Profile of Women from Rural Areas

Demographic characteristics of women from rural areas

- Average age is 39 years old
- Average life expectancy is 74 years old
- 2 out of 10 women are aged 60 and over
- There are 70 elderly women to 100 women of working age (16-59 years old)

Source: NBS, population statistics, 2014

Education level of women from rural areas

Less than half of women aged 15 and over have higher, secondary specialized or secondary vocational education (46.4%)


Access of women from rural areas to health services

- About 1/5 of rural women assess their health condition as bad or very bad (19.2%)
- Over 1/3 of rural women refused visiting the family doctor (34.4%)
- They suffer almost 2 times more often than women in urban areas from chronic diseases, which need continuous treatment, as well as osteoarticular disorders, nervous system diseases, tumours
- On average, they make 3.4 visits to the doctor on annual basis

Among the reasons for giving up doctor’s consultations were:
- Insufficiency of financial means – for 1 in 4 women (23.3%)
- Lack of health insurance policy – for 1 in 10 women (10.4%)

Source: NBS, Household Budget Survey (2014) and Module on Health Protection (2012)
Poverty among women from rural areas

The most affected by poverty in rural areas are:

- Elderly women (aged 65 and over): 19.4%
- Women of fertile age (aged 25-44): 16.5%
- Women whose main source of income is pension: 41%
- Women without primary education: 34.5%
- Women with primary and gymnasium education: 21.1%
- Women as own-account workers in agriculture sector: 16.9%

Employment of women from rural areas

Out of 10 employed women:
- 5 work in agriculture
- 1 works in trade and services
- 1 works in industry and other activities
- 3 work in public administration, education, health, etc.
- 4 work on their own account or as unpaid family workers

Source: NBS, Household Budget Survey, 2014


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