4 A Gender Perspective on Sami Statistics

This chapter builds on excerpts from a series of articles on Sami society published in *Samiske tall forteller 1,2 and 3.*

The excerpts come from chapters written by Svanhild Andersen, Torunn Pettersen, Magritt Brustad, Øyvind Rustad, Jon Todal and Yngve Johansen.

Summary

We see an uneven gender distribution in STN-areas (Sami Parliament subsidy schemes for business development) in a range of fields. In these areas, there is an excess of women only in the 80 and older age category. Based on data from 2001-2005, the probability of reaching the age of 75 for 15 year olds in STN-areas is about 56% for men and 80% for women. Approximately 5% of the population received disability benefits between 2004 and 2008, slightly more men than women. In 2004, 2.1% of men and 1.2% of women received social security benefits. In reindeer herding and agricultural areas, 80% of men are either siidainnehavere (siida proprietors) or main users, and 97% have their main employment in fisheries. The register of voters has shown a small but clear majority of men in all Sami Parliament votes, and in 2009 only the constituency of 'Sør-Norge' had a majority of women voters. In 2009, there was a marked majority of women voters between the age of 18 and 29. In the 2010/11 school year, almost 10% more girls than boys were learning Sami as a First of Second Language at the primary and lower secondary level. At the high school level, the difference had risen to almost 12%. In STN-areas, 13% more women than men have more than three years of post-secondary education. Boys in STN-areas have a higher high school dropout rate, especially for those in vocational programs, where only about a fourth of students complete their education within five years.

4.1 Introduction

This chapter looks at some of the chapters published in *Samiske tall forteller 1,2 and 3* as well as some more current information. The goal of the chapter is to focus on gender differences in a variety of fields, within the mandate given by the Sami Parliament and the then Ministry of Employment and Inclusion. The chapter is about the following themes: *Population Development*, with excerpts from articles in *Samiske tall forteller 1* written by Svanhild Andersen and Torunn Pettersen and *Samiske tall forteller 3* by Øivind Rustad, *health*, with an excerpt from Magritt Brustad's article in *Samiske tall forteller 2*, *Register of voters* based on Torunn Pettersen's article in *Samiske tall forteller 3, disability and social security benefits* by Magritt Brustad in *Samiske tall forteller 2, choice of Sami language in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary school* by Jon Todal in *Samiske tall forteller 2 and 3*, and *education* by Yngve Johansen in *Samiske tall forteller 2 and 3*. This chapter was edited by Yngve Johansen and read by the various authors.

4.2 Population Development in STN Areas According to Gender

Summary

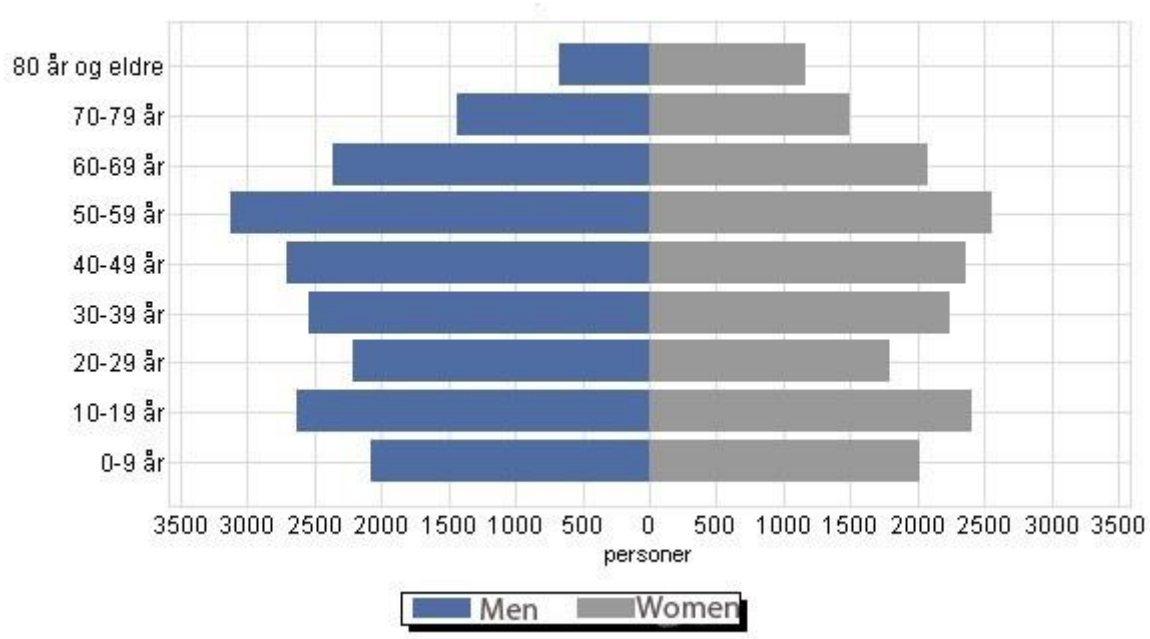
The population of STN-areas has decreased by 16% over the last 20 years. There is a majority of men in all age categories between the ages of 10 and 79, while there is a majority of women in age categories over 80. The difference between the number of men and women is greatest in the age group 50-59. Net migration in STN-areas from 2007-2009 was 450 men and 560 women.

4.2.1 Introduction

The population for STN-areas has decreased by 16% over the last 20 years. Over the same period, the population of Norway increased by 15%. This development is especially pronounced in Vest-Finnmark, while not so marked in Indre Finnmark. Migration away from STN-areas, with an insufficient migration to STN-areas, is one of the main reasons for the decrease. This leads to fewer births because young people are moving out and starting a family in other places. After the turn of the millennium, in contrast to the 1990's, there have been more deaths than births in STN-areas. Migration and low birth rates result in an aging population with an increasing average age because not enough younger people are moving into the areas.

4.2.2 Age Composition in STN-Areas According to Gender

Figure 4.1 Population in STN-areas, according to gender and age, 2007



Kilde: Statistisk sentralbyrå

The portion of women in STN-areas is lower than the average for the rest of the country, especially in the 20-29 year old age group. STN-areas also have a lower portion of children in the 0-9 age group and a higher portion of people over the age of 50. There is a majority of men in STN-areas in all age categories from 10-19 to 70-79 years of age. There is a majority of women only in the over-80 age category. The majority of men is greatest in the 50-59 years of age category.

