

defined the varied forms of women's participation in the social, employment, political and public spheres of life.

2. Bearing available resources in mind, the Russian Federation has taken

diverse measures designed to advance the status of women, protect their rights and interests and mitigate the effects of crisis situations on society. The adoption

of legislation directed at protecting the interests of women and establishing equality of opportunity

for men and women was a result of the democratic process in society.

During the period under consideration a number of decrees of the President

regarding the improving the status of women were issued, calling for special concern

in decision-making at all levels in society and increasing their role

in the Government of the Russian Federation, which define the basic areas

of advancement of women's rights in decision-making at

all levels, ensuring equal rights in the job market, protecting the health of

women, violence against women.

For the implementation of a National Plan of Action for

Advancement of Women and the expansion of their role in society by the

Government of the Russian Federation is now specified in the National Plan.

The period 1995-1997 was characterized by significant strengthening of the

role of the organs of the legislative and executive branches of the constituent

parts of the Russian Federation.

Measures are being taken to develop the system of social services for families with children and for children so as to expand the range of social services offered with a view to the prevention and alleviation of critical life situations; this should help strengthen the institution of the family and contribute to a more even division of family responsibilities and the protection of the interests of the individual.

Federal special-purpose programmes incorporating measures to improve the situation of women are being formulated and carried out. These include the federal special-purpose programme to promote employment of the

include the federal special-purpose programme to promote employment of the State support for small-scale entrepreneurship in the Russian Federation, and the programme of social reforms in the Russian Federation 1995-2000. Within the framework of the Presidential programme "Development of the Russian Federation" programmes entitled "safe motherhood" the system of social service institutions for families with children is being developed.

The reporting period is characterized both by the continued development of the network of social services for families with children, which by the beginning of 1998 had 2,234 units, and by the emergence of new specialized social service institutions, the crisis centres for assistance to women who have found themselves in a difficult life situation.

At the beginning of 1999, crisis centres for assistance to women were functioning in six regions of the Russian Federation, and in 1998 over 5,000 women and over 1,000 families received help. In addition, 32 centres to assist battered women are in operation in the Russian Federation, organized by non-governmental organizations and working in close contact with the appropriate state services.

The family planning service continues to be developed. Its tasks include the care of women and children and the reproductive health of the population. The service plans to carry out education for adolescents.

As a result of the programme measures which are being carried out, there has been a trend towards a decline in the number of induced abortions. The number of induced abortions has fallen by nearly

Part
Financial and invest

13 (a). National machinery has been established in the Russian Federation to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women and the elimination of discrimination against women in all branches of authority in the Russian Federation, including the Presidential, legislative, and executive authorities, both at the federal level and at the level of the constituent parts of the Russian Federation.

The Commission for Women, the Family and Demography, attached to the Office of the President of the Russian Federation, is a collegial advisory body for the formulation and coordination of State policy for achieving equal rights and opportunities for women and men, improving the status of women, supporting the family, and solving demographic problems in the Russian Federation.

The Committee on Women, Family and Youth was established at the second session of the State Duma (the lower house of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation).

In order to strengthen the national machinery for ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women, and taking into account the recommendations of the final documents of the Fourth World Conference for Women, the Government of the Russian Federation has a commission on questions of improving the status of women; its main task is to

coordinate the efforts of the federal executive bodies and the executive bodies of the constituent parts of the Russian Federation in the formulation and implementation of the State policy on the improvement of the status of women in the Russian Federation. The Commission is headed by the Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation.

The Government of the Russian Federation is paying a great deal of attention to the observance of women's rights. In Moscow, a conference entitled "Women and development: rights, reality, prospects" was held.

Congresses devoted to consideration of issues of the status of women have been held, entitled: "Women in politics, politics security and stable development".

of women and men are more and more frequently being taken up at international seminars. In 1999, the following seminars on the policy of equal opportunities for women and men: comparative legislation of the European Union and the Russian Federation and the situation of employment and equal rights for women in health of independent states.

Issues of the equal rights being taken up at international seminars. Comparative legislation of the Russian Federation and the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

of women's newspapers and magazines has increased.

The number of special publications of a socio-political character.

of women is present to some degree in nearly all of the cultural and educational character. There are also special sections devoted to the work of children and mothers, and in some newspapers and magazines special sections are devoted to the work of women.

the theme of the state publications of a socio-political character.

