4.7	67.6	83.4	0.9	6.5	72.8	80.8	0.2
Fourth	5.0	55.4	87.6	0.7	2.5	58.8	79.3	1.5
Richest	4.3	47.4	86.0	1.1	5.2	55.3	81.2	1.7
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	3.8	70.0	82.6	0.7	2.8	72.0	79.1	0.6
Uzbek	8.0	82.1	89.4	0.4	5.2	83.8	81.8	1.6
Russian	8.7	8.6	93.7	1.1	12.9	8.8	90.1	2.3
Other	0.9	57.9	86.6	0.7	6.9	65.5	82.1	3.4
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	3.4	48.4	85.9	0.7	4.0	64.8	73.8	1.7
Married only officially	5.3	23.0	94.4	0.0	7.7	22.6	96.7	0.5
Married only religiously	8.3	79.4	70.8	2.2	2.7	84.5	65.6	0.0
Married officially and religiously	4.6	75.6	84.5	0.5	3.1	76.7	81.2	1.0
Cohabit without official and religious marriage	20.8	51.4	77.4	5.3	7.6	65.3	55.9	2.2
Divorced	3.7	52.3	88.4	1.3	12.9	52.8	87.0	0.2
Widowed	3.8	64.2	82.3	0.8	6.0	66.9	74.5	2.1

Table 8.2 shows respondents' attitude towards the legislative initiative of the deputies on Prohibition of religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding without official marriage registration with the ORCA. More than half of women (52%) and men (51%) supported the ban on religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding without official marriage registration. 37% of the interviewed women and almost the same number of men (39%) are against this initiative.

Women from rural areas (55%) support this ban more often than urban women (46%). Significant differences on this issue are among urban and rural men (50 and 52%, respectively). At the same time, urban women could not answer this question twice more often than rural ones (16% and 8%, respectively).

There are also some regional differences. Thus, the biggest proportion of supporters of the ban on religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding without official marriage registration is in the Osh city (76% of the interviewed women and 73% of men), and in the Batken (75% of women and 71% of men) and Naryn (70% of women and 61% of men) regions. It is noteworthy that these regions have the highest proportion of respondents, who consider religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding as a marriage. This initiative of deputies is least supported by residents of Bishkek (30% of women and 38% of men) and the Chui region (44% of women and 47% of men), where there is the biggest number of respondents, who could not answer this question (25%).

Respondents with lower levels of education and from poorer households support the initiative banning religious rituals of Nikah / church wedding without official marriage more and their proportion increases with the age of respondents.

**Table 8.2 Respondents' attitude towards the initiative of deputies on prohibition of religious rituals of nikah/ church wedding prior to official registration of marriage with ORCA**

Proportion of women and men, who support or are against the initiative of deputies banning religious rites of nikah/ church wedding prior to official marriage, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Women			Men		
	Support	Do not support	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Support	Do not support	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Total	51.9	36.8	11.3	51.4	39.8	8.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	46.3	37.6	16.1	50.3	39.0	10.7
Rural	55.3	36.3	8.4	52.0	40.2	7.8
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	75.1	17.8	7.2	70.9	23.3	5.8
Jalal-Abad	52.6	42.7	4.7	48.8	45.3	5.9
Issyk-Kul	65.0	30.1	5.0	62.9	33.9	3.3
Naryn	70.2	28.8	1.0	60.8	33.7	5.5
Osh	55.4	39.0	5.7	50.8	46.2	3.1
Talas	49.6	46.3	4.1	41.7	53.6	4.7
Chui	43.8	31.4	24.7	47.2	31.0	21.8
Bishkek city	29.6	48.9	21.5	37.7	47.4	14.9
Osh city	75.5	19.8	4.7	72.8	22.5	4.6
<b>Age, years</b>						
18-20	45.5	37.5	17.0	44.1	40.9	15.1
21-30	51.4	38.9	9.7	50.6	38.5	10.9
31-40	49.7	40.5	9.8	51.7	38.7	9.6
41-50	53.6	37.3	9.1	50.1	44.0	5.8
51-60	55.1	33.8	11.1	52.9	39.1	8.0
61-70	54.8	27.5	17.8	57.2	37.1	5.7
70+	49.9	32.5	17.7	55.2	40.6	4.2
<b>Level of education</b>						
Basic general (including primary)	55.3	30.2	14.4	45.5	41.1	13.4
Secondary general	51.0	39.8	9.1	53.6	38.6	7.8
Primary and secondary vocational	51.1	34.0	14.9	53.1	37.4	9.5
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	52.8	36.4	10.8	47.8	44.1	8.1
<b>Welfare level</b>						
Poorest	57.0	35.4	7.6	53.9	39.0	7.1
Second	59.8	33.7	6.5	53.5	39.9	6.6
Average	49.0	40.9	10.1	53.7	41.5	4.8
Fourth	45.3	37.2	17.5	45.6	40.6	13.8
Richest	44.4	38.1	17.5	48.0	37.8	14.2
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	52.1	40.2	7.7	50.0	43.6	6.5
Uzbek	65.1	29.4	5.5	58.7	36.3	5.0
Russian	38.4	22.9	38.7	49.9	19.0	31.1
Other	39.1	36.3	24.5	53.3	26.4	20.3

Tables 8.3 and 8.4 show that women and men are equally exposed to marital relations stereotypes, and there are some differences depending on the location, educational status and ethnicity of the respondents.

In general, 89% of respondents agree that virginity of girls is a key to their happy family life, and 82% agree that only families with children are full-fledged families.

The vast majority of respondents (86%) agree that a girl cannot develop normally without a mother, and 75% agree that a boy cannot develop normally without a farther, so the respondents believe that mother's participation in upbringing a child is more important, than father's.

Almost all men and women (97%) agree that marriage should be preliminary approved by the parents. The proportion of respondents, who agree that young people should decide about marriage on their own, is much lower - 74%.

Men (63%) more often than women (58%) think that women must sacrifice everything for the sake of the family. At the same time, for men a divorce is a lesser shame (56%) than for women (61%).

Residents of rural areas are more exposed to marital relations stereotypes than urban population. They more often agree with all the above statements, however, the biggest differences were with regard to the following statements:

- Only families with children are full-fledged families (84% and 74%, respectively);
- A boy can not develop normally without a father (84% and 64%, respectively);
- A woman must sacrifice everything to save the family (66% and 51%, respectively);
- A divorce for a woman is a disgrace (68% and 49%, respectively);
- A divorce for a man is a disgrace (62% and 44%, respectively).

**Table 8.3 Women's attitude towards stereotypical statements about marriage and family**

Proportion of women, who agree with stereotypical statements about marriage and family (excluding those, who could not answer the question), with breakdown by type of settlement, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Number of women	Proportion of women agreed with the statements (in percentage):								
		Virginit y for girls is the key to their happy family life	Only families with children can be consid ered as full- fledged families	A boy can not develop nor- mally without a father	A girl can not develop nor- mally without a mother	Mar- riage should be prelim inary appro- ved by the parents	Young people should decide about mar- riage on their own	A woman must sacrifice every- thing to save the family	Divorce is a disgrace for women	Divorce is a disgrace for men
Total	3,432	88.3	79.5	75.3	85.9	96.4	73.8	58.2	58.3	52.6
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	1,481	84.5	72.0	64.0	81.0	96.8	75.7	47.8	44.7	40.2
Rural	1,951	90.7	84.2	82.3	89.0	96.1	72.6	64.7	66.8	60.3
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	410	97.7	87.7	79.6	83.1	98.1	72.2	47.2	62.3	55.2
Jalal-Abad	407	96.4	92.1	92.9	97.8	97.5	79.4	63.9	95.2	90.0
Issyk-Kul	368	82.3	84.8	83.6	88.5	96.2	69.2	47.4	29.3	23.6
Naryn	355	86.1	76.8	72.8	83.7	96.0	81.1	54.3	82.6	76.1
Osh	388	96.1	77.2	74.9	83.4	93.1	56.3	76.1	68.2	64.0
Talas	352	97.7	94.3	90.4	95.9	99.0	77.2	51.8	50.0	46.5
Chui	404	74.6	80.5	81.7	90.8	97.2	84.8	68.2	50.6	41.8
Bishkek city	426	80.2	59.0	48.8	73.3	96.3	77.9	38.6	26.3	22.0
Osh city	322	93.1	91.0	69.1	83.7	99.0	73.5	54.8	66.4	58.7
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	142	92.7	76.7	81.0	81.4	95.4	69.0	50.8	60.6	55.8
21-30	676	87.0	81.4	77.3	87.1	96.7	76.5	57.2	61.5	53.2
31-40	778	90.0	77.4	73.5	85.5	96.9	71.4	56.8	58.8	54.9
41-50	719	88.8	78.3	70.1	83.4	96.1	73.0	57.1	54.4	49.8
51-60	584	90.0	81.6	78.3	88.9	97.9	74.7	61.9	57.4	51.5
61-70	342	84.8	79.8	74.4	87.7	97.2	73.1	63.3	58.0	53.1
70+	191	81.3	79.5	76.8	85.8	88.6	76.9	64.2	55.3	50.0
<b>Level of education</b>										
Basic general (including primary)	293	91.7	83.1	82.6	90.1	95.4	65.1	70.2	68.9	60.1
Secondary general	1,462	92.0	83.4	79.7	87.7	96.0	74.5	62.8	68.7	63.6
Primary and secondary vocational	821	83.0	75.8	69.9	82.2	96.4	72.6	50.8	43.5	37.3
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	856	85.4	74.7	69.8	84.7	97.4	76.7	52.5	49.7	44.5
<b>Welfare level</b>										
Poorest	790	93.3	84.5	79.6	86.6	96.8	68.3	65.3	66.8	60.9
Second	732	92.3	81.6	79.0	89.4	97.1	73.5	59.5	64.7	58.7
Average	622	90.8	82.6	76.9	86.7	94.3	77.2	59.4	63.0	59.0
Fourth	696	81.7	74.8	69.6	82.6	97.3	74.0	53.8	46.6	40.3
Richest	592	80.6	71.5	68.9	83.3	96.1	78.1	49.9	45.7	39.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>										
Kyrgyz	2,496	90.5	81.3	76.5	86.5	96.0	75.7	58.5	59.4	54.1
Uzbek	435	98.2	86.0	80.4	89.1	98.3	56.6	64.6	78.9	69.3
Russian	320	56.7	53.9	58.4	77.8	94.8	87.4	43.1	16.8	12.4
Other	181	88.9	83.2	76.3	84.8	99.2	70.8	64.0	61.8	59.0

The above stereotypical statements are more characteristic for respondents with low level of education from the poorest households and are least noted among women and men from Bishkek and Chui region.

**Table 8.4 Men's attitude towards stereotypical statements about marriage and family**

Proportion of men, who agree with stereotypical statements about marriage and family (excluding those, who could not answer the question), with breakdown by type of settlement, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	The number of men who agreed with the stereotypical statements	Proportion of men, who agreed with the statements (in percentage):								
		Virginity for girls is the key to their happy family life	Only families with children can be considered as full-fledged families	A boy can not develop normally without a father	A girl can not develop normally without a mother	Marriage should be preliminary approved by the parents	Young people should decide about marriage on their own	A woman must sacrifice everything to save the family	Divorce is a disgrace for women	Divorce is a disgrace for men
<b>Total</b>	2 505	89,7	81,5	79,2	86,4	96,8	74,2	62,6	63,9	58,3
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	942	86,0	76,1	65,5	81,8	98,2	78,1	54,4	52,7	47,2
Rural	1563	91,4	84,1	86,0	88,6	96,1	72,3	66,7	69,4	63,8
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	258	98,3	84,8	80,7	81,3	98,0	70,8	44,3	61,1	57,3
Jalal-Abad	327	97,5	92,4	93,3	95,1	98,0	75,2	64,6	94,4	91,4
Issyk-Kul	297	88,7	86,4	84,7	89,0	94,7	62,5	56,6	40,1	28,2
Naryn	311	92,5	71,6	73,9	84,8	98,5	85,2	58,4	85,4	80,1
Osh	286	97,2	74,7	78,3	82,6	93,5	60,3	75,6	67,6	63,3
Talas	291	97,7	93,9	90,2	95,3	100,0	78,7	52,4	47,8	45,8
Chui	260	72,2	84,5	89,0	91,1	96,2	88,4	76,9	54,0	46,0
Bishkek city	232	79,0	65,9	50,4	74,0	98,4	80,4	46,4	37,7	30,6
Osh city	243	92,6	91,2	70,6	87,8	99,0	73,7	58,5	71,0	65,4
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	123	89,1	77,8	73,1	78,8	96,4	72,6	53,4	59,5	49,9
21-30	463	90,2	79,7	74,4	84,5	96,4	76,9	62,5	64,4	58,0
31-40	551	90,1	81,6	78,2	84,7	97,2	69,7	62,3	62,4	56,4
41-50	580	90,7	83,6	81,7	86,8	96,1	74,9	65,7	65,1	59,0
51-60	447	89,8	80,9	83,2	89,9	97,5	74,5	63,8	64,6	60,4
61-70	227	86,8	84,2	84,5	91,4	97,6	75,1	57,6	61,9	57,7
70+	114	85,0	84,0	84,1	90,7	95,9	75,8	70,1	70,6	71,4
<b>Level of education</b>										
Basic general (including primary)	212	88,8	81,3	83,4	89,3	96,6	67,6	64,4	69,4	61,2
Secondary general	1 150	93,3	84,0	82,6	86,5	96,5	72,1	67,0	69,9	64,3
Primary and secondary vocational	582	86,4	81,5	78,2	85,2	97,5	75,1	57,2	56,5	51,0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	561	85,6	76,5	71,8	86,1	96,7	80,1	58,3	56,6	51,8
<b>Welfare level</b>										
Poorest	658	93,8	83,1	84,8	87,9	97,8	70,2	70,2	69,9	65,1
Second	553	94,1	83,9	79,4	85,9	96,6	73,7	62,3	68,8	63,4
Average	454	90,0	84,2	78,7	85,7	96,9	73,1	59,3	60,8	54,4
Fourth	445	81,9	78,7	73,6	86,1	95,2	78,7	59,4	56,3	50,3
Richest	395	84,3	74,6	76,5	85,5	96,8	78,2	57,8	58,9	53,0
<b>Ethnicity</b>										
Kyrgyz	1 906	91,4	82,1	80,2	87,5	97,2	76,6	62,6	64,5	59,4
Uzbek	312	98,2	87,3	82,6	88,2	98,8	59,1	66,6	78,6	71,2
Russian	159	53,5	55,2	55,5	69,6	91,9	84,0	47,6	21,5	17,3
Other	128	87,3	88,1	83,7	86,2	92,7	70,9	69,1	66,8	57,6

These data indicate of poor awareness of the marriage and family law among the population. There is a notable transformation in the public perception of the family and marriage values - decline in the value of official marriage in favor of religious rituals of nikah/church wedding ceremony. This transformation is particularly noticeable among young generation, rural population, men, as well as among people with low level of education from poorer households. At the same time, people, especially rural women, experience adverse effects of unregistered marriages, and more often support the ban on religious rituals of Nikah/church wedding ceremony without official marriage. It is necessary to note a fairly high proportion of population, who could not express their attitude to this draft law. This should be due to the lack of information and certain contradiction between religious norms and the draft law. Thus, banning religious rituals of Nikah/church wedding ceremony without official marriage would prevent Moslems from having four wives, as polygamy is punishable by criminal law.

## 8.2 EARLY MARRIAGES

The Kyrgyz Republic joined the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages, ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. These international instruments address consent to marry, marriage age, marriage registration and freedom of choice of a spouse, as well as elimination of early and forced marriages. The KR Constitution stipulates that persons of marriageable age have the right to marry and create a family<sup>19</sup>. Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic sets forth the minimum age of marriage under the general rule - 18<sup>20</sup> years old. The criminal law provides for imprisonment for up to 5 years for forcing a person under 17 years to de facto marital relations. However, abduction of a person under the age of 17 for de facto marriage entails imprisonment for a term of 5 to 10<sup>21</sup> years.

The most important thing for ensuring compliance with the legislation on the marriage age and choosing a spouse is public awareness about the legal marriage age, liability for forced de facto marital relations. In order to develop effective policies for prevention of marriages with underage persons, it is important to define attitude of the population towards parents, who marry off their minor daughters and early marriages. This chapter discuss aspects of early marriages.

Table 8.5 reflects respondents' awareness of the minimum marriage age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic. According to the data, every sixth respondent (17% of women and 16% of men) are unaware of the marriage age, irrespective of whether the respondents are from the rural or urban areas; however, there are some regional differences. Thus, the lowest awareness of the marriage age among women is in the Osh region (76% of correct answers) and Osh city (79%), while the highest is in the Talas region (96% of correct answers). The lowest awareness among men is also in the Osh city (80% correct answers), and the highest is in the Talas region (94% of correct answers).

Awareness of the marriage age among women increases with age, and awareness of men is almost the same in all age groups. Knowledge of the marriage age is higher among women and men with higher levels of education, as well as among the richest households.

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<sup>19</sup> Paragraph 5 of Article 36 of the KR Constitution adopted by referendum (population-wide voting) on June 27, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> The marriage age is 18 years old. Article 14, Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic dated August 30, 2003, N 201.

<sup>21</sup> Article 154 of the Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, dated October 1, 1997, No 69.

**Table 8.5 Knowledge by women and men of the minimal marriage age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic as a general rule**

Proportion of women and men aware of the minimum marriage age of established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Number of women	Women			Number of men	Men			Total
		Correct answer	Incorrect answer	Difficult to answer		Correct answer	Incorrect answer	Difficult to answer	
<b>Total</b>	3,435	82.5	12.9	4.5	100	2,514	83.9	12.4	3.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>									
Urban	1,481	83.5	13.2	3.3	100	944	84.4	12.1	3.5
Rural	1,954	82.0	12.8	5.3	100	1,570	83.7	12.6	3.8
<b>Region</b>									
Batken	410	87.0	8.5	4.5	100	258	86.7	8.9	4.5
Jalal-Abad	407	84.8	7.9	7.3	100	328	84.9	8.0	7.1
Issyk-Kul	370	88.9	10.4	0.7	100	300	85.8	11.2	3.0
Naryn	355	89.1	8.8	2.1	100	311	83.7	12.4	3.9
Osh	388	75.7	19.7	4.6	100	286	80.9	16.9	2.2
Talas	353	95.9	3.3	0.9	100	291	93.8	5.9	0.3
Chui	404	80.2	11.8	8.0	100	265	83.0	12.7	4.3
Bishkek city	426	82.0	15.7	2.3	100	232	83.7	15.1	1.1
Osh city	322	78.7	18.5	2.8	100	243	80.3	15.6	4.1
<b>Age, years</b>									
18-20	142	79.0	17.0	4.0	100	123	82.6	12.6	4.8
21-30	676	84.2	10.9	4.9	100	463	81.2	15.7	3.2
31-40	778	81.5	14.7	3.8	100	553	83.5	11.1	5.4
41-50	719	83.7	11.9	4.4	100	583	83.2	13.9	2.9
51-60	585	80.0	14.9	5.1	100	447	89.2	7.7	3.1
61-70	343	86.3	8.5	5.2	100	231	85.2	13.1	1.7
70+	192	80.1	16.1	3.8	100	114	82.6	10.9	6.4
<b>Level of education</b>									
Basic general (including primary)	294	74.9	17.0	8.1	100	214	76.4	16.6	7.0
Secondary general	1,462	83.4	11.8	4.8	100	1,155	83.4	12.7	3.9
Primary and secondary vocational	823	81.8	14.5	3.7	100	584	85.1	11.3	3.6
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	856	84.5	12.1	3.4	100	561	86.7	11.3	2.0
<b>Welfare level</b>									
Poorest	791	80.2	13.4	6.3	100	660	80.6	15.5	3.9
Second	732	83.7	11.7	4.5	100	555	84.6	12.4	3.0
Average	622	82.7	13.2	4.1	100	454	89.0	8.3	2.7
Fourth	698	82.6	12.9	4.5	100	447	82.6	13.8	3.7
Richest	592	84.1	13.7	2.3	100	398	83.8	10.7	5.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>									
Kyrgyz	2,498	83.6	11.9	4.5	100	1,911	84.1	12.3	3.6
Uzbek	435	79.7	16.3	4.0	100	312	85.1	11.5	3.4
Russian	321	85.4	10.6	4.0	100	162	80.6	15.8	3.6
Other	181	72.8	20.7	6.5	100	129	82.8	12.7	4.5

According to Table 8.6, a relative majority of women (47%) and men (45%) believe that fewer minor girls are married off in the past five years. Just under a quarter (24% of women and men) think that there are no any changes in the early marriage tendencies. At the same time, every one in six women (15%) and one in ten men (13%) reported the increase in the number of marriages involving underage girls. A high proportion of those, who could not answer this question should be noted: 14% of the interviewed women and 17% of men.

Urban residents (20% of women and 19% of men) twice more often reported increase in the number of early marriages than rural respondents (12% of women and 11% of men). This proportion significantly varies by regions: the highest proportion of respondents, who reported increase in early marriages is in the Osh city (29% of women and 27% of men), and the lowest – is in the Issyk-Kul region (11% of the interviewed women and 12% of men).

Women under the age of 40 years old, as well as women with higher education, reported the increase in minor girls marriages more often compared to women in older age groups and with general secondary education. There are no differences in the number of men depending on their educational level, at the same

time, the proportion of those, who reported the increase in minor girls marriages is slightly higher in the age group under 30 years old.

**Table 8.6 Dynamics of the minor girls marriages in the past five years**

Proportion of women and men, who reported the increase, decrease or no changes in the number of minor girls marriages in the past five years, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Number of wo-men	Women				Num-ber of men	Men					
		More often	No chan-ges	Less often	Found diffi-cult to answer		More often	No chan-ges	Less often	Found diffi-cult to ans-wer		
Total	3,435	15.1	23.5	47.2	14.2	100	2,514	13.7	23.8	45.0	17.4	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	1,481	20.0	23.4	37.3	19.3	100	944	18.7	24.7	37.9	18.7	100
Rural	1,954	12.0	23.6	53.3	11.0	100	1,570	11.3	23.4	48.5	16.8	100
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	410	12.7	18.4	62.0	6.9	100	258	12.0	17.5	62.0	8.6	100
Jalal-Abad	407	16.8	13.9	65.0	4.2	100	328	13.3	14.9	65.0	6.8	100
Issyk-Kul	370	10.9	39.4	25.8	23.9	100	300	11.7	36.4	28.5	23.4	100
Naryn	355	13.7	13.2	69.7	3.4	100	311	12.1	19.4	59.9	8.6	100
Osh	388	12.6	34.8	45.3	7.3	100	286	12.0	36.9	34.9	16.1	100
Talas	353	16.5	15.8	57.3	10.4	100	291	14.7	16.4	59.2	9.7	100
Chui	404	12.6	14.4	44.4	28.6	100	265	11.7	11.4	38.6	38.3	100
Bishkek city	426	17.1	27.6	33.4	22.0	100	232	16.5	31.2	32.3	20.1	100
Osh city	322	29.4	23.8	38.1	8.6	100	243	26.9	21.3	38.6	13.1	100
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	142	16.5	29.9	43.8	9.7	100	123	19.0	19.9	40.1	20.9	100
21-30	676	17.2	21.9	47.2	13.8	100	463	18.7	26.2	37.2	17.9	100
31-40	778	13.2	26.2	46.8	13.9	100	553	11.3	20.8	50.1	17.9	100
41-50	719	15.2	23.3	47.5	14.0	100	583	13.2	26.9	43.6	16.3	100
51-60	585	14.8	20.8	49.2	15.3	100	447	12.2	24.0	47.7	16.1	100
61-70	343	14.1	24.0	44.3	17.5	100	231	7.0	21.0	52.8	19.2	100
70+	192	11.6	21.2	50.8	16.3	100	114	9.6	21.4	54.5	14.6	100
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	294	9.9	21.4	53.4	15.4	100	214	16.6	13.4	50.8	19.1	100
Secondary general	1,462	13.1	24.0	51.3	11.5	100	1,155	11.3	23.6	49.3	15.8	100
Primary and secondary vocational	823	14.6	24.9	40.9	19.6	100	584	13.5	25.5	40.2	20.8	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	856	20.9	22.2	43.4	13.6	100	561	17.7	26.7	38.6	17.1	100
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	791	12.1	24.8	50.1	13.1	100	660	14.5	25.2	45.3	15.0	100
Second	732	14.4	25.7	48.6	11.3	100	555	10.3	25.1	48.4	16.2	100
Average	622	14.7	21.1	51.6	12.5	100	454	11.4	21.6	52.0	15.0	100
Fourth	698	16.1	23.7	40.7	19.5	100	447	18.9	23.7	36.6	20.7	100
Richest	592	19.6	21.2	43.8	15.4	100	398	14.3	22.4	40.0	23.2	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>												
Kyrgyz	2,498	16.0	24.3	48.5	11.2	100	1,911	13.7	25.9	46.0	14.4	100
Uzbek	435	13.9	23.4	54.3	8.4	100	312	15.4	16.8	50.5	17.3	100
Russian	321	8.4	19.5	30.6	41.5	100	162	10.0	21.6	27.8	40.6	100
Other	181	17.5	20.8	41.1	20.7	100	129	13.6	18.3	38.7	29.3	100

The opinions of respondents about the reasons for increasing number of early marriages are in Table 8.7. The analysis of the respondents' answers shows that the growth in the number of juvenile marriages is influenced by a number of reasons, such as willingness of girls to marry at the earlier age (23%), increase in poverty and willingness of families to marry off the girl as soon as possible (18%), early sexual activity of young people (17%), the growing influence of Islam and other religions allowing girls to marry at early age (16%), as well as growth in the number of abductions of minors for marriage (11%). The lack of other prospects for girls, except marriage, was mentioned by 9% of the respondents.

There were no differences in answers of women and men regarding reasons for the growing number of early marriages. At the same time, there are some regional characteristics. Thus, residents of the Talas and Chui regions (18 and 17%, respectively) often mentioned the lack of prospects for girls. Increase in abductions of minors for marriage was reported mostly by the respondents from Bishkek (19%), followed by the Batken, Issyk-Kul and Talas regions (12-13%). Residents of the Osh and Batken regions (20-21%) and Talas and Issyk-Kul regions (7% in each) often mentioned the increasing influence of Islam and other religions that allow marriage at early age.

**Table 8.7 Reasons for the growth of underage marriages**

Proportion of women and men, who reported three reasons for the growth of marriages of underage girls, with breakdown by settlement type, region and age group										
	The number of women and men	Girls have no any other prospects	Poverty is increasing and therefore poor families want to marry off their girls as soon as possible	Girls are more often abducted for marriage	Growing influence of Islam and other religions allowing girls to marry at early age	More and more girls want to marry earlier	Young people begin sexual relations at early age	So that mother in law and girls' husbands could upbring them as needed	Other	Total
Total	5,949	8.6	18.5	10.7	15.5	23.1	17.3	5.0	1.3	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	2,425	7.3	18.8	13.7	15.9	21.1	17.5	4.5	1.2	100
Rural	3,524	9.7	18.2	8.0	15.0	25.1	17.1	5.5	1.5	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	668	10.1	20.4	12.9	20.4	16.2	11.4	7.8	0.9	100
Jalal-Abad	735	4.8	13.1	5.7	17.0	30.9	19.3	6.2	2.9	100
Issyk-Kul	670	4.5	20.4	12.6	6.7	29.1	17.3	9.2	0.1	100
Naryn	666	7.2	18.1	6.1	17.5	26.9	17.4	3.3	3.4	100
Osh	674	8.8	18.0	6.4	21.2	22.7	17.2	5.3	0.4	100
Talas	644	17.6	19.2	12.2	6.8	28.0	13.3	2.8	0.0	100
Chui	669	17.1	18.8	5.9	13.5	22.1	17.0	4.2	1.4	100
Bishkek city	658	7.8	20.2	19.0	14.4	18.0	17.7	2.5	0.5	100
Osh city	565	6.1	20.0	6.6	17.0	21.2	18.6	4.8	5.5	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	265	8.2	15.5	13.1	14.6	26.8	17.2	4.2	0.4	100
21-30	1,139	9.1	18.7	11.2	14.5	23.2	16.6	5.5	1.1	100
31-40	1,331	10.6	18.0	11.6	15.7	21.3	17.3	3.6	2.0	100
41-50	1,302	6.8	20.4	9.1	15.5	24.2	16.8	5.9	1.5	100
51-60	1,032	8.9	17.9	9.2	18.2	22.2	18.4	4.4	0.8	100
61-70	574	7.5	18.9	11.6	14.0	22.4	18.0	4.1	3.5	100
70+	306	4.5	19.3	8.9	14.3	23.6	18.5	10.2	0.7	100

Every fifth respondent (20%) knows girls, who were married off in their minor age (Table 8.8). Most women and men (over 60%) condemn parents, who married off their daughters at the age under 18. However, the proportion of those, who are indifferent to violation of child's rights is large enough - 27% of respondents mentioned that it is purely up to parents, whether to marry off their minor daughters or not. Moreover, 4% of respondents support parents, who married off their daughters before they reach the age of 18.

Residents of rural areas (65%) condemn parents, who marry off their minor daughters more often compared to urban respondents (53%), who often think that it is private affair of parents (23% of rural and 33% of urban respondents). It can be assumed with high probability that this is due to urban life style - urban citizen, as a rule, have more closed way of life, allowing no external intervention compared to rural people.

The highest proportion of respondents, who know underage girls married off in minor age, is in the Jalal-Abad, Osh (26% in each) and Naryn (24%) regions, followed by the city Osh (23%). The same regions have the highest level of supporters of religious values. The smallest number of respondents, who know underage girls married off in minor age is in the Issyk-Kul region (13%). There are no any differences in the responses of women and men on these issues.

**Table 8.8 Awareness of respondents of cases of underage girls' marriages, and their attitude towards girls' parents**

Proportion of women and men, who know girls married off before the age of 18 and their attitude towards girls' parents, with breakdown by settlement type, region and nationality

	The number of women and men	Know girls who married at the age of under 18 years	Support parents, who married off girls under the age of 18	Condemn parents, who married off girls under the age of 18	It is up to parents to whether to marry off girls under 18 or not –	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	5,949	20.4	3.6	60.7	26.7	9.0	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	2,425	19.8	2.6	53.3	32.8	11.3	100
Rural	3,524	20.8	4.1	64.8	23.4	7.8	100
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	668	20.9	1.9	69.3	17.0	11.8	100
Jalal-Abad	735	25.5	3.5	73.4	18.5	4.6	100
Issyk-Kul	670	12.6	4.7	60.6	32.8	1.9	100
Naryn	666	23.6	2.4	71.4	20.1	6.1	100
Osh	674	25.5	3.7	60.7	33.2	2.4	100
Talas	644	16.8	1.4	66.5	26.3	5.7	100
Chui	669	16.4	5.6	55.4	18.1	20.9	100
Bishkek city	658	15.6	3.3	41.4	39.5	15.8	100
Osh city	565	22.5	1.6	69.0	25.0	4.5	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>							
Kyrgyz	4,409	20.8	3.3	62.1	26.5	8.1	100
Uzbek	747	25.2	3.0	72.0	21.4	3.5	100
Russian	483	7.1	2.4	37.1	38.3	22.3	100
Other	310	22.4	10.5	47.7	27.3	14.5	100

Table 8.9 shows that just under half of girls married before the age of 18 (45%) were married off by the decision of adults, in every fifth case (20%) the decision was made by the girl's parents, and in every fourth case (25%) – by the groom and his parents. Men (49%) more often than women (45%) believe that marriage was not the decision of minor girls.

According to respondents, rural girls (47%) took fewer decisions about marriage than urban girls (54%). Urban women (24%) 1.6 times more often reported that the decision was made by parents of minor girls. At the same time, rural women 1.5 times more often mentioned that it was decision of the groom and his parents. There are no differences between the opinions of the urban and rural men (20% and 22%, respectively) as to who - parents of girls or the groom's party (29% and 26%, respectively) have decided that it was time to marry the girl off.

More than half of respondents in the Osh city (61%), Batken and Jalal-Abad regions (59%) reported that adults took the decision about the marriage of underage girls. The highest proportion of women, who reported that the decision on marriage was made by parents of minor girls, was in the Osh city (36%), followed by Jalal-Abad region (22%), while the proportion of women, who reported that the decision was made by the groom's relatives was in the Osh (33%) and Issyk-Kul regions (26%).

**Table 8.9 Opinions of respondents as to who decided to marry off underage girls**

Proportion of women and men, who think that the decision was made by the girl's parents, groom and his parents and by the girl, with breakdown by settlement type, region and ethnicity														
The number of women, who know girls married before the age of 18 years	Women						The number of men who personally know girls married before the age of 18 years	Men						
	The girl's parents	The groom and his parents	The girl	Others	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total		The girl's parents	The groom and his parents	The girl	Others	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	
Total	730	18.0	23.8	50.4	3.1	4.6	100	437	21.4	26.6	46.6	0.6	4.8	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	315	23.5	18.4	53.8	2.7	1.6	100	159	20.4	28.6	50.1	0.1	0.9	100
Rural	415	14.8	27.0	48.5	3.3	6.4	100	278	21.9	25.6	44.9	0.9	6.6	100
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	86	28.1	17.6	47.3	0.6	6.4	100	47	18.2	20.8	34.3	2.5	24.3	100
Jalal-Abad	113	21.5	25.1	44.8	1.0	7.5	100	69	33.9	26.3	37.7	0.0	2.1	100
Issyk-Kul	54	12.8	26.2	55.7	2.3	3.1	100	32	6.3	29.3	60.6	0.0	3.8	100
Naryn	87	18.9	5.1	70.0	4.8	1.3	100	67	16.2	9.5	72.5	1.8	0.0	100
Osh	112	13.6	32.8	50.3	0.5	2.9	100	63	24.0	33.0	42.4	0.0	0.6	100
Talas	63	11.3	14.1	58.8	8.2	7.5	100	44	14.7	1.4	70.9	10.3	2.7	100
Chui	66	11.8	23.4	47.3	9.0	8.4	100	33	14.6	27.0	43.6	0.0	14.8	100
Bishkek city	60	16.8	19.6	58.5	4.5	0.6	100	31	8.7	28.9	62.4	0.0	0.0	100
Osh city	89	35.8	16.7	40.2	5.1	2.1	100	51	25.0	34.1	37.1	0.0	3.8	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>														
Kyrgyz	557	15.0	23.0	54.0	3.5	4.5	100	349	15.7	27.1	51.4	0.9	5.0	100
Uzbek	111	32.6	22.7	39.7	0.8	4.2	100	56	38.1	26.8	32.9	0.0	2.2	100
Russian	21	9.8	33.2	53.6	0.0	3.4	100	14	23.0	18.7	37.7	0.0	20.6	100
Other	41	15.5	31.6	39.8	5.2	7.8	100	18	39.2	24.1	34.3	0.0	2.4	100

Data in Table 8.10 show that the vast majority of respondents (77%) agree that compared to older women, those, who married off as minors, often strongly depends on their husbands, as. At the same time, every fifth respondent (21%) is would like to marry off minor daughter to a rich man, and slightly less than half (44%) of the respondents are ready to marry off their minor daughters in to a "good" persons. Thus, two-thirds of respondents (65%) do not see threat of falling into dependence in case of marriage to a rich or good person.

The opinion that it is never too early to marry a rich man is more common in urban (28%) than in rural areas (17%). Willingness to marry a rich persons at any age, is more common in Bishkek (39%), followed by the Osh city (34%) and Osh region (29%) and to a lesser extent - among the respondents of the Jalal-Abad (6%), Chui (9%) and Talas regions (10%). The respondents think that it is never too early to marry a rich man, irrespective of sex, age, education, welfare and ethnicity, as well as respondents' place of residence, age and other characteristics.

According to more than half of respondents (56%), a woman should deliver a child immediately after the marriage. At the same time, the proportion of men, who favor childbirth immediately after the marriage (60%), is higher than women (53%). There are no any sex related differences in the opinions of respondents with regard to other statements outlined in Table 8.10. Rural residents (58%), as well as respondents from the Issyk-Kul region (74%) more often expect immediate birth of a child after the marriage compared to residents of urban areas (53%) and the Chui region (45%).

More than 80% of respondents from the Talas (92%), Batken (84%), Issyk-Kul and Naryn (by 81%) regions and Osh city (80%) believe that girls, who married in minors age, will more than adult women depend on their husbands. Bishkek residents agree with this point to a lesser extent - 68%.

The vast majority of respondents (77%) agree that because of the marriage in minor age, girls often can not acquire any profession, with the highest proportion of such respondents in the Talas region (95%), and the lowest - in the Jalal-Abad region (68%). Respondents from both urban and rural areas, regardless of age and other characteristics, equally support this statement. This is probably due to the fact that educational infrastructure and access to vocational education are much higher in Bishkek and Chui region than in other regions and, for example, in the Talas region such opportunities, indeed, are very limited.