Table 4.1 Areas with the Greatest Majority of Men 16-67 years of age, 2010

	Greatest Majority of Men STN	
	(Norway = 51.0 percent)	
	(STN = 53.6 percent)	

Extract of STN-areas

1	Måsøy	59,3
2	Tromsø	58,6
3	Evenes	56,3
4	Loppa	55,6
5	Nordkapp	55,3
5	Alta	55,3
7	Gratangen	54,8
8	Tysfjord	54,7
9	Gáivuotna/Kåfjord	54,2
10	Kvænangen	54,1
10	Narvik	54,1

Other areas within STN-municipalities

1	Lebesby	55,6
2	Nordkapp	53,3
3	Hamarøy	52,5
4	Narvik	51,5
5	Måsøy	51,2
6	Sørreisa	50,8
7	Sør-Varanger	50,2
8	Evenes	49,0

	Greatest Majority of Men, Remaining	
	(Norway = 51.0 percent)	
	(øvrig = 51.8 percent)	

Extract of municipalities outside STN-areas north of Saltfjellet

1	Hasvik	55,8
2	Moskenes	54,8
3	Karlsøy	54,2
4	Berg	54,1
5	Vardø	53,9
6	Ibestad	53,5
6	Målselv	53,5
8	Beiarn	53,2
8	Sørfold	53,2
10	Balsfjord	53,1
11	Røst	52,9
12	Meløy	52,8
13	Torsken	52,6
14	Bardu	52,5
15	Steigen	52,4
16	Salangen	52,2
16	Ballangen	52,2
18	Tranøy	52,0
18	Dyrøy	52,0

Table 4.1 shows the number of men and women between the ages of 16 and 67. This age group is chosen to reflect the 'adult' population in the various regions. Because women have a higher life expectancy than men, there is an increasing majority of women in the age groups over 67. In the younger age groups, there is a small majority of men because more boys are born than girls.

The table shows a ranked extract of the areas. In STN-areas, between 59 and 52 % were men, while in other areas in the same municipalities, there was a lower portion of men, between 56 and 49%. In five of the remaining areas, the male portion of the population is lower than in all STN-areas. The difference was especially pronounced in Måsøy and Evenes. Måsøy has 59% men in STN-areas versus 51% in the rest of the municipality. Evenes has 56% men in STN-areas and 49% in the rest of the municipality. These two municipalities, which had a majority of men in STN-areas, had some of the lowest populations of men. The municipality of Lebesby constitutes the only exception. The proportion of men to women in this STN-area was lower than in the rest of the municipality, 54% versus 56%.

4.2.3 Migration out of STN-Areas

Table 4.2 Net Migration from STN-Areas from 2007 to 2009, by Gender

	Men	Women
2007	130	190
2008	200	180
2009	120	190
Total 2007 - 2009	450	560

The distribution of men and women varies from year to year. To avoid random variation, numbers for the last three years are combined. Between 2007 and 2009, 4,460 people moved into STN-areas and 5,470 moved out. This resulted in a net population loss of 1,010. Net migration among men was 450 and 560 for women. In other words, more women moved out of STN-areas than men. The difference between genders was especially marked in 2009 where 190 women versus 120 men moved. In 2007, net migration of women was also 190 versus 140 for men. The exception was 2008, where more men left than women, 200 versus 180. Numbers according to citizenship are not shown in the above overview but foreign citizens had almost the same ratios of men and women leaving and settling in the areas. Of 1010 people who left the area, 70 were foreign, while 940 were Norwegians. In this period, the net migration of women has been markedly greater than that of men in Øst-Finnmark, Vest-Finnmark and Nordre Nordland.

4.3 Reindeer Herding, Agriculture and Fisheries in STN-Areas by Gender

Summary

In STN-areas, 80% of men are siida-proprietors in reindeer herding and main users in farming. Ninety-seven percent of those who have their main employment in the fisheries are men. This numbers has been stable over the last six years.

4.3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents data showing the gender distribution in primary industries in Sami communities; limited to reindeer husbandry, agriculture and fisheries. Data is also presented for several periods in STN-areas north of Saltfjellet.

4.3.2 Reindeer Herding by Gender

Table 4.3 Siida-innehavere* in Norway, by gender and percent in 2000 and 2008

	Men		Women		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
2000	478	82	100	18	578
2005	511	84	98	16	609
2007	468	85	82	15	550
2008	483	87	70	13	553
2009	312	81	71	19	383

*A *siida* consists of several *siida-andeler* which are defined as 'a family group or individual who is part of a *siida*, and is involved in reindeer herding under the leadership of an individual or jointly with a spouse or common-law partner' (Reindeer Herding Act 2007).

Table 4.4 Individuals Involved in Reindeer Herding, by gender and percent

	Men		Women		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
2005	1 512	51.9	1 402	48.1	2 914
2007	1 463	52	1 352	48	2 815
2009	1 563	51.9	1 449	48.1	3 012

The portion of women among *siida-andel* proprietors appears to have decreased in recent years. In 2000, there were 100 women making up 18% of the 578 *siida-andels* proprietors. In 2008,

the portion of women was 13% (70 of 553)[1]. In the same year, women owned 24% of the total number of reindeer. There was relatively little difference between the various reindeer pastures: Vest-Finnmark had the largest number of reindeer with women as owners – 27 percent, and Nordland had the lowest with 19 percent.

Gender distribution among the total number of people in *siida-andelene* is more balanced than among *siida-andelsinnehaverne*. In the period 2005-2009 the gender distribution was 52/48 percent (men/women) in *siida-andelene*, with a small variation in Finnmark: 52/48, Troms: 57/47 and the rest of the country: 48/52[2].

4.3.3 Agriculture by Gender

Table 4.5 Percentage Distribution of Main Land Users in 1989 and 2007

	1989	2007
Men	81	76
Women	18	20
Non-personal users*	1	4

* Municipalities, counties, institutions

The number of homestead in STN areas has decreased by 62 percent. Most main users are men (81% in 1989 and 76% in 2007). The number of women main users has increased by 2 percentage points in this period, while non-individual users (for example municipalities, counties or institutions) increased by 3%.

