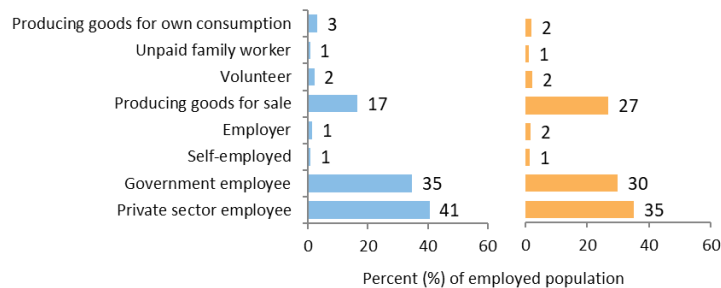


**Republic of the Marshall Islands
48 hour written responses to the
Committee for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women**

1. On the matter of pregnant women going to the US to give birth and not returning with the infants there born. RMI notes the concerns of the Committee as to the possibility of this being a possible avenue of trafficking. The RMI is currently working to enhance the tracking abilities of the Adoptions Office with in the Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs. Just recently, Immigrations alerted the Adoptions office to several pregnant women being escorted through airport security but a foreign male. Our adoptions office was able to address these pending mothers and share with them, safe and proper avenues by which to put their child up for adoption should that have been something they were truly interested in.
2. On the matter of women participating in the private sector, the RMI would like to share the graph below.

Women are more likely to be producing goods for sale, while men are more likely to be public or private sector employees

Employment status of population aged 15+, by sex, 2011



Source: 2011 Population and Housing Census

3. In the RMI there are 5 women working as lawyers. (3 in the Attorney General’s Office, 2 in the Public Defender’s Office, and 1 with Micronesia Legal Services Association).
4. In the National Police force, there are seven (7) women working as Police Officers. (4 in Majuro, 2 in Laura, 1 in Jaluit)
5. On the number of girls enrolled in STEM Courses, the Public School System has provided the below information. Please note, only two of the five secondary schools were able to provide succinct information at this time.

Data are based on PowerSchool SIS, 2016-2017: Marshall Islands High School (Female)

SY2017-2018				
Grade Level	Science	Math	Technology	Engineering
9	137	137	0	0
10	139	139	0	0
11	101	101	15	0
12	112	112	12	2
SY2016-2017				
Grade Level	Science	Math	Technology	Engineering
9	145	145	0	0
10	100	100	0	0

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11	115	115	12	2
12	111	111	23	0
SY2015-2016				
Grade Level	Science	Math	Technology	Engineering
9	124	124	0	0
10	138	138	0	0
11	122	122	26	0
12	91	91	12	3

Data are based on PowerSchool SIS, 2016-2017: Kwajalein Atoll High School (Female)

SY2017-2018				
Grade Level	Science	Math	Technology	Engineering
9	33	33	0	0
10	27	27	0	0
11	23	23	0	0
12	23	23	0	0
SY2016-2017				
Grade Level	Science	Math	Technology	Engineering
9	30	30	0	0
10	27	27	0	0
11	35	35	0	0
12	26	26	0	0

6. On the matter of Social Security benefits for women, Marshall Islands Social Security (MISSA) offers three (3) types of benefits that women can benefit from. There is the Normal Retirement where you have to be sixty-one (61) years old and have at least 35 quarters or more. There is also Medical Retirement (disabilities program) where you have to be Physically or Mentally unable to work in order to be eligible. Lastly, there is the Survivors benefit, requirements are: you have to be a widow, your husband must have worked and contributed enough quarters to have earned MISSA benefits.
7. The amount of benefits received is based on how many quarters or how much you have been contributing into the MISSA system. Our minimum benefit is \$128.99 and it can go up to \$1,000.00+. The principle is the more you contribute, the more benefits you are eligible to receive.