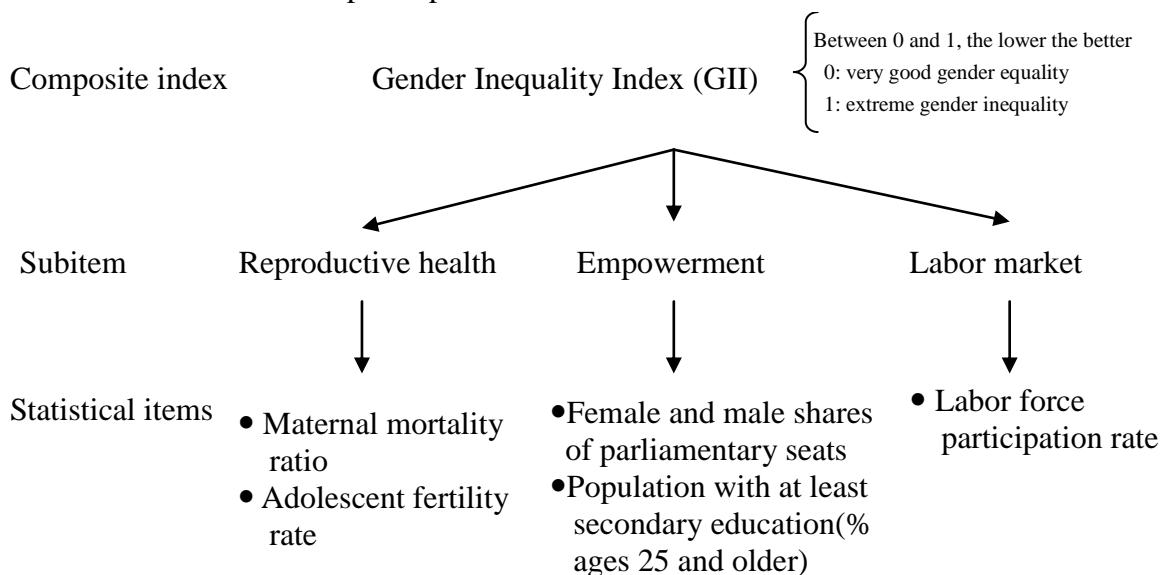


What is the gender inequality index (GII)? How are relevant data queried?

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) feels that gender inequality is one of the chief factors impeding human development. Accordingly, UNDP introduced the Gender-related Development Index (GDI) and Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) in 1995 to assess gender development and equality of empowerment. However, because most of the indicators selected for the foregoing indices are most suitable for developed countries, and many indicators must be imputed due to a lack of data, and fact that the "income distribution equality index" calculated from per capita GDP, apart from state of gender equality, chiefly depends on a country's income level, these indices attracted a storm of criticism. As a result, UNDP compiled a new gender index in 2010—the Gender Inequality Index (GII)—to replace the GDI and GEM.
- The GII encompasses five indicators in three dimensions, and is used to assess the losses on human development caused by gender inequality in the three aspects of "reproductive health," "empowerment," and "labor market." The indicators chosen for the aspect of "reproductive health" constitute "maternal mortality ratio" and "adolescent fertility rate"; the indicators for "empowerment" constitute "female and male shares of parliamentary seats" and "population with at least secondary education(% ages 25 and older)"; the indicator for "labor market" constitutes "labor force participation rate".



- The GII calculation method is unconnected with absolute development achievement, but only assesses a country's current gender achievement and distance from the baseline of equality. For a GII value between 0 and 1, the closer the value to 0, the lower that country's development potential due to obstacles caused by gender inequality.
- Based on the UN's definition and methodology, detailed GII data of Taiwan can be obtained on the Internet website <http://eng.stat.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=25280&ctNode=6032&mp=5>.