



## QUICK TAKES • Global Women

### POPULATION <sup>1</sup>

|  | Population mid-2003<br>(in millions) | Projected 2025<br>(in millions) | % Growth    |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Africa</b>  | <b>861</b>                           | <b>1,289</b>                    | <b>49.7</b> |
| Northern Africa  | 188                                  | 267                             | 42.0        |
| Western Africa   | 256                                  | 402                             | 57.0        |
| Eastern Africa   | 263                                  | 395                             | 50.2        |
| Middle Africa  | 104                                  | 184                             | 76.9        |
| Southern Africa  | 50                                   | 41                              | -18         |
| <b>North America</b>   | <b>323</b>                           | <b>387</b>                      | <b>19.8</b> |
| Canada   | 31.6                                 | 36                              | 13.9        |
| United States  | 291.5                                | 351.1                           | 20.4        |
| <b>Latin America &amp; Caribbean</b>                           | <b>540</b>                           | <b>690</b>                      | <b>27.8</b> |
| Central America  | 144                                  | 192                             | 33.3        |
| Caribbean  | 38                                   | 46                              | 21.0        |
| South America  | 358                                  | 452                             | 26.2        |
| <b>Oceania</b>   | <b>32</b>                            | <b>42</b>                       | <b>31.3</b> |
| Australia  | 19.9                                 | 25                              | 25.6        |
| New Zealand  | 4                                    | 4.7                             | 14.9        |
| Other area island nations (including Melanesia and Micronesia) | 8.1                                  | 12.3                            | 51.2        |
| <b>Asia</b>  | <b>3,803</b>                         | <b>4,776</b>                    | <b>25.6</b> |
| Western Asia   | 204                                  | 308                             | 50.1        |
| South Central Asia   | 1,536                                | 2,084                           | 35.7        |
| Southeast Asia   | 544                                  | 697                             | 28.1        |
| East Asia  | 1,519                                | 1,688                           | 11.1        |
| <b>Europe</b>  | <b>727</b>                           | <b>722</b>                      | <b>-0.7</b> |
| Northern Europe  | 95                                   | 101                             | 6.3         |
| Western Europe   | 185                                  | 187                             | 1.1         |
| Eastern Europe   | 301                                  | 285                             | -5.3        |
| Southern Europe  | 147                                  | 149                             | 1.4         |

**WOMEN IN THE LABOR FORCE, 2000 AND PROJECTED 2010\* 2**

|   | <b>2000<br/>(in thousands)</b> | <b>Projected 2010<br/>(in thousands)</b> |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Africa</b>   | <b>138,804</b>                 | <b>181,196</b>                           |
| Northern Africa   | 20,146                         | 29,554                                   |
| Western Africa  | 38,342                         | 50,765                                   |
| Eastern Africa  | 55,025                         | 69,452                                   |
| Middle Africa   | 17,340                         | 23,061                                   |
| Southern Africa   | 7,942                          | 8,362                                    |
| <b>Northern America**</b>   | <b>74,390</b>                  | <b>83,500</b>                            |
| Canada  | 7,604                          | 8,334                                    |
| United States   | 66,756                         | 75,133                                   |
| <b>Latin America &amp; Caribbean</b>                              | <b>77,782</b>                  | <b>99,834</b>                            |
| Central America   | 18,157                         | 25,391                                   |
| Caribbean   | 6,734                          | 8,119                                    |
| South America   | 52,892                         | 66,327                                   |
| <b>Oceania</b>  | <b>6,576</b>                   | <b>7,727</b>                             |
| Australia   | 4,296                          | 4,893                                    |
| New Zealand   | 855                            | 954                                      |
| Other area island nations (including<br>Melanesia and Micronesia) | 1,425                          | 1,880                                    |
| <b>Asia</b>   | <b>741,553</b>                 | <b>872,197</b>                           |
| Western Asia  | 23,539                         | 32,570                                   |
| South Central Asia  | 216,269                        | 280,793                                  |
| Southeast Asia  | 110,854                        | 137,189                                  |
| East Asia   | 390,892                        | 421,646                                  |
| <b>Europe</b>   | <b>161,314</b>                 | <b>163,600</b>                           |
| Northern Europe   | 21,680                         | 22,346                                   |
| Western Europe  | 37,081                         | 38,031                                   |
| Eastern Europe  | 76,722                         | 76,639                                   |
| Southern Europe   | 25,828                         | 26,583                                   |

## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES OF WOMEN & MEN, 2000 <sup>2</sup>

|                           | Women | Men  |
|---------------------------|-------|------|
| Africa                    | 34.9  | 51.4 |
| Northern America          | 46.7  | 56.4 |
| Latin America & Caribbean | 29.7  | 56.4 |
| Oceania                   | 43.3  | 56.1 |
| Asia                      | 41.3  | 58.9 |
| Europe                    | 42.9  | 56.5 |

\* Although women's share of the labor force has increased almost everywhere, women are still less likely than men to be considered economically active. A major reason for the statistical discrepancy is the definition of "work." National labor statistics generally count workers in or seeking employment in formal sector enterprises and not those engaging in unstructured and unregulated casual labor, such as petty trade, food processing, and domestic work, in which women are far more active than men. <sup>3</sup>

\*\* Also includes Bermuda, Greenland, and Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

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### Sources

1. Population Reference Bureau, "2003 World Population Data Sheet," [http://www.prb.org/pdf/WorldPopulationDS03\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.prb.org/pdf/WorldPopulationDS03_Eng.pdf)
2. International Labour Office Bureau of Statistics, LABORSTA, "Economically Active Population Estimates and Projections: 1950-2010."
3. Joni Seager, *The Penguin Atlas of Women in the World*, 2003.

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