The average age for both men and women decreased in the same period, from 51.6 to 49.7 for men and from 54.3 to 48.6 for women.3

[1] Gender distribution figures among *innehavere av driftsenheter (operational unit proprietors)/siida-andeler* for 2000 and 2008 are probably not wholly comparable. There is no category for joint operational units in the *Totalregnskapet* 2000 as in the comparable accounting for 2008; the category of spouse, which appears first in the report (see p.95 and table 7.2.4 in *Totalregnskapet* 2000 and p. 101 in *Totalregnskapet* 2008), is divided into the categories man and woman in 2000. See for example *Ressursregnskaper* 2007/08, p. 52 for information regarding measure to strengthen women's participation in reindeer husbandry and youth recruitment.

[2] Table 47 in statistikkbanken, tema samer. SSB.

[3] Table 62 (Jordbruksbdrifter, by main user and average age for main users in STN-areas). Samisk statistikk 2008, SSB.

4.3.4 Fisheries by Gender

Table 4.6 Number of Fishers living in STN-Areas, by Gender and Participation

	Main Profession				Side Profession				Total			
	Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Women	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
As of 31.12.2004	548	97.7	13	2.3	319	92.7	25	7.3	867	95.8	38	4.2
As of 31.12.2008	516	97.0	16	3.0	235	94.4	14	5.6	751	96.2	30	3.8

Men dominate the fisheries in STN-areas, especially when considering main employment. Around 97% of fishers are men, and this number has been very similar in 2004 and 2008. The number of women who had fisher as a side job has nearly halved in the same period, but also the number of men. This number has decreased significantly in the same period. In 2008, 5.6% of those who had fisher as a side job were women versus 7.3% for men.

4.5 Gender Difference in Health Statistics

4.4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, data from published works regarding medical examinations among the Sami in Norway is presented and discussed. The chapter focuses on health statistics regarding incidence of disease and disease risk factors in the population. The results are presented according to gender as well as Sami ethnicity.

4.4.2 Mortality

Summary

There is a higher incidence of death due to cerebral haemorrhage among Sami women and death due to accidents and suicide among Sami men. Women living in inland Sami areas have had a low and steady mortality rate. There reason to be concerned about the high mortality rate among young men in the Sami areas.

4.4.2.1 Introduction

Mortality rates have been used as a way to measure of a population's living conditions and health. Mortality rates can be presented in various manners. The most common is number of deaths per 1000 or 100,000 inhabitants in different age groups.

In Norway, women still live longer than men, but the differences between the genders in steadily decreasing. From 2009 to 2010, life expectancy at birth increased by 0.1 years for women and 0.3 years for men, to 83.2 and 78.9 years respectively. Over the last 25 years, life expectancy has increased by nearly six years for men and a little over three years for women. The difference between life expectancies for men and women has decreased by a little over 2.5%.

4.4.2.2 Mortality Rates by Gender and Residence

Juxtaposing the mortality rates in the period 1970-1998 and 1970 ethnicity census reports has shown a slightly higher mortality rate for Sami men (6%) and women (10%) than for the regional reference population. Higher death rates due to cerebral haemorrhaging, especially among women, may explain some of these differences. Men had a higher incidence of so-called violent deaths, especially accidents and suicide

Figure 4.2 Probability of reaching the age of 75 for 15 year olds nationally and in STN-areas coast and inland, based on mortality rates from various periods for men and women.

Source*: Brustad et al 2009, Scandinavian Journal of Public Health.*

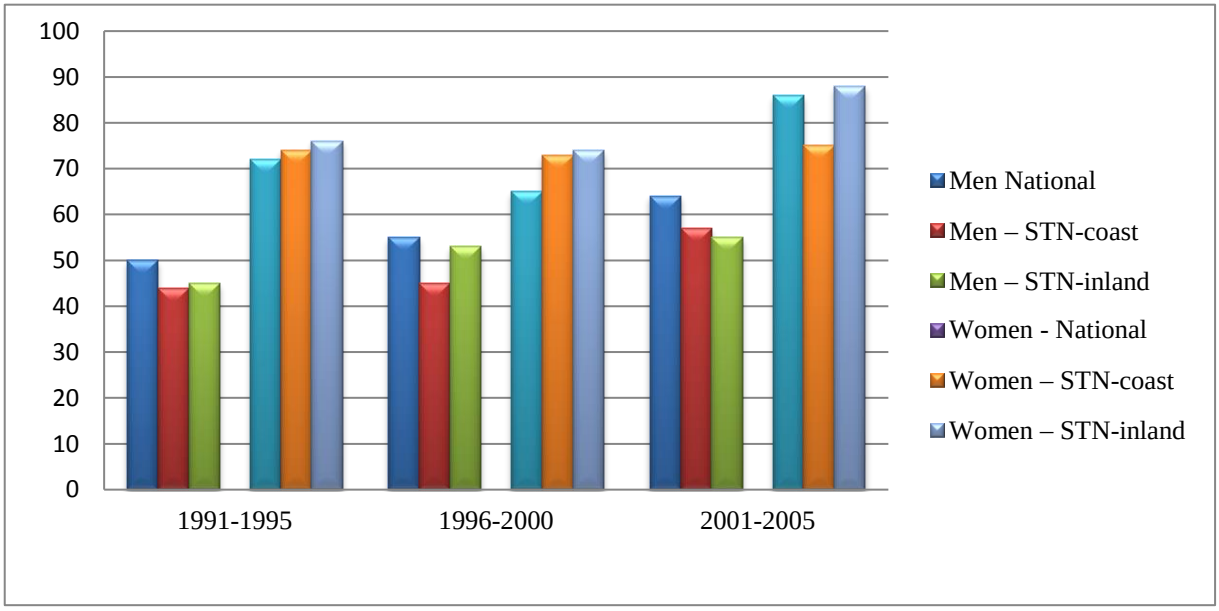


Figure 4.2 shows the calculated probability of women and men reaching the age of 75 for 15 year-olds, based on mortality rate patterns in the various periods. The figures distinguish between the rates for those living within and outside STN-areas as well as coast and inland.

The figures also show no significant difference between geographical areas or periods. For men, however, there has been an increase in life expectancy, which can be explained by the decreasing rates of heart and cardiovascular mortality, which have struck men to a great degree than women. Furthermore, the mortality rate for men in STN-areas has been slightly higher than

the national average. This is possibly explained by the high mortality rate due to 'violent death'[4] in STN areas.
Generally, one can say that mortality rates in Sami areas are very similar to mortality rates in the non-Sami portion of the population. This may indicate that mortality rate patterns have evened out between areas with low versus high density of Sami populations. This has been explained by similar living conditions, education and health care, which is in contrast to the situation for other indigenous populations in circumpolar areas.
There is still reason to be concerned about the relatively high mortality rate among young men in Sami areas.