**Table 8.10 Opinion of the respondents with regard to the statements**

	Number of respondents	It is never too early to marry a rich man	It is never too early to marry a good man	Once married, a woman must immediately give birth to a child	A woman married before the age of 18, often gets into strong dependence on the husband than a woman, who married at a later age	Most probably a girl married before the age of 18, won't be able to acquire a profession	Girl's body until the age of 18 is not ready to carry a healthy child	Pregnancy under the age of 18 is dangerous for women's health
Total	5,949	20.8	44.4	56.4	76.7	77.2	80.1	82.0
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	2,425	27.6	47.9	53.1	74.9	75.4	79.6	82.7
Rural	3,524	17.0	42.5	58.4	77.6	78.0	80.3	81.5
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	668	16.9	45.2	53.2	84.1	75.5	81.0	81.3
Jalal-Abad	735	5.6	33.9	63.5	73.8	68.2	87.6	94.1
Issyk-Kul	670	21.4	53.7	74.2	81.4	85.3	88.7	90.4
Naryn	666	19.4	45.5	53.1	81.0	75.0	92.0	92.1
Osh	674	29.1	46.5	57.6	78.7	87.9	82.5	80.6
Talas	644	9.5	40.8	69.5	91.7	94.6	96.2	96.1
Chui	669	8.6	34.8	44.8	74.3	71.9	60.7	59.8
Bishkek city	658	39.3	56.0	51.3	68.2	72.8	74.1	78.9
Osh city	565	33.8	51.1	48.4	80.0	74.8	82.3	85.3
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	265	19.2	45.8	57.2	77.9	76.3	80.9	81.1
21-30	1,139	23.1	43.1	55.7	74.5	76.3	75.0	77.5

Proportion of respondents, who agree with the statements below, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Number of respondents	It is never too early to marry a rich man	It is never too early to marry a good man	Once married, a woman must immediately give birth to a child	A woman married before the age of 18, often gets into strong dependence on the husband than a woman, who married at a later age	Most probably a girl married before the age of 18, won't be able to acquire a profession	Girl's body until the age of 18 is not ready to carry a healthy child	Pregnancy under the age of 18 is dangerous for women's health
31-40	1,331	22.0	44.5	55.0	78.8	77.4	81.4	83.4
41-50	1,302	20.6	44.6	56.0	77.3	78.6	83.6	85.3
51-60	1,032	20.1	45.8	61.6	75.6	75.8	81.8	83.3
61-70	574	17.0	42.1	52.6	79.2	77.4	81.4	83.1
70+	306	16.1	47.1	55.3	74.2	79.6	77.2	80.7
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	508	17.4	45.9	59.9	75.3	81.1	73.4	73.3
Secondary general	2,617	20.0	44.3	58.1	76.1	76.8	81.5	84.0
Primary and secondary vocational	1,407	21.4	41.9	55.6	80.1	79.0	80.7	82.8
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	1,417	23.1	46.3	52.9	75.1	74.5	79.2	80.3
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	1,451	20.5	46.9	61.7	79.0	80.2	80.3	81.3
Second	1,287	18.8	42.7	59.4	78.5	80.3	83.7	85.4
Average	1,076	19.3	41.6	54.9	74.0	74.2	79.7	82.1
Fourth	1,145	23.6	43.5	51.4	73.4	73.7	76.8	80.4
Richest	990	22.7	47.2	51.4	77.5	74.8	78.7	79.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	4,409	20.6	45.9	57.7	77.0	77.0	81.4	83.2
Uzbek	747	18.9	35.6	61.4	81.5	80.6	86.0	87.4
Russian	483	29.3	44.4	30.9	68.5	69.5	67.3	71.8
Other	310	16.2	46.9	61.5	72.2	79.7	67.0	68.1

The data in Table 8.11 indicate that slightly less than half of the respondents (46% of women and 48% of men) think that there is no excuse to a marriage involving minors. The remaining respondents outlined a number of cases, which, in their opinion, are excuses for marriage of a minor girl, for example, according to 82% of women and 80% of men, underage girls can marry in case of pregnancy. More than half of respondents (54%) think that minor girls can marry, if they fall in love and want to marry; and every fifth respondent (23%) would agree to marry underage girl to her abductor, if she is threatened by violence or rape (21% of women and 23% of men).

The proportion of rural residents, who are against early marriage is higher: according to 50% of rural respondents there is no excuse to a marriage of minors, compared to only 41% of urban residents. At the same time, the proportion of rural people, who would excuse marriage of minors in case of pregnancy, is higher than the proportion of urban respondents (84% and 75%, respectively). Rural residents 1.5 times more often excuse marriage of minors in case of a threat of violence or rape of a minor girl (25% and 16%, respectively). Both rural and urban respondents would agree to marry off a minor girl in case of abduction, with the largest proportion of respondents in the Issyk-Kul (38% of women and 40% of men), Chui region (32% of women and 28% of men), as well as in Bishkek (26% of women and 34% of men), irrespective of the respondents' age, gender, education and other characteristics.

**Table 8.11 Cases, when underage marriage can be excused**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that in certain cases marriage of minors may be excused, with breakdown by type of settlement and region

Number of women	Women				Mar- riage under 18 can not be ex- cused	Number of men	Men				Mar- riage under 18 can not be excused	
	Proportion of women, who believe that marriage may be excused in cases, where *:						A girl was ab- ducted	A girl is preg- nant	A girls want s to marry	There is a threat of vio- lence or rape		
	Total	3,435	23.3	82.4	53.6	21.0	45.8	2514	22.3	80.0	53.8	22.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	1,481	22.7	76.8	53.1	16.1	39.1	944	26.4	74.9	52.0	16.0	43.2
Rural	1,954	23.8	85.9	53.9	24.1	50.0	1570	20.3	82.5	54.6	26.0	50.5
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	410	23.4	88.2	65.7	20.3	29.9	258	24.3	89.1	71.3	22.9	29.6
Jalal-Abad	407	11.8	89.1	52.0	36.1	69.9	328	8.2	87.2	51.9	39.1	71.7
Issyk-Kul	370	38.0	79.0	74.1	47.2	27.5	300	40.4	75.5	78.3	55.1	27.4
Naryn	355	18.3	91.2	58.7	16.7	65.9	311	17.3	86.9	54.1	15.4	57.7
Osh	388	23.0	82.2	50.6	16.3	49.4	286	22.0	77.6	50.2	18.5	54.1
Talas	353	9.4	98.3	75.7	7.8	46.5	291	3.6	96.5	79.6	7.1	45.3
Chui	404	31.7	82.8	42.9	13.6	43.0	265	28.1	78.5	39.1	10.9	38.1
Bishkek city	426	25.8	68.4	51.8	11.3	29.8	232	34.3	63.3	51.0	8.8	30.8
Osh city	322	19.5	89.5	39.2	23.3	59.2	243	13.5	90.2	42.0	19.7	64.9

Note: The total amount exceeds 100%, because the respondents could select several answers

The respondents' attitude to changing the minimum marriage age stipulated by the family legislation is in Table 8.12. More than half of respondents (55%) believe that the marriage age for women should remain unchanged, i.e., 18 years. A noticeably smaller number of respondents (40%) believe that the minimum age of marriage for women shall be increased. With respect to the marriage age for men, there is a reverse tendency: more than half of respondents (57%) believe that the minimum age of marriage for men should be increased, and 39% think that it should remain unchanged. Only a small proportion of respondents (up to 2%) support reducing the marriage age.

Differences in the respondents' opinions depending on the place of residence are at the level of statistical error.

**Table 8.12 Respondents' opinions about changing the minimum age of marriage for women and men**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that the minimum age of marriage for men and women must be reduced, increased or remain unchanged, with breakdown by type of settlement and region

Number of respondents	Proportion of respondents, who think that the minimal age for marriage should be as follows:								Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	
	for women				for men					
	reduced	increased	remain unchanged	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	reduced	increased	remain unchanged	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer		
Total	5,949	1.5	40.3	55.0	3.2	0.8	57.3	38.5	3.5	
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	2,425	1.8	40.5	53.3	4.4	0.5	58.5	36.4	4.6	
Rural	3,524	1.4	40.1	56.0	2.5	0.9	56.5	39.7	2.9	
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	668	0.3	60.9	35.0	3.9	0.5	76.7	17.8	5.0	
Jalal-Abad	735	0.2	44.3	51.3	4.1	0.2	68.5	26.7	4.6	
Issyk-Kul	670	0.0	16.3	83.1	0.6	0.1	52.1	47.3	0.6	
Naryn	666	1.3	42.7	54.7	1.4	0.5	48.8	49.4	1.2	
Osh	674	0.9	45.8	51.5	1.8	0.4	56.7	40.9	2.0	
Talas	644	0.3	38.0	61.1	0.7	0.4	61.5	37.0	1.1	
Chui	669	4.0	26.6	66.9	2.5	2.7	37.0	57.4	2.9	
Bishkek city	658	3.4	37.1	52.8	6.7	0.7	56.0	36.7	6.7	
Osh city	565	0.8	60.1	37.1	1.9	0.6	64.4	32.8	2.2	

The highest proportion of respondents, who think that the marriage age for women should be increased, is in the Batken region and Osh city (61 and 60%, respectively), while the lowest is in the Issyk-Kul region (16%). Residents of the Chui region most rarely mentioned the need to increase the marriage age for men (37%), while in other regions, this indicator is much higher - from 49% in the Naryn to 77% in Batken regions.

More than half of the respondents (56% of women and 55% of men) believe that the government should take measures against parents, who marry off their minor daughters (Table 8.13). One-third of respondents were against this, and men (36%) are more often negative about measures against parents than women (31%).

Residents of rural areas are more often than urban residents support the idea that the state should take measures against parents, who marry off their minor daughters (59 and 49%, respectively).

In the regional breakdown, the highest proportion of women, who support this idea is in the Batken (73%), Issyk-Kul (76%) and Osh regions (71%). The vast majority of men in these regions also support this idea: 69% in the Batken and Issyk-Kul regions - 76%, and in the Osh city - 66%.

Attitude towards measures against parents marrying off minor daughters, does not practically depend on the age and education of respondents. At the same time, respondents from poorer households support this idea more often, than respondents from other households (63% versus 48%).

**Table 8.13 Opinion of women and men on whether the state should take actions against parents, who married off their underage girls**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that the state should / should not take measures against parents, who married off their minor girls, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and nationality

	Number of women	Women				Number of men	Men			
		Yes	No	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total		Yes	No	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	3,435	56.3	31.4	12.4	100	2,514	54.7	36.1	9.2	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	1,481	48.6	37.5	13.9	100	944	48.9	41.4	9.7	100
Rural	1,954	61.0	27.6	11.4	100	1,570	57.6	33.5	8.9	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	410	73.0	15.6	11.4	100	258	68.9	21.2	9.9	100
Jalal-Abad	407	44.8	43.7	11.5	100	328	42.9	46.5	10.6	100
Issyk-Kul	370	75.7	19.6	4.7	100	300	76.2	21.8	1.9	100
Naryn	355	64.8	30.0	5.2	100	311	57.6	35.5	6.9	100
Osh	388	65.8	25.5	8.7	100	286	58.8	35.6	5.6	100
Talas	353	66.0	23.7	10.3	100	291	61.5	30.4	8.1	100
Chui	404	56.6	26.2	17.2	100	265	59.0	27.0	14.1	100
Bishkek city	426	34.1	46.1	19.8	100	232	36.5	50.3	13.2	100
Osh city	322	70.5	23.7	5.8	100	243	66.4	28.9	4.8	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	142	57.1	33.6	9.3	100	123	46.1	45.1	8.7	100
21-30	676	52.9	32.7	14.4	100	463	53.9	36.5	9.6	100
31-40	778	59.4	30.6	10.0	100	553	52.1	38.1	9.7	100
41-50	719	58.7	30.4	10.9	100	583	54.9	35.8	9.3	100
51-60	585	60.2	30.1	9.7	100	447	60.2	32.2	7.6	100
61-70	343	51.0	33.6	15.4	100	231	54.9	34.8	10.3	100
70+	192	46.6	29.1	24.3	100	114	60.4	30.3	9.3	100
<b>Level of education</b>										
Basic general (including primary)	294	49.7	29.8	20.5	100	214	53.0	35.2	11.8	100
Secondary general	1,462	59.5	30.8	9.7	100	1,155	54.7	37.0	8.4	100
Primary and secondary vocational	823	55.1	29.6	15.2	100	584	57.3	31.6	11.1	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	856	53.9	34.6	11.5	100	561	53.0	38.9	8.1	100
<b>Welfare level</b>										
Poorest	791	63.4	23.6	13.0	100	660	60.5	33.4	6.0	100
Second	732	58.3	31.0	10.7	100	555	57.0	35.2	7.9	100
Average	622	55.8	35.3	8.9	100	454	52.7	37.9	9.4	100

Proportion of women and men, who believe that the state should / should not take measures against parents, who married off their minor girls, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and nationality											
	Number of women	Women				Number of men	Men				
		Yes	No	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total		Yes	No	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	
Fourth	698	53.8	33.0	13.2	100	447	50.9	36.4	12.7	100	
Richest	592	46.2	37.1	16.7	100	398	47.8	39.7	12.5	100	
<b>Ethnicity</b>											
Kyrgyz	2,498	56.5	33.5	10.1	100	1,911	53.2	38.6	8.2	100	
Uzbek	435	66.9	22.2	10.8	100	312	61.7	29.1	9.1	100	
Russian	321	46.2	28.9	25.0	100	162	50.8	28.6	20.7	100	
Other	181	44.6	32.6	22.8	100	,	129	60.0	30.7	9.3	100

These data show that the population is not sufficiently informed about the minimum marriage age for citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic as a general rule. Approximately one in seven adults noted increase in the number of marriages involving underage girls, and every fifth respondent knows girls, who were married off before they reach 18 years.

The increase in the number of marriages with minors is influenced by social factors, such as growth of poverty and willingness of the family to get rid of the girl; early sexual activity of young people against the background of lack of knowledge about family planning; growing influence of religion allowing girls to marry at early age. Marriages with minors are often committed through abduction of girls. The reasons, why juveniles are willing to marry is a topic of a separate study.

The public has contradictory attitude towards marriage of minors. On the one hand, the majority of adults condemn parents, who marry off their minors daughters. On the other hand, half of them believe that it is up to parents, whether to marry off their minors or not. The vast majority of men and women believe that marriage at minor age leads to the risk of dependence on the husband, lack of profession and violence. Quite large proportion of adults would approve marriage of minor girls in cases of pregnancy and in fewer cases, if the girl is willing to marry a man she loves. Fewer respondents would agree with the marriage of minor girls in case of their abduction and threat of violence or rape.

Adult respondents do not support the idea of reducing the marriage age, and even think that it should be increased, especially for men.

A significant proportion of the respondents believe that the government should take measures against parents marrying off their minor daughters in violation of the law. A much larger proportion of the population would support government's efforts in this area, than those, who will oppose it.

### 8.3 ABDUCTION OF WOMEN FOR MARRIAGE

Abduction of girls for forced marriage is a form of violence against women, which is quite common in the Kyrgyz Republic, despite the fact that the criminal law provides for criminal liability for such actions. Unfortunately, actions of people, who commit such criminal acts, are excused by many people, primarily due to the custom and traditions existing in the country. However, it is condemned by international instruments, because violence against women is recognized in the world as a gross violation of women's rights and one of the most important human right - the right to personal integrity. Currently, the problem of crimes involving abduction of brides requires more in-depth study of its pattern and tendencies, as well as large-scale research throughout the country. The results of the National Survey "Gender in the perception of society" allows analyzing awareness of population about bride abductions, public attitude towards such practices, knowledge of sanctions for illegal activities, and many other issues.

The survey collected information about personal attitude of respondents towards brides abducting for marriage (ala kachuu<sup>22</sup>) without their consent. Table 8.14 shows that the vast majority of respondents (81% of women, and 78% of men) are negative about bride abduction. The proportion of such respondents is equally high among women with different levels of education (from 80% to 83%) and among men with higher education (81%).

At the same time, approximately similar number of women and men (4-5%) are positive about women abducting for marriage and nearly 11% of women and more than 14% of the men are neutral.

The proportion of rural population (5% of women and 6% of men), who are positive about bride abduction is twice higher than in urban areas (3% of each women and men).

The respondents from the Batken, Naryn, and Talas regions and city of Osh are more negative about this practice, while the largest proportions of respondents, who are positive is in the Osh, Jalal-Abad, Issyk-Kul and Naryn regions.

The highest proportion of respondents among those, who are positive about bride abduction, is in the age group of 21-30 years old, both women and men (6% and 7%, respectively) from rural areas (8% and 9%, respectively). Among the female representatives of this age group, young women from the Osh (11%), Jalalabad (10%) and Issyk-Kul (9%) regions with basic general (9-year) education (11%) from families with average income (about 10%) are positive about ala kachuu. Most of men, who are positive about this practice, are from the Osh (16%), Naryn (15%) and Issyk-Kul (11%) regions with primary and secondary vocational education from wealthy households (9-10%).

**Table 8.14. Respondents' attitude towards bride abduction (ala kachuu) without consent of girls**

	Women					Men			Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	
Total	4.4	10.9	81.5	3.2	4.8	14.3	77.9	3.0	
Type of settlement									
Urban	2.9	10.9	82.2	4.1	3.1	13.1	80.4	3.4	
Rural	5.3	10.9	81.1	2.7	5.7	14.9	76.7	2.8	
Region									
Batken	1.3	3.1	89.9	5.7	1.3	3.9	88.8	6.0	
Jalal-Abad	7.2	8.0	83.6	1.1	4.2	9.5	84.5	1.8	
Issyk-Kul	5.2	16.5	76.6	1.7	7.0	16.2	76.8	0.0	
Naryn	1.6	8.9	89.2	0.3	7.3	14.7	77.2	0.8	
Osh	7.6	15.8	73.5	3.1	9.2	23.0	66.1	1.7	
Talas	3.4	4.9	91.5	0.2	2.6	9.5	86.4	1.4	
Chui	1.9	8.5	83.9	5.7	2.4	14.4	77.0	6.3	
Bishkek city	2.8	13.9	79.2	4.1	3.0	16.7	76.2	4.1	
Osh city	3.0	7.9	87.0	2.1	3.3	6.2	87.4	3.1	
Age, years									
18-20	0.3	16.1	82.0	1.6	5.8	14.3	78.1	1.9	
21-30	6.2	11.2	79.6	3.1	6.9	15.6	72.8	4.7	
31-40	4.5	11.2	82.0	2.3	4.4	15.8	77.3	2.5	
41-50	3.9	10.5	81.9	3.7	5.1	12.9	79.9	2.2	
51-60	4.2	8.2	85.5	2.0	3.7	14.2	79.6	2.6	
61-70	5.6	13.4	75.4	5.6	0.7	9.6	86.7	3.0	

<sup>22</sup> "Kyz ala kachuu" is literally translated as "grab a girl and run away" – bride abduction – it is a marriage by abduction of a young girl. This custom originated among nomadic peoples, who lived on the territory of modern Kyrgyzstan. Women at that time served as a "commodity" for exchange between clans or were abducted during the war. - Explanatory Dictionary of the Kyrgyz language. Bishkek, 2010. – page 156

Proportion of women and men, who are positive, negative or neutral about abduction of girls for marriage without their consent with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women				Men				
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	
70+	1.1	7.1	84.1	7.7	4.9	15.4	77.6	2.0	
<b>Level of education</b>									
Basic general (including primary)	4.6	8.6	81.7	5.1	2.2	16.8	75.4	5.6	
Secondary general	5.0	11.3	80.3	3.4	6.0	14.8	76.0	3.2	
Primary and secondary vocational	3.4	11.1	82.5	2.9	4.5	12.8	79.5	3.2	
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	4.3	10.7	82.7	2.4	3.7	13.6	81.3	1.4	
<b>Welfare level</b>									
Poorest	5.6	9.0	81.6	3.9	4.8	14.1	78.5	2.6	
Second	4.1	10.3	83.5	2.1	4.6	13.9	79.0	2.6	
Average	5.6	11.9	80.8	1.6	5.4	11.9	79.6	3.1	
Fourth	3.5	13.8	78.6	4.1	5.8	16.1	75.0	3.0	
Richest	2.7	9.7	83.0	4.5	3.1	16.2	76.6	4.0	
<b>Ethnicity</b>									
Kyrgyz	4.7	12.5	81.0	1.7	5.6	15.2	78.0	1.2	
Uzbek	4.7	5.9	85.7	3.6	4.3	11.9	80.0	3.8	
Russian	2.6	7.4	78.9	11.1	0.6	16.6	69.6	13.2	
Other	3.0	8.8	80.9	7.3	1.4	7.0	80.9	10.8	

In the Kyrgyz society, women are abducted both by mutual prior agreement with the woman's consent and for forced marriage without woman's consent. In the first case, the woman agrees to be abducted and abduction is conditional and is neither violent, nor discriminatory. Young people usually do it to avoid high financial costs related to traditional marriage (matchmaking, mandatory gifts, payment of dowry, holding the wedding feast). Sometimes, young people get married through a non-violent abduction of the bride, in cases when their parents are against marriage. At the same time, there are cases of violent abduction of women for marriage accompanied by physical, mental and often sexual violence.

In order to identify dynamics of violent and non-violent abduction of women, all respondents were asked two questions about change in the number of bride abductions with the consent of women and without it. The answers of men and women to these questions are in Table 8.15.

In general, according to respondents, there are no any significant gender differences in the dynamics of violent and non-violent abduction of women for marriage. More than half of women and men (55% and 56%, respectively) believe that women abductions have reduced in the past five years. Slightly fewer women and men (48% each) believe that the number of non-violent abduction of women also declined. Equal number of respondents (about 20%) believe that the dynamics of violent and non-violent brides abductions remain unchanged.

Every tenth respondent (11% of women and 12% of men) said that non-violent bride abductions increased in their communities over the past five years, and 4% reported an increase in cases of violent abductions of women for marriage without their consent.

Urban residents (5% of women and 6% of men) almost twice often reported increase in violent abductions of women, than the respondents from rural areas (3% of each women and men). The largest number of respondents, who reported increase in violent abductions of women, i.e., for marriage against their will, are from Bishkek and Osh cities (7-8%), as well as the Issyk-Kul and Osh regions (5-6%).

Respondents with higher levels of education from wealthy households more often reported increase in violent abductions of women. Men aged 18-20 years (almost 10%) twice more often than women (5%) reported increase in bride abductions without their consent, compared to other age groups.

**Table 8.15 Respondents' opinions about bride abduction (ala kachuu) over the past five years**

Proportion of women and men, who think that abduction of brides over the past 5 years has increased, decreased or remains unchanged, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education and welfare

	Women															Men												
	With the consent of women							Without the consent of women							With the consent of women							Without the consent of women						
	Increased	Decreased	Without changes	Do not want to answer/ Find difficult to answer	More	Rarely	Without changes	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Increased	Decreased	Without changes	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	More	Rarely	Without changes	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	More	Rarely	Without changes	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	More	Rarely	Without changes	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer				
Total	10.8	48.6	20.6	20.1	4.1	54.8	17.2	23.9	11.6	48.4	20.0	20.0	4.2	55.7	16.6	23.5												
<b>Type of settlement</b>																												
Urban	10.1	39.7	20.3	29.9	5.2	47.5	15.4	31.9	12.2	42.3	20.8	24.6	5.9	51.5	15.4	27.2												
Rural	11.1	54.0	20.8	14.0	3.3	59.4	18.4	18.9	11.3	51.3	19.6	17.8	3.3	57.8	17.2	21.6												
<b>Region</b>																												
Batken	1.7	78.9	6.6	12.8	1.1	72.2	4.6	22.1	2.6	82.7	2.8	12.0	1.6	70.2	2.0	26.2												
Jalal-Abad	6.4	69.8	11.2	12.6	0.5	72.9	8.6	18.0	9.7	69.1	8.6	12.6	4.0	73.2	5.8	17.0												
Issyk-Kul	17.4	36.3	33.1	13.2	5.5	42.6	36.0	16.0	19.2	28.5	39.6	12.7	6.1	38.1	40.2	15.6												
Naryn	8.0	56.3	32.2	3.5	2.6	68.5	25.3	3.7	5.4	55.1	38.6	1.0	1.8	65.7	31.1	1.5												
Osh	6.1	46.9	35.4	11.6	5.8	45.6	30.9	17.7	4.4	44.0	29.4	22.2	5.0	43.1	27.6	24.2												
Talas	57.4	23.7	9.1	9.7	3.2	83.9	4.1	8.8	64.4	23.5	4.0	8.1	2.5	87.2	1.5	8.9												
Chui	13.1	43.6	9.3	34.1	1.8	53.1	9.2	36.0	13.9	37.2	13.1	35.8	0.9	49.2	11.2	38.8												
Bishkek city	8.3	35.2	23.8	32.6	7.7	40.0	18.0	34.3	8.1	39.7	25.3	26.9	7.6	46.7	16.3	29.4												
Osh city	18.5	29.6	21.5	30.5	6.9	49.3	11.4	32.4	17.3	37.9	20.2	24.7	5.3	55.4	14.8	24.5												
<b>Age, years</b>																												
18-20	11.6	52.7	20.8	15.0	5.0	58.3	18.2	18.5	12.8	43.9	16.5	26.9	9.9	42.5	15.8	31.8												
21-30	11.0	50.2	20.2	18.6	4.3	57.0	16.5	22.2	12.3	44.0	21.3	22.5	5.5	52.2	16.1	26.2												
31-40	11.1	47.3	23.2	18.4	4.6	54.6	18.6	22.2	10.8	51.9	17.6	19.7	3.9	55.7	17.6	22.8												
41-50	9.7	47.2	22.2	20.9	2.0	55.8	17.5	24.7	11.7	50.1	21.5	16.6	4.0	61.9	14.6	19.6												
51-60	10.5	47.9	18.2	23.4	5.4	49.2	18.6	26.8	12.8	50.2	20.1	16.9	1.6	60.2	17.9	20.4												
61-70	13.0	47.0	19.0	20.9	2.8	55.7	16.7	24.8	12.0	49.6	18.8	19.6	3.4	55.4	16.3	24.9												
70+	7.9	49.0	16.4	26.8	5.1	51.9	10.3	32.7	4.1	46.6	23.5	25.8	1.8	51.5	21.0	25.7												
<b>Level of education</b>																												
Basic general (including primary)	7.7	44.9	17.7	29.7	3.4	50.1	13.1	33.4	12.5	36.3	13.6	37.6	3.1	42.6	11.0	43.3												
Secondary general	9.8	53.0	21.2	16.0	3.4	56.8	19.3	20.5	10.5	54.1	18.4	17.0	3.7	60.1	15.7	20.5												
Primary and secondary vocational	11.7	44.8	18.3	25.2	4.7	51.2	15.3	28.8	12.2	45.2	22.9	19.7	3.6	51.3	21.0	24.0												
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	12.6	45.5	22.8	19.1	4.9	56.4	16.9	21.8	13.1	44.3	22.9	19.7	6.0	56.1	16.4	21.4												
<b>Welfare level</b>																												
Poorest	11.0	51.5	22.4	15.0	3.5	57.7	19.3	19.5	12.7	48.6	22.5	16.2	2.7	56.8	20.2	20.3												
Second	9.7	53.3	20.4	16.7	3.1	58.0	16.8	22.1	14.5	50.1	18.3	17.1	5.1	55.6	17.8	21.5												
Average	12.5	49.8	20.2	17.5	4.7	55.0	17.4	22.8	10.9	52.0	16.6	20.6	3.8	59.8	12.6	23.7												
Fourth	8.4	40.8	23.1	27.7	3.8	48.4	19.3	28.5	10.9	39.8	24.3	25.0	5.2	51.0	17.1	26.8												
Richest	12.8	45.6	15.6	26.0	5.7	53.9	12.1	28.3	7.2	50.9	17.2	24.6	4.8	54.2	13.1	27.9												

There are some significant regional differences in the dynamics of non-violent abduction of women, the greatest proportion of women (over 57%) and men (64%) reported an increase in non-violent abductions is in the Talas region, and the lowest – is in the Batken region (2% of women and 3% of men). Every fifth respondent in the Issyk-Kul region (17% of women and 19% of men) and Osh city (19% of women and 17% of men) reported the increasing number of non-violent cases of abductions.

Tables 8.16 and 8.17 show that at the time of the survey, 9% of women and 7% of men knew girls, who were abducted for marriage without their consent. Awareness about violent abductions is the same among urban and rural residents (7-9%).

The highest awareness of violent abductions is among Kyrgyz respondents (9-11%) aged 18-30 years with higher education from the Naryn and Osh regions and in Bishkek and Osh cities.

To examine the nature of girls abducting for forced marriage and identify ways of combating this practice, the respondents were asked about the reasons abductions; and those who knew . Respondents, who knew abducted girls, could tick the most suitable reasons. Women reported, that one in three girl, whom they knew, have been abducted for forced marriage, because the abductor did not want her to marry another man (30%), every fourth - because the abductor was afraid that he would be rejected (24%), and one in five - because the abductor was afraid to get acquainted with her (21%) or was unable to pay dowry (18%). It should be noted that every fifth woman believes that girls are abducted, because parents / relatives insist on it (19%).

According women, the most common reason for abducting women for marriage in urban areas is not to let her marry another man (36.5%), while in rural areas - because men are afraid to be rejected by girls (28.6%).

**Table 8.16 Awareness of women about brides abduction (ala kachuu) over the past two or three years**

Proportion of women, who know girls abducted for marriage and reasons for abduction, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Know girls, who were abducted for marriage without their consent	Women						
		Reasons for abduction						
Total	9.1	23.7	21.0	18.7	17.7	29.9	6.8	10.5
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	9.5	16.4	30.4	13.8	16.9	36.5	5.3	10.9
Rural	8.9	28.6	14.8	21.9	18.2	25.5	7.7	10.3
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	7.8	18.2	12.5	9.0	39.9	37.4	39.7	12.0
Jalal-Abad	5.7	10.4	14.9	14.0	7.7	48.2	9.4	19.1
Issyk-Kul	8.3	27.0	3.4	39.3	0.0	46.2	4.0	36.5
Naryn	12.0	33.9	50.8	11.2	0.0	16.7	19.6	1.5
Osh	12.9	38.2	10.5	26.0	30.4	20.6	0.0	5.4
Talas	6.3	22.6	26.3	14.5	0.0	26.2	5.9	6.2
Chui	5.0	21.8	29.4	12.2	0.0	16.4	4.3	6.5
Bishkek city	11.3	12.0	35.0	15.9	18.9	38.2	1.1	9.8
Osh city	14.5	23.3	16.4	11.2	15.2	16.1	11.8	6.9
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	11.8	32.8	21.4	41.8	24.9	65.6	9.1	6.5
21-30	11.5	17.6	26.1	13.0	13.9	30.7	6.0	11.3
31-40	8.4	23.9	20.5	10.7	22.4	29.1	12.5	10.0
41-50	8.3	24.3	16.0	22.7	21.6	27.9	4.7	8.9
51-60	8.1	31.7	21.7	27.0	6.8	15.3	5.5	9.5
61-70	5.6	9.4	18.6	15.6	22.3	15.2	0.0	27.7
70+	8.6	37.8	6.1	10.8	23.3	25.9	3.3	5.8

Proportion of women, who know girls abducted for marriage and reasons for abduction, with breakdown by settlement type, region, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Know girls, who were abducted for marriage without their consent	Women						
		Reasons for abduction						
		The abductor was afraid to be rejected or was already rejected by the girl	The abductor could not get acquainted with the girl	Parents / relatives of the man insisted on abducting a bride	The man could not pay the dowry	The abductor did not want the girl to marry another man	Parents would not approve marriage	This is the traditional way of marriage
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	6.3	37.7	5.4	8.3	25.9	24.9	13.7	4.4
Secondary general	9.1	27.2	17.6	18.6	15.6	24.7	6.6	10.6
Primary and secondary vocational	7.9	17.3	14.9	19.3	24.9	44.8	4.3	15.8
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	11.5	20.1	32.8	20.5	14.3	28.7	7.1	8.3
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	7.0	40.5	23.5	20.3	11.9	15.4	8.9	6.5
Second	10.1	21.9	12.2	22.7	6.8	29.7	9.2	15.8
Average	9.5	19.1	10.0	19.7	27.1	26.3	4.3	11.7
Fourth	8.4	22.4	27.3	15.9	28.6	45.6	2.7	7.1
Richest	11.5	16.2	34.2	13.7	17.5	32.7	7.9	9.8
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	10.7	22.9	22.3	17.0	19.6	30.2	7.3	10.3
Uzbek	7.2	28.8	18.8	36.7	7.6	23.0	5.2	4.2
Russian	2.7	37.7	0.0	6.4	0.0	59.9	0.0	13.3
Other	6.0	17.6	15.6	10.9	18.9	21.1	3.6	32.2

As Table 8.17 shows, men often mentioned the following reasons for abduction of women: "The abductor could not get acquainted with the girl", "The abductor could not pay the dowry" (about 21%), and "The abductor did not want the girl to marry another man" or "Parents/ relatives of the man insisted on abducting the bride" (18-19%). At the same time, urban men more often mentioned that "The abductor could not pay the dowry" (almost 30%). In rural areas, the highest proportion of men reported that "Parents/ relatives of the man insisted on abducting the bride" or "The abductor was afraid to be rejected by the girl" (21-22%).

**Table 8.17 Awareness of men about abducting brides (ala kachuu) over the past two or three years**

Proportion of men, who know girls abducted for marriage and reasons for abduction, with breakdown by type of settlement, area, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Know girls, who were abducted for marriage without their consent	Men						
		Reasons for abduction						
		The abductor was afraid to be rejected or was already rejected by the girl	The abductor could not get acquainted with the girl	Parents / relatives of the man insisted on abducting a bride	The man could not pay the dowry	The abductor did not want the girl to marry another man	Parents would not approve marriage	This is the traditional way of marriage
Total	7.5	16.0	20.8	19.4	20.7	18.6	9.9	16.2
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	8.0	6.2	26.8	15.2	29.9	23.0	10.2	12.8
Rural	7.3	21.4	17.6	21.7	15.6	16.1	9.8	18.0
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	4.6	7.3	0.0	8.2	45.8	38.1	21.9	20.3
Jalal-Abad	9.0	4.6	5.6	43.3	4.3	35.5	1.3	13.4
Issyk-Kul	3.5	27.2	20.3	19.2	0.0	54.9	9.4	58.5
Naryn	10.9	31.3	42.9	9.2	0.0	13.1	11.1	3.5
Osh	6	32.9	25.6	14.8	31.1	3.7	19.0	11.4
Talas	3.9	25.6	37.5	31.5	0.0	5.4	0.0	0.0

Proportion of men, who know girls abducted for marriage and reasons for abduction, with breakdown by type of settlement, area, level of education, wealth and ethnicity

	Know girls, who were abducted for marriage without their consent	Men						
		Reasons for abduction						
		The abductor was afraid to be rejected or was already rejected by the girl	The abductor could not get acquainted with the girl	Parents / relatives of the man insisted on abducting a bride	The man could not pay the dowry	The abductor did not want the girl to marry another man	Parents would not approve marriage	This is the traditional way of marriage
Chui	3.0	20.2	18.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	61.3
Bishkek city	9.6	1.9	28.2	9.5	46.5	16.0	8.9	6.7
Osh city	10.6	11.0	23.4	11.6	6.0	15.4	12.2	23.3
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	9.4	8.6	32.7	0.0	20.1	15.3	15.1	0.0
21-30	10.7	4.2	28.4	25.7	30.2	22.6	10.2	9.9
31-40	7.5	30.3	12.2	26.0	18.2	18.4	8.1	21.3
41-50	5.5	16.5	24.9	3.3	21.3	19.6	6.3	19.8
51-60	7.0	28.6	8.6	18.8	5.6	18.0	2.6	28.7
61-70	2.6	14.1	9.0	40.7	6.3	0.0	7.6	22.4
70+	6.6	12.7	16.6	13.7	19.3	0.0	55.5	9.0
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	4.7	17.8	13.4	0.0	11.4	21.2	40.6	5.6
Secondary general	7.8	18.2	20.3	18.8	13.7	21.1	7.0	19.7
Primary and secondary vocational	7.2	17.2	28.6	15.0	31.0	13.9	2.6	14.7
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	8.4	10.8	17.3	28.2	27.4	17.0	14.8	13.0
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	8.7	29.3	13.2	14.1	17.4	9.2	9.0	17.0
Second	5.3	11.0	28.7	2.0	17.2	18.1	6.4	15.0
Average	8.3	10.7	21.3	30.8	18.0	20.4	23.5	14.3
Fourth	8.4	9.5	22.4	34.0	31.5	28.7	3.8	15.7
Richest	6.6	9.6	26.1	11.4	20.4	22.7	2.8	19.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	9.2	16.3	21.4	18.3	22.6	20.6	11.2	13.7
Uzbek	3.7	4.5	21.9	43.6	0.0	3.4	0.0	26.6
Russian	3.4	42.3	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.8
Other	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.2	0.0	0.0	53.8

Bride abduction, because the man could not pay the dowry was often mentioned in the Batken (40% of women and 46% of men) and Osh (30 and 31%, respectively) regions and in Bishkek (19% and 46%, respectively). In other regions, this reason was mentioned rarely or not mentioned at all.

In general, the response “Bride abduction is a traditional way of marriage” (10-16%), as well as “Parents would not approve marriage (6-10%) were rarely ticked by the respondents throughout the country. At the same time, the data show that in some regions, bride abduction/ala kachuu is excused, above all, by cultural practices and traditions that exist in the Kyrgyz Republic. Thus, in the Issyk-Kul region the most common explanation for bride abduction was that it is a traditional way of marriage (36% of women and 58% of men). It should be noted that most of the interviewed men in the Chui region (61%) mentioned this reason, as well as a very small number of women (6%). In addition, almost 40% of women and 22% of men in the Batken region mentioned the reason “Parents would not approve marriage”.

Table 8.18 shows respondents' attitude towards violent abductors. Most women and men are negative (59% and 49%, respectively) and the proportion of urban women is significantly higher (64%) than men (42%). In addition, the proportion of respondents, who are negative about abductors was significantly

higher among women and men aged 51-60 years old (75% and 76%, respectively), including women with primary and secondary vocational education (71%) and men with the basic general education (56%).

Analysis of the respondents' answers by their welfare shows that almost 71% of women from rich households (the fourth layer) are negative about violent abductors , as well as about 64% of men from the poorest families. The highest proportion of women and men, who are negative about violent abductors is in the Talas (92%), Jalal-Abad region (72%) and Naryn regions (69% of women and 73% of men).