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the Russian Federation. On September 1999, the role of women in the system of federal organs of State power and State power organs of the constituent parts of the Russian Federation.

The measures included in the decree are designed to increase the participation of women in all spheres of the life of society and, above all, in the management of state and decision-making.

In order to implement the decree of the President of the Russian Federation on enhancing the role of women in the system of federal organs of State power and State power organs of the constituent parts of the Russian Federation, it is necessary to activate work with civil servants, to persuade a system of procedure has up for organizing work on the establishment of a data bank on female employees as an integral part of the data bank for the central executive

Ensuring equal rights in the labour market.

In order to promote the employment of women and support the development of an entrepreneurial initiative, a federal special-purpose programme for the promotion of the employment of the population of the Russian Federation in 1998-2000 and a federal programme of state support of small businesses in the Russian Federation for 1998-2000 are being implemented.

The Federal special-purpose programme for the promotion of the employment of the population of the Russian Federation in 1998-2000 and the Federal programme of state support of small businesses in the Russian Federation for 1998-2000 include special measures to promote the employment of women, including:

the organization of job fairs for women;

the implementation of programmes for the social adaptation of the unemployed, including "Job-club", "Fresh start", "Practical skills for youth";

re-training and training for unemployed women with young children;

the establishment of a data bank on female employees;

the promotion of entrepreneurship;

vocational training for unemployed women (45% of the total of all women who have received vocational training);

the Russian Federation. On education, guaranteed access to education, regardless of race, ethnic origin, language, sex, age, state of health, social origin, place of residence, attitude to religion, belief or party affiliation. Citizens of the Russian Federation have the opportunity to receive free general and

competitive basis, vocational education in State and municipal educational institutions meeting State educational standards.

Temporary measures limiting the access of women to a number of occupations remain in force, however. This is because the training of skilled workers in vocational training institutions is carried out in accordance with the list of occupations which meet the State standard for vocational training of the Russian Federation.

Access to some occupations is restricted by a rule of vocational training for women and minors only in occupations and fields and work in which their employment is fully permitted; this rule is the standard regulations on the continuous vocational and economic specialized workers in the national economy approved by the State Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Education of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Country of Trade Unions in June 1987.

and the All-Union Central

In basic vocational training

preferential treatment is given

Students of both sexes are educated together in the educational institutions of the Russian Federation; they follow the same courses, use the same textbooks, study aids and assignments.