4.4.3 Smoking

Summary

Studies show a higher rate of smoking among Sami men living inland than among non-Samis. Similar patterns have not been found for women.

4.4.3.1 Introduction

Smoking increases the risk of a long list of diseases such as lung cancer, heart and cardiovascular disease and chronic lung disease. The Central Bureau for Statistics (SSB) conducts annual studies on the use of tobacco. In 1973, over half of adult men smoked, while in 2006, about 21% did so. The number of daily smokers among women has also decreased from 32% in 1973 to 22% in 2006.

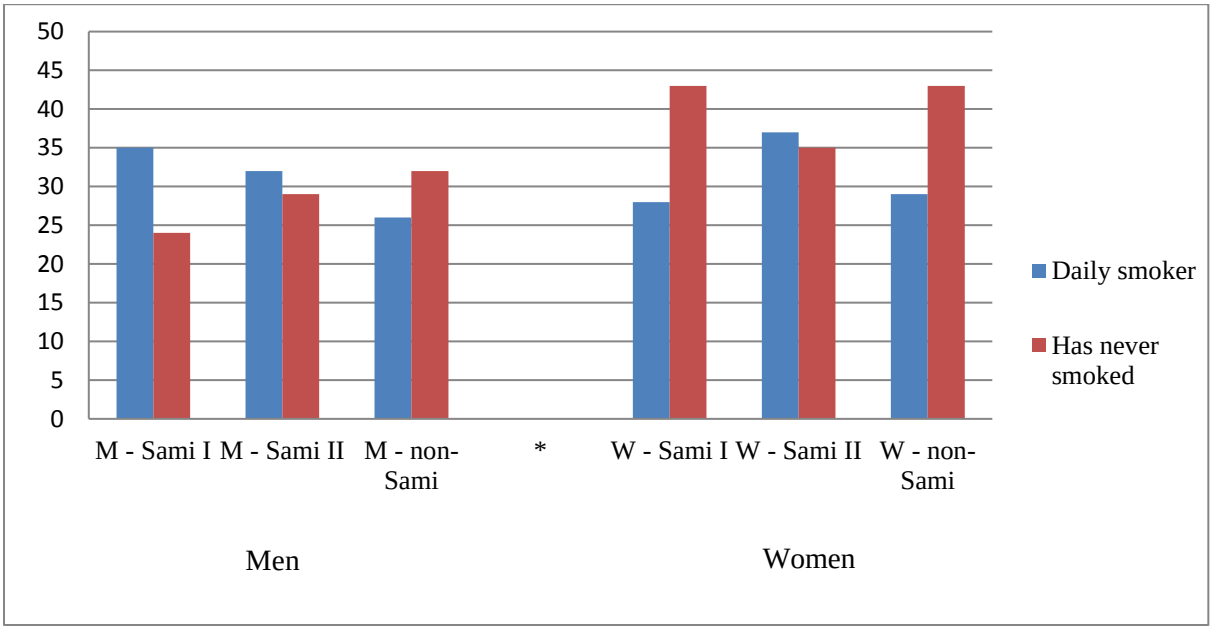
Nineteen percent people between the ages of 16 and 74 answered that they smoked daily in 2010. The number was the same for men and women. The change last year dovetails with a pattern we have seen over time, a steady decrease in the number of daily smokers. Men's and women's smoking habits were different up until the turn of the millennium, but have since had a common falling curve. Approximately a third of women smoked daily in the last decades before 2000. Among men, however, there has been a downward trend for the whole period since 1973, when over half smoked daily. Earlier population studies have shown a higher incidence of daily smokers in Finnmark compared to other counties in Norway. Figures for 2004-2008 show that the number of daily smokers varies greatly from county to county. According to SSB, the lowest number of daily smokers is in Oslo with 19%, and the highest in Finnmark with 32%.

[4] Violent death is defined as death due to accident, suicide or homicide.

4.4.3.2 Smoking Relative to Gender and Ethnicity

Figure 4.3 **Smoking Habits for men and women according to Ethnicity based on Data from the SAMINOR study 2003/04. (Sami I = three generations of Sami language, Sami II = at least one Sami indicator such as language or family background.)**

Source: Broderstad et al. 2007 European Journal of Haematology



Generally, great differences in smoking habits have not been demonstrated between Sami and Norwegians, for either adults or youth. For men, studies have shown a slightly higher incidence of smoking among inland Samis than non-Samis. No corresponding trends have been found for women.

4.4.4 Alcohol

Summary

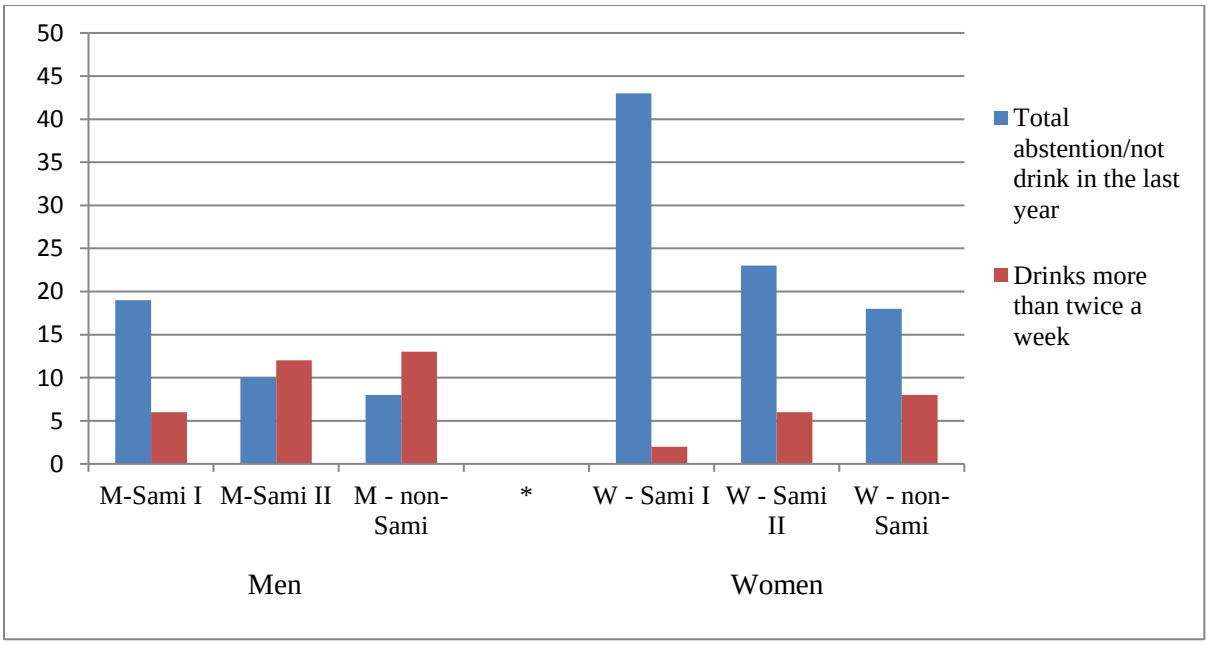
Both Sami men and women have reported a higher rate of total abstinence from alcohol than non-Samis in Norway. This pattern is especially pronounced among elderly Sami women.

