



“Presentation on using gender statistics
in making plans especially for youth”



IAKWE / BULA



As mentioned in previous presentations, there are a lot of data/information collected in a Census. This includes information for all the different age groups. One of them is gender statistics. Although there are many disaggregated data to choose for this presentation, I will only talk on one issue that addresses Education and Health in the youth age group.



OUTLINE:

- EDUCATION
- HEALTH



School Attendance in RMI

The population 6–18 years old is the school age population, or persons who are normally expected to be attending elementary and secondary schools. Of this population those aged 14–18 years are considered the secondary school age population. The 2011 census records a total of 15,564 persons in this school age population, of whom 13,253 or 85.2 percent have attended school during the school year preceding the census. The census data also reveals that over 90 percent of the elementary school age population have attended elementary school, in comparison with 73.1 percent of the secondary school age population who have attended secondary school.



MORE DATA ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

- The Census report also shows some 38 percent of the out-of-school youth 14–18 years old are 9–11 graders, followed by those who have completed grade 8 (22.2%) and grade 6–7 (17.1%). Those who are high school graduates comprise 6.7 percent and those with no formal education, 5.2 percent.
- The Census further shows that of the total numbers that attended school; there were more female than male in the youth age groups who finished high school and attended some college.



EDUCATION :

- With the results shown, we are able to see that in regards to education, there should be more encouragement to the youth age group in completing their education in the secondary as well as in college. It is in the rural areas that more and more youth are unable to continue to secondary schools due to reasons such as: the rural areas do not have any secondary level schools; the youths do not have families where there are schools; there is not enough encouragements from families to continue with their education because of lack of funding and other.



EDUCATION CONTINUES:

- With the Census results available, the government planners for youth that can improve the educational backgrounds among the youth age groups. The planners are will also be able to make plans that align with the National Strategic Plan and all the Gender Policy priorities for the RMI. One of priorities is to empower women into taking parts in decision making as well as high level posts in other sectors of the government. This would be to encourage more females in finishing schools so they are able to take up the posts in decision making as well as others mentioned.



HEALTH

- With health, there are also many issues in the Census that are addressed to the youth age groups. And although the RMI 2011 Census reports a decline in the fertility rate for youth age group, it is also shown that RMI is considered as one of Pacific Island Countries with a high teen pregnancy rate. With the Census results, the Government Planners are able to focus on what to do in order to avoid the increase in the number of teen pregnancy.



HEALTH CONTINUES:

- In saying that, there should be more trainings on birth controls and others to youths, especially those located in the rural areas, where their access to health clinics does not provide all that is needed in terms of teen pregnancy counseling or diseases such as STDs and more. Unlike the urban areas where the hospitals are in better conditions with more qualified Doctors and available birth control contraceptives, the rural areas are where the Government and Planners need to focus more on.



- Although I could have provided more in terms of gender statistics from the RMI Census, I wanted us to focus more on Education and Health because they are two of the most important tools in life. Good education and good health leads to better future of a country. Having said that, I want to say KOMOL TATA and VINAKA for sharing what you know and also for listening to my presentation.