**Population**

4,551,599

**Female population**

16,862,562

**Urban population**

56.1% of total population

**Percentage of population aged 15-24**

19.9%

**Representation in politics**

14 Females

167 Males

**Literacy rate**

91.1% Overall literacy rate

85.6% Female

93.6% Male
Law against child marriage:
Based on Article 7 of Royal decree number 32/97 the legal age for marriage is 18.

Law against domestic violence:
Article 247 of the penal code criminalizes assault on the integrity of the human body.

Law against rape:
Article 218 of the penal code, includes jail time from 5 years to 15 years for anyone who has intercourse with a female forcibly or under threat. Same penalty will be enforced against anyone who kidnaps another one for forcible practice.

Law against sexual harassment:
An article in the law on insulting the dignity with limited imprisonment term.
Existing UNFPA programmes against gender-based violence

Major results in 2015:

• Support of Y-PEER network in several awareness activities and trainings regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including GBV

• Outreach to approx 2000 people with the aim of creating awareness on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including GBV.

• Opening of the first "Girls House" in Oman by UNFPA trained female Y-PEERs. The "Girls House" (GH) promote women empowerment and knowledge-based activities for young females of Oman in Buraimi, a governorate on the border between Oman and UAE.

• Advocacy: Organization of training workshops and campaigns using arts such as theatrical performance (stage acting, shadow techniques, puppet theatre and live music performances), to raise public awareness around GBV and SRHR related issues

Future UNFPA programmes:

• Expand Y-Peer to include more youth females from remote governorates.

• Capacity building programmes for the young females in the country through Y-Peer and other programmes, to educate them on healthy lifestyles, International conference on Population and Development Plan of Action, Sustainable Development Goals (ICPD POA), youth empowerment, civic engagement and family planning.