4.4.4.1 Introduction

Alcohols is the most widespread stimulant used by the population and in all likelihood the stimulant that involves the greatest amount of abuse. Additionally, the consumption of alcohol contributes to an increased risk of accident, injury and death.
The total use of alcohol in Norway has increased since 1990, from 4.55 litres per capita in 1993 to 6.37 litres in 2005. The consumption of beer and wine has increased the most over the last 20 years. The increase in the sales of wine has been linked to a so-called 'continental' drinking pattern where one drinks often but consumes less per drinking situation. These habits have not replaced, but come in addition to, the Nordic patterns of weekend drunkenness and intoxication.

4.4.4.2 Alcohol Use relative to Gender and Ethnicity

Figure 4.4 Alcohol Use in Men and Women according to Ethnicity (SAMINOR study 2003-04). (Sami I = three generations of Sami language, Sami II = at least one Sami indicator such as language or family background.)
Source: Broderstad et al 2007 European Journal of Haematology



Based on data from the SAMINOR study*, ethnic differences have been shown in the consumption of alcohol. The figures show that the number of those who answered that they 'abstained totally from alcohol' or 'didn't drink over the last year', was quite a bit higher among

Sami men and women. The number of respondents who said they drank more than twice a week was a bit lower among Samis with three generations of Sami language than for the other groups. The trend of lower alcohol consumption was more pronounced among Sami women than men.

*A 2003-2004 Health and living conditions study conducted in areas with mixed Sami and Norwegian communities. The survey was conducted by the Centre for Research on Sami Health, University of Tromsø, in cooperation with the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

4.4.5 Prescription Drug Use

Summary

Use of soporifics in the Sami population corresponds to half the amount used by the Norwegian population, with Sami men showing 13% less use than Sami women.

4.4.5.1 Introduction

Use of prescription drugs[5] in a particular population is, to a certain extent, an indicator of the presence of disease or illness. Research has also shown that use of prescription drugs can be explained by various lifestyle factors and use of medical services.

4.4.5.2 Sleeping Problems and use of Soporifics by Gender and Ethnicity

Table 4.7 Use of prescription drugs by ethnicity in Finnmark (n=11061). Figures given in percent. 1987-1988.
Source: Furu K, 1997. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology

Ethnicity	***Men***	***Women***
Norwegian	43,4	56,9
Finnish	42,4	58,4
Sami	43,0	54,9
Sami/Finnnish	49,4	58,9

According to research conducted by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, use of soporifics is relatively common in Norway. Only one study has looked into the use of soporifics among Samis. This study is based on data from the SAMINOR, Health and Living Conditions Survey in areas with mixed Sami and Norwegian communities.

[5] Prescription drugs are defined as substances designed or prescribed for the treatment or prevention of disease or illness. In order to market a substance as a medicine, one must document the effect, safety and technical quality of the product. (Source: www.lovdata.no

The number of respondents reporting sleeping problems was lower in the Sami population than in the non-Sami. Use of soporifics in the Sami population corresponded to half the amount used in the Norwegian population. The lowest use was found among those who had the strongest Sami ties who lived in Finnmark.

Regardless of ethnicity, women used twice as much soporifics as men. The study concludes by saying that the stronger the ties to the Sami community, the lower the use of soporifics. The incidence of sleeping problems is considered to be lower in the Sami population.

4.5 Disability and Social Benefits by Gender and Age

Summary

In the period 2004-2008, a little over 5% of the population of STN-areas between 20 and 66 years of age received disability benefits, slightly more men than women. In 2004, 2.1% of men and 1.2% of women in STN-areas received social benefits.

4.5.1 Introduction

Norway has had an increase in the number of people receiving disability pensions. At the end of 2008, there were approximately 340,000 people receiving disability benefits in Norway. That is 70,000 more than in 1999. Some of this increase can be attributed to an aging population, but even with adjustment for age, this is a pronounced increase. After the institution of time limitations for disability benefits in 2004, a relatively strong increase in the number of people receiving disability benefits has been registered. The increase has been greatest among those under the age of 40 (Bjørngaard et al., 2009).

In 2008, 109,300 people received economic social benefits in Norway. The number of those receiving social benefits reached an apex of 165,000 in 1993, and has since decreased. From 2007 to 2008, the decline has diminished.

4.5.2 Disability by Gender and Age

A disability pension is a legally established social security benefit in Norway. The purpose of the pension is to ensure a subsistence income for people whose earning ability has been permanently reduced due to illness, injury or disability (NAV, 2010).

Table 4.8 New recipients (per 1000) of Disability Benefits in STN-areas for various periods, men and women

	Period					
	1994–1998*		1999–2003**		2004–2008***	
Age	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
20–30 years	11,7	12,5	10,1	7,7	5,0	8,4
31-45 years	37,9	44,9	33,1	37,8	18,5	18,6
46-66 years	109,2	106,0	121,7	106,5	104,7	96,3
Total 20-66 years	55,9	57,7	63,8	58,6	54,9	51,9

* The period goes from February 1994 to January 1999.
** The period goes from February 1999 to January 2004.
*** The period goes from February 2004 to December 2008.

Table 4.8 shows new disability benefits recipients in five-year intervals from 1994 up to and including 2008. It appears that outside of STN-areas, especially in the oldest age group, women accounted for a somewhat larger number of new disability cases. This difference appears to have evened out in the last period.