**Table 8.18 Respondents' attitude towards violent abductors (ala kachuu)**

Proportion of women and men, who are positive, neutral or negative about violent abductors, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women				Men			
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Total	11.7	25.4	59.4	3.5	17.6	31.1	49.4	1.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	11.8	23.5	64.0	0.7	24.0	32.7	41.8	1.5
Rural	11.7	26.7	56.3	5.3	14.1	30.2	53.5	2.2
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	4.7	9.0	70.2	16.1	0.0	20.3	44.0	35.7
Jalal-Abad	20.0	8.3	71.8	0.0	4.8	23.7	71.5	0.0
Issyk-Kul	10.2	27.1	62.7	0.0	18.1	50.6	31.3	0.0
Naryn	2.5	26.8	69.2	1.5	4.3	20.6	73.1	2.1
Osh	11.9	38.3	43.4	6.4	26.0	39.5	34.5	0.0
Talas	2.9	5.2	91.9	0.0	0.0	7.9	92.1	0.0
Chui	8.0	23.4	64.1	4.5	9.4	24.8	65.8	0.0
Bishkek city	15.8	24.6	59.6	0.0	38.1	34.8	27.1	0.0
Osh city	8.2	26.8	63.4	1.6	10.3	35.0	51.9	2.8
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	0.9	25.4	71.7	2.0	13.9	51.5	29.3	5.3
21-30	16.7	25.2	56.9	1.2	21.4	33.1	44.1	1.4
31-40	1.0	32.4	61.0	5.6	18.4	37.4	44.2	0.0
41-50	11.9	33.3	54.0	0.8	23.0	27.4	48.2	1.4
51-60	15.7	9.3	75.0	0.0	1.9	18.7	76.5	2.9
61-70	37.6	18.2	44.2	0.0	0.0	32.4	67.6	0.0
70+	0.0	24.4	37.7	37.8	49.7	0.0	41.3	9.0
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	7.3	26.3	34.7	31.7	38.3	0.0	55.8	5.9
Secondary general	14.5	24.2	57.9	3.4	13.6	36.4	48.4	1.6
Primary and secondary vocational	9.9	18.9	71.1	0.0	28.0	26.2	44.2	1.6
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	9.8	31.1	58.8	0.3	12.5	31.6	53.9	2.0
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	7.3	24.8	52.2	15.7	13.1	22.1	63.7	1.1
Second	18.4	13.9	67.7	0.0	16.7	40.6	37.8	4.8
Average	23.9	23.9	51.1	1.1	19.7	38.7	41.7	0.0
Fourth	1.5	27.7	70.8	0.0	22.3	32.8	41.6	3.3
Richest	5.2	39.5	53.4	1.9	18.8	25.1	54.6	1.5
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	11.1	27.7	59.8	1.4	18.6	33.9	46.3	1.2
Uzbek	14.5	14.8	53.2	17.5	7.7	10.6	74.6	7.2
Russian	4.4	4.9	76.6	14.1	19.8	8.9	71.4	0.0
Other	22.0	21.3	56.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	73.8	26.2

There were some gender and regional differences in the respondents' answers. The survey showed that men (over 17%) are more positive about violent abductors than women (about 12%), with urban men 1.7 times more often positive than rural ones (14%). 4 times more women than men are "positive" about violent abductors (5%)in the Jalal-Abad region, while in the Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Osh regions and Bishkek city, on the

contrary, men were positive twice more than women (38% and 18%, respectively). Among those, who are "positive" about violent abductors, there were more women and men aged 60 years and older (37 and 49%, respectively), as well as those, who have general secondary and secondary vocational education (14% and 28%).

As the survey results show more than a quarter of women (25%) and one-third of the interviewed men (31%), regardless of the settlement type, were neutral about violent abductor and among them, the highest proportion are women from the Osh region (38%), and men from the Issyk-Kul region (more than 50%). Women aged 30 - 50 years old are more often than older respondents neutral (32-33%), as a high proportion of 51-60 years old women are negative about violent bride abductors (75%). It should be noted that more than half of young men (51%) aged 18-20 years, are more often than other men "neutral". At the same time, only 29% of the respondents from this age group are negative about abductors, and almost 14% – are positive. The majority of respondents, who are positive - are rural youth with low level of education and from poor households. However, as a whole, the proportion of respondents, who are neutral, is the highest among those with higher education (over 31%) and among the richest women and poor men (39-40%).

The survey results prove that abduction of a bride without her consent is the most common way of marriage for the interviewed households in the Naryn (more than 20% of the ever-married), Issyk-Kul (about 18%) and Talas (about 10%) regions. The survey results show that the opinion and attitude towards bride abduction often depend on sex of respondents, place of residence, level of education and welfare. The above illegal practice is supported in our country by the tolerance of the society to abducting brides without their consent. According to the criminal legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic (Article 155 of the Criminal Code), abduction of a bride is a severe crime punished by up to 10 years in prison. However, bride abduction is common and law enforcement in this field is very weak. Only a few cases of bride abduction are officially registered in the country, so the abductors, as well as other participants of illegal actions, most often evade liability. In courts, the priority is given to conventional rules, rather than to national and international legislation, this is especially typical in rural areas, where traditions and customs are important.

The survey included a question about awareness of among men and women of the liability established by the National legislation for abduction of bride/ ala kachuu. The respondents were asked, whether the law provides for any liability for abducting a woman for marriage and what kind of liability with several answers.

Table 8.19 shows that the majority of women and men (70-71%), both in urban and rural areas, are aware of the legal liability for abduction of the bride. The highest level of awareness was among men and women from the Talas (82% and 87%, respectively), Batken (77% and 79%), Osh (76% and 75%) and Jalalabad (75% each) regions, as well as among men from the Osh city (74%), while the lowest was among the respondents from the Naryn region (44% of women and 47% of men). At the same time, respondents from the medium age group of 40 to 60 years old (72-73%) and especially men aged 61-70 years (77%) were best aware of the criminal liability for abduction of brides. Awareness is higher among both women and men with higher education level (74 and 75%). The highest awareness is among middle income households (73-74%).

Table 8.19 also provides data on respondents' awareness of the liability for bride abduction. The correct answer "Imprisonment for 3 to 10 years" was ticked by 41% of women and 44% of men from urban and rural areas. Correct responses were provided by women and men from the Issyk-Kul (62% and 58%, respectively), Talas (53% and 61%) and Osh (51% and 48%) regions, as well as men from the Chui region (53%). The lowest awareness of the criminal liability for bride abduction without her consent was in the Batken region (21%), especially among men (18%), because almost half of them (48%) provided incorrect answers.

The results show that half of the young women and men aged 18-20 years (48-50%) provided correct answers about the liability compared to respondents in the elder age groups (over 60 years) and those, who was ever married. Awareness of the liability for bride abduction for forced marriage increases with increase of the education level both among women and men (34% - 45%), as well as respondents' welfare (37 - 43% of women, and 43 - 51% of men).

One of the obstacles for bringing violent abductors to justice is reluctance of victims of violence to leave the abductors and appeal to the law enforcement bodies. During the survey, the respondents were asked, what should the girl abducted without her consent for marriage. The respondents could choose one of the two responses: "a girl should return home" or "girl should marry the abductor". The respondents were also asked, why girls should marry abductors and could choose reasons for forced marriage.

**Table 8.19 Awareness of the liability for abduction of women for marriage**

Proportion of women and men, who know about the liability for abduction of women for marriage, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity														
	Awareness of responsibility	Women						Men						
		Type of responsibility						Awareness of responsibility	Type of responsibility					
		Fine	Imprisonment up to 3 years	Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years	Imprisonment from 11 to 20 years	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Fine	Imprisonment up to 3 years	Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years	Imprisonment from 11 to 20 years	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer			
Total	69.6	16.9	28.0	41.2	1.9	11.9	71.0	16.9	26.3	43.6	1.5	11.6		
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	68.8	14.9	32.3	39.0	2.1	11.7	71.2	15.2	27.2	42.2	1.4	14.0		
Rural	70.0	18.1	25.4	42.6	1.8	12.0	70.9	17.8	25.9	44.3	1.6	10.5		
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	77.2	26.7	38.1	24.2	1.0	10.0	78.9	26.1	48.1	18.5	1.0	6.2		
Jalal-Abad	75.4	21.3	11.0	41.2	0.7	25.9	75.1	24.1	13.4	39.2	1.4	21.9		
Issyk-Kul	56.9	9.8	25.2	62.0	2.0	1.0	63.8	10.6	28.1	57.8	0.3	3.2		
Naryn	44.3	17.5	44.9	32.9	1.4	3.3	47.3	14.2	43.4	34.6	4.8	3.0		
Osh	75.9	19.5	20.2	51.5	3.2	5.6	75.4	20.7	23.4	48.5	1.8	5.5		
Talas	81.8	4.8	34.0	53.5	0.2	7.4	87.0	4.3	31.4	61.1	0.4	2.8		
Chui	62.0	13.8	37.4	37.1	2.5	9.2	64.0	10.0	28.0	53.1	1.9	7.0		
Bishkek city	68.9	11.8	39.9	34.5	2.3	11.5	69.1	9.8	30.9	40.2	1.5	17.7		
Osh city	68.9	19.5	24.0	33.1	1.3	22.2	74.3	18.9	21.6	35.2	0.9	23.4		
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	63.0	11.1	19.3	50.2	5.4	13.9	66.3	19.0	23.0	48.5	0.7	8.7		
21-30	71.3	19.4	28.1	40.5	1.8	10.3	70.1	12.8	25.7	47.5	1.1	12.9		
31-40	67.5	17.7	29.7	42.3	1.4	9.0	71.0	16.9	24.0	45.4	1.8	12.0		
41-50	72.7	17.0	31.9	38.3	2.0	10.8	73.9	20.3	28.3	40.7	0.9	9.8		
51-60	72.2	16.5	25.6	44.9	1.8	11.2	67.8	19.2	28.3	46.0	1.2	5.3		
61-70	65.8	11.3	27.6	36.7	1.0	23.4	77.0	19.8	23.7	33.7	2.4	20.5		
70+	63.1	17.8	24.8	36.6	1.9	18.9	72.3	6.7	33.9	31.0	6.4	22.0		
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	59.0	17.8	24.9	34.3	3.5	19.4	66.7	11.8	31.8	33.8	1.5	21.2		
Secondary general	68.9	18.3	25.7	40.9	1.4	13.6	69.5	18.5	25.4	43.0	1.0	12.1		
Primary and secondary vocational	69.8	15.1	28.8	42.0	4.0	10.0	71.5	18.6	26.1	44.7	1.7	8.9		
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	74.4	15.9	32.1	43.2	0.4	8.5	75.3	14.3	26.3	47.1	2.3	9.9		
<b>Welfare level</b>														
Poorest	67.3	19.0	29.4	36.7	1.4	13.6	71.4	19.3	25.7	43.2	1.4	10.4		
Second	71.6	17.9	26.6	39.6	1.6	14.4	73.2	15.9	28.8	41.9	1.7	11.7		

Proportion of women and men, who know about the liability for abduction of women for marriage, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, wealth and ethnicity												
	Women						Men					
	Awareness of responsibility	Type of responsibility					Awareness of responsibility	Type of responsibility				
		Fine	Imprisonment up to 3 years	Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years	Imprisonment from 11 to 20 years	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer		Fine	Imprisonment up to 3 years	Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years	Imprisonment from 11 to 20 years	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Average	73.0	17.2	25.3	46.0	1.5	10.0	74.3	17.5	25.3	42.5	1.0	13.6
Fourth	70.2	13.4	28.1	42.7	4.4	11.3	66.0	18.5	28.1	41.7	2.7	9.0
Richest	65.4	16.6	31.6	42.8	0.5	8.5	68.7	11.3	22.6	51.4	0.5	14.2
<b>Ethnicity</b>												
Kyrgyz	72.9	16.8	29.0	42.5	1.6	10.0	73.0	17.5	28.3	44.0	1.5	8.7
Uzbek	61.0	23.5	21.8	36.7	1.9	16.1	67.9	17.6	15.8	44.8	1.3	20.4
Russian	65.2	8.5	28.6	43.1	5.2	14.7	62.6	10.5	26.3	37.7	1.1	24.4
Other	57.4	16.7	28.1	30.8	0.0	24.4	64.3	14.4	26.2	41.6	1.7	16.1

Table 8.20 shows that according to respondents, in case of violent abduction, the girl should return home (about 78% of women and 74% of men), with almost the same number of women and men from urban and rural areas. In the Talas region, the vast majority of women and men (95 and 96%, respectively) said that the abducted girl should return home, as well as in the Naryn (85% of women and 78% of men) and Jalalabad (by 83%) regions, and Bishkek (83 and 67%, respectively). Moreover, there were no any significant differences depending on the age of respondents.

This opinion was supported by respondents with higher level of education, both women and men (83 and 77%, respectively). Women with higher income supported this opinion more often than men (81 and 73%, respectively), as well as men with average income (80%).

**Table 8.20 Respondents' opinions, whether girls should marry abductors**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that in case of abduction, girls should return home or marry abductors, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

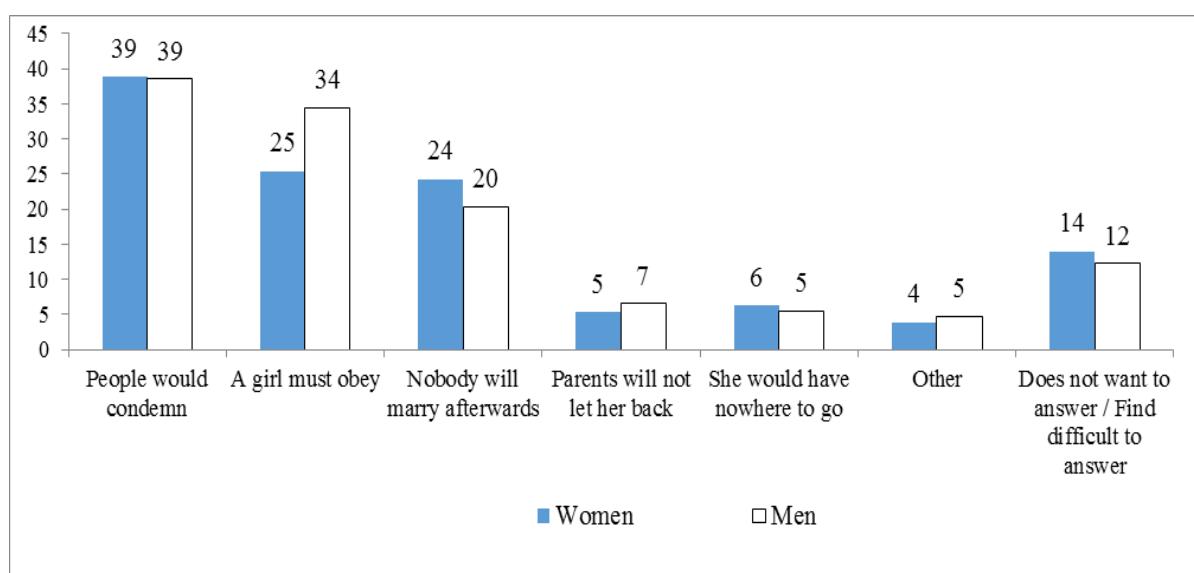
	Women			Men		
	The girl should return home	The girl should marry the abductor	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	The girl should return home	The girl should marry the abductor	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Total	77.8	16.8	5.4	73.6	20.6	5.8
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	81.0	15.2	3.8	71.5	24.0	4.5
Rural	75.8	17.8	6.4	74.7	18.9	6.4
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	68.8	26.8	4.4	62.2	31.5	6.3
Jalal-Abad	82.9	6.3	10.8	82.8	6.9	10.2
Issyk-Kul	72.7	24.8	2.5	66.8	31.3	1.9
Naryn	84.8	13.3	1.9	78.2	16.2	5.5
Osh	73.4	24.8	1.9	71.6	27.2	1.2
Talas	95.6	3.0	1.3	94.7	4.6	0.6
Chui	72.5	13.7	13.8	72.5	13.3	14.2
Bishkek city	83.4	15.7	0.9	66.9	31.2	1.9
Osh city	77.9	19.0	3.1	74.5	23.3	2.2
<b>Age, years</b>						
18-20	79.5	15.3	5.2	70.5	23.4	6.0
21-30	78.1	15.1	6.8	74.5	19.5	6.1
31-40	78.6	16.5	4.8	75.9	20.3	3.8
41-50	79.4	17.3	3.3	73.2	21.2	5.6
51-60	78.2	16.5	5.4	72.3	19.2	8.5
61-70	69.5	23.5	7.0	73.4	21.2	5.4
70+	77.2	16.4	6.4	70.5	26.5	3.1
<b>Level of education</b>						
Basic general (including primary)	63.5	24.8	11.7	69.1	25.6	5.3
Secondary general	77.1	18.3	4.6	73.6	19.9	6.4
Primary and secondary vocational	78.9	15.8	5.3	71.5	23.4	5.1
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	83.3	12.0	4.7	77.3	17.4	5.2
<b>Welfare level</b>						
Poorest	75.2	18.9	5.9	73.1	20.5	6.5
Second	77.6	18.4	4.0	72.1	23.3	4.6
Average	79.1	15.6	5.2	80.0	15.4	4.6
Fourth	77.8	16.1	6.0	70.2	25.0	4.8
Richest	80.7	13.4	6.0	72.6	18.3	9.1
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	78.9	16.8	4.3	73.9	21.0	5.1
Uzbek	71.8	21.6	6.6	73.6	20.2	6.2
Russian	82.9	8.0	9.1	78.0	12.8	9.3
Other	71.5	18.9	9.6	66.7	24.4	8.8

At the same time, about one-fifth of respondents (17% of women and 21% of men) believe that the abducted girls should marry their abductors - urban men think so more often than women, while similar number of women and men have the same opinion in rural area (17-18%). The biggest proportion of the respondents, who agree with this opinion, are from the Batken (27% of women and 31% of men), Issyk-Kul (25% of women and 31% of men) and Osh (25% of women and 27% of men) regions, as well as men from Bishkek city (31%) - twice more than women. The smallest proportion of respondents, who think that abducted girls should marry their abductors, was in the Talas region (3% of women and 5% of men), as well as among young women under 30 year old (15%), women with higher education (12%), and rich households (13%).

It should be noted that the proportion of men, who support this opinion, was higher than among women in all age groups, especially among young people aged 18-20 years (23%), men above 70 years old (26%), and men with low level of education, vocational education, both from poor and rich families (23-25%), of different ethnicities (20-24%).

Respondents' opinions, why the abducted girls should marry their abductors were studied during the survey as well. Table 8.21 provides the main reasons mentioned by respondents. In general, according to respondents, the major reason is that if the girl returns home, she would be condemned by her parents, relatives, friends or neighbors (39%). The respondents think that the girl "must obey" and marry the abductor (25% of women and 34% of men). In addition, almost a quarter of the interviewed women (24%) and one-fifth of men (20%) believe that if the girl retuns home, no one would marry her in the future. Fewer men and women mentioned the following for forced marriage: "Girls' parents won't accept her back home" (5-7%), and "She will have no place to go" - 4-5%.

**Figure 8.1 Respondents' opinions, why abducted girls should marry their abductors**  
(In %)



**Table 8.21 Respondents' opinions, why abducted girls should marry their abductors**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that girls should marry their abductors, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, levels of education, welfare

	Women												Men				
	Why girls should marry their abductors						Why girls should marry their abductors										
	People would condemn her	She must obey	Nobody would marry her afterwards	Her parents won't accept her back home	She will have no place to go	Other	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	People would condemn her	She must obey	Nobody would marry her afterwards	Her parents won't accept her back home	She will have no place to go	Other	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer			
Total	38.8	25.4	24.3	5.3	6.3	3.9	14.0	38.5	34.4	20.4	6.5	5.5	4.8	12.2			
<b>Type of settlement</b>																	
Urban	29.6	13.5	26.2	2.9	7.5	1.5	25.6	37.1	24.5	15.7	4.7	8.0	5.6	18.6			
Rural	43.7	31.8	23.2	6.6	5.6	5.2	7.8	39.4	40.5	23.3	7.7	3.9	4.2	8.3			
<b>Region</b>																	
Batken	46.9	20.8	38.9	2.2	1.5	3.3	5.6	55.1	31.2	23.3	2.8	2.2	1.6	11.7			
Jalal-Abad	8.6	22.2	26.8	5.3	5.0	0.0	32.1	15.2	37.0	30.1	0.0	5.2	0.0	12.4			
Issyk-Kul	48.7	57.1	22.7	0.9	9.7	0.0	0.9	54.2	59.4	22.6	0.7	11.0	1.3	2.0			
Naryn	30.3	15.3	22.1	6.5	16.0	8.6	6.6	27.9	26.9	21.6	0.0	0.0	9.3	14.3			
Osh	48.4	32.7	30.4	10.6	6.9	0.0	3.4	34.8	46.7	29.7	13.7	5.5	2.4	0.0			
Talas	10.8	47.5	8.9	0.0	20.8	0.0	12.1	35.3	46.6	9.6	0.0	8.4	0.0	0.0			
Chui	36.6	16.6	10.4	6.6	1.5	20.8	16.8	35.4	12.9	10.4	10.8	0.0	13.5	31.2			
Bishkek city	24.2	9.5	14.4	0.7	7.7	2.1	41.6	37.8	19.8	7.0	4.5	7.6	9.1	26.0			
Osh city	44.1	12.8	25.0	5.7	8.4	2.8	3.9	33.5	24.8	28.2	7.1	4.2	0.0	3.7			
<b>Age, years</b>																	
18-20	36.1	29.4	28.7	0.0	16.3	0.0	17.3	42.1	35.0	17.2	8.0	16.4	7.5	2.0			
21-30	38.3	17.7	22.2	2.9	10.9	7.0	13.3	36.4	27.7	28.1	7.2	4.9	5.6	13.0			
31-40	43.8	32.7	17.2	0.4	5.0	3.9	13.0	34.5	36.6	19.1	12.5	3.8	2.8	13.8			
41-50	37.7	26.4	24.7	15.0	3.3	1.3	11.3	40.9	26.9	16.7	3.8	5.1	4.3	18.7			
51-60	35.1	25.2	32.8	1.8	4.2	6.0	13.4	51.1	43.3	13.9	3.2	7.9	4.5	5.5			
61-70	42.2	27.4	28.4	12.0	2.0	0.0	16.7	27.0	39.5	18.9	5.3	0.0	1.6	20.2			
70+	32.1	20.6	19.9	0.0	4.9	7.2	23.3	27.8	46.9	32.1	2.0	1.7	11.8	1.4			
<b>Level of education</b>																	
Basic general (including primary)	47.6	23.3	23.6	4.6	3.4	9.1	9.4	26.5	31.6	34.7	10.3	2.0	7.3	11.6			
Secondary general	38.3	32.8	24.6	5.1	6.8	1.5	10.5	39.7	41.8	20.1	6.3	7.6	2.8	8.0			
Primary and secondary vocational	39.3	15.7	22.8	10.1	5.1	5.0	18.4	47.1	28.1	16.8	6.0	4.9	5.1	15.7			
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	32.8	18.8	25.6	0.4	8.6	5.2	21.5	31.8	26.5	17.5	5.7	3.2	7.5	18.0			
<b>Welfare level</b>																	
Poorest	44.8	28.7	21.3	8.8	3.8	3.7	12.5	33.1	43.3	26.5	5.2	5.6	2.9	7.9			
Second	39.1	36.7	20.5	3.2	5.5	3.4	9.3	40.3	38.2	21.6	10.2	2.0	4.6	12.5			
Average	36.5	22.3	30.4	4.3	6.4	3.0	13.9	38.2	40.7	20.4	6.4	3.8	2.7	14.3			
Fourth	36.8	15.4	26.8	6.9	7.1	7.1	15.4	42.3	20.3	17.6	2.8	10.8	4.5	11.9			
Richest	31.5	16.0	25.6	0.7	11.6	1.8	24.1	40.1	24.8	10.2	8.6	5.1	11.7	18.8			

In some cases, because of fear of stigma and national traditions, fear of parents, economic dependence, as well as pressure from relatives, not allowing them to contact the police, the girls find themselves in a desperate situation after the violence and sometimes commit suicide.

There are noticeable differences between answers of urban and rural women about the reasons for forced marriage: "People will condemn the girl" (30% and 44%, respectively), "The girl must obey" (13 and 32%) and "Her parents won't accept her back home" (3 and 7%). The data also show noticeable gender and regional differences among respondents. Almost half of women in the Batken, Issyk-Kul and Osh regions (47-49%) and Osh city (44%) believe that girls should marry their abductors, because people will condemn girls. The same answer was chosen by more than half of men living in the Batken and Issyk-Kul regions (54-55%). Compared with other regions, the Issyk-Kul region is especially noticeable, where more than half of women and men almost equally believe that the abducted girl should marry her abductor (57 and 59%, respectively). In the city of Osh nearly twice as many men than women (25 and 13%, respectively) support this opinion. In addition, in the Batken region there is a quite large proportion of women, who believe that if the girl returns home, "nobody would marry her in the future", while this proportion is much lower among men (39% vs. 23%, respectively). Women from the Talas region more often than women from other regions mentioned that the girl "will have no place to go" if she would refuse to marry, and fewer men support this opinion (21% of women and 8% of men).

The reason that people would condemn the girl was more often mentioned by women in the age groups 31-40 years and 61-70 years old (42-44%) with low level of education, as well as women from the poorest households. About one-third of 31-40 years old women , who think that the abducted girl must obey, are mostly from poor families and have only secondary education. The same number of respondents (33%) aged 51-60 years believe that if the girls leaves her abductor, nobody would marry her - among these respondents there are many women with higher education and with middle income.

The Table shows that according to respondents, there are three most common reasons, why girls should marry their abductors. Men in the age group of 51-60 years old more often than young and elderly people think that people would condemn the girl (51%) and the girl must obey (43%). Men above 70 years old more often than other respondents think that the girl must obey (47%), and no one else would marry her (32%).

As noted in various studies and human rights reports, abduction of girls for forced marriage is quite common in the Kyrgyz Republic, which is recognized by the world community as a gross violation of human rights and should be punished accordingly. However, most often, the internal affairs bodies are not interested in such cases, as complaints, even if they are filed, would not be brought to court, because families from both sides often settle this problem themselves. Violent bride abduction is often accompanied by sexual violence; however, even in this case, victims and their parents are often not willing to file the claim against the abductor. During the survey the respondents were asked to choose only one answer to the question about further actions of girls in case of forced sexual contact with the abductor. Table 8.22 shows that more than half of men and women believe that the girl should file the claim with the law enforcement bodies (59 and 53%, respectively). At the same time, more than a quarter of the respondents think that she should marry the abductor (25% of women and 29% of men), and almost the same number of men and women think that the girl should file the claim with the law enforcement authorities (8-9%). At the same time, women in rural areas almost twice more often than in urban areas think that the girl must marry the abductor (29 and 17%, respectively), as well as return home and not to file any claim (10 and 6%), which is especially characteristic for rural area, where traditions and customs are of much importance. Urban residents, both women and men (67 and 58%), mostly think that the victim must file the claim with the law enforcement bodies.

**Table 8.22 Respondents' opinions on whether the girl should marry the abductor in case of forced sexual contact**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that in the case of forced sexual contact with the abductor, the girl should return home or marry the abductor, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women				Men			
	Marry the abductor	Return home and not file any claim with the law enforcement authorities	Return home and file any claim with the law enforcement authorities	Do not want to answer /Find difficult to answer	Marry the abductor	Return home and not file any claim with the law enforcement authorities	Return home and file any claim with the law enforcement authorities	Do not want to answer/ Find difficult to answer
Total	24.7	8.4	58.5	8.4	28.7	9.0	52.7	9.6
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	17.3	5.9	67.4	9.3	24.1	5.8	58.1	12.1
Rural	29.2	10.0	53.0	7.8	31.0	10.6	50.1	8.4
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	36.1	16.6	33.3	14.1	34.4	13.0	36.0	16.6
Jalal-Abad	13.7	20.5	61.0	4.8	15.3	20.7	57.0	7.0
Issyk-Kul	31.8	3.3	58.3	6.6	37.4	4.6	50.3	7.7
Naryn	16.7	13.4	65.2	4.7	20.0	13.9	59.8	6.3
Osh	55.9	7.4	31.9	4.9	63.5	7.3	25.8	3.3
Talas	5.6	6.2	86.0	2.2	5.5	10.8	77.1	6.6
Chui	6.7	1.7	74.6	17.0	6.9	2.5	72.4	18.3
Bishkek city	11.5	4.2	75.2	9.0	22.3	3.4	61.3	12.9
Osh city	37.8	1.0	56.0	5.3	32.9	0.8	59.5	6.8
<b>Age, years</b>								
18-20	18.8	8.7	65.6	6.9	26.9	6.4	53.9	12.8
21-30	25.9	9.9	57.9	6.3	29.5	7.5	53.2	9.8
31-40	25.3	8.7	58.0	7.9	29.0	9.4	53.2	8.4
41-50	23.6	9.5	60.0	6.8	30.9	8.9	52.4	7.8
51-60	24.6	6.6	58.3	10.5	29.2	10.9	49.8	10.1
61-70	25.6	5.9	56.3	12.2	20.2	9.0	60.1	10.8
70+	26.0	5.2	52.2	16.6	29.1	13.6	44.5	12.9
<b>Level of education</b>								
Basic general (including primary)	31.4	7.8	42.8	17.9	29.5	5.9	51.5	13.1
Secondary general	30.7	10.4	51.7	7.2	31.5	12.8	47.4	8.3
Primary and secondary vocational	18.1	6.5	66.8	8.5	26.9	6.5	56.4	10.3
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	17.5	7.0	68.7	6.8	24.4	5.0	60.4	10.2
<b>Welfare level</b>								
Poorest	34.9	7.1	47.1	10.8	34.7	9.7	48.1	7.5
Second	30.5	6.7	55.3	7.5	28.9	8.8	53.5	8.8
Average	22.3	13.0	57.9	6.8	26.3	13.3	49.4	11.0
Fourth	16.9	7.9	67.3	7.9	27.5	6.6	54.7	11.2
Richest	13.4	8.3	70.0	8.4	22.0	5.4	61.9	10.7
<b>Ethnicity</b>								
Kyrgyz	23.9	10.1	59.0	7.0	29.8	9.1	51.9	9.2
Uzbek	43.1	6.8	41.2	8.9	36.6	11.0	46.0	6.4
Russian	2.7	1.9	82.9	12.5	5.7	7.3	71.8	15.2
Other	24.6	3.3	55.2	16.9	21.1	5.4	58.1	15.5

Compared with other regions, a significant proportion of women and men in the Talas (86 and 77%, respectively) and Chui (75 and 72%) regions, as well as in Bishkek (75 and 61%) believe that the girl - victim of violence by the abductor, must file the claim with the law enforcement bodies. At the same time, most respondents in the Osh region think that the girl should marry the abductor (56% of women and 64% of men), and the respondents from the Jalal-Abad region think that the girl must return home and do not file any claim with the law enforcement bodies (20-21%).

In general, the lower the level of education and welfare of respondents, the higher is the proportion of those, who agree that the girl should marry the abductor. Among young women aged 18-20 years (66%) and men aged 61-70 years (60%) the highest proportion of respondents think that the victim of violence should file the claim with the police. The proportion of women and men, who agreed with this answer, as a rule, increases with increase in the education level and welfare.

Girls are normally abducted involving a large numbers of people - friends and relatives of the man, who often put psychological pressure on the abducted girl and physical coercion. During the survey, the respondents were asked about the reasons, why female relatives of the abductor get involved in these illegal acts. The data in Table 8.23 show that more than half of the respondents, regardless of sex, think that it is tradition and custom (52-53%), and nearly one-third of women say that they help their relative (31%). According to the remaining respondents, abductors' mothers need a daughter in law, who would help in the household (12-13%); and 13% of men and 10% of women say that there reasons, why female relatives help the abductor is that they have also been abducted. Although the vast majority of respondents are negative about bride abduction, in reality they are involved in this practice as well. At the same time, there were no any significant differences between answers of the respondents in urban and rural areas.

The highest proportion of women and men, who explain participation of female relatives in bride abduction by a tradition is in the Issyk-Kul - 59 and 65%, respectively and Osh region - 58 and 56%, and Bishkek - 59 and 57%. It is noteworthy that the highest proportion of the respondents, who ticked all answers is in the Issyk-Kul region, so, they say that "female relatives want to help the abductor" (47% of women and 52% of men), "they need a daughter in law to help them in the household" (27 and 24%) or "because they were also abducted" (25 and 34%), and "there is nothing wrong about this" (8 and 9%). As noted earlier, the survey confirms that bride abduction is a common practice in the Issyk-Kul region. At the same time, almost one-third of the respondents, both women and men (30-32%) in the Talas region say that it is a tradition, but most respondents say that "female relatives want to help the abductor" (40-43%).

**Table 8.23 Respondents' opinions, why female relatives of the abductor participate in bride abduction**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that there is nothing wrong about this - they were abducted as well; this is a tradition' female relatives want to help the abductor or they need assistant girl to help them in the household, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age groups, educational levels and welfare

	Women							Men						
	Nothing wrong about this	They were abducted too	This is a tradition	It is necessary to help relative	They want a daughter in law, who will help them in household	Other	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Nothing wrong about this	They were abducted too	This is a tradition	It is necessary to help relative	They want a daughter in law, who will help them in household	Other	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Total	6.1	10.1	52.3	31.4	12.2	0.7	10.4	5.5	12.8	52.6	30.8	13.2	1.1	8.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>														
Urban	5.3	11.1	51.8	29.6	10.1	0.5	11.1	5.3	13.0	51.6	33.3	9.6	1.1	9.1
Rural	6.6	9.4	52.6	32.5	13.6	0.8	9.9	5.6	12.7	53.2	29.5	14.9	1.1	8.9
<b>Region</b>														
Batken	4.6	5.1	33.5	22.0	18.5	1.1	19.9	9.7	10.6	35.4	13.1	18.3	0.0	18.5
Jalal-Abad	6.1	11.9	52.9	22.1	4.8	1.2	10.4	3.8	14.4	55.3	20.2	5.0	1.1	7.3
Issyk-Kul	8.2	25.3	59.4	46.8	27.4	0.0	5.4	9.1	34.0	65.5	51.8	24.4	0.3	4.0
Naryn	2.7	8.3	45.6	36.1	13.5	1.9	2.0	3.2	4.8	43.8	38.6	14.4	2.4	2.4
Osh	8.6	9.6	58.5	34.3	14.6	0.1	8.3	6.7	10.9	55.5	32.6	21.4	0.5	7.5
Talas	1.4	13.6	31.6	42.8	26.7	0.7	2.3	1.8	10.2	29.6	40.4	26.7	0.0	4.1
Chui	4.6	4.1	52.7	32.4	8.1	1.2	18.9	4.7	8.2	56.0	30.1	7.4	1.7	17.7
Bishkek city	7.0	9.3	59.1	29.6	9.3	0.3	6.8	4.7	12.3	56.8	34.4	8.3	2.2	5.7
Osh city	2.7	10.9	38.9	34.8	7.0	0.3	9.6	6.0	7.6	39.2	33.2	7.3	0.5	9.4
<b>Age, years</b>														
18-20	1.4	10.1	53.6	33.2	13.7	0.4	10.3	8.9	7.1	43.0	41.6	21.1	0.0	10.7
21-30	7.9	10.9	49.8	31.1	12.1	0.5	8.7	3.6	12.1	53.3	28.8	13.3	1.5	10.4
31-40	7.4	10.0	54.5	31.7	11.8	1.1	9.1	5.0	14.7	52.9	29.0	14.7	1.0	7.2
41-50	5.1	8.6	55.3	33.2	12.6	0.4	10.3	6.5	14.3	54.1	28.5	11.1	0.5	7.5
51-60	4.5	9.7	52.9	27.8	12.9	0.9	10.7	6.2	15.0	51.3	35.2	12.9	1.2	8.7
61-70	7.6	10.0	49.2	30.5	11.4	0.5	14.6	4.6	8.7	54.9	28.1	8.8	1.4	12.5
70+	4.4	12.6	46.1	34.1	11.1	0.8	16.9	8.2	8.5	56.2	30.5	11.2	2.4	6.8
<b>Level of education</b>														
Basic general (including primary)	6.6	10.9	40.8	31.4	10.5	1.7	15.1	5.5	11.8	48.6	26.0	12.0	1.1	15.6
Secondary general	7.3	9.9	53.0	28.9	12.5	0.4	11.1	5.5	13.7	51.7	29.0	14.2	0.9	9.7
Primary and secondary vocational	4.4	9.8	54.6	32.2	12.5	0.6	10.2	7.0	13.8	51.6	33.4	14.8	0.2	7.0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	5.2	10.3	53.1	34.9	12.3	0.8	7.4	4.2	10.3	57.0	33.5	9.9	2.3	6.6
<b>Welfare level</b>														
Poorest	6.1	9.5	52.7	27.7	12.2	1.1	11.7	5.6	15.1	48.6	26.4	16.8	1.0	11.1
Second	6.6	9.4	51.8	34.5	12.5	0.5	7.9	4.6	11.1	53.3	31.8	15.0	0.6	7.8
Average	8.1	11.1	51.1	30.7	13.1	0.0	9.7	8.5	11.6	52.1	31.9	12.6	1.1	6.2
Fourth	4.2	10.5	54.2	32.8	13.2	0.8	11.5	3.3	12.3	55.4	34.7	8.4	2.7	8.4
Richest	5.5	10.1	51.2	31.4	9.9	0.7	11.4	5.4	13.4	56.3	30.7	10.2	0.0	11.2

It should be noted that the respondents in all age groups, regardless of sex, level of education and welfare mostly often explain females' participation in girls abducting as a tradition. The same is with all other reasons, although the proportion of answers varies insignificantly depending on the age of respondents. At the same time, the proportion of women and men, who mentioned two main reasons, increases depending on education and welfare levels..

The survey also collected information about actions that the respondents would take in case of violent abduction of their daughter/sister. Table 8.24 shows that more than one-third of respondents would take her back and file the claim with the police against the abductor (39% of women and 36% of men). More than a quarter of the respondents, regardless of sex, would take measures to return her home (27%) and 24% of women and 28% of men would not do anything and the girl would decide herself, whether to marry the abductor or return home. There are differences in the responses of the urban or rural respondents. For example, more women and men in rural areas (28 and 30%, respectively) compared to urban respondents (17 and 23%, respectively) would not take any actions. In addition, rural women almost twice and rural men three times more often than in urban areas would leave the girl with the abductor.