Learning methods and teaching aids

obtaining grants and other educational stipends

budgetary financing is having an adverse effect on

difficulties are stimulating the development of

of new private ones are making it difficult to

of obtaining education

ies which Russian families face are leading to an

children forced to leave general education middle

in the constituent parts of the Russian Federation

Thus process and to create conditions

A particular, can continue in education

health care for women

Federation adopted legislation to safeguard the

allowance for women who put themselves under

7 stages of pregnancy has been raised to minimum

has been increased by 14 days for women

using identical training

equal opportunities

are guaranteed by law

The inadequate level

the quantitative and qual

education system's financ

fee-paying educational

institutions and the emer

prevent inequalities in a

have greater opportunities

The financial diffic

increase in the number of

schools work is under

to mitigate the adverse effects

which young people and chil

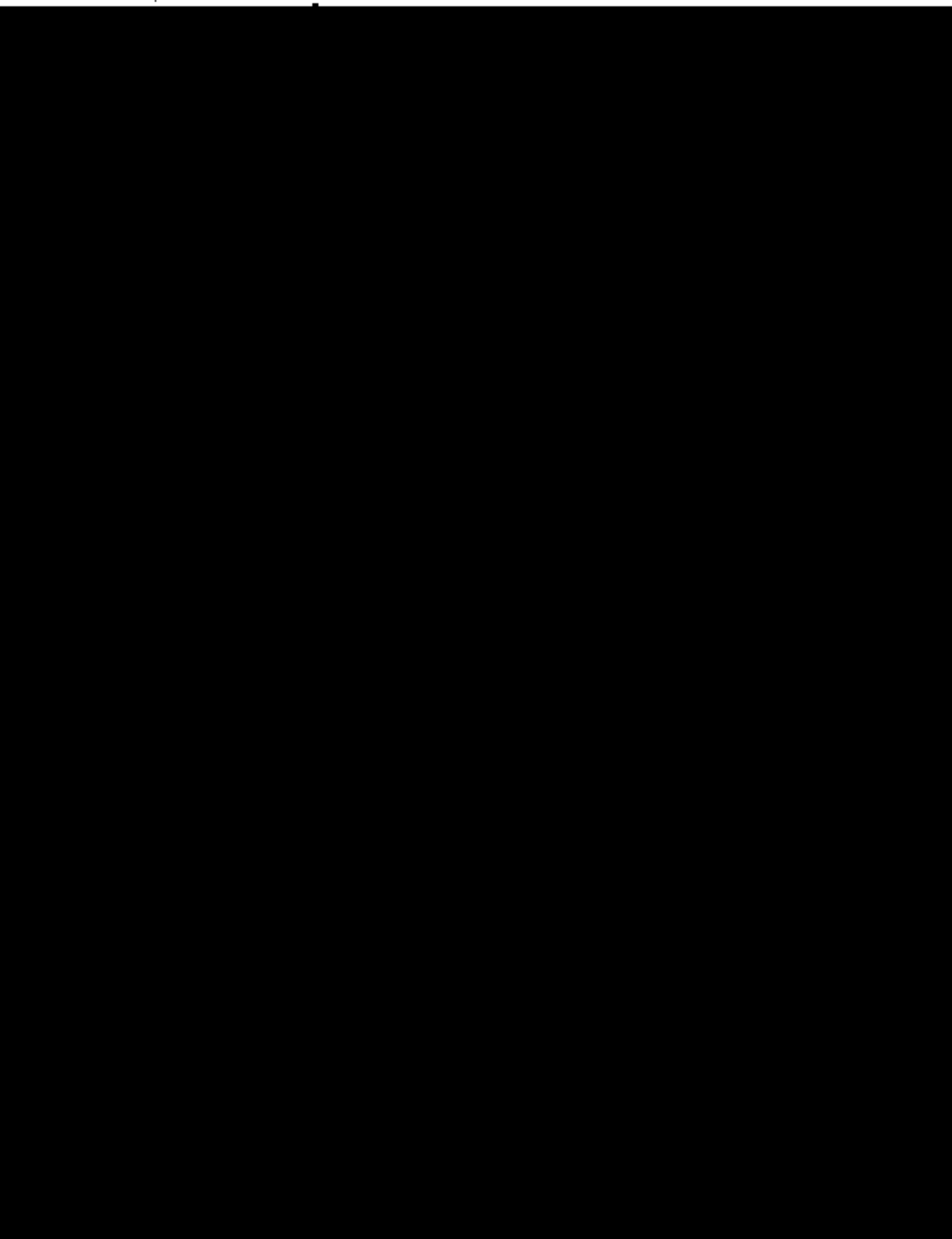
In 1996-1997, the Russi

health of pregnant women, t

medical supervision in the

wage levels, and maternity le

carrying care for the child



human end, a special-

High priority is being given to combating the spread of Immunodeficiency Virus, including amongst women. Towards the

purpose Federal Programme "Anti-HIV AIDS" has been developed and funded.

Currently, a draft Government decree "On Urgent Measures to Prevent the Spread

A new Federal Programme "On Measures to Combat the Spread of HIV Infection" is being developed, which will provide for measures to achieve the goals of sets of work. The purpose of the Federal Programme was established by "Urgent Measures to Combat Tuberculosis in Russia in 1998, 1999 and 2000".

Violence against women

In recent years, ill-treatment of women and violence against them have

increased in our society. The number of victims has risen. The percentage of crimes committed

of jealousy or as a result of... The number of crimes committed for the purpose of obtaining drugs has

increased from 22.8 per cent in 1995 to 21.8 per cent in 1998. However, over this period there was a noticeable drop in the number

of crimes committed for the purpose of obtaining drugs from 21.8 per cent in 1995 to 20.2 per cent in 1998.