For men in STN-areas, the numbers are higher than outside STN-areas in all the age groups for all periods. In the 45 years and under age group, the number of new recipients between 2004 and 2008 has almost been halved compared to the two previous five-year periods. There has also been a decrease in the 46-66 age category, but not as pronounced.

4.5.3 Disability by Gender and Age

Social benefits are a legally established scheme to ensure that all have sufficient economic resources for subsistence. These benefits are meant to be temporary and should contribute to making the recipient economically self-sufficient (NAV, 2010).

Table 4.9 Number of Social Benefits Recipients in Various Periods in STN-areas, men and women. Numbers given in percent.

	Period					
	January 1992		January 1999		January 2004	
Age	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
20–30 years	2,6	2,1	2,1	2,0	2,6	2,0
31-45 years	2,3	1,6	2,4	1,2	2,4	1,5
46-66 years	1,2	0,6	0,9	0,7	1,5	0,5
Total 20-66 years	2,0	1,4	1,8	1,3	2,1	1,2

Table 4.9 shows that the number of new receipts of social benefits is markedly higher for those under the age of 30. It is lowest in the oldest age group. The number of recipients has gradually decreased over the last three time intervals shown in the table, for both men and women. This can be partly attributed to the decreasing unemployment rates for the same periods.

4.6 Gender Distribution in the Sami Parliament's Electoral Register

Summary

The registry of voters for all Sami Parliament elections has had a small but stable majority of men. However, in the 2009 election, the constituency of Sør-Norge had a slight majority of women. Also in this election, a majority of women between the ages of 18 and 29 were registered to vote.

5.6.1 Introduction

The Sami Parliament in Norway is a representational political body, elected and represented by Samis. In the parliament's view, it is responsible for all matters that concern Sami people. Samis who have registered in the Sami Parliament's electoral register are entitled to vote and are eligible for election.

Pursuant to the Sami Act §2-6, one must declare that they perceive themselves as Sami and that either they or at least one parent, grandparent or great grandparent uses or has used Sami as a home language (The Sami Act, 1987). Six elections have been held since the establishment of the Sami Parliament in Norway in 1989. Sami Parliament election are conducted at the same time as Norwegian parliamentary elections and election years have been 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001, 2005 and 2009.

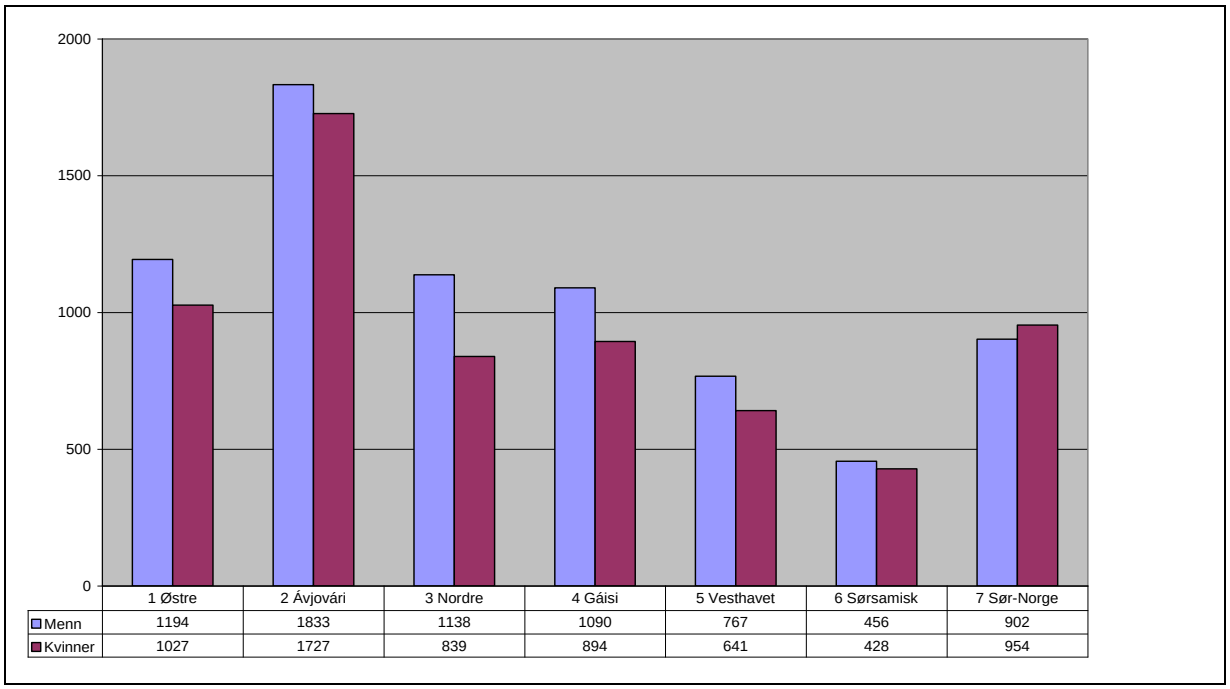
5.6.2 Gender Distribution, Total and by Constituency

Reliable numbers for the first three elections are not available, but there has been a slight but stable majority of male voters over the last three elections.

Table 4.10 Gender Distribution in the Total Register of Voters for the 2001, 2005 and 2009 Elections

	Men	Women	Total	Total Excess of Men	Percentage Women
2001	5401	4520	9921	881	45,6
2005	6752	5786	12538	966	46,1
2009	7380	6510	13890	870	46,9