In general, it should be noted that with regard to actions the respondents would take in case of abducting their relatives, women would be more active than men. At the same time, in addition to gender differences, some regional and age differences are also noticeable in the respondents' answers. Thus, in the Issyk-Kul region, women almost twice more often than men would take the abducted girl back home and file the claim with the police (49 and 26%, respectively). The highest proportion of such respondents was among women and men in Bishkek (47 and 43%, respectively) and Osh city (45 and 46%), as well as in the Chui (46 and 42%) and Talas regions (43 and 36%). At the same time, the lowest proportion of such women and men is in the Batken region (27% and 28%, respectively), as more than one-third of the respondents in this region (32 and 36%) would not take any actions, and twice more than the country average would make the abducted girl marry the abductor (9 and 10%). The respondents from the Naryn region would mostly do nothing (41% of women, and 47% of men), while in Talas region – they would take the girl back (39 and 40%, respectively).

Nearly half of women (49%) aged 18-20 years would take the abducted girl home and file the claim with the police, while only one-third of men agree with this (33%).

Almost the same number of women and men in the age group 30 - 50 years (25-30%) would take the abducted girl home. In the older age group (61-70 years) men would more often than women take the girl home and file the claim with the law enforcement bodies against the abductor (41 and 29%, respectively).

**Table 8.24 The respondets' actions in case of violent abduction of their daughter/ sister**

Proportion of women and men, who would take actions in case of violent abduction of their daughter / sister for forced marriage, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age group, level of education and welfare

	Women						Men					
	Would do nothing - let her decide herself	Would take measures to make her stay with the abductor	Would take measures to take her back home	Would take her back home and file the claim with the police	Other	Do not want to answer /Find difficult to answer	Would do nothing - let her decide herself	Would take measures to make her stay with the abductor	Would take measures to take her back home	Would take her back home and file the claim with the police	Other	Do not want to answer /Find difficult to answer
Total	23.5	3.8	26.8	39.1	1.3	7.2	27.7	3.4	26.7	35.7	1.1	6.3
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	17.1	2.5	25.7	44.6	1.7	10.0	22.6	1.4	24.4	43.2	1.1	8.2
Rural	27.5	4.7	27.4	35.7	1.2	5.5	30.2	4.4	27.8	32.0	1.1	5.4
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	32.4	9.2	20.4	27.3	0.3	11.2	35.9	9.5	16.3	27.6	0.7	11.1
Jalal-Abad	30.0	0.7	29.5	33.4	1.9	4.8	30.1	1.2	34.8	27.9	1.4	4.6
Issyk-Kul	28.2	2.9	22.5	48.7	0.2	3.0	48.8	1.3	24.2	26.3	0.0	2.9
Naryn	40.8	1.6	24.0	30.6	1.2	1.8	47.5	3.9	15.2	31.6	1.4	0.7
Osh	27.3	9.0	31.6	31.1	1.5	2.8	25.5	8.6	25.0	38.2	0.6	3.6
Talas	13.1	3.8	39.3	43.3	0.3	0.8	20.8	1.5	40.3	36.1	0.0	2.1
Chui	16.8	1.8	24.1	46.1	1.2	10.7	15.7	1.0	27.6	42.1	2.0	11.9
Bishkek city	12.3	1.8	24.5	47.3	1.9	13.8	21.3	1.2	23.2	42.7	1.5	10.6
Osh city	22.9	2.8	25.0	44.9	1.7	5.6	22.4	1.7	28.4	46.4	1.5	2.1
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	22.5	3.7	18.4	48.8	1.3	7.6	32.5	3.4	24.9	33.2	2.2	4.5
21-30	25.2	4.1	24.6	39.4	2.0	6.3	24.8	2.4	31.3	33.3	1.2	7.9
31-40	18.2	2.6	31.0	41.2	1.4	7.2	28.7	2.6	27.6	36.9	0.6	4.4
41-50	23.7	4.9	28.3	37.7	1.3	5.6	28.6	3.0	25.3	37.0	1.1	5.8
51-60	26.7	2.8	26.6	37.2	0.5	6.8	28.2	5.2	25.7	35.8	1.8	5.3
61-70	27.6	3.0	29.0	29.4	0.8	12.5	25.2	3.0	21.2	41.3	0.2	9.3
70+	20.7	8.0	22.6	41.9	1.4	10.5	31.1	9.1	19.7	30.1	0.0	10.0
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	26.5	6.2	24.4	33.8	1.0	11.2	21.1	5.1	23.8	38.7	2.2	9.6
Secondary general	26.8	5.1	26.5	36.0	1.4	5.7	30.7	3.5	27.6	31.8	0.8	6.3
Primary and secondary vocational	22.0	2.9	28.8	37.7	1.3	8.8	29.0	3.6	24.6	37.8	0.6	6.0
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	18.0	1.5	26.1	47.9	1.5	6.9	22.9	2.6	27.9	40.4	1.8	5.5
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	25.8	4.5	27.5	36.0	0.8	7.9	28.5	3.5	28.9	34.0	1.4	5.5
Second	26.1	5.2	25.5	38.8	1.3	5.0	24.5	6.5	31.3	32.6	0.9	5.4
Average	28.0	5.5	26.3	35.5	1.0	5.1	30.7	2.8	27.8	33.9	0.1	5.1
Fourth	19.4	1.9	29.2	38.7	1.9	10.3	28.0	1.2	20.8	40.7	2.4	7.5
Richest	16.5	1.4	24.9	48.4	2.1	7.9	26.6	2.3	21.4	39.8	0.7	9.7

The proportion of women and men, who in case of violent abduction of their girls would return her home and turn file the claim with the police is increasing with their level of education and welfare. At the same time, the lower the level of education and welfare of respondents, the higher is the proportion of those, who would not take any actions, let the girl to decide herself, and try to make her marry the abductor.

In order to identify effective methods to combat abduction of brides and, subsequently, develop a comprehensive strategy to address this problem, the survey studied public opinion regarding measures to stop this negative practice. The respondents were asked about the most important policy measures to combat this practice. Table 8.25 shows that according to one-fifth of respondents (21%), both women and men, the priority is stricter requirements to the work of police and courts in considering cases of abduction. The second priority measure is to ensure that every bride abductor is punished this was noted by 19% of women and 18% of men. The third priority measure is bringing abductor's relatives and friends to liability for complicity, as they help him to abduct and force a woman to marry (15 and 16%, respectively). In addition, the respondents often mentioned one additional measure - to inform the public that bride abduction violates the rights of women (16% of women, and 14% of men). There are almost no differences in terms of proposed measures depending on gender and location of the respondents.

The biggest proportion of the respondents, who mentioned stricter requirements to the work of police and courts in considering cases of abduction are from the Talas region (29% of women and men). The biggest proportion of respondents, who mentioned punishment of the abductors (22% of both women and men) was in the Issyk-Kul region. Residents of the Talas, Batken, Jalal-Abad and Osh regions (18-23%) more often than others mentioned the need to raise awareness of population. In general, there are almost no differences depending on age, level of education and welfare of the respondents of different ethnicities.

**Table 8.25 What measures will help to stop abducting women for marriage**

Proportion of women and men, who have chosen three most important measures that will stop bride abduction, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women			Men		
	Stricter requirements to the work of police and courts in considering cases of bride abduction	Ensure that every bride abductor is punished	Inform the population that bride abduction violates the rights of women	Increase requirements for the work of police and courts in considering claims on abduction of brides	Ensure that every bride abductor is punished	Inform the population that bride abduction violates the rights of women
Total	21.2	18.7	15.8	20.6	18.4	14.3
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	22.2	17.5	16.9	21.8	17.5	15.8
Rural	20.6	19.5	15.0	19.9	18.8	13.5
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	21.6	19.3	13.5	24.3	20.0	9.6
Jalal-Abad	17.2	16.4	13.8	15.4	17.8	13.1
Issyk-Kul	17.8	22.3	17.6	19.4	22.0	16.7
Naryn	23.4	20.9	13.7	21.1	17.8	15.0
Osh	19.7	20.2	13.5	19.4	18.4	10.7
Talas	29.0	21.1	22.9	28.5	23.9	22.7
Chui	23.1	20.2	16.5	23.0	18.0	15.4
Bishkek city	24.0	16.3	19.2	23.6	15.9	18.2
Osh city	22.0	16.6	12.7	20.4	17.4	13.4
<b>Age, years</b>						
18-20	22.3	16.3	18.7	22.9	16.7	16.5
21-30	21.1	19.0	14.6	21.8	17.8	14.4
31-40	20.8	19.2	16.4	20.4	19.0	14.6
41-50	21.8	18.9	15.8	18.2	18.6	13.2
51-60	20.9	19.0	15.6	21.1	18.9	13.8
61-70	20.9	18.1	15.9	20.0	18.1	16.3
70+	20.8	18.1	15.8	20.2	19.3	11.8
<b>Level of education</b>						
Basic general (including primary)	21.4	19.6	13.4	21.6	17.6	13.3
Secondary general	20.9	18.9	16.0	19.9	18.1	13.6
Primary and secondary vocational	20.7	19.6	16.1	20.6	19.5	15.7

Proportion of women and men, who have chosen three most important measures that will stop bride abduction, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women				Men	
	Stricter requirements to the work of police and courts in considering cases of bride abduction	Ensure that every bride abductor is punished	Inform the population that bride abduction violates the rights of women	Increase requirements for the work of police and courts in considering claims on abduction of brides	Ensure that every bride abductor is punished	Inform the population that bride abduction violates the rights of women
<b>Higher vocational and incomplete higher Welfare level</b>	22.2	17.4	15.9	21.4	18.3	14.8
Poorest	21.3	19.9	14.1	20.8	19.3	13.7
Second	20.2	18.9	15.2	19.8	17.7	13.0
Average	20.2	18.7	15.7	20.8	19.0	14.5
Fourth	22.3	18.5	17.0	21.2	17.8	14.6
Richest	22.2	17.0	17.6	20.1	17.6	16.8
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	21.3	18.8	15.5	19.8	18.2	14.8
Uzbek	18.5	18.4	14.7	20.9	19.7	11.0
Russian	24.3	19.5	18.8	23.7	17.7	16.0
Other	21.4	17.9	16.5	25.9	18.0	14.1

These data show that the majority of the adults are against abduction of women for marriage. However, about one-fifth of the respondents are neutral or positive, which generally shows tolerance of the society towards violations of women's right to free choice of a spouse. Despite predominance of negative attitude, women are involved in abduction of brides and excuse their participation by folk traditions, customs, need to help relative, as well as by the fact that they also had married their abductors.

Almost every tenth respondent knows women, who were violently abducted and married their abductors. Abducting women for marriage has regional and ethnic features. It is most widely practiced in Naryn and Osh regions and cities of Bishkek and Osh.

According to the survey, girls with low level of education are abducted more often, as well as girls from the poorest households. This indicates that abduction of women for marriage has not only cultural and ethnic, but social nature, too.

With regard to bride abduction, there were gender-specific features - women often are negative attitude to men, who abduct girls for marriage, while men are more often positive or neutral.

Reasons for abduction of women are often linked with low self-esteem of men, who are unsure of themselves and are afraid to compete with another man. Therefore, the most common reason for abduction of women are fear of the abductor that a woman would marry another man; fear to be rejected by the woman or simply fear to get acquainted with the woman. At the same time, abduction of women for marriage is also due to such practices as dowry to be paid to parents (redemption) for the bride. It turned out that bride abduction is a resort for young people and those, who are unable to pay the dowry.

The public has still strong gender stereotypes that prevent the abducted women to return home and not to marry the abductor. It is widely believed that a woman, who did not marry the abductor, would be condemned in the community, it would be difficult for her to get married, and that she must obey the man. The rural population and people with low level of education are more susceptible to gender stereotypes, not allowing girls to return home and file the claim against the abductor with law enforcement bodies.

In cases where the abduction was accompanied by sexual violence, the number of respondents, who believe that the girl should marry the abductor, increases. This fact is largely due to the widely spread gender stereotype that virginity of girls is the key to her successful family life. At the same time, they do not take into account fact that the first sexual experience of woman was raping, and it would be a psychological trauma for her for many years.

Although more than half of respondents think that the raped girl should file the claim with law enforcement bodies, only one-third of respondents mentioned that in case of abduction of their daughter / sister they would take her home and appeal to police. The raped women are often discriminated by the community - it is considered, that they are guilty themselves in what had happened. Therefore, respondents opt for concealing the fact of rape to preserve their reputation when it comes to their own daughter or sister.

The survey shows lack of awareness of the population about availability (one-third of population do not have information) and extent of liability under the the criminal law (60% do not have correct information) for abduction of women for marriage.

According to the respondents, legal mechanisms, like stricter requirements to the police and courts in considering cases of abduction, inevitable punishment of the abductor and his associates and accomplices can stop the practice of abducting women for marriage. It is also proposed to undertake a broad awareness rising campaign on the inadmissibility of violating right of women to free choice of a spouse.

## 9 Political participation of women

### Key findings

- The population believes that the most important qualities of a politician, regardless of gender, are: education and high intelligence (27%), care for needs of ordinary people (18%), honesty and integrity (16%).
- At the time of the survey, only 37% of women and 40% of men were aware of specific measures for the promotion of women in politics in the Kyrgyz Republic
- Most women and men, both in rural and urban area agree that women significantly contribute to policy development in our country (73 and 64%, respectively), and also believe that equal representation of women and men in government bodies reflect high level of development of the country (69 and 63%), and that representation of women in politics in our country should be higher than it is now (68 and 60%).
- More than half of the interviewed women (54%) and less than half of men (41%) believe that life in the country will improve, if there are more women among the decision-makers.
- In general, half of the respondents (50%), both women and men, mentioned the lack of support from a spouse or family, as well as lack of experience and knowledge among women (46%) and support from the society (42%) as one of the main obstacles to more active participation of women in politics.
- Almost half of the surveyed population (48%), both women and men are not aware of women deputies, and at the same time, just over a quarter of respondents (26%) consider work of women deputies as effective.
- The data show that 16% of women and 21% of men believe that participation of women in the local councils has no any impact on their performance, and 17 and 16%, respectively, agree that local councils work primarily thanks to women.
- Over the past few years, the population actively participated in the elections at different levels (89%), in public hearings on various topics (over 14%), some respondents participated in the discussion of the local budget (about 3%) and in elections as candidates (2%).
- In answer to the question - who are women actively and assertively expressing their position during meetings, 44% of respondents said that they are ordinary women, 15% think they are OBON, and a small proportion think that they are leaders of local communities, members of some parties, human rights activists and representatives of NGO.
- The majority of ordinary women (75%) and women-members of OBON (73%) are involved in protests because of the money, as well as community leaders and members of the parties (44-46%), while party members and heads of local communities (29-30%) participate most often for ideological reasons.
- More than one-third of the respondents (35%) do not know about women from OBON groups. The respondents, who are aware of the OBON groups, believe that they are involved in actions for money (25%).

One of the main indicators of progress in democratic society development aimed at equality of human rights and opportunities is gender parity and expansion of women's political participation in decision-making processes, development of gender-oriented personnel policy in the state and municipal public bodies, as enshrined in international and national commitments of the Kyrgyz Republic. Despite the progressive legislation on women's participation in decision-making bodies and decision-making processes, women still make up only a minority of politicians. The analysis of the survey results will form the basis for studying the existing obstacles to empowerment of women, defining new policies to increase women's representation in government bodies, as well as opportunities for further improvement of national legislation.

This section provides the results of the survey on participation and access of women and men to politics, awareness of special measures to enhance women's political participation, by extent of women's activism and urgency of their political growth, as well as public attitude towards activities of various international and non-governmental organizations.

The survey collected information on public opinion about the most important qualities, which a perfect politician, whether a man or woman, should have. The survey shows that the public does not significantly distinguish between qualities of male and female politicians. Table 9.1 shows the most important qualities of female politicians. The respondents, both women and men, ticked the following three most important qualities of female politicians from the provided list: education and high intelligence (27%), care for needs of ordinary people (18%), honesty and integrity (16%). There were practically no differences between answers of men and women depending on the place of residence, age, education, welfare and ethnicity. The biggest proportion of the respondents, who ticked education and high intelligence (32%) are from the Jalal-Abad region, while the biggest proportion of respondents, who selected three important qualities of female politicians are from the Talas region (31, 23 and 22%, respectively).

**Table 9.1 The three most important qualities of female politicians**

	Proportion of women and men, who have chosen three qualities as most important for female politicians, with breakdown by territories								
	Batken	Jalal-Abad	Issyk-Kul	Naryn	Osh	Talas	Chui	Bishkek city	Osh city
Education and high intelligence	28.0	31.6	23.2	31.1	25.9	31.0	26.2	24.3	18.9
Adherence to traditional family values	4.1	4.8	1.7	5.6	5.1	1.0	1.2	3.0	4.6
Honesty and integrity	12.6	15.0	16.9	17.1	16.3	23.1	22.3	13.0	16.2
Life experience	10.4	3.9	8.4	5.1	4.7	4.8	5.9	11.6	3.3
Flexibility	2.3	2.7	2.3	3.1	3.2	3.0	1.1	3.8	4.0
Personal charm, nice appearance	4.0	2.3	4.7	1.7	4.7	0.5	1.0	2.8	7.0
Ability to negotiate	9.8	4.3	9.0	3.7	7.4	7.9	9.2	7.0	7.8
Care for the needs of ordinary people	13.1	19.0	19.1	16.4	18.9	21.9	20.4	14.2	15.1
Firmness, determination	5.7	3.8	9.4	5.8	5.9	3.7	4.8	12.0	10.6
Patriotism	4.7	11.6	4.6	7.1	3.5	2.5	2.5	5.2	5.3
Religiosity	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.2	2.4	0.0	0.9	0.3	1.2
Intuition	4.9	0.4	0.3	3.1	1.5	0.4	1.4	2.4	5.3
Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	3.2	0.4	0.7
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

The Kyrgyz Republic has already adopted important legal acts to strengthen political participation of women, in particular, on the basis of quotas<sup>23</sup> for underrepresented groups (women, ethnic groups, young people), based on the party lists forming the country's parliament. This had radical impact on the Kyrgyz Parliament, as a result women, members of ethnic minorities and young people were now elected from the party lists to the parliament, which consisted of only men, who were elected in 2005 based on the majority principle.

Data on public awareness of special measures to increase the number of women in politics are in Table 9.2. At the time of the survey, only 37% of women and 40% of men were aware of special measures adopted by the Kyrgyz Republic to ensure women's representation in politics. At the same time, urban population was more aware of these measures compared to the rural respondents (46% and 34%, respectively). In regional breakdown, the highest awareness was in Bishkek, where more than half of the population are aware of special measures (58% of women and 62% of men), and the Issyk-Kul region (49

<sup>23</sup> Quota (latin *quota*) - The rate, share or part of something permitted within possible agreements and treaties. The principle of the quota determines that representation of persons of the same sex should not exceed 70 percent, and the difference in the order of candidates on the lists should not exceed three positions.

and 56%, respectively), while the respondents from the Naryn region (18% of women and 21% of men) – were the least informed.

Table 9.2 also provides data reflecting public awareness of measures aimed to promote women in the legislative and executive authorities. Women and men, who are aware of special measures for women's promotion, often mentioned measures, such as quotas in the formation of lists of candidates from political parties to the Jogorku Kenesh (35 and 39%, respectively), and rarely mentioned quotas in elections to the village councils (16% and 20%), as well as quotas in selection of candidates for senior management positions (15 and 18%). It should be noted that awareness of special measures (quotas) is higher among men and respondents of older age groups and it increases with the level of the respondents' education and welfare, regardless of ethnicity. The data collected indicate that the population of the country, both men and women, especially in rural areas, are not well aware of measures ensuring women's representation in government bodies. Therefore, this part of the population does not properly know why women should be in the government. This hinders gender equality and women's political participation in decision-making processes.

**Table 9.2 Awareness of special measures for increasing number of women in politics**

Proportion of women and men, who are aware of special measures for women's representation, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age group, level of education and welfare												
	Women						Men					
	List of Measures						List of Measures					
	Measures exist	Quotas in selection of candidates for senior positions	Quotas in formation of the candidates lists from political parties to the JK	Quotas in elections to village councils	Quotas in formation of the government	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Measures exist	Quotas in selection of candidates for senior positions	Quotas in formation of the candidates lists from political parties in JK	Quotas in elections to village councils	Quotas in formation of the government	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer
Total	37.5	15.1	35.5	15.7	7.4	15.7	39.6	17.8	39.2	20.0	9.5	13.5
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	46.0	12.9	33.1	12.6	8.6	25.8	47.4	15.0	31.5	15.4	11.8	22.2
Rural	32.2	16.5	37.1	17.8	6.7	9.0	35.7	19.3	43.5	22.6	8.2	8.6
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	38.1	28.5	37.7	30.1	22.8	3.6	44.1	36.5	43.9	36.1	31.9	3.2
Jalal-Abad	32.0	19.6	44.0	20.0	3.2	5.1	33.6	28.4	50.5	31.2	5.0	2.1
Issyk-Kul	49.3	25.2	58.5	46.8	17.8	2.7	55.8	26.0	68.8	43.2	17.8	0.0
Naryn	18.1	15.5	33.9	8.0	6.4	3.4	20.8	20.7	43.2	12.1	7.1	7.9
Osh	33.9	13.9	41.8	14.2	2.1	13.5	37.1	14.3	44.3	14.7	3.7	10.2
Talas	23.8	7.1	22.2	24.5	9.7	5.4	25.4	7.3	30.0	37.3	9.9	3.6
Chui	29.4	7.9	18.9	1.9	5.8	20.0	32.2	5.5	22.9	2.8	6.1	20.8
Bishkek city	58.1	10.9	34.3	7.7	6.6	38.6	62.2	12.2	25.5	10.3	9.6	38.7
Osh city	23.2	9.2	13.0	7.5	5.2	10.2	22.8	7.7	16.2	8.7	10.9	10.8
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	30.7	14.3	32.4	12.5	7.1	16.4	41.3	9.8	27.7	20.4	2.8	19.7
21-30	36.0	14.2	36.2	14.8	7.1	12.9	35.3	15.5	32.1	16.9	6.5	19.4
31-40	38.7	17.7	34.6	15.0	5.5	18.6	40.5	15.5	39.8	17.9	11.3	14.3
41-50	41.2	14.1	38.6	16.8	8.7	15.3	39.9	17.2	42.3	23.4	12.2	8.5
51-60	38.5	17.5	38.5	19.1	7.5	15.2	40.1	24.0	49.3	22.3	11.5	8.0
61-70	38.5	11.2	32.6	16.5	8.4	19.8	47.7	30.0	38.0	22.7	10.0	11.0
70+	30.7	13.3	23.2	11.6	10.6	14.6	38.4	7.5	49.3	18.2	8.8	11.9
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	26.8	10.9	24.5	7.5	2.6	11.2	29.4	10.7	23.2	12.3	5.2	15.4
Secondary general	31.8	15.4	34.7	15.9	6.6	12.9	34.0	17.6	38.0	24.0	7.7	9.7
Primary and secondary vocational	41.0	12.8	36.9	15.9	7.5	18.7	46.9	18.6	41.2	18.6	10.0	16.3
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	48.4	18.1	39.5	18.3	10.5	19.1	48.0	19.8	45.0	17.0	13.6	16.8
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	31.0	17.4	28.7	13.5	7.8	13.9	35.2	19.2	36.5	19.5	9.4	14.2
Second	32.0	13.3	36.0	15.7	6.1	12.3	37.9	17.4	48.1	23.9	9.7	8.4
Average	38.1	15.2	36.5	18.1	5.4	15.2	37.6	15.2	37.0	19.0	7.5	14.5
Fourth	45.6	14.6	37.0	13.7	9.5	20.9	47.4	18.6	34.8	16.3	12.6	16.3
Richest	44.3	14.8	41.4	18.7	8.5	16.8	43.4	18.2	39.4	21.3	7.6	14.6

Table 9.3 shows, whether women and men agree with the above statements about the role of women in politics, and it reflects certain gender and regional differences.

Some responses reflect positive attitude towards participation of women in political life of the society, while others - reflect negative attitude towards participation of women in politics and common gender stereotypes about women's chances to become politicians.

Most women and men, both in rural and urban areas, agree that "women significantly contribute to the formation of our country's policy" (73 and 64%, respectively). More than two-thirds of respondents believe that "equal representation of women and men in the government bodies reflects high level of development of the country" (69 and 63%) and "representation of women in politics should be higher in our country, than it is now" (68 and 60%).

At the same time, the majority of respondents agree that there are some barriers preventing them from participation in politics equally with men. Thus, men and women agree that "men will always be against women in politics, men are not interested in this" (65 and 61%). More than half of both women and men believe that financial dependence of women does not allow them to establish themselves in our country's politics and that quotas help women to get positions in the government bodies (55-57%).

Many respondents agree with stereotypical statements about women's ability to become politicians, it means that gender stereotypes still persist in the society. Thus, the proportion of women and men, who agree that "physical weakness of women does not allow them to establish themselves in politics» was 40 and 50%, respectively. Almost the same number of respondents believes that "family and political activity are incompatible for women" and that "women are too emotional to participate in politics" (42% of women and 52% of men). At the same time, one in four women (25%) and more than one in three men (35%) believe that "women should not participate in politics, it is not for women".

The data received show differences depending on the region. In general, the vast majority (80 - 90%) of the population of the Naryn, Issyk-Kul and Batken regions agreed that women play progressive role in politics. At the same time, more than half the respondents from the Jalal-Abad and Osh regions and Osh city agree with the stereotypical statements about women in politics, indicating of the prevalence of patriarchal attitudes in the southern regions of the Kyrgyz Republic.

**Table 9.3 Proportion of women and men, who agreed with the below statements about women in politics**

Proportion of women and men, who agreed with the proposed statements about women in politics, with breakdown by type of settlement and region											
	Women significantly contribute to the formation of our country's policy	Women in general should not participate in politics, it is - not for women	In our country, representation of women in politics should be higher than it is now	Family and political activity - are incompatible for women	Men will always resist women in politics, they are not interested in this	Women are to be blamed for being few in politics, because women do not vote for women	Women are too emotional to be in politics	Financial dependence of women prevents them from establishing themselves in our country's politics	Physical weakness of women prevents them from establishing in politics	Quotas help women to take posts in the government bodies	Equal representation of women and men in government bodies reflects high level of development of the country
<b>Women</b>											
Total	73.3	25.0	67.9	41.6	65.0	51.4	41.8	56.4	40.2	54.6	68.6
<b>Type of settlement</b>											
Urban	69.5	17.7	68.7	36.0	61.1	48.3	36.1	48.6	33.5	59.7	68.2
Rural	75.6	29.5	67.4	45.1	67.3	53.3	45.3	61.3	44.3	51.4	68.9
<b>Region</b>											
Batken	84.0	16.1	81.5	35.1	55.7	61.3	61.3	63.1	47.4	61.9	78.3
Jalal-Abad	68.8	31.3	60.6	47.0	80.9	63.6	47.7	63.5	59.4	52.9	68.1
Issyk-Kul	90.2	16.5	87.9	28.9	65.2	50.4	39.6	70.7	45.9	78.2	82.1
Naryn	92.0	24.2	76.9	29.7	47.1	53.8	42.5	61.9	52.7	65.2	86.0
Osh	74.7	43.8	62.5	63.6	65.6	51.5	54.8	61.2	40.2	50.8	66.2
Talas	81.6	18.0	82.3	27.5	69.9	48.5	23.1	65.3	34.4	59.5	72.2
Chui	68.5	20.1	65.2	33.3	64.3	47.5	32.8	54.6	29.9	30.9	61.8
Bishkek city	64.5	9.4	66.3	30.9	58.0	37.7	25.2	33.8	23.0	60.8	66.9
Osh city	66.6	39.1	57.4	55.4	62.6	60.3	46.6	62.0	46.9	66.5	54.9
<b>Men</b>											
Total	64.2	34.7	60.5	51.3	61.3	56.8	52.5	56.9	49.9	55.9	63.2
<b>Type of settlement</b>											
Urban	63.9	30.4	58.3	49.3	57.3	52.6	47.5	47.8	43.3	61.3	64.4
Rural	64.3	36.9	61.6	52.3	63.3	58.8	54.9	61.5	53.1	53.2	62.6
<b>Region</b>											
Batken	83.3	17.5	72.7	45.1	54.2	60.4	64.3	57.2	51.8	69.7	76.1
Jalal-Abad	53.5	39.5	54.1	56.4	70.3	57.0	52.7	62.9	65.2	49.2	55.1
Issyk-Kul	83.4	33.1	73.6	33.3	63.8	62.6	53.9	65.6	54.2	80.4	81.3
Naryn	87.2	25.6	76.1	35.1	37.5	54.6	52.8	60.7	58.7	69.6	86.1
Osh	58.5	50.9	56.2	65.8	64.3	63.5	64.0	61.1	53.0	55.7	57.2
Talas	67.9	42.0	70.7	49.1	55.9	71.1	52.7	68.7	50.2	61.1	70.3
Chui	64.2	25.2	60.2	45.8	65.6	52.3	44.2	53.8	36.1	32.2	59.3
Bishkek city	60.1	21.9	57.5	45.1	55.4	43.0	37.7	34.9	33.7	61.5	67.0
Osh city	59.3	50.1	50.8	63.3	53.1	61.0	55.4	66.2	48.1	59.9	43.7

The survey collected public opinion on how the life in the country would change, if there are more women among decision-makers (Table 9.5). More than half of women (54%) and less than half of men (41%) among urban and rural population, believe that life in the country would improve. Almost one-third of respondents, regardless of their place of residence, are sure that the situation in the country would not change (26% of women and 34% of men). Meanwhile, 10% of women and 13% of men think that the life would get worse, if more women are involved in politics. Moreover, rural respondents think so almost twice more often than people in urban areas (in average of 14% and 8%, respectively).

In addition to differences in opinions between urban and rural population, regional differences were noted as well. In the Issyk-Kul (72% of women and 53% of men) and Naryn regions (70 and 61%, respectively) the respondents are more optimistic about the increasing number of women politicians and believe that they contribute to the improvements in the country. Among those, who do not believe the situation in the country would change, the biggest proportion are women from the Jalal-Abad (38%) and men from the Talas regions (59%). Almost the same number of women and men from the Jalal-Abad and Osh regions (18 and 25%, respectively) think that the situation would worsen. It should be noted that these regions were noticeable for strong support to religious values. At the same time, the women above the age of 40 years (56-58%) and men older than 60 years (55-56%) think that the life would improve. The proportion of the respondents, who agree with this opinion increases with the level of education of both women and men (60 and 43%, respectively), and is equally highly prevalent among the poorest and richest households.

Findings suggest that the current awareness of the population about the increasing relevance of women's participation in the public and political life of the Republic is still low, especially among people with low level of education.

**Table 9.4 Opinion on how the life in the country would change, if there are more women among decision-makers**

Proportion of women and men, who believe that the life in the country will improve, will worsen and will not change, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women					Men				
	Would improve	Would worsen	Would not change	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	Would improve	Would worsen	Would not change	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	54.4	9.8	25.6	10.1	100	41.2	13.4	33.9	11.5	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	55.0	6.4	26.6	12.0	100	43.4	8.9	35.9	11.8	100
Rural	54.0	12.0	25.0	9.0	100	40.2	15.6	32.9	11.4	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	66.1	5.7	13.5	14.6	100	51.3	6.8	18.1	23.7	100
Jalal-Abad	39.8	18.3	37.8	4.1	100	29.5	25.0	41.1	4.5	100
Issyk-Kul	72.0	2.1	16.9	9.0	100	52.7	2.6	31.9	12.8	100
Naryn	69.9	3.5	20.4	6.3	100	61.3	4.4	28.9	5.4	100
Osh	50.5	16.1	25.8	7.6	100	33.4	20.1	34.2	12.3	100
Talas	57.5	2.6	35.4	4.4	100	34.5	2.3	59.2	4.0	100
Chui	55.5	8.4	21.6	14.6	100	48.4	9.5	27.0	15.1	100
Bishkek city	57.4	2.8	25.8	14.0	100	46.9	4.0	36.4	12.7	100
Osh city	42.4	17.7	26.0	13.8	100	34.3	24.2	26.7	14.8	100
<b>Age, years</b>										
18-20	47.9	5.7	37.1	9.2	100	29.3	15.4	36.2	19.1	100
21-30	53.3	11.7	25.3	9.6	100	37.6	15.1	35.0	12.3	100
31-40	52.8	11.7	25.4	10.1	100	38.7	12.3	35.8	13.2	100
41-50	58.3	8.7	24.1	8.9	100	41.8	13.4	35.2	9.6	100
51-60	55.8	8.8	24.9	10.5	100	43.2	12.3	33.2	11.2	100
61-70	56.0	6.5	23.4	14.2	100	54.8	11.8	27.9	5.5	100
70+	53.1	11.2	23.9	11.9	100	56.4	12.0	22.8	8.8	100
<b>Level of education</b>										
Basic general (including primary)	39.6	14.2	28.2	18.0	100	35.5	13.5	34.6	16.4	100
Secondary general	54.9	11.4	26.4	7.3	100	38.7	16.6	33.7	11.0	100

Proportion of women and men, who believe that the life in the country will improve, will worsen and will not change, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women					Men				
	Would improve	Would worsen	Would not change	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total	Would improve	Would worsen	Would not change	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Primary and secondary vocational	53.1	6.3	27.4	13.2	100	43.2	11.2	35.6	10.0	100
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	60.1	8.7	21.6	9.6	100	46.7	8.6	32.6	12.1	100
<b>Welfare level</b>										
Poorest	56.7	9.0	23.5	10.7	100	40.2	13.2	34.7	11.9	100
Second	54.6	12.2	24.6	8.6	100	40.5	15.3	32.3	11.9	100
Average	51.0	12.3	27.3	9.4	100	44.2	11.3	32.8	11.7	100
Fourth	52.2	8.4	27.8	11.5	100	41.4	12.2	33.8	12.6	100
Richest	57.2	6.6	25.5	10.6	100	40.1	14.7	36.5	8.7	100
<b>Ethnicity</b>										
Kyrgyz	56.9	9.3	25.3	8.6	100	42.7	12.9	34.5	9.9	100
Uzbek	42.8	17.1	27.0	13.1	100	30.5	19.4	35.3	14.8	100
Russian	57.0	4.1	26.8	12.0	100	52.9	4.8	27.7	14.5	100
Other	48.6	8.6	24.3	18.5	100	37.3	13.4	30.1	19.1	100

Despite certain progress, the public is increasingly concerned by the general situation - underrepresentation of women in the public and political life, especially in decision-making positions, including at the highest levels of the legislative and executive authorities, local authorities, representative government and executive branch, and at the local government level. Statistical data for the decade of the Kyrgyz Republic development show instability of women's position in government bodies. Low participation of women in the governing bodies of the republic, especially at the top government levels indicate of the obstacles emerging on women's way to power. One of the objectives of the survey was to examine barriers to the expansion of women's participation in the political life of the society.

The survey provides the main factors hindering more active women's participation ly in politics (Table 9.5). In general, half of the respondents (50%), both women and men, mentioned the lack of support from a spouse or family as the main obstacle, followed by the lack of women's experience and knowledge (46%) and the lack of public support (42%). In addition, more than a quarter (26%) of respondents indicated that the lack of financial resources prevent women from participation in politics.

The proportion of those, who reported that the most important reason is the lack of support from a spouse and family was 1,5 times higher in rural than in urban areas (57 and 38%, respectively). The lack of experience and knowledge was noted by almost the same number of urban and rural residents, regardless of sex (45 and 47%, respectively), "the lack of public support" was mentioned in urban areas less often than in rural areas (37 and 44%). There were no any significant gender, age, educational and other differences, but it is important to note some regional differences. Thus, the highest proportion of respondents, who mentioned the lack of support from a spouse or family was registered in the Osh region (in general - 73%). Residents of the Talas region (59%) mostly mentioned the "lack of women's experience and knowledge" as a second main reason, and the "lack of public support" was most often mentioned in the Issyk-Kul region (52%).

The survey results indicate that patriarchal models and stereotypes continuously exist in the society that prevent women from obtaining adequate support and understanding in the family, when they try to fully participate in the public and political life, especially in rural areas. Lack of support from the community, government and non-governmental organizations, as well as financial dependence of women also significantly reduce their political opportunities. At the same time, full participation of women in political

processes is impossible without sufficient knowledge and experience, access to which is hindered for most women, especially in rural areas.

**Table 9.5 Opinion about reasons preventing women from more active participation in politics**

Proportion of women and men, who have chosen three main reasons preventing women from more active participation in politics, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups, level of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Women			Men		
	Lack of experience and knowledge	Lack of support from a spouse/family	Lack of public support	Lack of experience and knowledge	Lack of support from a spouse/family	Lack of public support
Total	44.3	51.0	42.2	47.5	49.6	41.4
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	43.0	39.2	39.3	46.5	37.4	35.6
Rural	45.1	58.4	44.1	47.9	55.7	44.3
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	60.5	60.0	41.9	58.8	60.0	37.1
Jalal-Abad	45.7	57.6	44.2	47.4	58.6	50.2
Issyk-Kul	39.3	46.1	50.5	43.8	41.3	52.7
Naryn	57.6	50.2	49.2	59.9	38.4	48.8
Osh	43.0	72.1	43.7	38.5	74.1	39.4
Talas	60.8	57.4	48.8	57.8	59.4	60.2
Chui	31.4	44.9	37.0	49.4	34.7	34.3
Bishkek city	41.2	28.7	40.8	43.2	25.4	34.4
Osh city	55.3	38.3	28.7	61.2	35.6	22.2
<b>Age, years</b>						
18-20	45.5	54.0	44.2	48.5	43.6	39.6
21-30	43.8	50.2	41.6	48.9	50.5	37.6
31-40	44.4	47.4	42.0	42.6	50.9	45.1
41-50	43.1	55.5	40.4	47.2	47.4	41.5
51-60	48.2	51.4	43.9	51.1	50.0	43.0
61-70	41.6	48.2	44.2	45.6	47.3	41.1
70+	41.4	51.8	42.5	49.8	61.8	43.9
<b>Level of education</b>						
Basic general (including primary)	45.1	56.0	43.7	45.7	52.1	38.9
Secondary general	46.1	58.9	41.2	50.2	55.1	42.3
Primary and secondary vocational	45.3	42.3	40.4	41.7	43.4	39.4
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	39.7	43.1	45.3	48.1	43.4	42.4
<b>Welfare level</b>						
Poorest	49.8	58.4	44.5	48.1	59.0	40.5
Second	44.4	58.1	44.4	48.3	49.0	46.0
Average	45.4	51.8	43.2	53.9	48.6	39.9
Fourth	41.1	43.2	40.8	42.4	43.9	37.9
Richest	38.4	38.8	36.5	42.4	42.0	42.4
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	43.8	52.8	43.3	47.8	50.3	42.9
Uzbek	48.3	61.2	37.5	45.9	61.9	39.8
Russian	42.7	24.3	40.7	38.9	19.6	34.8
Other	43.2	48.2	43.7	55.3	44.7	35.2

To examine public perceptions of women's political activity in the country's parliament, of the respondents were asked to assess female deputies' activity in the Kyrgyz Jogorku Keneshes of the current and previous convocations. Table 9.6 shows that almost half of the surveyed population (48%), both women and men, are not aware of female deputies and for that reason could not assess their activity. At the same time, just over a quarter of respondents (26%) think that female deputies work effectively. Overall, about 8% of respondents believe that women work in the Parliament inefficiently; the proportion of men among them is twice less than the proportion of women (5 and 10%, respectively). At the same time, about 15% of women and 21% of men could not assess the work of female deputies in the Parliament. It can be assumed with high probability that this group of respondents are either unaware of female deputies or have no enough information to assess their work.