Figure 4.5 Gender Distribution by Constituency - 2009 Register of Voters



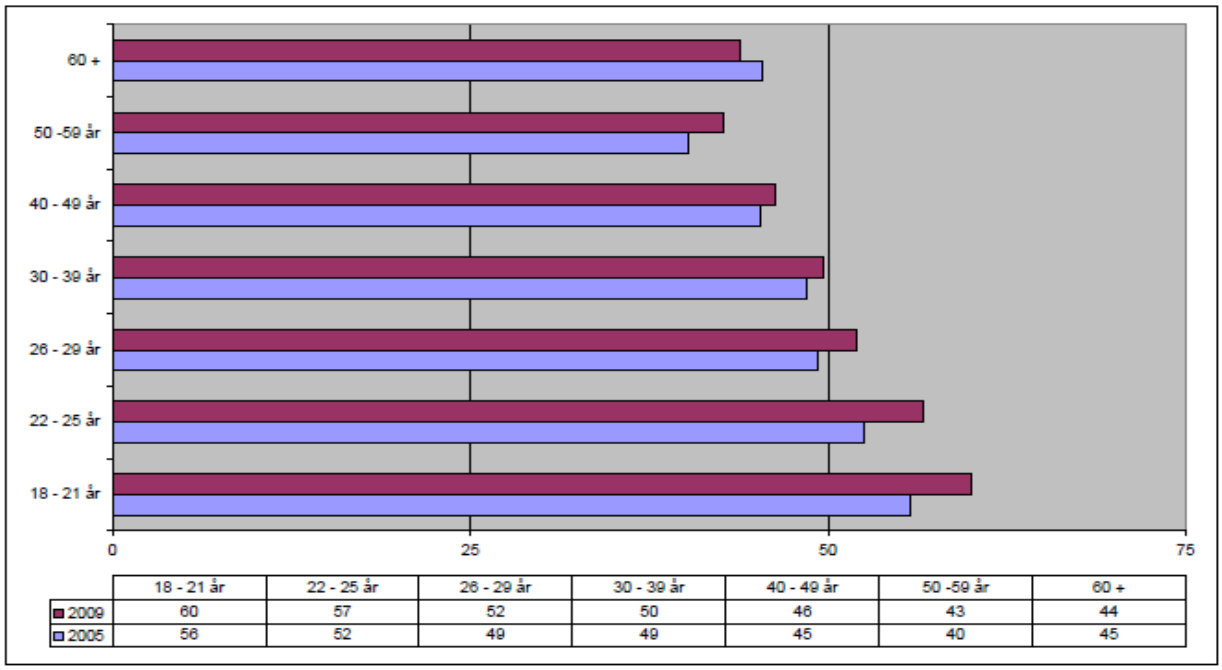
	1 Østre	2 Ávjovári	3 Nordre	4 Gáisi	5 Vesthavet	6 Sørsamisk	7 Sør-Norge
Menn	1194	1833	1138	1090	767	456	902
Kvinner	1027	1727	839	894	641	428	954

Figure 4.5 shows that in the 2009 elections, Sør-Norge was the only constituency with a majority of women voters.

4.6.3 Increasing Number of Women among the Younger Voters

It is interesting to note that when considering both age and gender distribution, there appears to be a shift towards more women voters, especially in the younger age groups.

Figure 4.6 Number of Women in Various Age Groups in 2005 and 2009 Register of Voters



	18 - 21 år	22 - 25 år	26 - 29 år	30 - 39 år	40 - 49 år	50 -59 år	60 +
2009	60	57	52	50	46	43	44
2005	56	52	49	49	45	40	45

Figure 4.6 shows that in 2009, the Sami Parliament's Register of Voters had a marked majority of women in the youngest age segment, defined as the three age groups between 18 and 29 years of age. The other age groups still had a majority of men registered to vote in 2009, but the number of women, with one exception, has increased. The exception for this is women over the age of 60, where the portion of women is still relatively low and where the portion of men increased between the elections in 2005 and 2009.

4.7 Choice of Sami Language in Primary and Lower Secondary as well as Upper Secondary School, by Gender

Summary

Nearly 10% more girls than boys were learning Sami as a first or second language at the primary and lower secondary level in the 2010/11 school year. At the upper secondary level, this difference had increased to 12%.

4.7.1 Introduction

With the introduction of Sami as a Second Language 2 and 3, the number of students learning Sami at the primary and lower secondary level has gone down from 2,672 to 2,245 in the 2010/11 school year. The decrease over the last four years has been 16%. See also chapter 2, *Sami Language at Day Care and School*, in this edition of *Samiske tall forteller*.

4.7.2 Sami Language at the primary and lower Secondary Level, by Gender and Level

Table 4.11 Students at the Primary and Lower Secondary Level Studying North, Lule and South Sami as a First Language or Second Language 2 or 3, school year 2006/07 and 2010/11, by Gender

	2006/2007					2010/2011				
	Boys		Girls		Total	Boys		Girls		Total
	N	%	N	%		N	%	N	%	
North Sami as a First Language	505	52	466	48	971	472	51.2	451	48.8	923
North Sami as a Second Language 2	291	42.2	398	57.8	689	225	42.3	307	57.7	532
North Sami as a Second Language 3	353	38.4	466	61.6	819	234	38.8	369	61.2	603
Lule Sami as a First Language	22	71	9	29	31	16	55.2	13	44.8	29
Lule Sami as a Second Language 2	15	50	15	50	30	24	54.5	20	45.5	44
Lule Sami as a Second Language 3	8	50	8	50	16	9	39.1	14	60.9	23
South Sami as a First Language	6	33.3	12	66.7	18	7	36.8	12	63.2	19
South Sami as a Second Language 2	37	47.4	41	52.6	78	28	45.2	34	54.8	62
South Sami as a Second Language 3	13	65	7	35	20	3	30	7	70	10
Total	1250	46.8	1422	53.2	2672	1018	45.3	1227	54.7	2245

In the 2010/11 school year, nearly 10 percent more girls than boys were studying Sami at the primary and lower secondary school level. This difference has increased from the 2006/07 school year. A small majority of boys chose Sami as a First Language but a larger majority of girls chose Sami as a Second Language 2 or 3.

4.7.3 Sami Language at the Upper Secondary Level by Gender and Grade Level

Table 4.12 Choice of Sami as a First or Second Language among Upper Secondary School Students in the country, by Gender

	2008-2009 School Year				2009/2010 School Year				2010/2011 School Year			
	Boys		Girls		Boys		Girls		Boys		Girls	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
First Language	83	43.9	106	56.1	105	48.8	110	51.2	126	50.8	122	49.2
Second Language	49	32.2	103	67.8	55	35.7	99	64.3	71	38.4	114	61.6
Totalt	132	38.7	209	61.3	160	43.3	209	56.7	197	45.5	236	54.5

Table 4.12 shows that more girls than boys choose Sami at the upper secondary level, even when compensating for Sami as a first Language. The difference between the number of boys and girls taking Sami as a second language is still significant, where almost two thirds of students are girls. The reason for this can be that more girls than boys choose general studies, which may indicate that girls are more interested in theoretical fields of study. Generally, girls also show greater interest for languages.

4.8 Education among Women and Men in STN-Areas

Summary

In STN-areas, approximately 13% more women than men have a post-secondary education of three years or more. At the upper secondary level, boys in STN-areas have a higher dropout rate than girls, especially among those pursuing vocational studies where only a little under a fourth of boys complete their education within five years.

4.8.1 Introduction

This chapter examines gender differences in STN-areas in relation to completion of upper secondary schooling, educational level and current level of education for students who have started a foundation class in the years 1994 to 1996.

4.8.2 Completion of Upper Secondary Education by Program

Fifty-five percent of boys from STN-areas who began their vocational studies in 2003, and 20 percent of those in general studies, withdrew from their program within five years. Of the boys from STN-areas who started upper secondary school in 2003, over 40% quit their schooling. Among girls, the number was about 20%.

A little over a quarter of boys and almost half of girls completed their vocational studies within five years. For general studies, the numbers are 70% and 78% respectively.

Table 4.13 Students who Started a Foundation Course for the first time in 2003 in STN-Areas and Level of Upper Secondary Education After Five Years. Program and Gender. Percent.

Program, gender and geographical area	School Start 2003					
	Absolute Number	Percent				
	Total	Completed in the standard amount of time	Took longer than the standard amount of time to complete	Still studying at the upper secondary level	Completed their studies but did not pass	Stopped without completing their studies
General Studies						
Men STN-areas	96	57.3	12.5	0	0	19.8
Women STN-areas	108	58.3	19.4	5.6	10.2	6.5
Vocational Studies						
Men STN-areas	157	11.0	16.0	12.0	6.0	55.0
Women STN-areas	151	26.0	21.0	13.0	10.0	29.0

4.8.3 Education Level

The proportion of working-age women (24 to 65 years) with a post-secondary education is relatively high in STN-areas with sparse populations. The total amount is 2 percentage points higher than the average for the rest of the country.

Men in STN-areas clearly have a lower level of education than the rest of the population. The portion of men who have completed an upper secondary education, and who live in densely-populated areas, is a whole 10 percentage points lower than the national average. The difference is smaller in sparsely populated areas, about 2 percentage points.

Table 4.14 Education Level for Men and Women 24 - 65 years of age living in STN-Areas in 2008. Percent.

Level of Education and Geography	Living 1/1-2008 with Education Level 1/10-2007			
	Men		Women	
	Densely Populated Area	Spread-out Community	Densely Populated Area	Spread-out Community
Lower Secondary Level				
STN-area	27,9	37,6	23,4	31,9
Upper Secondary Level				
STN-area	48,7	48,3	39,7	39,6
University and College				
STN-area	23,4	14,2	36,9	28,5

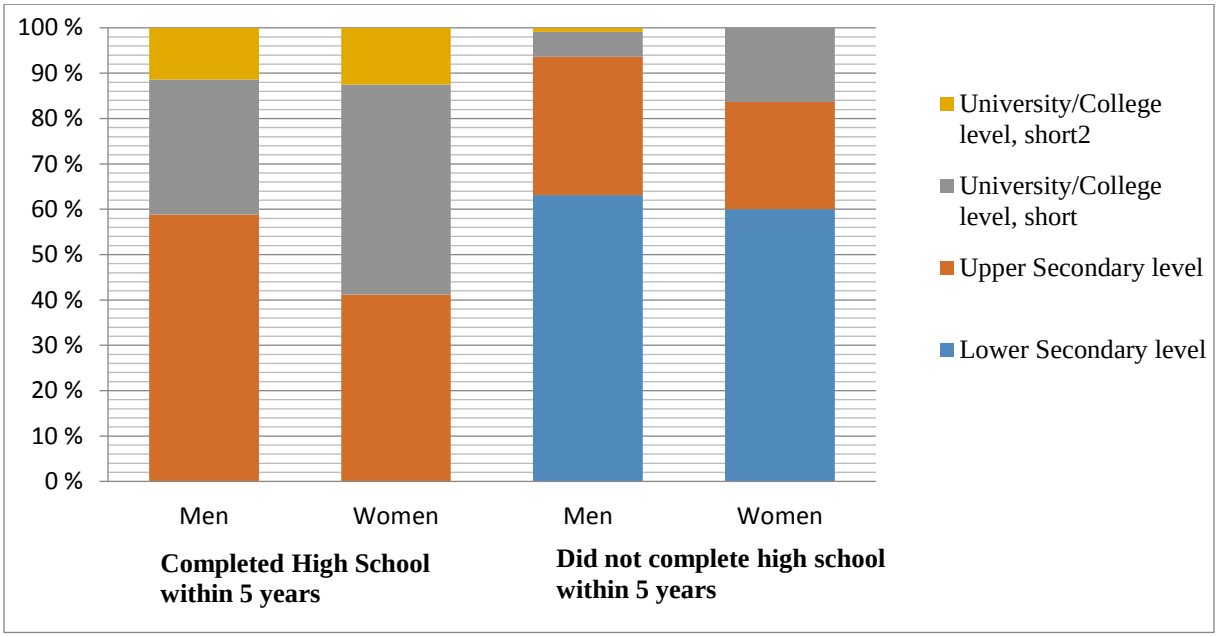
SSB's definition of a densely populated area

A collection of residences is registered as a densely populated area when at least 200 people live there, and the distance between the residences does not normally exceed 50 metres. A distance greater than 50 metres is permitted in areas where residences shall not or cannot be built. These areas can be parks, sports grounds, industrial areas or natural obstacles such as rivers or arable land. Clusters of residences that naturally belong to the same densely populated area are included up to a distance of 400 metres from the core of the densely populated area. These are considered to be satellites of the core.

4.8.4 Current Levels of Education in STN-Areas for Students who Started a Foundation Course between 1994 and 1996

In STN areas, 54% of students who started their upper secondary education between 1994 and 1996 completed their studies within five years. The completion rate was 45.5% for men and 62.5% for women.

Figure 4.7 Education Level in STN-areas in 2009 for Men and Women who started Upper Secondary School between 1994 and 1996, those who completed their studies within five years and those who did not. Percent.



The figure shows to what extent completion of upper secondary within five years affects the education level attained later on. Over 60% of those who do not complete their studies within five years still do not have a craft or trade education when they are 30 years of age. Almost 50% of those who complete their upper secondary education within five years have a post-secondary education, compared to only 10% of those who not. Those who have completed their upper secondary education within five years, approximately 12% of both men and women, have a post-secondary education of five years or more. However, approximately 16% more women than men have a shorter post-secondary education. For those who did not complete their upper secondary education within five years, approximately 8% more women than men have a shorter post-secondary education.

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