In addition to the above mentioned gender differences, differences in the responses of urban and rural residents should also be noted, as well as regional differences - rural citizens more often highly

appreciate the work of female deputies (30% and 20% of men and women, respectively). High criticism among urban women should be noted (18%), who three times more often than rural ones (6%) and three times more often than men (5%) think that female deputies are ineffective.

The highest proportion of respondents, who positively assess the work of female deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of V and VI convocations, was noted in the Osh region (37% of women and 32% of men). The highest proportion of women, who negatively assess the work of female deputies is in Bishkek (about 30%), and men - in the Naryn region (13%). The highest proportion of women, who do not know about female deputies of the V and VI convocations was in the Chui region (69%) and the highest proportion of men – in Talas region and Bishkek (about 30%).

**Table 9.6 Assessing performance of the female deputies of the Kyrgyz Jogorku Kenesh  
of the V and VI convocations**

Proportion of women and men, who assessed performance of the JK female deputies with breakdown by type of settlement and territory

	Women				Total	Men				Total
	Effective work of female deputies	None is effective	Do not know female deputies	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer		Effective work of female deputies	No one is effective	Do not know female deputies	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	
Total	26.3	10.5	48.4	14.8	100	26.3	5.0	48.1	20.6	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>										
Urban	19.5	18.2	47.2	15.1	100	19.5	4.2	48.0	28.2	100
Rural	30.3	5.9	49.1	14.7	100	29.6	5.4	48.1	16.9	100
<b>Region</b>										
Batken	21.2	3.3	60.3	15.3	100	23.9	6.4	55.0	14.7	100
Jalal-Abad	33.7	3.3	40.1	22.9	100	35.5	3.4	40.8	20.3	100
Issyk-Kul	27.5	7.7	49.7	15.1	100	24.7	6.6	51.3	17.4	100
Naryn	30.1	16.7	44.4	8.8	100	27.8	13.4	41.6	17.2	100
Osh	36.6	4.1	41.0	18.4	100	32.2	5.2	43.5	19.0	100
Talas	19.4	26.6	42.7	11.2	100	11.4	4.5	53.1	30.9	100
Chui	16.7	7.4	68.5	7.5	100	16.8	4.1	63.3	15.8	100
Bishkek city	15.6	29.7	46.0	8.6	100	18.2	5.2	46.2	30.4	100
Osh city	18.9	12.8	57.7	10.6	100	18.2	1.3	57.5	23.0	100

Despite the established progressive legislative framework in the field of gender relations, women's participation in the public and political life is still low in the country, especially in rural areas, where the current representation of women in the local governments reflects the existing imbalance in favor of men and unequal opportunities for women. The survey results also helped to assess performance of women's work in the local Keneses. Table 9.7 shows that 16% of women and 21% of men believe that women in the council have no any impact on performance of the Kenesh; 17 and 16%, respectively, agree that mainly women support the work of Keneses (council). 16% of women and 12% of men think that Kenesh (council) would be less effective without women, and nearly equal proportion of women and men responded that there are no women (13%) in their local Kenesh, and only 4-5% noted that the Kenesh would work better without women. At the same time, about one-third of respondents, both women and men, could not answer this question.

Along with the difference in responses between men and women, there were noticeable differences depending on the place of residence and region. In general, the respondents from rural areas, compared to urban, more often believe that women work in Keneses mostly effectively (19 and 12%, respectively), and the same proportion of the respondents agree that "Keneshes would work better without women". The data also indicate of low representation of women in the local governing bodies in rural areas. There were more frequently no women in local Keneses (councils) in rural compared to urban areas (18 and 4%, respectively), especially in the Jalal-Abad region. In the Naryn region, there was a high proportion of respondents, who agree that women work more effectively in keneses (38% of each women and men); the respondents from the Osh region more often think that Keneshes would work better without women (by 11%), while the respondents from Bishkek, on the contrary, believe that the work would be less effective without women (27% of women and 17% of men). At the same time, Bishkek has a high proportion of those, who think that women have not impact on performance of the Kenesh (council).

**Table 9.7 Assessment of women's performance in local keneshes**

Proportion of women and men, who assessed women's performance in the local keneshes using the proposed scale, with breakdown by type of settlement and territory

	The work of Kenesh is mainly supported by women	The work of Kenesh would be less effective without women	The work of Kenesh would be more effective without women	Women have not impact on performance of the Kenesh	There are no women in the local Kenesh	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
<b>Women</b>							
Total	17.4	16.1	4.2	16.0	13.4	32.8	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	11.6	21.1	3.1	19.6	3.9	40.7	100
Rural	21.1	13.0	4.9	13.8	19.3	27.9	100
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	33.9	16.5	3.8	7.0	12.4	26.6	100
Jalal-Abad	20.6	4.7	4.8	10.9	25.8	33.3	100
Issyk-Kul	12.5	21.9	1.3	23.3	12.8	28.2	100
Naryn	37.7	17.9	7.8	10.6	12.8	13.3	100
Osh	23.7	13.6	9.4	12.4	22.1	18.8	100
Talas	26.2	6.4	2.5	20.8	17.9	26.3	100
Chui	7.0	16.5	1.1	16.5	6.3	52.6	100
Bishkek city	4.7	27.1	1.4	23.6	1.7	41.5	100
Osh city	21.5	17.1	6.7	22.6	4.4	27.7	100
<b>Men</b>							
Total	16.1	12.0	5.4	21.4	12.6	32.6	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>							
Urban	12.9	14.2	4.1	23.0	4.3	41.5	100
Rural	17.6	10.9	6.0	20.6	16.6	28.2	100
<b>Region</b>							
Batken	34.9	15.3	3.7	10.5	8.8	26.8	100
Jalal-Abad	21.7	3.5	6.8	13.2	17.8	37.1	100
Issyk-Kul	10.3	23.0	1.5	33.2	10.1	21.9	100
Naryn	36.3	15.0	8.2	13.8	16.7	9.9	100
Osh	14.0	9.1	10.5	25.6	18.7	22.1	100
Talas	25.7	3.0	0.9	26.4	16.5	27.6	100
Chui	5.4	15.7	0.9	21.2	10.4	46.4	100
Bishkek city	6.3	17.2	2.1	25.1	3.5	45.8	100
Osh city	17.9	13.1	12.1	26.8	3.5	26.6	100

The data collected during the survey allowed to examine political activism of the population of the Republic, as well as political activities, in which the respondents participated since 2010. The data obtained have no any significant gender differences, as well as differences depending on the location and region, and other basic characteristics of household members. The information provided in Table 9.8 shows that the population had actively participated in the elections at different levels (89%) and public hearings on various topics (over 14%) over the past few years. A small number of respondents took part in the discussion of the local budgets (about 3%), as well as in the elections as candidates (2%). It may be noted that people in rural areas more often participate in different types of political activity than in urban areas. The Naryn region is noticeable for the level of activism, where about 95% of the surveyed households participated in the elections and in public hearings –more than 44%, as well as in the discussion of the local budgets - about 12% of the respondents.

**Table 9.8 Political activism of the population since 2010**

Proportion of the respondents, who took part in various types of political activities since 2010, with breakdown by type of settlement and territory

	Voted in elections	Participated in the elections as a candidate	Participated in public hearings	Participated in the discussion of the local budget	Signed petitions	Participated in pickets and rallies	Participated in protests, road closures	Participated in strikes
Total	89.0	2.1	14.5	2.6	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	86.3	1.4	11.5	1.3	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1
Rural	90.4	2.5	16.0	3.4	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.2
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	90.4	4.4	21.7	2.9	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.0
Jalal-Abad	88.9	2.7	11.0	5.5	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0
Issyk-Kul	91.7	1.8	8.4	3.0	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.1
Naryn	94.7	3.3	44.5	11.6	3.6	1.4	0.0	0.1
Osh	92.4	2.0	18.2	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.4
Talas	93.9	3.1	17.9	3.2	0.8	2.4	0.1	0.7
Chui	85.3	1.1	6.0	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bishkek city	83.3	1.4	13.9	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
Osh city	90.0	1.0	7.2	1.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3

After the revolution of 2010, different protests, pickets, rallies and strikes were widely spread in the country. Groups of women, the so-called women of OBON (Group of special purpose women) have emerged during such actions, who actively and assertively expressed their position often using aggressive and violent methods of protest. Data from various studies indicate that the society has negative attitude towards OBON, as it is not a true civil society group representing the interests of vulnerable population, but is an informal group purposefully formed of women and acting to achieve objectives of specific clients (political opponents of the government, institutions, businesses, semi-criminal elements and others).

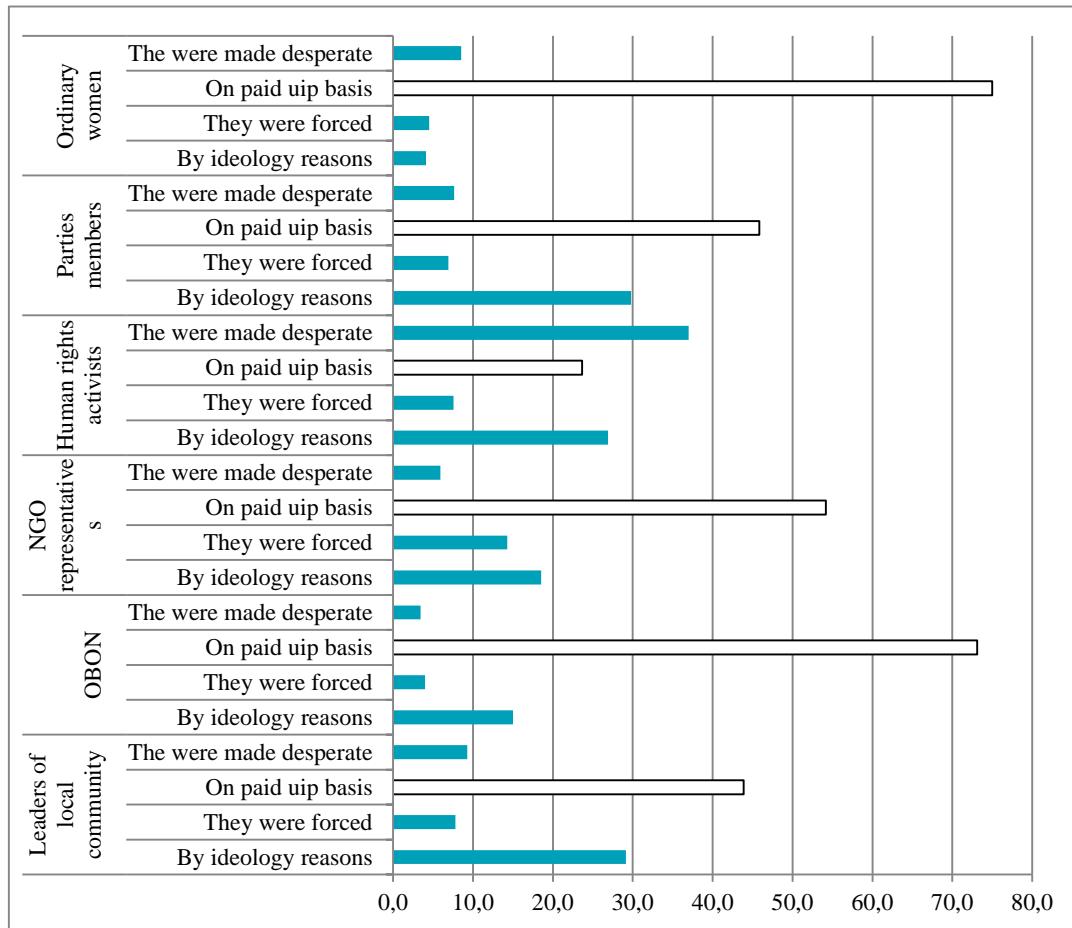
To examine the problems related to activities of such groups, the respondents were asked about the women, who actively and assertively express their position during meetings/rallies. Table 9.9 shows that 44% of respondents believe that these ordinary women, 15% of respondents call them OBON, and a small proportion think that they are local community leaders, members of some political parties, human rights activists and representatives of NGOs. It should be noted that almost one fifth of respondents (19%) could not answer this question, especially in rural areas (21%). At the same time, there were no any significant gender and age differences, depending on the level of education and welfare, as well as ethnicity. Rural residents more often than urban ones called these groups of women - OBON (16% and 12%, respectively). Analysis of regional differences among the respondents shows that the majority of respondents from Bishkek (60%) and the Naryn region (58%) think that these aggressive female "activists" are ordinary people. About one-third of respondents in the Batken region (29%) could not answer this question. One-fifth of respondents from the Jalal-Abad and Issyk-Kul regions (21% in each) more often than in other regions call these women - OBON, and the same number of the respondents from the Talas region call them leaders of local community. Residents of the Issyk-Kul region also believe that they are human rights activists. Answers of respondents show that these negative manifestations of the so-called "political activity" of certain groups of women may adversely affect participation of other women in the public and political life, undermining public confidence in the actions aimed at achieving gender equality in the country.

**Table 9.9 Respondents' opinion about women, who actively and assertively express their position during meetings/rallies**

	Leaders of local community	OBON	Representatives of NGOs	Human rights activists	Party members	Ordinary women	Do not want to answer / Find difficult to answer	Total
Total	7.8	14.6	1.7	3.9	8.3	44.4	19.4	100
<b>Type of settlement</b>								
Urban	6.5	12.3	2.7	3.8	8.2	49.8	16.7	100
Rural	8.5	15.8	1.1	3.9	8.4	41.5	20.8	100
<b>Region</b>								
Batken	16.5	2.2	0.3	2.3	21.2	28.5	29.0	100
Jalal-Abad	8.9	20.5	0.6	1.0	4.3	42.5	22.2	100
Issyk-Kul	2.5	20.4	1.3	13.9	3.3	50.6	8.0	100
Naryn	3.4	12.8	0.3	1.2	1.8	57.7	22.7	100
Osh	6.7	17.6	1.4	3.7	8.9	41.1	20.6	100
Talas	21.4	14.8	0.8	8.4	12.6	27.4	14.6	100
Chui	7.2	14.7	1.6	3.0	9.1	43.7	20.7	100
Bishkek city	2.0	9.5	4.2	3.6	8.0	59.8	12.9	100
Osh city	17.7	7.4	2.4	4.2	10.2	32.1	26.0	100

To study the reasons for these negative manifestations of the "political" activity of women in the society, as the instrument for aggressive, violent and illegal methods of work, during the survey the respondents were asked, why these women take part in various protest actions so often. As shown in Figure 9.1, according to the respondents, the majority of ordinary women (75%) and women-members of OBON (73%) participate in meetings for money, as well as community leaders and members of the parties do (44-46%). Members of political parties and heads of local communities (29-30%) participate mostly for ideological reasons. Some ordinary women join OBON, because they are frustrated by certain circumstances in their lives (8-9%). At the same time, according to some respondents, some women may be forcibly involved in such actions (4-8%). The responses do not reflect any specific differences by sex of the respondents, age, location and region, as well as other basic characteristics of household members.

**Figure 9.1 Reasons for women's participation in meetings/rallies**



The reasons why the OBON exists as a group were also examined during the survey. The data in Table 9.10 shows that more than one-third of respondents (35%), both women and men, do not know anything about women from OBON groups. Awareness about the OBON groups and reasons for their existence do not vary significantly depending on types of settlement, age of respondents, level of education, welfare and ethnicity. The Batken and Osh regions can be noted among other regions with more than half (56 and 59%, respectively) of their respondents, both women and men, being unaware of the OBON groups compared to the respondents from Bishkek, who are well aware (77% of women and 81% of men). Overall, these data suggest that the term "OBON" had spread mainly in Bishkek, and Chui and Issyk-Kul regions.

The respondents, who are aware of the OBON groups, have selected one most important reason for their existence - "to make money" (25%). Urban residents, regardless of sex, more often ticked this answer (29 and 22%, respectively). The highest proportion of respondents, who ticked this answer, was in the Issyk-Kul region (41% of women and 45% of men), while the lowest proportion of respondents was in the Batken region (13 and 12%). The respondents from Bishkek, being the most aware of the OBON groups, believe that women from the OBON groups are just an instrument of struggle between politicians (19% of women and 21% of men). Only a small proportion of respondents (4-5%) believe that OBON groups is the reaction to the inefficiency of the authorities.

**Table 9.10 Reasons for the existence of OBON groups**

	Total	Urban	Rural	Batken	Jalal-Abad	Issyk-Kul	Naryn	Osh	Talas	Chui	Bishkek city	Osh city
<b>Proportion of women unaware of the OBON</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>59.3</b>
Women are aware of OBON - by options												
Women have no other way for promotion in politics	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.4	1.4	4.1	1.2	2.8	3.0	1.2	2.2	2.1
This is a way to make money	25.1	29.8	22.2	12.6	15.6	40.6	34.0	17.2	24.5	31.0	37.3	13.9
The way to escape from personal problems	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.1	0.8	2.4	1.0	5.2	0.9	0.0	0.7	1.9
They are a tool of struggle between politicians	11.4	13.1	10.3	3.9	10.3	11.5	7.8	14.7	7.3	6.3	18.7	7.9
This is a reaction to inefficiency of authorities	4.7	4.6	4.7	3.2	9.4	5.6	2.6	3.6	3.4	2.6	5.1	0.7
<b>Proportion of men unaware of OBON</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>58.9</b>
Men aware of the OBON by options												
Women have no other way to advance in politics	2.4	3.1	2.1	1.9	0.8	2.3	1.0	3.6	3.6	2.1	4.0	2.0
This is a way to make money	24.8	29.1	22.7	12.0	14.6	44.9	35.4	18.5	18.7	33.8	34.5	16.0
The way to escape from personal problems	1.8	1.3	2.1	1.8	1.2	2.5	1.6	3.9	1.3	1.5	0.3	1.5
They are a tool of struggle between politicians	11.6	14.2	10.3	3.0	13.1	11.8	10.2	12.7	6.9	4.9	21.3	8.4
This is a reaction to inefficiency of authorities	4.3	4.2	4.3	2.2	9.6	5.3	3.4	1.9	2.7	1.8	4.5	2.2

Based on these data it can be concluded that negative and stereotypical perception/attitudes towards women, the lack of financial resources among women, as well as the lack of support from their community and their family are crucial barriers for women's promotion in politics.

It is noteworthy that women do not support female politicians. Women are quite critical and even more severely than men assess performance of female parliamentarians. This may be due to the lack of understanding of the importance of women's participation in the highest legislative body, on the one hand, and insufficient communication of women-parliamentarians with the female electorate. At the same time, this paradox may be because many women consider political activities as incompatible with family responsibilities of women. At the same time, the population does not know female deputies well, and has adequate information about their work.

The main qualities that a politician should have, regardless of sex, is education, high intelligence, caring for needs of ordinary people, honesty and integrity. Thus, in most cases the public has no any special, specific requirements for female politicians.

The population of the country is not adequately informed about specific measures in the Kyrgyz Republic aimed to ensure representation in the legislative and executive authorities. A higher level of public awareness was recorded regarding women's representation in the lists of political parties.



## 10 Migration

### Key findings

- The vast majority of women and men agree that "Migration is an extreme measure undertaken in despair" (87 and 89%, respectively) and at the same time, it "tends to improve the family's financial welfare" (84% od each women and men).
- The same number of women and men agree that migration "gives people new knowledge, professional skills and social communication" (67 and 71%, respectively) and that "this is a good opportunity to see the world" (68 and 73%, respectively).
- Equal number of women (68%) and men (70%) agreed that being in migration "worsen the relations in the family."
- The vast majority of men and women agreed that "for many of men, migration is a good opportunity to realize themselves" (81 and 83%, respectively). However, the proportion of respondents, who agreed with the same statement regarding women ("for many women, migration is a good opportunity to realize themselves") is much lower: 67% of women and 68% of men.
- Work in migration increases self-esteem and self-confidence of women. Thus, the majority of respondents agreed that "female migrants return home more independent and self-confident" (58% of women and 59% of men), and that "women working abroad often feel themselves equal to men, than at home" (60% of women and 62%).
- A fairly large proportion of respondents (38% of women and 45% of men) believe that women in migration, working away from home, begin to lead immoral life.
- More than half of respondents (51% of women and 55% of men) support the work of nationalist organizations, who "trace/follow" the moral image of the women from the Kyrgyz Republic, stripping, raping them and uploading their photos and "punishment" videos for bad behavior. At the same time, 22% of women and 26% of men do not consider it immoral for a man to create a new family in migration, if he continuously takes care of the first family left behind in his country of origin.
- Despite a number of preferences that have significantly simplified the life and employment of workers from EAEC members countries on the territory of the EAEC, the number of willing to go there is not so high (13% of men and 8% of women).
- Most women and men (64 and 68%, respectively) are aware of the list of persons, whose entry was banned by the RF FMS.
- Staying in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as visits to the People's Republic of China, have no effect on increasing religiosity of migrants: less than 2% of respondents said that migrants' religiosity increases after their return from these countries.
- The increasing religiosity of migrants is observed after their return from the United Arab Emirates (89%) and the Republic of Turkey (7%).
- Only one-third of respondents (32% of women and 36% of men) plan to apply to the migration service for the information about entering, staying and employment in the EAEC countries. At the same time, a significant proportion of respondents (50% of men and 45% of women) said they would seek information from their friends, relatives (diaspora) and two out of five respondents would seek information themselves through the mass media (22%) or the Internet (20%).
- Some migrants are also working in the host countries in violation of the migration legislation, and as a consequence, the police, immigration services and employers are perceived as a threat for both men and

women.

- In most cases, women and men returning from labor migration faced the same problems. The first problem is deteriorating health (28% of women and 27% of men). The second problem for men a job (21%), and the third is separation from children (17%). In contrast, for women returning from migration, the second important problem is separation from children (20%), and difficulty to find a job (14%) is in the third place.
- Women and men, who have returned from migration, to a similar extent face deterioration of relationships with their spouses (11 and 14%, respectively).
- Women returning from migration, twice more often have difficulties with marriage (11%) than men (5%).
- Neglect of the community, family and friends is not a problem for both women and men, who returned from labor migration (2% each).

Since early 90-ies, migration across all the CIS countries has intensified, the nature of which is radically different from the migration observed in previous decades. Increased mobility of the population of the former Soviet republics is caused by several factors: sovereignty of new independent states, regional differences in economic conditions, political instability and ethnic conflicts. Centers of attraction of labor resources have emerged on the territory of the former Soviet Union, such as the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. Labor migration from the Kyrgyz Republic is caused by dramatic social and economic changes over the last decades, which resulted in the loss of the production capacity, sharp reduction in the number of jobs, this has exacerbated poverty and led to outflow of the population to more favorable regions.

The labor market of the Kyrgyz Republic is characterized not by only low wages, but also by the lack of jobs. Abundance of labor force in the labor market is caused by low rate of economic development, which does not create enough jobs to satisfy the needs of the population.

Thus, the increase in labor migration from Kyrgyz Republic to other countries is due, above all, to economic reasons, search for paid work, new sphere of application of labor, and is a consequence of the lack of employment opportunities and small salaries in the home country.

Accounting for more than 90% of the external outflow from the Kyrgyz Republic, the labor migration leads to high dependence of the country's economy on the economies of the host<sup>24</sup> countries.

This chapter provides information about the respondents' attitude to labor migration and its impact on their lives before and after migration, as well as impact on religiosity of migrants caused by the host countries.

To identify public attitude towards migration, all respondents were asked to agree or disagree with certain statements about migration. There were no significant differences in the responses of women and men regarding most of these statements (Tables 10.1 and 10.2).

The first group of statements related to impact of migration on welfare and family relations, development of the professional and other skills of migrants. The absolute majority of women and men agree that «Migration is an extreme measure undertaken in despair» (87 and 89%, respectively) and at the same time, it "Leads to improvement of the financial welfare of the family" (84% of each women and men). Equal numbers of women and men agree that migration "Gives people new knowledge, skills and social

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<sup>24</sup> National Institute for Strategic Studies under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Extended Migration Profile 2010-2015 - Bishkek, 2016

communication" (67 and 71%, respectively) and that "It is a good opportunity to see the world" (68 and 73%, respectively). At the same time, equal number of women (68%) and men (70%) agreed that being in migration "Worsen the relations in the family."

There were no any significant difference in the responses of the urban and rural respondents depending on the regions and other characteristics of the respondents, except that fewer young people aged 18-20 years (75%) than the older age groups (84-88%) agree that work in migration improves family welfare.

Another group of statements related to impact of migration on women and men. The vast majority of men and women agreed that "for many men migration is a good opportunity to realize themselves" (81 and 83%, respectively). However, the proportion of respondents, who agreed with the same statement regarding women ("for many women, migration is a good opportunity to realize themselves") is much lower: 67% of women and 68% of men.

The third group of statements was aimed at studying the impact of migration on women. Based on the analysis of the respondents' answers, it was concluded that the work in migration increase self-esteem and self-confidence of women. Thus, the majority of respondents agreed that "female migrants return home more independent and self-confident" (58% of women and 59% of men), and that "women working abroad, often feel themselves equal to men than at home" (60% of women and 62% of men).

At the same time, a fairly large proportion of respondents (38% of women and 45% of men) believe that women in migration, working away from home, begin to lead immoral life. On this basis, 51% of women and 55% of men support the activities of nationalist organizations, who "follow/or trace" the moral image of women from the Kyrgyz Republic, stripping, raping them and uploading their photos and "punishment" videos for bad behavior. At the same time, 22% of women and 26% of men do not consider it immoral for a man to start a new family in migration, if he continuously takes care of the first family, left behind at home in his country of origin.

There are noticeable differences with regard to this statement depending on the place of residence of the respondents. For example, people from rural areas often support gender stereotype of moral instability of women in migration (women: urban - 35%, rural - 41%; men: urban - 42%, rural - 47%), and more often speak out in support of the nationalist groups, "taking care/conscious" of their moral image (women: urban - 47%, rural - 54%; men: urban - 50%, rural - 57%). The activities of these nationalist groups are more often supported by young people under the age of 20 years, regardless of their level of education.

Rural people, especially men, more often agree that it is not immoral, and it is quite normal, if the man in migration creates a second family, provided that he would take care of the first family (women: urban - 19%, rural - 23%, men: urban - 23%, rural - 28%).

Among regions, this stereotype is most supported by those where migration processes are more active: Jalal-Abad, Naryn, Issyk-Kul, Batken, Osh regions, cities of Bishkek and Osh.

The Kyrgyz Republic accession to the EAEC provides additional benefits for workers in the country: migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic can be employed without restrictions (quotas); citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic do not require any permits for work on the territory of the EAEC member states; workers from the Kyrgyz Republic and members of their families do not need any registration (registration at the place of residence) with the authorized body within 30 days from the date of entry; the education documents issued by educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic are recognized without a recognition procedure, with the exception of educational, legal, medical or pharmaceutical specialties; EAEC member states provide workers and family members with the right to receive free emergency medical care (in emergency and urgent forms/cases) regardless of the health insurance, and etc.

**Table 10.1 Proportion of women, who agree with statements about the impact of migration on men and women**

Proportion of women, who agree with the proposed statements about the impact of migration on women, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age groups, levels of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Migration											
	For many men - it is a good opportunity to realize themselves	For many women - this is a good opportunity to realize themselves	This is an extreme measure, which is taken in despair	It leads to an improvement of the financial welfare of the family	It gives people new knowledge, skills and social networks	Women working abroad, often feel themselves equal to men than at home	Worsen family relationships	A good opportunity to see the world	Women migrants return home more independent and self-confident	Women in migration, away from home, starts living immoral life	It is good that in Russia there are organizations and young people from Kyrgyzstan, who keep an eye on morality /image of migrant women from Kyrgyzstan	It is normal, if a man in migration starts a second family, provided that he continues to take care of the first family
Total	80.6	67.1	87.2	84.0	67.2	60.0	67.5	67.6	58.1	38.2	51.3	21.5
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	78.7	66.4	86.0	80.1	60.8	55.3	64.6	59.1	54.0	34.5	46.7	19.2
Rural	81.9	67.6	88.0	86.5	71.2	63.0	69.2	72.8	60.7	40.5	54.1	23.0
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	79.7	68.4	81.3	83.7	83.7	59.7	58.2	81.1	59.7	27.1	63.0	15.7
Jalal-Abad	94.3	83.1	95.6	94.9	79.9	69.9	75.1	80.3	62.1	46.7	64.6	41.2
Issyk-Kul	82.0	68.6	94.1	87.6	70.2	75.7	72.5	64.3	75.0	34.5	73.1	24.8
Naryn	77.9	75.7	86.4	83.0	57.7	66.0	75.5	65.8	69.3	61.1	70.3	41.8
Osh	94.3	72.4	80.7	89.3	79.6	55.7	68.9	77.3	53.4	54.7	56.2	26.5
Talas	61.7	56.1	96.5	81.7	55.9	64.2	69.3	63.8	67.1	49.2	48.6	5.6
Chui	59.0	48.8	92.6	76.1	53.7	56.5	65.6	60.3	57.8	15.7	21.8	3.8
Bishkek city	75.5	61.5	82.1	77.1	52.4	53.8	60.7	48.8	48.6	26.9	41.4	15.6
Osh city	85.3	69.1	79.6	75.7	59.2	46.4	67.7	67.3	57.4	58.1	51.5	13.7
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	79.4	67.0	89.8	74.9	65.5	57.2	70.7	65.8	48.8	38.3	60.6	30.4
21-30	82.5	68.8	88.4	84.5	67.4	57.8	65.2	69.1	59.3	40.3	51.1	23.3
31-40	80.5	67.0	85.1	82.1	64.1	62.4	71.8	67.8	58.7	38.5	48.9	21.5
41-50	81.6	66.9	88.2	83.3	71.2	61.3	67.7	69.1	59.1	35.4	51.0	20.8
51-60	83.2	68.5	85.9	87.6	70.2	59.2	64.6	67.7	56.9	37.3	52.6	18.9
61-70	72.3	61.2	88.6	87.8	63.1	60.0	68.8	59.2	61.4	42.1	53.6	21.0
70+	75.0	65.4	84.3	87.6	64.0	63.4	63.5	67.8	57.5	33.8	42.4	12.2
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	76.2	61.4	83.7	85.0	69.3	55.5	68.7	67.7	56.5	36.8	42.9	15.4
Secondary general	84.5	70.3	86.6	85.7	72.1	61.3	69.3	72.6	60.0	42.7	57.0	26.1

Proportion of women, who agree with the proposed statements about the impact of migration on women, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age groups, levels of education, welfare and ethnicity

Migration												
	For many men - it is a good opportunity to realize themselves	For many women - this is a good opportunity to realize themselves	This is an extreme measure, which is taken in despair	It leads to an improvement of the financial welfare of the family	It gives people new knowledge, skills and social networks	Women working abroad, often feel themselves equal to men than at home	Worsen family relationships	A good opportunity to see the world	Women migrants return home more independent and self-confident	Women in migration, away from home, starts living immoral life	It is good that in Russia there are organizations and young people from Kyrgyzstan, who keep an eye on morality /image of migrant women from Kyrgyzstan	It is normal, if a man in migration starts a second family, provided that he continues to take care of the first family
Primary and secondary vocational	77.6	62.9	88.4	79.9	62.7	58.7	67.3	62.2	55.6	33.3	47.5	17.5
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	78.1	67.5	88.6	84.7	61.9	60.5	63.8	63.4	57.7	35.2	47.5	19.3
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	79.6	69.3	86.8	86.1	74.0	61.5	69.5	72.0	58.7	44.2	57.7	19.1
Second	81.3	66.2	87.7	86.9	67.4	59.7	70.5	70.4	60.6	40.0	56.2	22.4
Average	85.7	71.6	87.9	83.8	66.3	62.0	66.6	70.7	58.6	39.9	46.6	22.0
Fourth	77.7	60.7	85.7	79.9	63.2	55.8	64.2	60.3	53.6	33.2	44.5	18.5
Richest	79.1	67.9	88.3	82.3	62.9	61.2	65.3	62.1	59.1	31.0	48.3	27.0
<b>Ethnicity</b>												
Kyrgyz	81.8	69.7	88.3	85.3	67.5	60.6	67.7	68.8	59.3	40.7	52.8	23.2
Uzbek	89.1	68.9	85.4	87.1	74.3	58.0	72.2	70.9	58.6	43.2	57.0	23.8
Russian	72.0	56.1	83.9	75.0	55.6	59.0	63.9	54.6	49.1	19.2	35.1	11.2
Other	60.4	50.2	84.7	76.3	65.9	60.0	59.7	65.5	57.2	27.3	44.6	12.6

**Table 10.2 Proportion of men, who agree with statements about the impact of migration on men and women**

Proportion of men, who agree with the proposed statements about the impact of migration on women, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age groups, levels of education, welfare and ethnicity

	Migration											
	For many men - it is a good opportunity to realize themselves	For many women - this is a good opportunity to realize themselves	This is an extreme measure, which is taken in despair	It leads to an improvement of the financial welfare of the family	It gives people new knowledge, skills and social networks	Women working abroad, often feel themselves equal to men than at home	Worsen family relationships	A good opportunity to see the world	Women migrants return home more independent and self-confident	Women in migration, away from home, starts living immoral life	It is good that in Russia there are organizations and young people from Kyrgyzstan, who keep an eye on morality /image of migrant women from Kyrgyzstan	It is normal, if a man in migration starts a second family, provided that he continues to take care of the first family
Total	83.0	67.9	88.9	83.5	70.5	61.6	69.7	72.5	59.2	45.3	54.6	26.4
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	83.3	68.4	86.6	82.9	62.6	60.4	64.6	63.5	56.0	42.4	49.6	23.1
Rural	82.8	67.7	90.1	83.8	74.4	62.2	72.1	76.9	60.7	46.8	57.0	28.0
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	90.9	73.3	82.7	86.5	92.0	49.7	58.2	88.3	59.6	24.2	67.9	18.4
Jalal-Abad	94.7	77.7	98.4	91.6	85.7	76.3	74.8	86.3	66.2	50.8	63.1	41.9
Issyk-Kul	84.9	63.9	98.0	88.8	71.5	68.1	80.5	65.6	66.4	55.9	79.8	37.4
Naryn	79.9	74.9	89.7	83.2	60.5	64.0	79.1	65.6	65.7	62.1	61.4	37.6
Osh	91.2	76.3	80.5	89.9	81.1	60.8	73.9	80.5	62.8	58.5	57.8	30.8
Talas	66.2	61.5	96.1	78.7	50.1	58.8	72.0	64.1	56.7	54.3	58.2	8.0
Chui	57.4	43.9	93.1	67.9	55.7	51.6	65.3	65.1	48.5	21.3	25.9	6.0
Bishkek city	80.5	65.1	83.3	80.7	53.5	59.9	55.2	55.0	52.2	36.1	44.1	22.4
Osh city	89.6	72.4	76.7	71.5	57.0	47.5	77.9	62.6	52.7	61.3	55.9	16.5
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	87.9	74.1	82.4	83.9	68.8	68.1	57.8	74.2	64.8	41.9	55.2	27.2
21-30	87.1	72.0	89.1	84.1	69.6	64.1	65.5	75.3	55.8	48.9	52.9	24.9
31-40	82.2	67.0	88.3	86.0	74.2	58.0	72.4	74.4	61.5	46.4	56.1	28.9
41-50	82.5	67.1	89.3	84.4	70.3	58.9	73.8	70.1	57.7	45.8	57.4	26.7
51-60	82.6	69.0	91.9	85.3	72.0	61.3	68.8	72.2	59.3	44.5	56.4	26.6
61-70	74.7	54.5	91.3	74.8	63.5	65.6	71.6	67.3	65.7	37.7	47.5	25.3
70+	74.3	64.0	81.7	72.5	70.0	59.9	80.9	67.1	52.2	40.8	49.0	21.9

Proportion of men, who agree with the proposed statements about the impact of migration on women, with breakdown by type of settlement, region, age groups, levels of education, welfare and ethnicity

Migration												
	For many men - it is a good opportunity to realize themselves	For many women - this is a good opportunity to realize themselves	This is an extreme measure, which is taken in despair	It leads to an improvement of the financial welfare of the family	It gives people new knowledge, skills and social networks	Women working abroad, often feel themselves equal to men than at home	Worsen family relationships	A good opportunity to see the world	Women migrants return home more independent and self-confident	Women in migration, away from home, starts living immoral life	It is good that in Russia there are organizations and young people from Kyrgyzstan, who keep an eye on morality /image of migrant women from Kyrgyzstan	It is normal, if a man in migration starts a second family, provided that he continues to take care of the first family
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	83.9	68.1	84.5	80.6	60.5	54.7	71.5	69.1	49.2	40.0	53.4	20.2
Secondary general	86.0	70.8	89.6	85.5	74.6	65.5	72.2	75.7	62.9	49.1	58.1	32.3
Primary and secondary vocational	81.1	65.9	90.9	82.6	70.3	57.5	64.4	70.2	56.6	44.5	55.3	22.9
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	78.4	64.0	87.5	81.4	66.3	60.3	68.6	69.5	57.8	40.6	47.2	19.9
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	86.3	70.6	90.2	84.3	75.0	59.6	74.7	79.9	60.5	51.7	60.0	28.0
Second	84.7	70.3	87.6	87.3	71.4	63.6	69.2	73.5	60.2	47.0	52.3	23.0
Average	80.7	67.1	87.3	80.8	75.2	61.4	71.5	71.1	61.4	41.0	51.0	29.0
Fourth	80.5	63.9	90.5	78.0	59.2	61.4	64.3	65.9	56.3	42.2	50.4	21.9
Richest	80.4	65.5	88.8	86.6	68.6	62.9	65.3	67.7	55.7	40.9	58.2	30.7
<b>Ethnicity</b>												
Kyrgyz	83.9	70.7	89.9	84.7	71.2	63.0	68.9	71.2	61.2	48.2	57.8	28.0
Uzbek	91.6	69.8	85.0	86.1	75.6	64.3	79.4	80.0	55.4	45.0	55.5	27.8
Russian	65.6	46.4	87.7	75.1	58.9	53.2	64.1	62.9	53.5	24.1	36.3	14.5
Other	71.4	54.3	87.7	72.7	63.4	48.6	61.7	79.5	49.9	34.8	34.8	17.1

Thus, their legal status changes fundamentally, providing them with in practically all matters with in rights with the workers of other EAEC countries. Thus, our compatriots have advantages over citizens of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan at employment within the EAEC territory. However, migration flows growth will largely depend on the migration policy of Russia and Kazakhstan, which, in turn, depends on demography projections and tendencies in economic development of these countries<sup>25</sup>.

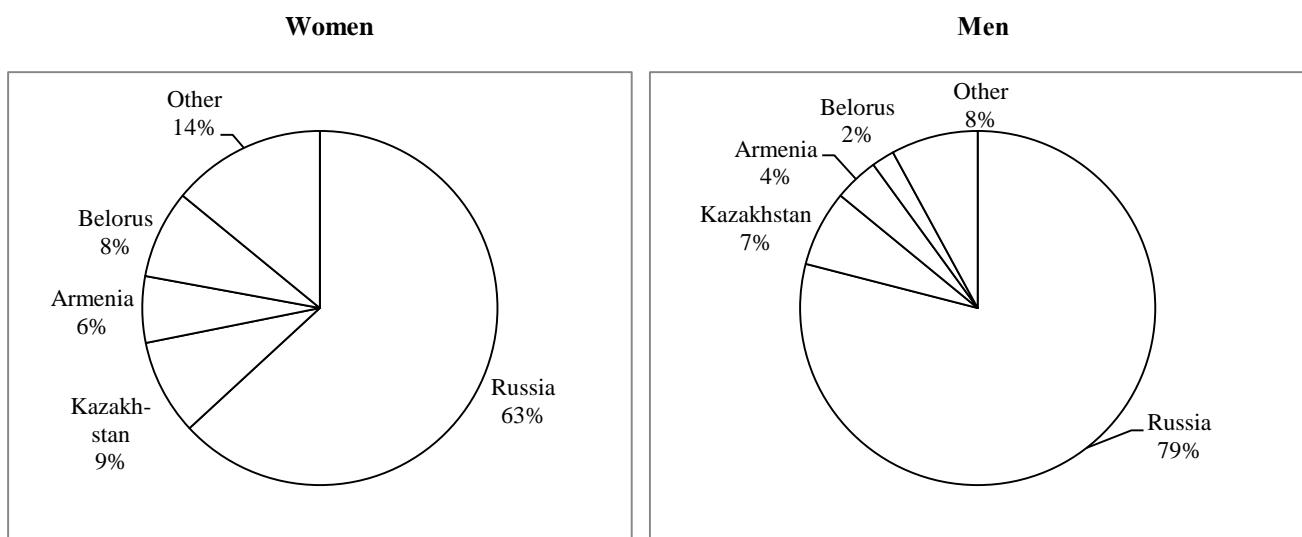
Despite the number of preferences that greatly facilitate the procedure for staying and employment of workers from EAEC members countries in the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union, it was found that the number of people willing to migrate is not so high (13% of men and 8% of women). Therefore, joining the EAEC will not cause a significant increase in migration flows.

The most attractive countries for potential labor migrants are still the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. Moreover, if Russia is of interest for both men and women from the southern regions, mainly residents of the Naryn and Talas regions are planning to go to Kazakhstan. However, it should be noted that women also considered the Republic of Belarus (8%) as the new labor market, which is not true for men (2%) (Figure 10.1 and Table 10.3).

**Figure 10.1 Countries of departure planned by migrant workers**

**after the Kyrgyz Republic joined EAEC**

*(Proportion of men and women with breakdown by countries of planned departure)*



<sup>25</sup> The Ministry of Labour, migration and youth of the Kyrgyz Republic. Unified Report on Migration, 2015. - Bishkek, 2016

**Table 10.3 Planning labor migration in connection with the Kyrgyz Republic accession to the EAEC**

Proportion of women and men planning labor migration with breakdown by settlement type, region, welfare and ethnicity

	Women						Men					
	Plan to leave	The country of planned departure					Plan to leave	The country of planned departure				
		Russia	Kazak-hstan	Armenia	Belarus	Other countries		Russia	Kazak-hstan	Armenia	Belarus	Other countries
Total	8.1	63.1	8.7	6.1	8.1	14.1	13.0	79.0	6.9	4.1	2.1	7.9
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	10.6	53.2	10.8	3.7	7.8	24.5	16.7	68.3	9.4	5.8	0.8	15.7
Rural	6.6	73.0	6.6	8.5	8.3	3.6	11.2	86.9	5.1	2.8	3.0	2.2
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	7.2	78.9	5.2	0.0	15.9	0.0	19.3	88.7	7.0	4.3	0.0	0.0
Jalal-Abad	8.7	92.3	2.2	0.0	3.1	2.4	13.2	94.9	1.7	3.4	0.0	0.0
Issyk-Kul	6.6	59.8	8.5	4.5	21.3	5.9	5.4	39.1	10.2	15.4	30.6	4.7
Naryn	3.9	69.7	24.6	0.0	5.7	0.0	5.4	77.2	22.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Osh	6.9	83.2	5.3	2.3	9.2	0.0	15.4	98.0	0.9	0.0	1.1	0.0
Talas	6.3	35.6	19.8	29.0	11.8	3.8	10.8	45.9	20.6	11.0	13.1	9.3
Chui	6.8	49.3	7.6	21.6	8.0	13.4	7.2	59.9	16.3	10.0	4.1	9.6
Bishkek city	12.5	38.1	14.7	4.4	4.3	38.6	21.0	60.7	10.6	4.0	0.0	24.8
Osh city	6.1	68.6	3.9	10.1	17.4	0.0	7.6	72.9	4.6	6.8	0.0	15.7
<b>Welfare level</b>												
Poorest	5.6	76.6	4.8	4.8	9.5	4.3	11.4	78.9	12.1	1.9	1.1	6.1
Second	7.0	81.1	5.0	2.5	5.4	6.0	12.3	89.3	1.5	4.6	2.8	1.7
Average	6.6	58.1	5.5	14.4	11.5	10.5	13.7	76.5	2.3	2.9	1.1	17.2
Fourth	9.1	59.4	9.0	0.0	9.0	22.7	13.1	78.1	11.7	0.6	5.6	3.9
Richest	13.8	47.9	15.2	9.7	6.5	20.7	15.9	70.7	7.3	11.1	0.0	10.9
<b>Ethnicity</b>												
Kyrgyz	9.2	63.1	9.4	6.0	7.2	14.4	12.7	75.4	7.7	4.8	2.9	9.1
Uzbek	5.8	67.4	5.9	10.4	16.2	0.0	14.4	96.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Russian	5.9	65.6	1.1	0.0	9.7	23.5	13.6	81.1	0.0	6.9	0.0	12.0
Other	3.7	43.2	18.3	6.2	0.0	32.4	13.0	72.7	14.2	3.0	0.0	10.1

The opinion that citizens of Kyrgyz Republic after returning from migration become more religious are common in the society and among the expert community. However, the survey showed that this assumption is not correct.

Findings of the survey indicate that staying in the host countries similarly influence on increase in religiosity of migrants of different sex, age, educational status and welfare.

Staying in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan, where most labor migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic go to work, as well as visits to the Chinese People's Republic have no effects on increasing religiosity of migrants: less than 2% of respondents reported increased religiosity after returning from these countries.

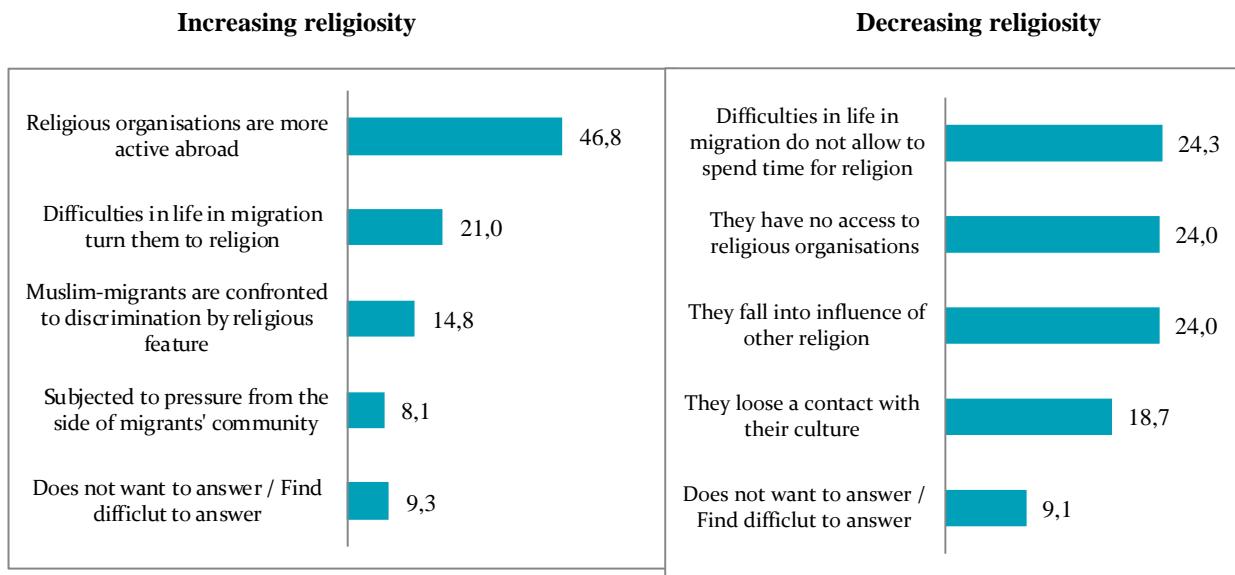
89% of respondents reported increased religiosity after returning from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Republic of Turkey - 7%. Increased religiosity of migrants after returning from the UAE is often noted in rural areas (91%) compared to urban residents (84%). In addition, urban residents (11%), especially from Bishkek (21%) mentioned about increased religiosity after returning from Turkey.

**Table 10.4 Increase in religiosity of migrants (women and men) in the host countries**

	Migrants are becoming more religious in the following countries:				
	Russia	Kazakhstan	Turkey	China	United Arab Emirates
Total	1.9	1.4	6.6	1.3	88.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>					
Urban	1.2	2.0	11.2	1.3	84.2
Rural	2.4	1.2	4.0	1.2	91.2
<b>Region</b>					
Batken	4.7	0.6	9.1	1.1	84.5
Jalal-Abad	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.8	98.1
Issyk-Kul	0.3	0.0	1.7	1.6	96.4
Naryn	0.1	0.1	2.4	2.1	95.3
Osh	3.8	2.9	1.7	1.0	90.5
Talas	0.0	0.4	1.7	1.9	95.9
Chui	1.9	0.0	11.0	0.6	86.5
Bishkek city	1.2	3.5	20.7	1.9	72.6
Osh city	2.6	2.0	3.8	1.1	90.5

The survey identified reasons for increased/decreased religiosity of migrant workers. Figure 10.5 shows that according to respondents, reasons for increased religiosity of migrant workers are active religious organizations in the host countries (47%), and belief that turning to religion allows to cope with the difficulties in the life during the migration (21%). The main reasons for decreasing religiosity of migrants are: lack of time for the religion, access to religious organizations is declining, and migrants also fall under the influence of other religions (24%), and lose contact with their traditional religion (19%).

**Figure 10.2 Reasons for changing religiosity of migrant workers (in %)**



Currently, the main problem of migrant workers is their unresolved status. Many Kyrgyz citizens were banned the entry, hundreds of people were deported, and dozens were detained in special institutions for temporary detention of foreign nationals (SITDFN)<sup>26</sup>.

As can be seen from Table 10.5, the majority of women and men (64 and 68%, respectively) are aware of the list of persons, whose entry into the Russian Federation is prohibited. Women in all regions, except Bishkek (28%) are well aware of this issue (56-88%). At the same time, the respondents from Bishkek know people, whose religiosity was affected, when their entry into the country was denied (24% of women – and 21% of men). Residents of the Jalal-Abad region more often reported that they "know people entered in the database" (61% of women and 63% of men).

<sup>26</sup> The Ministry of Labour, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic. Unified Report on Migration, 2015. - Bishkek, 2016

**Table 10.5 Awareness of the database of persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation**

Proportion of women and men, who are aware of the database of persons denied entry to the Russian Federation; know people entered in the database who then become more religious, with breakdown by settlement type, region and ethnicity

	Women			Men		
	Know about the database of persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	Personally know persons entered into the database	Know that a person after entering into this database became more religious	Know about the database of persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	Personally know persons entered into the database	Know that a person after entering into this database became more religious
Total	64.2	38.7	4.2	68.1	40.3	4.7
<b>Type of settlement</b>						
Urban	49.5	32.4	6.6	57.4	30.2	6.9
Rural	73.3	41.4	3.5	73.3	44.2	4.1
<b>Region</b>						
Batken	82.1	44.8	2.3	86.3	44.8	0.9
Jalal-Abad	88.2	60.6	1.8	91.5	62.6	3.2
Issyk-Kul	63.6	19.0	0.6	67.9	18.0	4.7
Naryn	72.5	14.7	0.0	71.0	15.3	5.4
Osh	74.0	46.6	6.2	73.6	51.9	6.5
Talas	72.9	22.4	1.9	74.2	24.8	6.3
Chui	56.0	20.4	5.0	54.7	16.8	6.1
Bishkek city	27.8	23.0	23.6	32.1	17.7	20.9
Osh city	66.7	29.3	0.0	68.6	23.7	0.0
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Kyrgyz	67.7	40.0	4.5	70.4	41.1	5.8
Uzbek	66.9	44.0	0.8	71.0	48.8	0.0
Russian	45.1	17.2	7.6	47.8	18.6	14.6
Others	46.6	31.1	13.2	55.8	22.7	0.0

Data about the services, where women and men will obtain information about the departure, staying and employment in the EAEC countries are presented in Table 10.6. It should be noted that only one-third of respondents are planning to turn to migration services (32% of women and 36% of men). Almost half of respondents (45% of women and 50% of men) said that they will turn to their friends and relatives for information (community of compatriots), 20% will seek information in the media, and 22% - on the Internet. Thus, men more often than women were planning to seek information in the closest society and migration services.

Willingness to contact migration services is lower in the southern regions than the national average: Batken (18% of women and 34% of men), Osh (19% of women and 17%), Jalalabad (23% of women and 26% of men) regions and the city of Osh (18% of women and 29% of men). Contacting migration services increases with the level of education of respondents: from 20% of women with secondary general education to 44% with higher education; and from 25% among men with secondary general education to 46% with higher education.

It is noteworthy that men and women from the Jalal-Abad region (83% and 75%, respectively) more often seek help from their relatives, in contrast to fewer respondents from Bishkek and Chui region (by 25%). The biggest proportion of respondents, who plan to seek information on the procedure of departure, staying and employment in the EAEC countries in the Internet is in Bishkek (28%), and through the mass media – in the Talas and Batken regions (by 38% each).

Thus, it can be stated that two-thirds of women and men are planning to obtain information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in the EAEC countries from such unreliable sources of information, as the nearest community, Internet and mass media, where private agencies' post their ads and often work without permissions.

**Table 10.6 What services would women and men apply to obtain information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries**

Proportion of women and men planning to apply for information on the procedure of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries to various sources of information, with breakdown by settlement type, region, age groups and level of education

	Women will contact the following services:						Men will apply to the following services:					
	mass media	Internet	Friends, relatives	LSG	NGO	Migration service	mass media	Internet	Friends, relatives	LSG	NGO	Migration service
Total	21.7	19.1	45.3	2.4	0.2	32	22.1	21.2	49.9	3.1	0.3	36
<b>Type of settlement</b>												
Urban	15.1	22.9	33.4	2.2	0.3	36.7	15.4	26.6	41.2	3.5	0.1	44.6
Rural	25.8	16.8	52.7	2.5	0.1	29.1	25.5	18.5	54.2	2.9	0.4	31.8
<b>Region</b>												
Batken	35.2	19.2	33.7	4.8	0.7	17.5	40.3	33.5	55	2.2	0.3	34
Jalal-Abad	21.1	13.7	75	4.2	0.4	23.1	21.3	11.8	82.9	7.5	0.7	25.6
Issyk-Kul	34.7	26.4	46.9	2	0.3	44.1	31.2	23.3	37.8	3.1	0.6	52.7
Naryn	39.3	22.2	41.9	4.3	0.2	34	34	19.4	32.3	5.1	0.5	41.5
Osh	24.1	18.1	60.4	1.2	0	19.1	18.4	24.7	58.8	0.1	0	17.3
Talas	36.5	19.3	53.5	1.6	1	42.3	39.9	26.9	54.8	1.6	0.4	48.5
Chui	21.4	15	25.4	0.7	0	45.3	26.2	16.3	24.5	1	0	46.2
Bishkek city	5.7	26.8	24.8	1.9	0	44.7	7.1	30.3	30.6	2.7	0	53.6
Osh city	8	11.3	40.6	3.8	0.2	18.0	7.8	6.1	41.9	4.8	0.4	28.8
<b>Age, years</b>												
18-20	20	21.8	52.9	2	0	30.5	17.7	37.3	54.2	0.3	0	36.4
21-30	21	23.2	47.5	3	0.2	34.4	17.7	27.4	53.3	3.9	0.1	42.2
31-40	19.6	21.8	45	2.3	0.3	33.1	23.4	24.3	47.9	3.8	0.7	35.5
41-50	24.7	17.7	45.3	2.5	0.2	33.3	22	17.7	47	2.7	0.1	37.7
51-60	21.7	17.5	45.1	2	0.1	32.1	25.7	14.2	52.1	2.7	0.3	33.1
61-70	20.9	10.6	38.3	1.5	0.2	24.2	25.2	10.6	45.6	3.8	0.3	29.3
70+	25.6	7.9	37.2	2.3	0	24.4	29.6	10	45.9	0.5	0.8	17.8
<b>Level of education</b>												
Basic general (including primary)	20.9	9.6	39.3	1.5	0	20.3	24.6	21.7	38.7	0.5	0.3	24.6
Secondary general	23.9	16.1	53.2	2.5	0.3	25.3	23.1	18.3	57.3	2.5	0.3	30.3
Primary and secondary vocational	19	21.8	38.6	1.8	0.1	36.3	22.2	21.3	43.8	4.5	0.1	42.8
Higher vocational and incomplete higher	20.5	25.5	39.7	3.2	0.2	44.3	19.3	26.5	45	3.9	0.5	45.6

According to studies, some migrants are working in the host countries illegally, without registration and residence permits for the work. It leads to a high risk of being detained by the police and migration services, as well as to be deceived by the employer<sup>27</sup>.

Data in Table 10.7 show that the police (51% of women and 52% of men), employers (46% of women and 47% of men), local people, women and men - 40%) and countrymen (20% of women and 22% of men) are equally a threat for both men and women.

**Table 10.7 Opinions about extent of threat posed by various organizations and services for women and men, who are in the external labor migration**

	Proportion of women and men, who reported threat in external labor migration from various organizations and services									
	Women					Men				
Threat to men is higher	Threat to women is higher	Threat in equal extent	Not a threat at all	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	Threat to men is higher	Threat to women is higher	Threat in equal extent	Not a threat at all	Do not want to answer/Find difficult to answer	
Police	27.3	3.6	50.6	9.3	9.1	29.1	4.8	52.4	9.5	4.3
Employer	7.4	8.7	45.7	28.2	9.9	7.0	8.9	47.3	28.7	8.0
Migration services	4.2	4.5	42.2	34.0	15.1	5.3	4.7	42.0	35.5	12.5
Local citizen	8.2	4.9	40.3	32.4	14.3	9.3	4.5	40.1	34.0	12.1
Countrymen	2.1	3.1	19.8	57.7	17.2	2.9	2.4	21.5	59.0	14.2

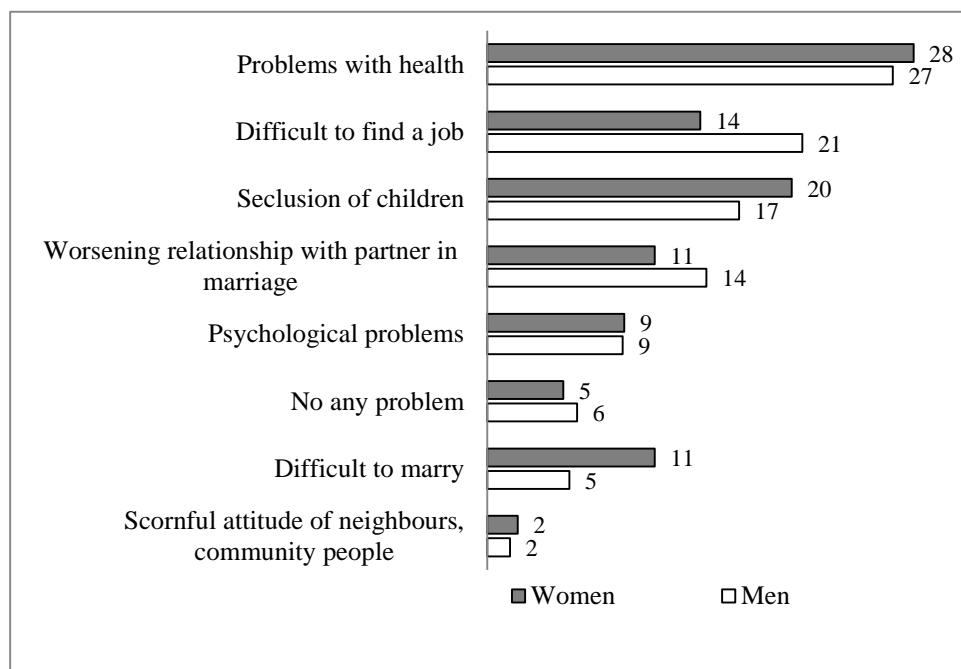
There are no any gender differences or any other differences by characteristics of the respondents in terms of threats from the authorities and groups mentioned above.

Data in Table 10.8 and Figure 10.4 show that in most cases women and men returning from labor migration faced same problems: worsening health, difficulties with employment, seclusion of children, as well as deterioration of relations with the spouse. However, some gender specificities were identified in this issue. Thus, women and men to equal extent have problems with their health (28% of women and 27% of men). The second problem for men is the job (21%), and the third is seclusion of children (17%). In contrast, the second important problem for women, who return from migration, is seclusion of children (20%), and difficulty with finding a job (14%) is in the third place. Women and men returning from migration, have equally worsened relationship with their spouses (11 and 14%, respectively), as well as psychological problems (by 9%).

<sup>27</sup> Situation Analysis of the rights of migrant workers of the Kyrgyz Republic working in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan (case studies at the cities of Moscow, St. Petersburg, Astana, Almaty). NGO "Human Rights Movement Bir Duino Kyrgyzstan" (Bishkek) and the Public Foundation "Center for International Protection" (Osh city) - Bishkek, 2013.

**Figure 10.3 Problems faced by women and men returning from migration**

(Proportion of women and men, who reported the main problems faced by women and men returning from migration)



As mentioned above, 45% of men and 38% of women agree that women lead immoral life in migration. Perhaps for this reason women returning from migration, twice more often have difficulties with getting married (11%) than men (5%). At the same time, the scornful attitude of the community, relatives and friends is not a problem for women and men, who returned from labor migration (by 2% each).

These tendencies do not depend on place of residence, education and other characteristics of the respondents.

**Table 10.8 Problems faced by the men and women returning from migration**

Proportion of women and men, who reported the main problems faced by the men returning from migration, with breakdown by type of settlement

	Women								Men							
	No prob-lem	Health problems	It is difficult to find a job	They find it difficult to get married	Seclu-sion of children	Deterio-ration of relations with the spouse	Psycho-logical problems	Scornful attitude of the community, relatives and friends	Health problems	It is difficult to find a job	They find it difficult to get married	Sec-lusion of children	Deter-ioration of relations with the spouse	Psycho-logical problems	Scornful attitude of the community, relatives and friends	Health problems
<b>Male migrants</b>																
Total	5.8	26.3	20.2	5.6	16.9	14.7	8.9	1.6	6.0	27.0	21.2	5.2	16.2	14.1	8.9	1.4
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	5.9	24.4	21.3	5.7	16.3	13.7	10.5	2.1	6.4	24.5	22.2	4.5	16.5	13.7	10.0	2.2
Rural	5.8	27.5	19.5	5.5	17.3	15.3	7.8	1.3	5.7	28.3	20.7	5.6	16.0	14.3	8.4	1.0
<b>Female migrants</b>																
Total	4.4	28.5	13.9	10.7	19.8	11.7	8.9	2.2	4.6	28.1	13.9	11.5	19.3	11.2	9.1	2.2
<b>Type of settlement</b>																
Urban	3.8	28.4	14.9	10.0	21.0	9.1	10.6	2.2	4.3	27.1	14.5	10.8	19.9	11.1	9.7	2.6
Rural	4.8	28.5	13.2	11.1	19.0	13.3	7.9	2.2	4.8	28.6	13.6	11.9	19.0	11.3	8.8	2.0

The data in this chapter show that labor migration is the last resort for the population, accepted by families in despair. Migration has a number of positive effects for families and migrant workers. Most importantly, the work in migration improves financial situation of families and, in addition, migrant can see the world, and it enhances professional skills and social connections. Women, who work in migration, have increased personal self-esteem, self-confidence, they are more independent from men. However, despite all advantages, migration has negative impact on relationships with spouses and children, which eventually leads to deterioration of the relations in the family.

There are some gender stereotypes in the society with regard to women working in migration. So, if men's work in migration is deemed as a good opportunity for self-realization, the migration of women is rarely deemed this way. At the same time, there is a common stereotypical belief in the society that women lead immoral life away from home. That is why, more than half of the respondents support the activities of nationalist organizations that "follow/trace" moral image of women of the Kyrgyz Republic by any means. At the same time, it is not considered as immoral for men in migration to create a second family. Moreover, a quarter of men and one-fifth of women told that it is quite normal, as long as a man continues to take care of the first family.

Despite a number of preferences that significantly facilitated the procedure of staying and employment of workers from EAEC members countries on the territory of the EAEC, a significant increase in migration flows for this reason is not expected.

Religiosity of migrants increases after returning from the United Arab Emirates, and to a lesser extent –from Turkey, but it does not increase after staying in Russia and Kazakhstan.

Citizens do not plan to apply to migration services for obtaining information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in the EAEC countries, but would use unreliable sources of information, such as the nearest community, ads in the mass media and the Internet.

In most cases women and men returning from labor migration face the same problems: worsening of health, difficulties with employment, seclusion of children as well as deterioration of relations with spouses. Women face additional problems after their return - searching for a partner.

# **Appendix A. List of Employees Involved in the Survey**

## **Survey Management**

### **National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic:**

<b>Sultanov Akylbek</b>	Chairman
<b>Koichumanova Kulipa</b>	Advisor to the Chairman
<b>Tekeeva Lyuksina</b>	Vice-chairman
<b>Isenkulova Elvira</b>	Project Manager
<b>Chynybaeva Rimma</b>	Head of Division for Social and Demographic Statistics and Labor Market
<b>Rakhmanova Jyldyz</b>	Head of the Department for Social Statistics in the Division for Socio-Demographic Statistics and Labor Market

### **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):**

<b>Omurzakov Meder</b>	Executive Representative
<b>Suyunalieva Nora</b>	Programme Specialist
<b>Jeenbekova Nazira</b>	Administrative and Financial Assistant

## **National Consultants for the Survey**

<b>Ilibezova Larisa</b>	UNFPA Consultant, Chairman of the PF "Center for Research of Democratic Processes"
<b>Abdullayeva Gulhumar</b>	Consultant from the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, Chief Specialist of the Department of Social Statistics

## **Analytical report development group**

<b>Sulaimanova Gulmira</b>	Head of the Department for External Trade Statistics of the Division for Trade Statistics
<b>Torgasheva Lyudmila</b>	Chief Specialist of the Department for Demographic Statistics of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic
<b>Bagdasarova Nina</b>	Associate Professor of Psychology at the American University in Central Asia, Candidate of Psychological Sciences
<b>Praslova Larisa</b>	Independent Expert on Sample Surveys
<b>Kochorbaeva Zulfiya</b>	Director of the Public Association "Social Technologies Agency"
<b>Eugenia Karpovich</b>	Researcher of the National Institute for Strategic Studies under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

## **Consultants for Statistical Domains**

<b>Turdubaeva Chynara</b>	Head of the Department for Consolidated Operations and Dissemination of Statistics
<b>Taipova Tamara</b>	Chief Specialist of the Department for Social and Demographic Statistics

## **The National Statistical Committee**

### **Data Processing Specialist:**

Praslova Larisa

### **IT support:**

Khanov Ravil, Adamaliev Azamat, Sulaymanov Bolot, Tenizbaev Azamat, Makeev Ramil

### **Regional Coordinators for Field Works:**

Iskatov Ulan Tukasovich, Issyk-Kul region  
Sadyraliev Zhandaraly, Jalal-Abad region  
Akmatov Kydyrgych Akmatovich, Naryn region  
Ergeshov Myrzahmat Ysakovich, Batken region  
Rysbaev Azizbek Ysakovich, Osh region  
Satkanalieva Svetlana, Talas region  
Shakulov Almaz Zholdoshbekovich, Chui region  
Isaliev Koshoy Ovosbekovich, Bishkek city  
Amatov Torobek Osekovich, Osh city

### **Field staff:**

#### **Jalal-Abad region**

Kannazarov Nurbek, supervisor  
Bektasheva Ideyat, interviewer  
Baktybekov Tilek, interviewer  
Tazhibaeva Tolgonai, interviewer  
Mamatkulov Tologon, interviewer  
Ibraimov Bolot, interviewer  
Eshenkulov Mirbek, interviewer  
Kozhonov Asylbek, supervisor

#### **Batken Oblast**

Baybubaeva Barahathon, supervisor  
Rahmanzhanova Maharam, supervisor  
Akmatov Rahmat, interviewer  
Baybubaeva Rahima, interviewer  
Gaparova Parida, interviewer  
Saitova Shahzada, interviewer  
Nurmatova Gulzat, interviewer  
Turakulov Batirzhon, interviewer

#### **Chui region**

Shakulov Nurlan, supervisor  
Muratbekova Saltanat, supervisor  
Toktosunova Aigul, interviewer  
Omorova Gulsana, interviewer  
Japarova Nazira, interviewer

#### **Naryn region**

Moldokabylova Zhazgul, supervisor  
Orozbayeva Gulmira, supervisor  
Naamatova Ainura, interviewer  
Shabdanova Zhumagul, interviewer  
Kanymetova Karlygach, interviewer  
Kachaganova Nestan-Darezhan, interviewer  
Almazbekova Nurperizathanbubugul, interviewer  
Abdykerimova Aigul, interviewer

#### **Osh city**

Egemberdieva Nurzat, supervisor  
Karimova Marhabahan, supervisor  
Kamchybekova Aygerim, interviewer  
Shakirova Ayeles, interviewer  
Artykova Turdukan, interviewer  
Shakirova Nazgul, interviewer  
Abdykayymova Aygerim, interviewer  
Muktalariev Saparmurat, interviewer

#### **Bishkek city**

Saynidinova Anarkul, supervisor  
Kaparova Aisuluu, supervisor  
Maatova Tolgonai, interviewer  
Temirova Sabira, interviewer  
Djumagulova Nazira, interviewer

Shatenova Cholpon interviewer  
Imanova Zhazgul, interviewer  
Momylbaeva Aisuluu, interviewer

**Talas region**

Sadimova Gulnara, supervisor  
Toktorbaev Kuban, supervisor  
Sabirbaeva Altyngul, interviewer  
Imanalieva Uulzhan, interviewer  
Kasymova Zulayka, interviewer  
Nazارалиев Nurzan, interviewer  
Tursunova Ainura, interviewer  
Kabylbekov Medetbek, interviewer

Maatov Azim, interviewer  
Keneshova Aykanysh, interviewer  
Kachkynbaeva Ainura, interviewer

**Issyk-Kul region**

Bayamanov Toktorbek, supervisor  
Bakasheva Taalaikul, interviewer  
Sultankulova Nur, interviewer  
Temirbekova Asel, interviewer  
Kaptagaeva Meerim, interviewer  
Kadyrova Fatyina, interviewer  
Sydykova Baktygul, interviewer

**Osh region**

Adanova Cholponay, supervisor  
Tokhtarova Turdygul, supervisor  
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## Appendix B. Estimation of Sampling Errors

Sample of respondents for the survey "Gender in perception of society" is just one of many possible samples of the same volume, which could be generated in the same way from the same sample frame. For each of these samples it would be possible to receive results, a bit different from the results received on the actually generated sample. Sampling error is an indicator that measures the degree of variation in the estimates obtained on the basis of all possible samples. The degree of variation is not precisely known, but can be estimated using statistical methods on the basis of survey data.

The following are the sampling errors for each of the indicators selected for the survey:

The standard error ( $se$ ). Sampling errors are usually measured by such indicator as a standard error for a particular indicator (average value, proportion, and etc.). Standard error is a square root of the estimate variation value. The linearization method on the basis of Taylor formula is applied to estimate standard errors. Regarding the more compound statistical data, as birth and mortality rates, the method of repeating replication Jackknife is used for estimation of a standard error.

The variation coefficient ( $se/r$ ) – is a ratio between a standard error and a value of the indicator, also known as a relative standard error.

Design effect ( $deff$ ) - ratio of the actual value of the indicator's variation, obtained within the sampling method used, and an amount of variation, calculated on the basis of simple random sampling, based on the same sample size. The square root of the design effect value ( $deft$ ) shows, how the sampling design is effective in terms of estimates accuracy. The  $deft$  value, equal to 1.0 indicates that a design of the sample is as much effective as a simple random sample is, while the value of  $deft$ , exceeding 1.0, indicate an increase in the standard error because the more complicated design for the sample was used.

The confidence intervals are estimated with the purpose to obtain a reasonable interval which may supposedly contain the actual value of the indicator for a particular population at a given confidence level. For the any specific statistical indicator, obtained upon results of a survey, the value of this indicator will be within from minus two standard errors to plus two standard errors in value of this indicator ( $r + 2.se$  or  $r - 2.se$ ) in 95% of all possible samples with same volume and design.

The module Complex Samples version SPSS.21 was used for estimation of sampling errors on the basis of the data from the survey "Gender in the perception of society". The results are shown in the following tables. Beside indicators of sampling errors, described above, these tables also contain unweighted denominators for each indicator.

Using weights and comparing unweighted estimations, it is possible to determine whether a particular territorial unit has small enough or large enough sample.

Sampling errors were estimated for indicators of primary interest at the national level. Twelve of the selected indicators relate to general characteristics of household members, 36 - to the thematic, all the indicators are presented in gender breakdown. All the indicators, presented here, are expressed in quantitative ratio. The Table SE.1 presents a list of indicators for which sampling errors are estimated, including the source population (the denominator), on the basis of which each indicator is measured. Tables SE.2 and SE.3 show estimated errors in sampling of women and men, respectively.

**Table SE.1. The indicators selected for estimation of sampling errors**

**List of indicators selected for estimation of sampling errors, and source groups of population (denominator) for estimation of these indicators, "Gender in the perception of society"**

Indicator	Source Population
<b>GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS</b>	
Urban residence	Women, men - 15 years and older
Head of household	Women, men 15 years and older
Basic general education (including primary)	Women, men 15 years and older
Secondary education, primary, secondary and higher vocational	Women, men 18 years and older
Age at first marriage	Women, men 15 years and older
The bride was abducted without her consent	Women, men 15 years and older
Married – registered only with ORCA	Women, men 18 years and older
Married - only Nikah/Church Wedding	Women, men 18 years and older
Married at the age under 18	Women, men 15 years and older
Left for the last time outside the country to Russia	Women, men 18 years and older
Employed	Women, men 18 years and older
Unemployed	Women, men 18 years and older
<b>THEMATIC</b>	
Lives in own house / apartment, registered in her/his name	Women, men 18 years and older
Can independently manage assets	Women, men 18 years and older
In terms of the welfare – are the poorest, do not have enough money even for food	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that a decision on distribution of income in households must be taken together	Women, men 18 years and older
Is married and earns more than husband / wife	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that if a marriage is not registered with ORCA, the law does not provide women with the right to claim the joint property	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that under the law, women, who have a permanent job in the private sector, are entitled to maternity leave	Women, men 18 years and older
Have experience of obtaining a loan	Women, men 18 years and older
Currently engaged in entrepreneurship	Women, men 18 years and older
Have unregistered business / entrepreneurial activity	Women, men 18 years and older

Take all the decisions by themselves only	Women, men 18 years and older
In doing business face problems with various organizations/groups	Women, men 18 years and older
Entrepreneurs reported about improved financial situation	Women, men 18 years and older
Entrepreneurs closed their business for different reasons	Women, men 18 years and older
Agree that religion should be a private affair and should not influence on the state policy	Women, men 18 years and older
Listed sources of information about banned religious organizations	Women, men 18 years and older
Knows correct answer about the liability for participation in an extremist organization's activity	Women, men 18 years and older
Consider registration of marriage with ORCA as a true marriage	Women, men 18 years and older
Consider registration of marriage through religious ceremony (Nikah/church wedding) as a true marriage	Women, men 18 years and older
Support the initiative of deputies to prohibit religious ceremony of marriage "Nikah" before registration of marriage with ORCA	Women, men 18 years and older
Knowledge of marriageable age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that during the last 5 years the underage girls started marrying more often	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that one of the main reasons for increasing number of marriages of underage girls is the increasing poverty of families	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that marriage of underage girls can be excused in some cases	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that the minimum age for marriage should remain unchanged	Women, men 18 years and older
Is negative about bride abduction (ala kachuu) without consent of the girl	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that abductions of brides over the past 5 years are increasing	Women, men 18 years and older
Aware of the liability for abduction of women for marriage	Women, men 18 years and older
In case of violent abduction of their daughter / sister would take her home, and file the claim with the	Women, men 18 years and older

police	
Aware of special measures (quotas) existing in the country to increase representation of women in politics	Women, men 18 years and older
Participated in various political activities since 2010	Women, men 18 years and older
Support the initiative of deputies to ban unmarried women under 23 years old to travel abroad without the consent of the parents, thus ensuring greater safety for women	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that female migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	Women, men 18 years and older
Believe that male migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	Women, men 18 years and older
Aware of the database of persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	Women, men 18 years and older
Know which services they will turn to obtain information about procedures of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries	Women, men 18 years and older

**Table SE.2: Sampling errors: Women**

Standard errors, coefficients of variation, design effects (deff), square root of the design effect (deft) and confidence intervals for sample indicators, "Gender in the perception of society"

	Confidence interval							Unweighted amount
	Value (r)	The standard error (se)	Bottom limit r - 2se	Upper limit r + 2se	The coefficient of variation (se / r)	Design effect (deff)	Square root of the design effect (deft) value	
<b>Household members</b>								
Urban residence	0.373	0.028	0.321	0.429	0.074	27.122	5.208	3226
Head of household	0.285	0.009	0.267	0.303	0.033	2.549	1.597	1681
Basic general education (including primary)	0.105	0.006	0.093	0.119	0.062	3.700	1.923	924
Secondary education, primary, secondary and higher vocational	0.908	0.007	0.894	0.921	0.008	4.472	2.115	7274
Age at first marriage	20.75	0.076	20.60	20.90	0.004	4.448	2.109	7400
A bride was abducted without her consent	0.064	0.004	0.056	0.073	0.069	2.406	1.551	684
Married – registered only in ORCA	0.081	0.008	0.067	0.097	0.094	6.189	2.488	440
Married - only Nikah/Church Wedding	0.044	0.003	0.038	0.051	0.075	2.048	1.431	301
Married at the age under 18	0.191	0.008	0.176	0.207	0.041	3.289	1.813	1838
Left for the last time outside the country to Russia	0.462	0.046	0.374	0.553	0.100	1.489	1.220	76
Employed	0.290	0.011	0.269	0.311	0.037	4.564	2.136	2535
Unemployed	0.057	0.004	0.049	0.066	0.076	2.894	1.701	440
<b>Thematic</b>								
Lives in own house / apartment, registered on her/his name	0.186	0.009	0.170	0.204	0.047	1.667	1.291	867
Can manage assets	0.171	0.009	0.153	0.190	0.055	2.571	1.603	707

In terms of the welfare – are the poorest, do not have enough money even for food	0.022	0.003	0.017	0.030	0.151	1.714	1.309	98
Believe that a decision on distribution of income in households must be taken together	0.706	0.014	0.679	0.732	0.019	3.022	1.738	2351
Is married and earns more than husband / wife	0.046	0.005	0.037	0.058	0.117	1.521	1.233	114
Believe, that if a marriage is not registered with ORCA, the law does not provide women with the right to claim the joint property	0.690	0.015	0.661	0.718	0.021	3.334	1.826	2369
Believe that under the law, women, who have permanent job in the private sector, are entitled to maternity leave	0.742	0.013	0.715	0.767	0.018	3.064	1.750	2497
Have experience of obtaining a loan	0.216	0.011	0.195	0.240	0.052	2.512	1.585	836
Currently engaged in entrepreneurship	0.034	0.004	0.027	0.042	0.116	1.567	1.252	157
Have an unregistered business / entrepreneurial activity	0.316	0.055	0.219	0.432	0.174	1.753	1.324	43
Take all the decisions by themselves only	0.618	0.051	0.514	0.712	0.082	1.375	1.172	103
In doing business face problems with various organizations/groups	0.013	0.002	0.009	0.017	0.157	1.066	1.032	73
Entrepreneurs, who reported about improved financial situation	0.873	0.033	0.794	0.925	0.038	1.222	1.105	135
Entrepreneurs closed their business for different reasons	0.029	0.004	0.022	0.037	0.133	1.721	1.312	96
Agree that religion should be a private affair and should not influence on the state policy	0.738	0.013	0.711	0.763	0.018	2.955	1.719	2539
Listed sources of information about banned religious organizations	0.791	0.013	0.764	0.817	0.017	3.653	1.911	2727
Aware about correct answer on the liability for participation in an extremist organization's activity	0.583	0.016	0.551	0.614	0.027	3.488	1.868	1951
Consider registration of marriage with ORCA as a true marriage	0.848	0.012	0.824	0.870	0.014	3.511	1.874	2868
Consider registration of marriage in religious ceremony (Nikah/church wedding) as a true marriage	0.652	0.018	0.616	0.687	0.028	4.786	2.188	2340
Support the initiative of deputies to prohibit religious ceremony of marriage "Nikah" before registration of marriage with ORCA	0.519	0.017	0.486	0.551	0.032	3.742	1.935	1963

Knowledge of marriageable age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic	0.825	0.011	0.802	0.847	0.014	2.954	1.719	2932
Believe that during last 5 years the underage girls started marrying more often	0.151	0.010	0.131	0.172	0.069	2.778	1.667	534
Believe that one of the main reasons for increasing number of marriages of underage girls is the increasing poverty of families	0.129	0.009	0.111	0.149	0.074	2.668	1.634	473
Believe that marriage of underage girls can be excused in some cases	0.901	0.009	0.881	0.918	0.010	3.182	1.784	3126
Believe that the minimum age for marriage should remain unchanged	0.542	0.015	0.513	0.571	0.027	2.916	1.708	1856
Is negative about violent bride abduction (ala kachuu) without the consent of the girl	0.815	0.011	0.793	0.835	0.013	2.553	1.598	2858
Believe that abductions of brides over the past 5 years are increasing	0.131	0.009	0.114	0.150	0.070	2.420	1.556	578
Aware of the liability for the abduction of women for marriage	0.696	0.015	0.666	0.723	0.021	3.308	1.819	2334
In the case of violent abduction of their daughter / sister without her consent – would take her home, and file the claim with the police	0.391	0.013	0.365	0.417	0.034	2.472	1.572	1357
Aware about special measures (quotas) existing in the country to increase representation of women in politics	0.284	0.014	0.258	0.313	0.049	3.196	1.788	965
Participated in various political activities since 2010	0.910	0.007	0.896	0.922	0.007	1.849	1.360	3134
Support the initiative of deputies banning unmarried women under 23 years old to travel abroad without the consent of the parents, thus ensuring greater safety for women	0.511	0.016	0.480	0.541	0.031	3.294	1.815	1838
Believe that women migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	0.465	0.016	0.435	0.496	0.033	3.224	1.796	1550
Believe that men migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	0.431	0.015	0.402	0.462	0.035	3.160	1.778	1461
Aware of the database, which includes persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	0.642	0.018	0.605	0.677	0.029	4.874	2.208	2283
Know which services they will turn to obtain information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries	0.908	0.007	0.894	0.921	0.008	1.935	1.391	3072

**Table SE.2: Sampling errors: Men**

Standard errors, coefficients of variation, design effects (deff), square root of the design effect (deft) and confidence intervals for sample indicators, "Gender in the perception of society"

	Confidence interval								Unweighted amount
	Value (r)	The standard error (se)	Bottom limit r - 2se	Upper limit r - 2se	The coefficient of variation (se / r)	Design effect (deff)	Square root of the design effect (deft) value		
<b>Household members</b>									
Urban residence	0.334	0.027	0.284	0.388	0.080	25.096	5.010		2663
Head of household	0.715	0.009	0.697	0.733	0.013	2.549	1.597		4268
Basic general education (including primary)	0.115	0.007	0.102	0.130	0.061	3.823	1.955		832
Secondary education, primary, secondary and higher vocational	0.909	0.007	0.894	0.922	0.008	4.442	2.108		6608
Age at first marriage	23.97	.074	23.82	24.11	0.003	2.924	1.710		5986
A bride was abducted without her consent	0.050	0.004	0.043	0.059	0.082	2.149	1.466		419
Married – registered only with ORCA	0.083	0.008	0.068	0.101	0.098	6.524	2.554		421
Married - only Nikah/Church Wedding	0.044	0.003	0.038	0.051	0.079	2.164	1.471		291
Married at the age under 18	0.016	0.002	0.013	0.020	0.109	1.496	1.223		134
Left for the last time outside the country to Russia	0.664	0.036	0.589	0.731	0.055	2.192	1.481		203
Employed	0.561	0.012	0.536	0.585	0.022	5.005	2.237		4343
Unemployed	0.119	0.009	0.103	0.138	0.074	5.874	2.424		745
<b>Thematic</b>									
Lives in own house / apartment, registered on her/his name	0.490	0.013	0.464	0.516	0.027	1.842	1.357		1382

Can manage assets	0.829	0.009	0.810	0.847	0.011	2.571	1.603	3449
In terms of the welfare – are the poorest, do not have enough money even for food	0.020	0.003	0.015	0.028	0.159	1.382	1.175	73
Believe that a decision on distribution of income in households must be taken together	0.733	0.015	0.703	0.762	0.021	3.085	1.756	1796
Is married and earns more than husband / wife	0.257	0.016	0.227	0.290	0.063	2.674	1.635	519
Believe, that if a marriage is not registered with ORCA, the law does not provide women with the right to claim the joint property	0.728	0.016	0.696	0.758	0.022	3.282	1.812	1810
Believe that under the law, women, who have permanent job in the private sector, are entitled to maternity leave	0.745	0.016	0.711	0.776	0.022	3.744	1.935	1844
Have experience of obtaining a loan	0.255	0.013	0.230	0.281	0.052	2.392	1.547	668
Currently engaged in entrepreneurship	0.069	0.008	0.055	0.085	0.112	2.454	1.566	171
Have an unregistered business / entrepreneurial activity	0.470	0.056	0.364	0.580	0.119	2.530	1.591	66
Take all the decisions by themselves only	0.685	0.042	0.598	0.761	0.061	1.632	1.278	111
In doing business face problems with various organizations/groups	0.026	0.004	0.019	0.035	0.156	1.721	1.312	71
Entrepreneurs, reported about improved financial situation	0.838	0.039	0.745	0.901	0.047	2.307	1.519	141
Entrepreneurs closed their business for different reasons	0.042	0.006	0.032	0.055	0.140	2.243	1.498	81
Agree that religion should be a private affair and should not to influence on the state policy	0.736	0.014	0.708	0.763	0.019	2.661	1.631	1845
Listed sources of information about banned religious organizations	0.844	0.012	0.818	0.867	0.015	3.126	1.768	2116
Aware of the correct answer about the liability for participation in an extremist organization's activity	0.640	0.016	0.608	0.672	0.025	3.002	1.733	1522

Consider registration of marriage with ORCA as a true marriage	0.804	0.013	0.777	0.828	0.016	2.859	1.691	2019
Consider registration of marriage in religious ceremony (Nikah/church wedding) as a true marriage	0.692	0.017	0.659	0.724	0.024	3.405	1.845	1810
Support the initiative of deputies to prohibit religious ceremony of marriage "Nikah" before registration of marriage with ORCA	0.514	0.016	0.483	0.546	0.031	2.707	1.645	1392
Knowledge of marriageable age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic	0.839	0.012	0.814	0.861	0.014	2.825	1.681	2128
Believe that during last 5 years the underage girls started marrying more often	0.137	0.011	0.117	0.160	0.080	2.716	1.648	335
Believe that one of the main reasons for increasing number of marriages of underage girls is the increasing poverty of families	0.136	0.012	0.115	0.160	0.086	3.045	1.745	334
Believe that marriage of underage girls can be excused in some cases	0.894	0.011	0.871	0.913	0.012	3.190	1.786	2284
Believe that the minimum age for marriage should remain unchanged unchanged	0.583	0.016	0.551	0.614	0.028	2.845	1.687	1476
Is negative about bride abduction (ala kachuu) without the consent of the girl	0.779	0.014	0.750	0.807	0.019	3.217	1.793	2008
Believe that abductions of brides over the past 5 years are increasing	0.137	0.011	0.117	0.161	0.081	2.747	1.658	449
Aware of the liability for the abduction of women for marriage	0.710	0.015	0.680	0.739	0.021	2.905	1.704	1745
In the case of the abduction of their daughter / sister to marry without her consent – would take her home, and file the claim with the police	0.357	0.015	0.327	0.387	0.043	2.642	1.625	894
Aware of special measures (quotas) in the country to increase representation of women in politics	0.318	0.016	0.287	0.351	0.052	3.284	1.812	793
Participated in various political activities since 2010	0.895	0.009	0.876	0.911	0.010	2.252	1.501	2284

Support the initiative of deputies to prohibiting unmarried women under 23 years old to travel abroad without the consent of the parents, thus ensuring greater safety for women	0.522	0.018	0.486	0.558	0.035	3.588	1.894	1368
Believe that female migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	0.447	0.017	0.413	0.481	0.039	3.248	1.802	1126
Believe that male migrant workers are becoming more religious in host countries	0.425	0.017	0.392	0.460	0.041	3.203	1.790	1084
Aware of the database, which include persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	0.681	0.019	0.643	0.716	0.027	4.218	2.054	1758
Know which services they will turn to obtain an information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries	0.949	0.006	0.935	0.960	0.007	2.116	1.454	2373

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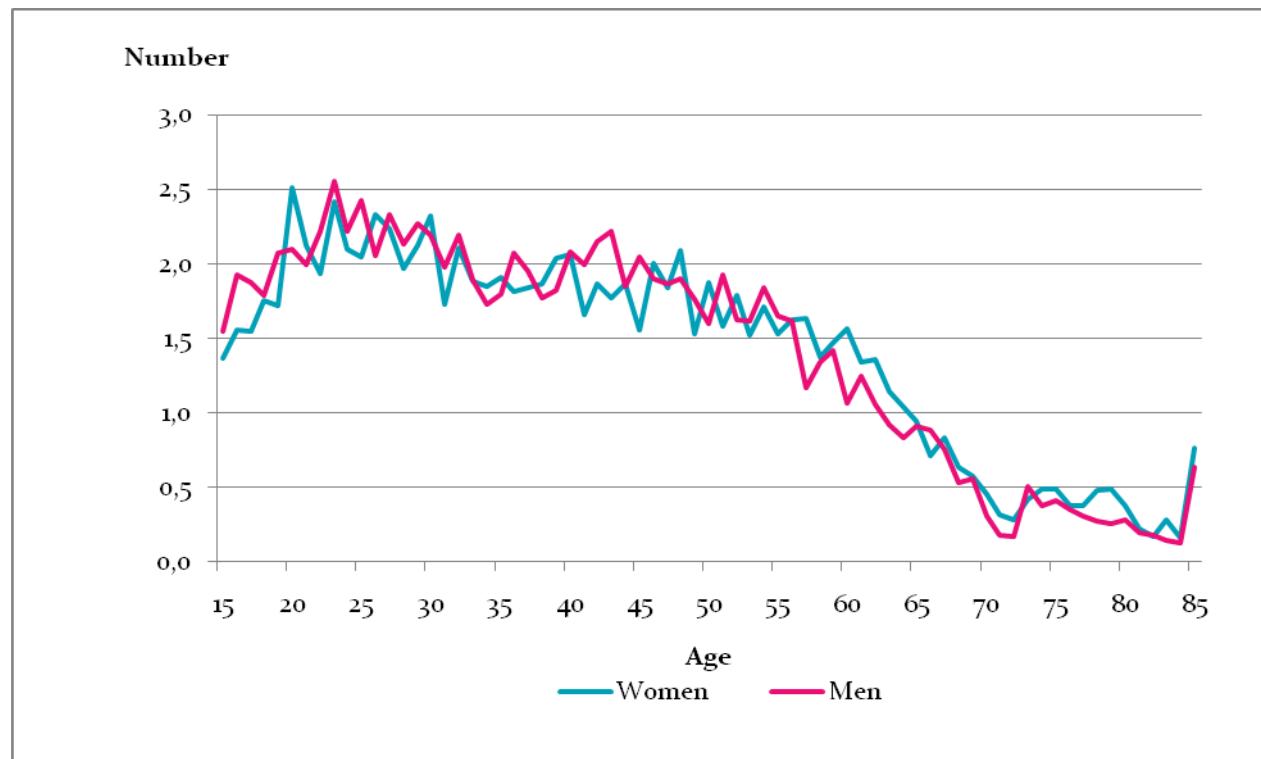
## Appendix C. Data quality verification tables

### DQ.1: Distribution of household population aged 15 years and above

Distribution of household population by one-year age groups and sex

Age	Women		Men		Age	Women		Men	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
15	116	1.4	119	1.6	52	152	1.8	125	1.6
16	132	1.6	148	1.9	53	129	1.5	124	1.6
17	131	1.5	144	1.9	54	145	1.7	141	1.8
18	149	1.8	137	1.8	55	130	1.5	127	1.7
19	146	1.7	159	2.1	56	138	1.6	124	1.6
20	213	2.5	161	2.1	57	139	1.6	90	1.2
21	180	2.1	153	2.0	58	117	1.4	103	1.3
22	164	1.9	170	2.2	59	125	1.5	109	1.4
23	205	2.4	196	2.6	60	133	1.6	82	1.1
24	178	2.1	170	2.2	61	114	1.3	96	1.3
25	174	2.1	186	2.4	62	115	1.4	81	1.1
26	198	2.3	158	2.1	63	97	1.1	71	.9
27	190	2.2	179	2.3	64	88	1.0	64	.8
28	167	2.0	164	2.1	65	80	.9	70	.9
29	180	2.1	174	2.3	66	61	.7	68	.9
30	197	2.3	168	2.2	67	71	.8	58	.8
31	147	1.7	152	2.0	68	54	.6	41	.5
32	179	2.1	168	2.2	69	49	.6	43	.6
33	160	1.9	145	1.9	70	39	.5	24	.3
34	157	1.9	133	1.7	71	27	.3	14	.2
35	162	1.9	138	1.8	72	24	.3	13	.2
36	154	1.8	159	2.1	73	36	.4	39	.5
37	156	1.8	150	2.0	74	42	.5	29	.4
38	158	1.9	136	1.8	75	42	.5	32	.4
39	173	2.0	140	1.8	76	32	.4	27	.4
40	175	2.1	160	2.1	77	32	.4	24	.3
41	141	1.7	153	2.0	78	41	.5	21	.3
42	158	1.9	165	2.1	79	42	.5	20	.3
43	150	1.8	170	2.2	80	32	.4	22	.3
44	158	1.9	142	1.8	81	19	.2	15	.2
45	132	1.6	157	2.0	82	15	.2	14	.2
46	170	2.0	146	1.9	83	24	.3	11	.1
47	156	1.8	143	1.9	84	14	.2	10	.1
48	177	2.1	146	1.9	85+	65	0.8	49	0.6
49	130	1.5	135	1.8					
50	159	1.9	123	1.6					
51	134	1.6	148	1.9	Total	8469	100	7676	100

**Graph DQ.1: Household population distribution by age**



**DQ.2: Selection of respondents aged 18 years and above**

Proportion of households with correct selection of the respondents for the survey

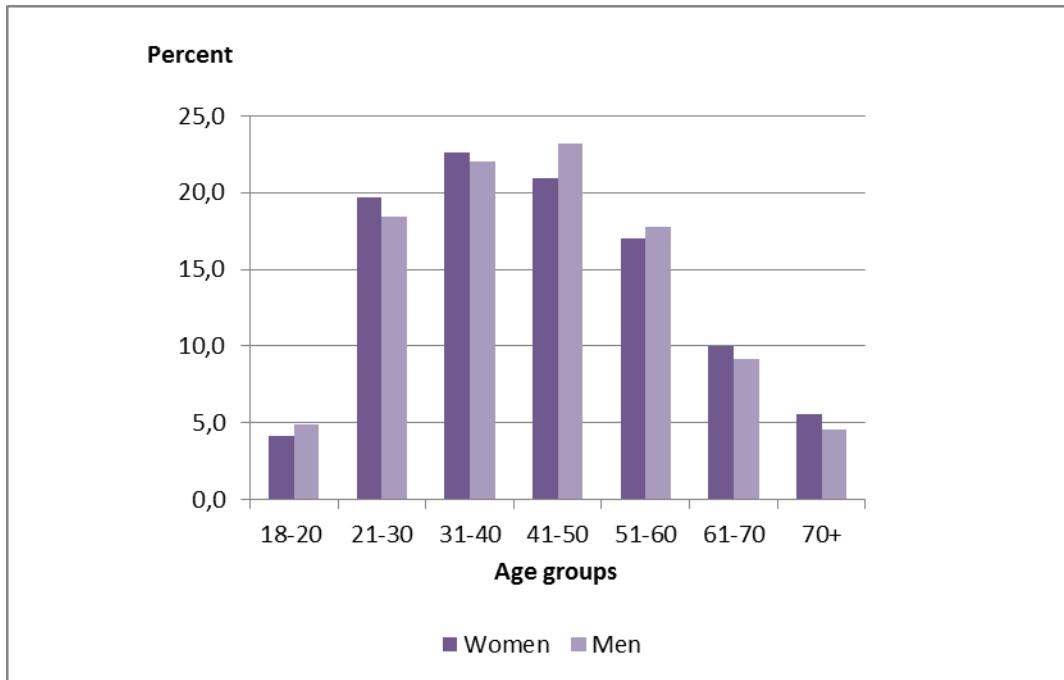
	Number of households	Proportion of households with correct selection of the respondents
Total	5950	98.1
<b>Type of settlement</b>		
Urban	2426	98.2
Rural	3524	98.0
<b>Region</b>		
Batken	670	98.1
Jalal-Abad	735	97.3
Issyk-Kul	666	99.1
Naryn	668	98.4
Osh	674	98.2
Talas	645	98.0
Chui	669	97.6
Bishkek city	658	98.0
Osh city	565	98.1

### DQ.3: Distribution of respondents by age

Distribution of respondents aged 18 years and above by decennial age groups

	Women		Men	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
18-20	142	4.1	123	4.9
21-30	676	19.7	463	18.4
31-40	778	22.6	553	22.0
41-50	719	20.9	583	23.2
51-60	585	17.0	447	17.8
61-70	343	10.0	231	9.2
70+	192	5.6	114	4.5

Graph DQ.2: Respondents aged 18 and above by sex and age groups



**DQ.11: Completeness of collected data**

Proportion of observations with missing data on specific issues and indicators

Questions and indicators	Control group	Proportion of observations with missing / incomplete data	Number of observations
<b>Household members</b>			
Urban residence	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	16145
Head of household	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	5949
Education	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	16145
Age at first marriage	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	13386
Way of entering a marriage	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	13386
Current marital status	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	15355
Married at the age under 18	Women, men 15 years and older	0.0	13386
Left for the last time outside the country	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	328
Current employment status	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	15355
<b>Thematic</b>			
Live in own house/apartment	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	5407
Welfare level	Women, men 18 years and older	0.3	5949
How in your opinion a decision on the household income distribution should ideally be taken	Women, men 18 years and older	0.4	5949
You and your spouse (a) have approximately equal income	Women, men 18 years and older	14.2	4230
Believe that if the marriage was not registered with ORCA, the law does not provide women with the right to claim the joint property	Women, men 18 years and older	3.7	5949
Believe that under the law, women having a permanent job in private sector, are entitled to maternity leave	Women, men 18 years and older	9.0	5949
Have experience of obtaining a loan	Women, men 18 years and older	0.03	5949
Currently engaged in entrepreneurship	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	328
What is the legal form of your business	Women, men 18 years and older	1.2	328
Which of the following most closely reflect your role in managing entrepreneurial activities	Women, men 18 years and older	3.7	328
Do you have any problems with various organizations/groups in doing business	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	328
How does a financial situation change in the household	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	328
Entrepreneurs, who closed their business for different reasons	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	177
Which of the following three statements most accurately reflect your views on the role of religion in the society	Women, men 18 years and older	4.9	5949
Listed sources of information about banned religious organizations	Women, men 18 years and older	10.4	5949
What responsibility is stipulated in our legislation for participation in activities of an extremist organization	Women, men 18 years and older	21.5	5949
What would you consider as marriage	Women, men 18 years and older	0.8	5949

People supporting the initiative of deputies to prohibit religious ceremony of marriage "Nikah" before the marriage is registered with ORCA	Women, men 18 years and older	8.8	5949
Knowledge of marriageable age established by the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic	Women, men 18 years and older	3.8	5949
In your opinion, do girls under the age of 18 years in your village / town , marry more often, less often in the last 5 years or the situation is the same	Women, men 18 years and older	14.9	5949
In your opinion, why women under 18 years started marrying more often	Women, men 18 years and older	17.2	1755
Those, who believe that marriage of underage girls can be excused in some cases	Women, men 18 years and older	0.0	5949
Do you think the government should change the age of the first marriage for women	Women, men 18 years and older	2.8	5949
Your attitude towards abduction of the bride / ala kachuu without consent of the girl	Women, men 18 years and older	3.0	5949
In your opinion,, are brides abducted more often in your village/town over last 5 years , less or the same as before	Women, men 18 years and older	21.2	5949
Aware of the liability for abduction of women for marriage	Women, men 18 years and older	7.6	5949
What would you personally do if your daughter / sister is abducted without her consent	Women, men 18 years and older	6.5	5949
Aware of special measures (quotas) in the country aimed to increase representation of women in politics	Women, men 18 years and older	6.6	5949
Participated in various political activities since 2010	Women, men 18 years and older	1.2	5949
Support the initiative of deputies prohibiting unmarried women under 23 years old to travel abroad without the consent of the parents, thus ensuring greater safety of women	Women, men 18 years and older	4.9	5949
Believe that female migrant workers are becoming more religious in the host countries	Women, men 18 years and older	23.4	5949
Believe that male migrant workers are becoming more religious in the host countries	Women, men 18 years and older	23.2	5949
Aware of the database, which include persons, who are denied entry to the Russian Federation	Women, men 18 years and older	2.9	5949
Know which services they would turn to obtain information about the procedure of departure, staying and employment in EAEC countries	Women, men 18 years and older	8.5	5949

<sup>a</sup> Including answers "do not know"

## **Appendix C. Questionnaire**

### **National Survey «The Gender in Society Perceptions»**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, I work in the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic. We conduct a household survey to determine the attitude of people of our country towards the role of women and men in public and political life of Kyrgyzstan. We have a letter from Chairman of NatStatCom related to conduction of this survey/activity (GIVE a LETTER).

The information we collect will help the government to develop policies on women and men. A poll is conducted throughout the Kyrgyzstan, your household was randomly selected for the survey. Totally 6,000 people will be interviewed in the survey. Our conversation will take about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study is voluntary and it does not involve the payment or gifts for participation. We hope that you will agree to answer questions, because your opinion is very important. NatStatCom guarantees the confidentiality of your participation - all your answers will be used only for research purposes in aggregated form, without names and surnames.

For more information about the study, please contact the following persons (PASS CARD).

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions or complaints about the conduction of the survey, you can contact any of the following people:

<b>Contact Information</b>	
If you have any questions or complaints about the conduction of the survey, you can contact any of the following people:	
<b>National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic</b> 374, Frunze str., Bishkek city	<b>National Consultant</b> Ilbezova Larisa 0550 559 800
Name and contacts of a manager Isenkulova Elvira 0312 32 47 24	Name and contacts of a consultant Abdullaeva Gulnur 0550 999 815

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** All information collected in this survey is strictly confidential and will only be used for statistical purposes

SERVICE INFORMATION								
REGION ..... CODE  _____				CLUSTER NUMBER  _____		QUESTIONNAIRE NUMBER  _____		
LOCATION: city/town 1 village 2				HOUSEHOLD NUMBER  _____				
HOUSEHOLD ADDRESS..... .....								
PHONE NUMBER (_____) _____								
INTERVIEWER VISITS				LAST VISIT				
DATE	1	2	3	DAY/MONTH/YEAR  _____  -  _____  -  _____		RESULT*  _____		
							(*) RESULT CODES	
	Name of the interviewer .....			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The survey was conducted</li> <li>2. Household members are not at home or the respondent is absent</li> <li>3. The absence of all members of the household for more than 5 days</li> <li>4. Refusal to participate in the survey</li> <li>5. Household is not occupied, or the house located at this address is inhabited</li> <li>6. Residence destroyed</li> <li>7. Residence could not be found</li> <li>8. Other (specify).....</li> </ol>				
Code of the interviewer  _____				TIME OF INTERVIEW START AND END				
Name of supervisor .....				Start time of the survey: _____:_____		End time of the survey: _____:_____		
Code of the supervisor  _____								
Language of the interview: 1- Kyrgyz 2 – Russian								

**TABLE FOR RANDOM SAMPLE OF ONE RESPONDENT AGED 18+ IN  
HOUSEHOLDS WITH MORE THAN ONE MEMBER AGED 18+**

<b>L2</b>	<b>Please, indicate how many household members at the age of 18 and older are living in your household</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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**Count all household members aged 18+ starting from eldest to younger who are in household during the conduction of the survey**

**Do not count other household members who are under 18 years of age.**

<b>L3</b> Serial №	<b>L4</b> <i>Date, month, year of birth</i>	<b>L5</b> Name	<b>L6</b> Gender	
			M	F
1	_____		1	2
2	_____		1	2
3	_____		1	2
4	_____		1	2
5	_____		1	2
6	_____		1	2
7	_____		1	2
8	_____		1	2
9	_____		1	2
10	_____		1	2

**Instruction**

- Look at the last digit of the questionnaire number, which is on the cover of household questionnaire – this is the number of the row that needs to be circled in the table below.
- Look at the total number of household members at the age of 18 and older – this is the number of the column that you need to circle in the table below.
- Find the cell in which marked row and column cross, circle the number in the cell – this is the running number of a household member in the household list (Column L3), who will be asked subsequent questions of the survey
- Write down the number of a household member in the cell below near the question «L7».

LAST DIGIT OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGED 18+ IN THE HOUSEHOLD							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
0	1	2	2	4	3	6	5	4
1	1	1	3	1	4	1	6	5
2	1	2	1	2	5	2	7	6
3	1	1	2	3	1	3	1	7
4	1	2	3	4	2	4	2	8
5	1	1	1	1	3	5	3	1
6	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	2
7	1	1	3	3	5	1	5	3
8	1	2	1	4	1	2	6	4
9	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	5

**L7 | \_\_\_| \_\_\_ | Code of household member selected as the respondent for the interview**

**INTERVIEWER DURING THE COMPLETION OF SECTIONS «A», «B», «C» CAN INVOLVE OTHER MORE INFORMED HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGED 18+**

**SECTION A: LIST HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AT THE AGE OF 15 AND OLDER**

A	How many people live in your household including all children?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	--	----------------------	----------------------

INTERVIEWER, SECTIONS «A» and «B» ARE COMPLETED IN VERTICAL COLUMNS!

**I would like to ask you about all members of your household at the age of 15 living in it.**

DEFINITION: [all people who live and eat in the home for at least 6 months in the last 12 months.]

		No of household member	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Name		Write down the name										
A1	Relationship of [...] to the head of household?	Head	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Spouse/partner	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Son/daughter	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Parent of the head	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		Brother/sister of the head	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		Farther-in-law/mother-in-law	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		Brother/sister of husband/wife	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
		Daughter-in-law/son-in-law	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
		Nephew/niece	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
		Grandson/granddaughter	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
		Adopted/fostered	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
		Other relative	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

		Not a relative	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
		<b>Nº of household member</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>A2</b>	<b>Gender</b>	Man/male	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Woman/female	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>A3</b>	<b>What is your marital status at present [...]? – ONLY ONE ANSWER</b>	Never married => A6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Registered only in Registry Office	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Only “Nikha”/Wedding	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Registry Office and Nikha/Wedding	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		Cohabitation without Registry Office and without Nikha/Wedding	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		Divorced	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		Widow/Widower	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
<b>A4</b>	<b>At what age did you marry the first time [...]?</b>	Age, years										
<b>A5</b>	<b>How did you get married? CHOOSE 1 MOST APPLICABLE ANSWER</b>	The bride has been kidnapped upon her prior consent	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Bride was kidnapped without her consent	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		The bride was not kidnapped	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Other, specify	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
<b>A6</b>	<b>Specify nationality</b>	Kyrgyz	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Uzbek	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Russian	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Dungans	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		Tajiks	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		Other	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

	<b>MARK ONLY ONE ANSWER</b>	Kazakhstan	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		Turkey	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
		Syria	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
		Iraq	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
		USA	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
		European countries	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
		United Arab Emirates	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
		South Korea	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
		China	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
		Other, specify	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
		Refuse to answer/don't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
A11	<b>How many days were you absent last time? [...]?</b>	Indicate the number of days 99= Refuse to answer/don't know the answer									
A12	<b>For what purpose did you travel last time [...]?</b>	To work	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		To study	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		On a visit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Other, specify	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		Refuse to answer/don't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99

## SECTION B: OCCUPATION OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGED 15 AND OLDER

INTERVIEWER, NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBER SHOULD BE COPIED FROM SECTION «A»: LIST OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

		<b>Nº of household member</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>B1</b>	<b>What is your current employment status [...]?</b>	Labour migration >> NEXT SECTION «C»	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Employed>> B3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Housewife/househusband >>B2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Unemployed >> NEXT SECTION «C»	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		Retired >>B2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
		Student, studying >>B2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
		On leave for child care >>B2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
		Refuse to answer/don't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
<b>B2</b>	<b>Do you have any occupation [...]?</b>	Yes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		No >> NEXT SECTION «C»	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Refuse to answer/don't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
<b>B3</b>	<b>Are you employed [...]?</b>	Employed	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Self-employed	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		Refuse to answer/don't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
	<b>Where/who do you work for [...]?</b>	<b>Employed:</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		State or municipal employee; military	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		Employees (teacher, scientist)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

		<b>Nº of household member</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>B4</b>	in the enterprise, in the organization (or separate subdivision of the enterprise/organization), joined peasant farms and collective peasant farms, agricultural cooperatives, institutions with a legal entity status	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	employed by individuals, individual entrepreneurs or citizens	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	<i>Self-employed:</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Employer with the formation of a legal entity (PE, IE, LLC, JSC, PA, NGO owners)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	Employer without a legal entity	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	Self-employed with the formation of a legal entity (including PE, IE, LLC, PA, NGO owners without employees)	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
	Self-employed unincorporated (non-employees)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
	Members of producers' cooperatives	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
	Unpaid family workers	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

**SECTION C: OWNERSHIP OF ASSETS AND INCOME**  
**PART 1: OWNERSHIP OF HOUSING AND LAND**

**C1 Do you live in your own house/apartment or in a rented accommodation?**

- 1 Own house
- 2 Rented >> **C3**
- 3 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_ >> **C3**

**C2 Who is the registered owner of the property (home/apartment)?**

Specify the code of household member \_\_\_\_\_  
 98 = not a household member

	<b>C3 Does some of members of your household own the following assets?</b>		<b>C4 Who is the registered owner of these assets?</b>		<b>C5 Are these assets at your disposal? (sale, mortgage)</b>	
	Yes	No	No of household member	Other person	Yes	No
C3.1. Living accommodations/houses/apartments in addition to where you live	1	2 >> C3.2	No _____	5	6	7
C3.2. Commercial property	1	2 >> C3.3	No _____	5	6	7
C3.3. Land	1	2 >> C3.4	No _____	5	6	7
C3.4. Passenger transport	1	2 >> C3.5	No _____	5	6	7
C3.5. Freight transport	1	2 >> C3.6	No _____	5	6	7
C3.6. Agricultural transport	1	2 >> C3.7	No _____	5	6	7
C3.7. Livestock/Cattle	1	2 >> C6	X	X	6	7

## PART 2: LEVEL OF WELFARE

INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD № C6 TO THE RESPONDENT. ONLY ONE ANSWER

C6	<b>Please, look at this card and tell me which of the responses most closely reflects your financial wealth (well-being)?</b>	1= We do not have enough money even for food.	1
		2= We have enough money for food, but buying clothes causes financial difficulties.	2
		3= We have enough money for food and clothing, we can even save some money, but there is not enough money to buy expensive items like refrigerator, automated washing machine.	3
		4= We can afford to buy expensive things like refrigerator, automated washing machine.	4
		5= We can afford quite expensive things – apartment, cottage and more.	5
		99 = Refuse to answer /doesn't know the answer.	99

## PART 3: SOURCES AND AMOUNT OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME

**Let's talk about your household income and calculate how much income all members of your household received from various sources during the last 12 months.**

	SOURCES OF INCOME	For each source, calculate the amount of income <b>during the last 12 months</b> for each household member, in som. Use the line below for calculations	<b>TOTAL, SOM</b> No income = 0 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer = 99
C7	Salary from employment		99
C8	Income from farming/entrepreneurship (agriculture, animal husbandry, recycling agricultural products)		99
C9	Income from activities not related to farming (store and other), services (transportations, tutoring, babysitting, etc.)		99
C10	Self-employment that is not related to farming activities. (Products manufactured by manual labor – carpets, carving wood, etc.)		99
C11	Income from private subsidiary plots		99
C12	Pension / Scholarship / Grants		99
C13	Income from rental of land, housing, equipment, personal property, private lending		99
C14	Remittances of household members and relatives, who are in labor migration abroad or in the country (money transfers)		99
C15	Gifts and other income		99

## MAIN QUESTIONS

**INTERVIEWER SHOULD ASK ONLY THE RESPONDENT SELECTED ACCORDING  
TO RANDOM SAMPLE TABLE**

**SECTION E: ECONOMY**

**PART 1. DECISION MAKING ON INCOMES AND EXPENSES**

**E1 Ideally, how do you think who should make decisions on distribution of incomes in households?**

ONLY ONE ANSWER!

- 1 Head of the household (individually)
- 2 The one who earns more
- 3 The one who keeps the house
- 4 The decision should be made jointly
- 5 Each should dispose of their own income
- 6 Each member of household who earns money should transfer part of income to the household expenses, and the remains of money should be left under his/her control
- 7 All members put earned money together and then everyone takes as much as needed
- 8 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**E2 How are decisions on distribution of incomes in your household made?**

ONLY ONE ANSWER!

- 1 Head of the household (individually)
- 2 The one who earns more
- 3 The one who keeps the house
- 4 The decision should be made jointly
- 5 Each should dispose of their own income
- 6 Each member of household who earns money should transfer part of income to the household expenses, and the remains of money should be left under her/his control
- 7 All members put earned money together and then everyone takes as much as needed
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**E3 Are you satisfied with this situation?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**E4 Let's talk about the disposal of income in your household. Who usually decides how the money that you earned will be spent?**

- 1 Myself
- 2 Another household member, identify the code of household member \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Not household member, identify who \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Together with some of household members
- 5 I do not earn money
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

INTERVIEWER SHOULD ASK QUESTIONS E5, E6 ONLY TO RESPONDENTS WHO ARE MARRIED OR HAVE PARTNERS, THE REST SHOULD GO ON TO THE NEXT PART «EMPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER ROLES»

**E5 Do you know how much money your spouse/partner earns?**

- 1 I know exactly
- 2 To some extent
- 3 No
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**E6 Do you and your spouse earn approximately the same amount?**

ONLY ONE ANSWER!

- 1 The wife earns more
- 2 The husband earns more
- 3 Approximately the same
- 4 Respondent – a woman doesn't earn money
- 5 Respondent – a man doesn't earn money
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**PART 2. EMPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER ROLES**

**GR1 Do you agree with the following statements?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD GR1

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1 Women in the family should be responsible for small daily purchases and men should take decisions on major spending	1	2	3	4	99
2 A woman cannot stay long at work, because she has household duties	1	2	3	4	99
3 The career of a wife is as less important as the career of her husband	1	2	3	4	99
4 A woman who gave birth to a child should leave her work and her career	1	2	3	4	99
5 In a family the woman should stay at home and look after children and the man should earn money	1	2	3	4	99
6 The wife has to work along with her husband in order to support the family	1	2	3	4	99
7 A true woman is willingly engaged in housekeeping - it gives her pleasure	1	2	3	4	99
8 Household activity is a hard work which needs to be shared equally between wife and a husband	1	2	3	4	99
9 If a woman works, it has a negative impact on the family and children	1	2	3	4	99
10 If a child earns money, he/she has the right to spend it as he/she wants	1	2	3	4	99
11 Men are better leaders than women	1	2	3	4	99

**GR2 What are the three most important factors when choosing a job for men and women?**  
 INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD GR2

<b>For men</b>	<b>For women</b>
1 Wages	1 Wages
2 Career opportunities	2 Career opportunities
3 Flexible working schedule	3 Flexible working schedule
4 Closeness to home	4 Closeness to home
5 Safe working conditions	5 Safe working conditions
6 Professional interest	6 Professional interest
7 Prestigious job	7 Prestigious job

**GR3 Tell me if the following statements are right or wrong?**

	<b>Right</b>	<b>Wrong</b>	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1. If the marriage between spouses are not legally registered, the law does not give women the right to claim the joint property	1	2	99
2. By law, in registered marriage, only the spouse to whom the property is registered can the right to claim it	1	2	99
3. By law, women permanently working in the private sector are given the right to maternity leave	1	2	99
4. In Kyrgyzstan, the law gives males the right to take a leave to take care of a child up to 3 years of age	1	2	99
5. By law, if there is no written employment contract, the employee does not have the right to apply to a court with a claim for payment of wages	1	2	99

**PART 3. MICRO LOAN**

**K1 Have you ever taken in your name a loan/micro loan from banks, microcredits companies or from people under interest rates and lambards?**

- 1 Yes >> K1 A) If «Yes», how many times over the past 5 years? \_\_\_\_\_ times  
 2 No >> K8  
 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**K2 What was the amount of your last loan taken in your name? \_\_\_\_\_ amount is expressed in Soms**

99= Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**K3 Who made a decision to take the loan in your name?**

- 1 Myself  
 2 My spouse/partner  
 3 Other relatives  
 4 Relatives of a spouse/partner  
 5 Together with a spouse or relatives  
 6 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_  
 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

	<b>K4 What did you plan to use loan/credit for?</b>	<b>K5 How did you use it in reality?</b>
1. To open a business	1	1
2. To develop existing business / for agricultural works /to buy machinery, seeds, etc.	2	2
3. To buy a car	3	3
4. To buy things (clothes, household appliances, furniture, jewelry, etc.)	4	4
5. For the renovation/construction of the house	5	5
6. To send one of the household members to labor migration	6	6
7. For family/friendly events (wedding, funeral, other events)	7	7
8. For son's education	8	8
9. For daughter's education	9	9
10. For medical treatment	10	10
11. To pay debts/loans	11	11
12. To give to another person	12	12
13. Other, specify _____	13	13

**K6 Have you repaid your credit/loan?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Loan repayment period has non ended
- 4 Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**K7 How do you evaluate the experience of getting a loan?**

- 1 Positively
- 2 Negatively
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

QUESTIONS FOR ALL

**K8 Tell me, to what extent do you agree with the following statements ...?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD K8

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1. It is dangerous to take a loan – you can lose all your property	1	2	3	4	99
2. Credits/loans help to improve well-being of a family	1	2	3	4	99
3. Payment of credits/loans worsens relationships within the family	1	2	3	4	99
4. It is impossible to get both ends meet without credits	1	2	3	4	99
5. To give and take money on interest rate is a sin	1	2	3	4	99

## PART 4. ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**P1 Are you currently engaged in entrepreneurship?**

- 1 Yes >> P7
- 2 Not
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P2 Have you ever been involved in entrepreneurship before?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> P5
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P3 Why did you close your business?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD MARK EVERYTHING THAT APPLICABLE

- 1 Lost money/it didn't bring the income >>P5
- 2 I didn't have enough time to manage it >>P5
- 3 I lost interest in the business >>P5
- 4 I was forced to close it >>P4
- 5 It has been taken away from me >>P4
- 6 Due to lack of skills to operate the business >>P5
- 7 I did not have enough money for working capital >>P5
- 8 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_ >>P5

**P4 If you were forced to close it or it was taken away from you, by whom? ONLY ONE ANSWER!**

- 1 Business partner
- 2 Ex-spouse
- 3 Spouse (current)
- 4 Other relatives
- 5 Upon decision of governmental agencies
- 6 Criminal structures
- 7 Competitors
- 8 Creditors/debtors
- 9 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P5 Would you like to start a business (entrepreneurship)?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> GO TO THE NEXT SECTION «RELIGION»
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer >> GO TO THE NEXT SECTION «RELIGION»

**P6 What stops/hinders you to open your business? Mark two most important reasons.**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD PUT ONLY ONE ANSWER IN THE COLUMN.

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> reason</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> reason</b>
1 Not enough money	1	1
2 No mortgage	2	2
3 I don't understand the business well	3	3
4 I don't know enough about taxes/taxation	4	4
5 I don't know enough about finances	5	5
6 My relatives do not allow me	6	6
7 Need to take care of children	7	7
8 Personal health condition	8	8
9 Other,	9	9

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> reason</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> reason</b>
specify		
Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer	99	99

GO TO THE NEXT SECTION «RELIGION»

**P7 Who initiated the opening of your business?**

- 1 Yourself
- 2 Together with family members
- 3 Together with other people
- 4 I didn't take any part in the decision to open/start a business
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P8 In what sphere does your business operate?**

SEVERAL ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED

- 1 Wholesale
- 2 Retail trade
- 3 Network marketing (distributor)
- 4 Sewing industry
- 5 Agricultural production and processing of agricultural products
- 6 Food production
- 7 Catering
- 8 Personal services (hairdresser, shoemaker, tailor, rubber, toaster e.t.c.)
- 9 Services in repair of motor vehicles, household goods and items of personal use
- 10 Construction (plumber, builder, e.t.c.)
- 11 Medical and educational services
- 12 Hotels and tourism
- 13 Transport services and transportation
- 14 Estate agents (real estate activities)
- 15 Industrial production
- 16 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

**P9 What from the below listed is the reason on which you are doing business?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD READ POSSIBLE ANSWERS TO THE RESPONDENT;  
TWO ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> option</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> option</b>
1. I want to be my own employer	1	1
2. I found market opportunities for a profitable business	2	2
3. I can no longer get a job anywhere	3	3
4. I can work when I want and how I want	4	4
5. I have no qualification for other activities	5	5
6. I lost my previous job	6	6
7. Other, specify _____	7	7

**P10 What is the legal form of your business?**

READ POSSIBLE ANSWERS TO THE RESPONDENT; ONLY ONE ANSWER

- 1 Unregistered business/entrepreneurship
- 2 Individual Entrepreneur (IE), Private Entrepreneur (PE) (work based on patent)
- 3 Peasant farms
- 4 Partnership
- 5 Cooperatives
- 6 LLC (Limited Liability Company)
- 7 JSC (Joint Stock Company)
- 8 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P11 What from the below listed most closely reflects your role in the management of business?**

- 1 I fully take all decisions myself
- 2 I take a decision together with business partner and/or employees
- 3 I take a decision only within the limited range of issues
- 4 I do not participate in solving issues related to this business
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**P12 How many men and women, including you, are working currently at your enterprise?**

	<b>Men, people</b>	<b>Women, people</b>
1 Permanent employees who work full time		
2 Permanent employees who work part time		
3 Temporary workers		

**P13 In what markets do you sell the most of your goods (products)/services?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD READ POSSIBLE ANSWERS.

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1 In local markets? (in your area)	1	2
2 In district or regional markets? (in neighboring districts/regions)	1	2
3 On national markets? (throughout the country)	1	2
4 On international markets?	1	2

**P14 Do you have a problems when doing business with the following organizations and individuals? INTERVIEWER SHOULD READ EACH LINE.**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
1 Tax Inspection	1	2
2 Sanitary and Epidemiological Service	1	2
3 Ministry of Justice	1	2
4 Fire Service	1	2
5 Local Authorities	1	2
6 Customs Authorities	1	2
7 Police	1	2
8 Ecological/Environmental Control	1	2
9 State Agency on Architecture and Construction	1	2
10 Market Administration	1	2
11 Social Fund	1	2
12 State Registration Service	1	2

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
13 Bodies and organization in the sphere of energy and electricity	1	2
14 Criminal Groups	1	2

**P15 Whom do you address in the first place to solve the problems of doing business?**  
 INTERVIEWER SHOULD READ POSSIBLE ANSWERS;  
 ONLY ONE ANSWER IS ALLOWED

No problems	<b>0</b>
1 The management of the body where problems arise	1
2 I do not address anybody, and try to solve all problems by myself	2
3 Law enforcement authorities	3
4 The court	4
5 Local authorities	5
6 Professional/business associations, Trade Unions	6
7 Criminal groups	7
8 Mass Media	8
9 Relatives, friends	9

**P16 How did the following aspects of your life change since you had started your own business?**

	Improved	Worsened	No changes
1 Financial situation in the household	1	2	3
2 Personal financial situation	1	2	3
3 Family relationships	1	2	3
4 Opportunity to pay for/provide education for daughter INTERVIEWER! IF NO DAUGHTER OR DAUGHTER DOES NOT STUDY - MISS/DROP OUT THE QUESTION	1	2	3
5 Opportunity to pay for/provide education for son INTERVIEWER! IF NO SON OR SON DOES NOT STUDY - MISS/DROP OUT QUESTION	1	2	3
6 Self-assessment	1	2	3
7 Independence/self-sufficiency	1	2	3

#### SECTION R: RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Let's talk about your views on the religious practice of men and women. If at any moment of interview you feel yourself uncomfortable, please, let me know so that we could move to the next question. Please, keep in mind that all your answers are strictly confidential.

**R1 Which of the following three statements best reflects your views on the role of religion in society?**

ONLY ONE ANSWER

1 Religion should be a private affair and should not influence public policy	1
2 The Islamic principles should be a part of public policy	2
3 Public policy should be fully based on the principles of Islam	3
4 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer	99

**R2 In recent years, the number of Muslim believers has increased. What do you think about it, your attitude?**

- 1 This is very good >> R3A
- 2 This is normal >> R3A
- 3 I am indifferent >> R6
- 4 I experience some concerns about this >> R3B
- 5 I think it is a threat to our society >> R3B
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer >> R6

**R3 Choose the statement best explaining your position**

R3A ONLY ONE ANSWER!	R3B ONLY ONE ANSWER!
1 Because it strengthens our national values	1 This leads to intolerance and conflict in society
2 Because it promotes fair business conduct	2 This narrows one's outlook
3 This helps to strengthen family links and allows proper upbringing of children	3 It is a threat to individual freedom and human rights
4 This makes the authorities more accountable	4 This reflects negatively on women
5 It develops and maintains order in society	5 This leads to increased extremism
6 Other, specify _____	6 Other, specify _____
GO TO THE QUESTION R6	GO TO THE QUESTION R6

**R6 To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**

INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD № R6

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doe sn't know the answer
1. Education in madrassas is more useful for children than going to school	1	2	3	4	99
2. A true believer should refuse medical care and vaccinations if it is contrary to the canons of religion	1	2	3	4	99
3. The use of contraceptives is contrary to moral norms	1	2	3	4	99
4. Abortion is murder of a human being	1	2	3	4	99

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doc sn't know the answer
5. The laws of Islam from God are more important than state legislation	1	2	3	4	99
6. Protection of Islamic values is worth sacrificing your life	1	2	3	4	99
7. It is better to follow the advice of the mullahs and the Shariah than apply to judicial and law enforcement authorities	1	2	3	4	99
8. The true Muslim woman will not prohibit second or third wives	1	2	3	4	99
9. Sex before and out of marriage is unacceptable for women	1	2	3	4	99
10. Sex before and out of marriage is unacceptable for men	1	2	3	4	99
11. The true Muslim woman should follow her chosen everywhere even in areas of armed conflicts	1	2	3	4	99

**R10 Do you know personally any of the women who went to Syria or other war zones for religious reasons?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> R12
- 99 Refuse to answer

**R11 Do you think she did it by her own will?**

- 1 By her own will
- 2 Against her will/she was forced by >> **Specify, who:**
  - 1- relatives/husband 2- representatives of religious organizations 3 - other
- 3 She was deceived by >> **Specify, who:**
  - 1- relatives/husband 2- representatives of religious organizations 3 - other
- 99 Refuse to answer

**R12 Do you know personally any of the men who went to Syria or other war zones for religious reasons?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 Refuse to answer

**R13 Where can you get information on illegal/banned religious organisations?**

INTERVIEWER, DO NOT READ THE LIST! WRITE DOWN WORD FOR WORD.

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CODE MOST CLOSE ANSWERS BELOW

- 1 Anywhere
- 2 In the ayl okmotu/city council
- 3 In the Mosque/Muslim Board of Kyrgyzstan
- 4 In the police
- 5 NGOs (non-government organisation)
- 6 The State Commission for Religious Affairs
- 7 Internet
- 8 Mass media (newspapers, TV, radio)
- 9 Friends, relatives, colleagues in job
- 10 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**R14 What liability is provided by our legislation for participation in activities of an extremist organization? Choose only one answer.**

- 1 No liability
- 2 Public works
- 3 Fines/penalties
- 4 Imprisonment
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**SECTION F: MARRIAGE PRACTICES**

Let us now talk about how people get married in our country.

**PART 1: GENERAL ISSUES RELATED TO MARRIAGE**

**F1. Which of the following do you consider to constitute a marriage?**

INTERVIEWER, SEVERAL ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED

- 1 Cohabitation (without registration or religious ceremony)
- 2 Religious ceremony (nikha/wedding)
- 3 Registration in the Registry Office
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F2. To what extent do you support or do not support the initiative of deputies to prohibit conduction of the religious wedding ceremony “nikha” before the registration of marriage in the registry office (*to require registering the marriage in the registry office before the religious wedding ceremony “nikha”*)?**

- 1 Fully support
- 2 Somewhat support
- 3 Do not support
- 4 Absolutely do not support
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**  
 INTERVIEWER SHOULD PASS THE CARD F3

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doc sn't know the answer
1 Girl's virginity is the key to a happy family life	1	2	3	4	99
2 Only families with children can be considered full-fledged	1	2	3	4	99
3 In a family without a father, a boy cannot develop normally	1	2	3	4	99
4 In a family without a mother, a girl cannot develop normally	1	2	3	4	99
5 Before getting married you must obtain the approval of your parents	1	2	3	4	99
6 Young people should take their own decision about marriage	1	2	3	4	99
7 A woman must sacrifice everything to save the family	1	2	3	4	99
8 Divorce for a woman is a disgrace	1	2	3	4	99
9 Divorce for a man is a disgrace	1	2	3	4	99

**PART 2: EARLY MARRIAGE**

**F4. Please, remember, at what age according to the legislation of Kyrgyzstan people can get married (based on general rule)? (INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD № F4)**

- 1 from 16 years of age both for women and men
- 2 from 17 years of age for men and 16 - for women
- 3 from 18 – for men and 16 – for women
- 4 from 18 – both for women and men
- 5 at any age, if a man and a woman are ready to start a family
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F5. How do you think, are girls under 18 years of age in your village/town over the past 5 years more likely to get married/less likely to get married, or there has been no changes?**

- 1 More likely to get married
- 2 No changes >> F7
- 3 Less likely to get married >> F7
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F6. How do you think, why girls under 18 years of age more likely get married? Please, select 3 most important reasons out of the given list**

INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD № F6

	Reason 1	Reason 2	Reason 3
1 There are no other options for girls	1	1	1
2 The level of poverty is growing and therefore poor families want to marry-off the girl	2	2	2
3 Bride kidnapping occurs more often	3	3	3
4 Influence of Islam has grown. This allows girls to get married at an early age	4	4	4

	<b>Reason 1</b>	<b>Reason 2</b>	<b>Reason 3</b>
5 Besides Islam other religions are also gaining influence, allowing early marriage under 18 years of age	5	5	5
6 Most of all, girls themselves want to get married early	6	6	6
7 Young people begin sexual relations at an early age	7	7	7
8 So that her mother-in-law and her husband could bring up the bride	8	8	8
9 Other, specify _____	9	9	9
10 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer	10	10	10

**F7. Do you personally know girls under 18 years of age who got married during the last 2-3 years?**

- 1 Yes  
2 No >> F9

**F8. Who has decided that she should get married?**

INTERVIEWER, ONLY ONE ANSWER IS ALLOWED

- 1 Parents of the girl  
2 Husband/bridegroom  
3 Parents of the husband/bridegroom  
4 The girl herself  
5 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_  
99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F9. What do you think about parents who married-off their daughter under 18 years of age?**

- 1 I do not care, it is their business  
2 I do not support their decision (discussing)  
3 I support their decision  
99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F10. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**

INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD № F10

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doc sn't know the answer
1 It is never too early to marry a rich man	1	2	3	4	99
2 It is never too early to marry a good man	1	2	3	4	99
3 Once married the girl should immediately have a baby	1	2	3	4	99
4 A women married aged under 18, often falls into more strong dependence on her husband than women who got marriage at older age	1	2	3	4	99
5 If a girl gets married before the age of 18, she is unlikely to be able to learn a profession	1	2	3	4	99
6 A girl's body before 18 years of age is not capable to carry to a healthy child	1	2	3	4	99
7 The pregnancy at the age of 18 is dangerous for women's health	1	2	3	4	99

**F11. In what circumstances marriage of women before 18 years of age is justified, if ...?**

	Yes	No
1 The girl is kidnapped	1	2
2 The girl is pregnant	1	2
3 The girl wants to marry her beloved one	1	2
4 There is a threat of violence or rape	1	2
5 Marriage aged under 18 cannot be justified	1	2

**F12. Under the law of Kyrgyzstan, the youngest age at which men and women can marry is 18 years of age.**

**How do you think, should the government change this age FOR WOMEN?**

- 1 It should be lower
- 2 It should be higher
- 3 No changes
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F13. How do think, should the government change this age FOR MEN?**

- 1 It should be lower
- 2 It should be higher
- 3 No changes
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F14. Should the government take measures related to parents who marry-off their girls before 18 years of age?**

- 1 Definitely, it should
- 2 It rather should
- 3 It rather should not
- 4 It absolutely should not
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**PART 3: BRIDE KIDNAPPING**

**F15. What are your personal attitude towards the bride kidnapping without woman's (maiden) consent?**

- 1 Positively
- 2 Neutral
- 3 Negatively
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F16. Do you think that bride kidnapping with their consent and without their consent occurred more often, less often or without changes in your village/town for the last 5 years?**

A) Bride kidnapping with the consent of a woman	B) Bride kidnapping without the consent of a woman i.e. forced
1 More often	1 More often
2 Rarely	2 Rarely
3 No changes	3 No changes
99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer	99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F17. Do you personally know women or girls who had been kidnapped without their consent during the last 2-3 years?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> F20

**F18. If you are aware of such facts, why do you think they had been kidnapped?**

INTERVIEWER, READ ANSWERS AND MARK ALL APPLICABLE ANSWERS.

- 1 Because she could refuse or refused him/boy

- 2 Because the man didn't dare to date the girl
- 3 Parents/relatives of a boy/man insisted on kidnapping the bride
- 4 The man was not able to pay for "kalym" (bride price)
- 5 So that she does not marry another man
- 6 The parents could refuse to give their consent to the marriage
- 7 This is a traditional way of marriage
- 8 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

**F19. What do you personally think about man/boy who kidnapped a bride without her consent (you talked about her)?**

- 1 Positively
- 2 Neutral
- 3 Negatively
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F20. Is there a statutory liability for bride kidnapping? If yes, what is the liability?**

- 1 No
- 2 Yes >> **F20 A) If yes, what is the liability?**

- 1) Penalties/fines
- 2) Imprisonment up to 3 years
- 3) Imprisonment from 3 to 10 years
- 4) Imprisonment from 11 to 20 years
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F21. What do you think, if the girl has been already kidnapped without her consent, is it better for a kidnapped girl to leave or stay (consent) and marry her kidnapper?**

- 1 The girl needs to leave
  - 2 It is better for her to consent and marry her kidnapper >>
- >> **F21 A) Why? INTERVIEWER, DO NOT READ THE LIST, MARK ALL APPLICABLE**
- 1) Because people will judge her
  - 2) Because the girl should obey
  - 3) Because no one else will marry her
  - 4) Because parents will not accept her
  - 5) Because she has no place to go
  - 6) Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
  - 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F22. Should a kidnapped girl leave or consent and marry the kidnapper if the kidnapper forced her into sexual intercourse against her will?**

- 1 She should consent and marry (stay)
- 2 She should leave without reporting to police/law-enforcement bodies
- 3 She should leave and report to police/law-enforcement bodies
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F23. How do you think, why women-relatives of the kidnapper are involved in the kidnapping of the bride?**

INTERVIEWER, MARK ALL APPLICABLE

- 1 Because there is nothing wrong with that
- 2 Because they were also kidnapped
- 3 Because it is a tradition
- 4 Because you have to help your relative
- 5 Because they want a bride that will help them with household work
- 6 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F24. What are you personally going to do if your daughter/sister is kidnapped without her consent?**

INTERVIEWER, MARK ALL APPLICABLE

- 1 I will not do anything – let her decide on her own whether to marry or leave
- 2 I will take measures so that she gives her consent
- 3 I will take measures to bring her back home
- 4 I will bring her back home and report to police/law-enforcement bodies
- 5 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**F25. Which measures could help to stop the practice of/prevent bride kidnapping? Please mark 3 most important measures**

INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD № F25

	Measure 1	Measure 2	Measure 3
1 Raise the requirements for the work of law enforcement agencies and courts in considering applications for bride kidnapping	1	1	1
2 Ensure that each bride kidnapper is punished	2	2	2
3 Inform the population that bride kidnapping violates women's rights	3	3	3
4 It is necessary to encourage women to go to the police	4	4	4
5 It is necessary to ensure that girls have a good lawyer so that they can defend their rights	5	5	5
6 It is necessary to prosecute friends and women who help men to kidnap a bride as the partner	6	6	6
7 It is necessary that families who kidnapped a girl are publicly condemned, regardless of whether or not the girl remained	7	7	7
8 It is necessary that each one of us refused to attend a wedding if the bride was kidnapped	8	8	8
9 No need to take measures	9	X	X
10. Other, specify	10	10	10

**SECTION G: WOMEN AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION**

Let us now talk about men's and women's political engagement

**G1 If compare men and women politicians, what 3 most important traits/qualities among the listed below should an ideal man-politician and woman-politician possess?**

INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD G1

	Man-politician			Woman-politician		
	Trait 1	Trait 2	Trait 3	Trait 4	Trait 5	Trait 6
1. Education and high intelligence	1	1	1	1	1	1
2. Commitment to traditional family values	2	2	2	2	2	2
3. Honesty, decency	3	3	3	3	3	3
4. Life experience	4	4	4	4	4	4
5. Flexibility of position	5	5	5	5	5	5
6. Personal charm, good look	6	6	6	6	6	6
7. Ability to negotiate	7	7	7	7	7	7
8. Taking care of the needs of ordinary people	8	8	8	8	8	8
9. Hardness, resoluteness	9	9	9	9	9	9

10. Patriotism	10	10	10	10	10	10
11. Religious	11	11	11	11	11	11
12. Intuition	12	12	12	12	12	12
13. Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer	99	99	99	99	99	99

**G2 Are there any special measures to increase the number of women in politics in Kyrgyzstan?**

1 No

2 Yes >> **G2A) If yes, what are they?**

INTERVIEWER, RESPONDENT CAN PROVIDE SEVERAL ANSWERS

- 1 quotas in the selection of candidates for senior (managing) positions
- 2 quotas in the formation of lists of candidates by parties for Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament)
- 3 quotas in elections to the rural councils
- 4 quotas in the formation of government
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**G3 To what extent do you agree with the following statements**

INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD G3

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1. Women make a great contribution to the policy of our country	1	2	3	4	99
2. Women do not have any influence on the policy of our country	1	2	3	4	99
3. Women should not take part in politics, it is not for women	1	2	3	4	99
4. In our country, representation of women in politics should be higher than it is now	1	2	3	4	99
5. Family and political activity are incompatible for women	1	2	3	4	99
6. Men always resist the emergence of women in politics, it is gainless for them	1	2	3	4	99
7. Women are to blame for the fact that they are few in politics, because women do not vote for women	1	2	3	4	99
8. Women are too emotional to participate in politics	1	2	3	4	99
9. The financial dependence of women does not allow them to establish themselves in politics in our country	1	2	3	4	99
10. Physical weakness of women does not allow them to establish themselves in politics	1	2	3	4	99

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
11. Quotas help women to get into authorities	1	2	3	4	99
12. Equal women and men representation in governmental structures/authorities is the indicator of a high level of country development	1	2	3	4	99

**G4 How would the life in the country change if half of people in decision making positions were women?**

- 1 It would become better
- 2 It would become worse
- 3 It would not change
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**G5 What prevents women from being more involved in politics?**

**Mark 3 most important obstacles**

INTERVIEWER, PASS THE CARD G5

- 1 Lack of experience and knowledge
- 2 Lack of support from a spouse / or family
- 3 Uneven distribution of domestic responsibilities between men and women
- 4 Lack of public support
- 5 Absence of necessary networks
- 6 Lack of support within the party
- 7 Lack of material resources
- 8 Lack of support from women's organizations
- 9 Lack of desire and their own inactiveness
- 10 Uncertainty in their own abilities
- 11 Stereotypes attributed to women
- 12. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

**G6 Among women-deputies of the current and previous convocation in the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) who do you think has shown effective work? (Specify up to 5 answers)**

98 – I do not know any women-deputies

99 - None of them

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CODE 1 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 2 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 3 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 4 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**G7 Among women-deputies of the current and previous convocation in the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) who do you think has shown ineffective work? (Specify up to 5 answers)**

98 – I do not know any women-deputies

99 - All works are ineffective

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CODE 1 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 2 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 3 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 4 \_\_\_\_\_ CODE 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**G8 How do you assess the work of women in your local council?**

- 1 The council operates principally because of women
- 2 The council would operate worse without women
- 3 The council would operate better without women
- 4 The presence of women does not affect the work of the council
- 5 There are no women in local council
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

**G9 During the last 5 years beginning from 2010 have you ....?**

	Yes	No	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1 Voted in elections	1	2	99
2 Participated in election as a candidate	1	2	99
3 Participated in public hearings	1	2	99
4 Participated in discussions for setting the local budget	1	2	99
5 Signed petitions	1	2	99
6 Taken part in meetings and pickets	1	2	99
7 Participated in protest actions, closing roads	1	2	99
8 Taken part in strikes	1	2	99

**G10 During the demonstrations quite often there are groups of women who actively and assertively express their position, who do you think they are?**

INTERVIEWER, ONLY ONE ANSWER

- 1 Leaders of the local community
- 2 "OBON"
- 3 Representatives of NGOs
- 4 Human rights activists
- 5 Members of parties
- 6 Ordinary women
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

**G11 How do you think, why do they take part in meetings?**

INTERVIEWER, ONLY ONE ANSWER

- 1 For ideological reasons
- 2 They were forced to
- 3 They are paid to be there
- 4 They were driven to despair
- 5 They are crazy
- 6 Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

**G12 Who can have a decisive impact on the people of your village / town, when organizing people for a rally/action? For example, to vote for a certain candidate / party, go to the rally/meeting, to close the road and so on?**

INTERVIEWER, DO NOT READ THE LIST! SEVERAL ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED.

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PLEASE CODE ANSWERS BELOW THAT ARE CLOSE TO THE MEANING

- 1 Representative of the state body
- 2 Representatives of local authorities
- 3 Criminal leaders
- 4 International organizations
- 5 NGOs
- 6 Women's councils
- 7 The "Aksakal" courts
- 8 Youth Committees
- 9 Rural Health Committee (RHC)
- 10 Local authoritative leaders
- 11 Local religious leaders
- 12 Local businesses
- 13 The one who has money
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

**G13 How do you feel about the activities of international organizations?**

- 1 Positive
- 2 Neutral
- 3 Negative
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**G14 How do you feel about the activities of local NGOs?**

- 1 Positive
- 2 Neutral
- 3 Negative
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**G15 How do you think, why there are groups like OBON? Choose one the most important reason**

- 1 Women have no other way to advance in politics
- 2 It is a way to earn money
- 3 It is a way to escape from personal problems
- 4 It is a tool for contest between politicians (political tool)
- 5 This is a reaction to government's inefficient (policy) work
- 6 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 I do not know who is OBON
- 99 Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer

## SECTION M: MIGRATION

**Let us now talk about population labour migration.**

**M1 To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**

INTERVIEWER, PASS THE CARD M1

	Completely agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Completely disagree	Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer
1 Migration is a good opportunity to realize one's potential for many men	1	2	3	4	99
2 Migration is a good opportunity to realize one's potential for many women	1	2	3	4	99
3 Migration is an extreme measure, which occurs because of despair	1	2	3	4	99
4 Migration leads to improved material well-being of the family	1	2	3	4	99
5 Migration gives people new knowledge, professional skills and social contacts (networking)	1	2	3	4	99
6 Women working abroad feel more equal to men than women staying at home	1	2	3	4	99
7 Migration degrades family relations	1	2	3	4	99
8 Migration is a good opportunity to see the world	1	2	3	4	99
9 Female migrants became more independent and confident when they return home	1	2	3	4	99
10 Female migrants became more religious when they return home	1	2	3	4	99
11 Migrating women begins to have an immoral lifestyle away from home	1	2	3	4	99
12 It is good that there is an organizations and group of young Kyrgyz people in Russia who monitor the moral of female migrants from Kyrgyzstan	1	2	3	4	99
13 It is normal if a male in migration has a second family under condition that he takes care about his first family	1	2	3	4	99

**M2 Do you think the following organizations pose a greater threat for men or women engaged in labor migration abroad?**

	A greater threat for men	A greater threat for women	Equal threat	No any threat	Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer
1 Police (OMON)	1	2	3	4	99
2 Employer	1	2	3	4	99
3 Migration Service	1	2	3	4	99
4 Locals	1	2	3	4	99
5 Local criminal structures	1	2	3	4	99
6 Kyrgyz criminal structures	1	2	3	4	99

	A greater threat for men	A greater threat for women	Equal threat	No any threat	Refuse to answer/ do not know the answer
7 Fellow nationals	1	2	3	4	99

**M1 In March 2013, deputies proposed to ban unmarried women under 23 travelling abroad without their parents' consent. How do you feel about that?**

- 1 I support it >>M4
- 2 Neutral >> M6
- 3 I do not support it >> M5
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer >> M6

**M2 Why do you support?**

- 1 Because the security of women is better ensured
- 2 Because women should not travel alone in any case
- 3 Because it increases the chances these women will marry with non-Kyrgyz men
- 4 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

GO TO QUESTION M6

**M3 Why do you not support? INTERVIEWER, MARK ALL APPLICABLE**

- 1 Because it infringes on human's rights
- 2 Because adult women are able to make their own decision independently of their parents' will
- 3 Because young female will have higher chances to marry well abroad
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**M4 Kyrgyzstan recently joined in the Customs Union and the procedure of registration and employment for Kyrgyz citizens in the EEU is expected to be simplified. Based on this do you plan to go to work in these countries?**

- 1 Definitely I go
  - 2 I rather go
  - 3 I rather do not go
  - 4 Definitely I do not go
  - 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
- >> **M6A) Which country?**    1- Russia 2- Kazakhstan 3- Armenia  
4- Belarus 5 - other

**M5 For whom in migration do you think it is easier find a job abroad?**

- 1 Men
- 2 Women
- 3 No difference/equal
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**M6 Do you think that migration in the following countries impacts on religious beliefs of male migrants?**

	They become more religious	They become less religious	Migration does not affect religiosity	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1. Russia	1	2	3	99
2. Kazakhstan	1	2	3	99
3. Turkey	1	2	3	99
4. China	1	2	3	99
5. United Arab Emirates	1	2	3	99

**M7 Do you think that migration in the following countries impacts on religious beliefs of female migrants?**

	They become more religious	They become less religious	Migration does not affect religiosity	Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer
1. Russia	1	2	3	99
2. Kazakhstan	1	2	3	99
3. Turkey	1	2	3	99
4. China	1	2	3	99
5. United Arab Emirates	1	2	3	99

INTERVIEWER,  
IF IN M8 OR M9

IT WAS MARKED THE CODE «1», GO TO >> M10

IT WAS MARKED THE CODE «2», GO TO >> M11

IT WAS MARKED THE CODE «3», GO TO >> M12

**M8 Why religiosity of migrants is growing up? (Why migrants become more religious?)**

- 1 Because Muslim migrants face discrimination due to their religion y
- 2 Because religious organizations are active abroad
- 3 Because the hardships that migrants face make them turn to religion
- 4 Because they are pressured by migrants community
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**M9 Why migrants become less religious?**

- 1 Because they lose contact with their culture
- 2 Because of the influence of other religion
- 3 Because there is no access to religious organizations
- 4 Because the hardships that migrants face do not leave time for religion
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**M10 What are the main problems faced by migrant-men returning from migration? Choose up to 3 answers from the list. INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD M12**

	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3
1 No problems	1	1	1
2 Health problems	2	2	2
3 It is difficult to find a job	3	3	3
4 They find it difficult to marry	4	4	4
5 Alienation from children	5	5	5
6 Deterioration of relations with spouse	6	6	6
7 Psychological problems	7	7	7
8 Negligence by neighbors, community residents	8	8	8

**M11 What are the main problems faced by migrant-women returning from migration? Choose up to 3 answers from the list. INTERVIEWER, HAND OUT THE CARD M12**

	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3
1 No problems	1	1	1
2 Health problems	2	2	2
3 It is difficult to find a job	3	3	3
4 They find it difficult to marry	4	4	4
5 Alienation from children	5	5	5
6 Deterioration of relations with relatives	6	6	6
7 Psychological problems	7	7	7
8 Negligence by neighbors, community residents	8	8	8

**M12 Are you aware of the database where some people have been included and the entry to Russia is prohibited them (black listed)?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> M17
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer >> M17

**M13 Do you know anyone personally who has been included into this database?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No >> M17
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer >> M17

**M14 Has he/she become more religious after this?**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**M15 Whom you can contact to learn about the order of departure, stay and employment in the EEU countries?**

INTERVIEWER, DO NOT READ THE LIST!  
SEVERAL ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED

- 1 Employment Services
- 2 Mass Media (newspaper, TV, radio)
- 3 Internet
- 4 Friends, relatives
- 5 Local self-governance bodies
- 6 Migration Services
- 7 NGOs (Non-government organizations)
- 8 Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_

99 Refuse to answer/doesn't know the answer

**THANK YOU FOR PRTICIPATING IN THE INTERVIEW!**

**INTERVIEWER,**  
WRITE DOWN THE TIME OF ENDING THE INTERVIEW ON PAGE 3!

**INTERVIEWER: PLEASE WRITE DOWN ANY COMMENTS OR OBSERVATIONS THAT MAY ARISE  
ABOUT THIS HOUSEHOLDS OR INTERVIEW ON THIS PAGE**