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...including those who have... expanding network of social services offices... established between 1995 and 1998, the number... At the beginning of... providing legal, medical... difficult life... victims of violence... with the do

...American conference on "Preventing Domestic Violence" in... experience of Russia and the United States of America" and... held

...Act "On Mass Information Media" specialized audio, video... may be broadcast only... and... and... Special Packages

...the state and its law enforcement organs, these... reached

In 1998, a Russian... against Women... the... other conferences... Under the Feder... was played... most... detail sales... communicated with... by... sea... control... Part... provisions are of...

B. Existing obstacles to the advancement of women and measures taken to overcome them

In the Russian Federation, there are serious problems in the areas of women's vital activities which are cause for concern to the organs of State and to society as a whole.

The social and economic situation in the country is characterized by significant differences in the living standards of about 30 per cent of Russian women are unemployed, indigent, and without specific forms of social support. The incomes of this population are largely restricted to the social payments they receive while they live below the poverty line.

Parents bringing up minor children or caring for those who have been disabled since childhood, 74 per cent were women. Women make up 92 per cent of employed single parents and 76 per cent of parents with large families.

Levels of almost a third of Russian women were below the minimum needed to live on. The biggest concentration of workers with pay 50 per cent or less of that minimum is in the budget's social sector, which employs 20 per cent of the workforce.

Women's wages range from 65 per cent of men's in the machine-building industry (where 12 per cent of the workforce are women) to 82 per cent in the footwear and apparel industry (where 92 per cent are women).

The financial crisis which broke out in August 1998 significantly worsened the already difficult social and economic situation. The sharp rise in inflation and the resulting loss of purchasing power have continued to reduce the living standards of Russian women. The role of women in decision-making and their representation in the highest offices of State does not correspond to their real contribution to strengthening the State.

The adoption of the Presidential Decree on the system of the Federal organs of State power and the Constituent parts of the Russian Federation and the Government acknowledged the need to increase the number of women in high offices. However, no real results have yet been achieved in the attempt to solve this problem.

The inadequate access for women to financial institutions, credit and property rights, and their exclusion from the beginning of the market-oriented transformation of the economy are making women's adaptation to market conditions more difficult and limiting their employment of the equal opportunities set out in the legislation.

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The trend in recent years towards a falling proportion of women in sectors such as commerce, catering, lending, finance and insurance, which used to be considered the sectors in which women predominated numerically, can be explained by the fact that these sectors are experiencing the fastest wages growth and the corresponding displacement of women.

Elements of gender-based discrimination in employment persist.

State labour inspections show that violations of the legislation on women's employment are occurring on a massive scale. Over a nine-month period in 1998, Russian Labour Inspectorate conducted more than 5,000 special purpose checks, discovering and rectifying 20,600 breaches of the legislation on employment and labour protection for women.

The major problem remains of getting women out of work in unhealthy or hazardous conditions. Plans for the year 2000 must be drawn up in order to solve this problem.

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During 1998, in preparation for the year 2000, work in unhealthy or hazardous conditions. The constituent parts of the Russian Federation engaged in a certification exercise for workplaces where conditions are unhealthy or hazardous. Plans for the year 2000 were then developed for relieving women of such work and providing them with retraining and job placement. Implementation began in 1999.

Despite the steps being taken by the Government, between 1995 and 1997 there was a deterioration in women's health. The number of preterm births declined and the number of abnormal deliveries grew, as did morbidity among pregnant women - anaemia, circulatory problems and late pregnancy toxemia. The number of women with tuberculosis rose and the incidence of HIV infections doubled.

The rise in chargeable public services is a major factor in the deterioration of the conventional rights of women. It is thereby being significantly impeded.

of all consumer service enterprises are outside the State sector. Sixty-three per cent of laundries, 52 per cent of dry cleaners and 22 per cent of dyers have remained in the State sector.

The Russian Federation is for the provision of health and educational services in the health system to women. In local connection, the constituent parts of the Russian Federation are implementing measures to provide support for specific population groups such as women.

The education system is characterized by the development of alternative forms of instruction, including fee-paying education, which may be provided by either state or private educational structures.

Fee-paying education has shown a significant increase in recent years. In

1987-1989, the number of services provided by the private sector increased by over 40 per cent.

The Russian Federation has ratified International Labour Organization Convention No. 156 concerning Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities;

A system of measures to control and develop

As a result of actions taken, the number of abortions has been reduced by

ational training programmes for the unemployed are being drawn up and put into practice, with priority accorded to the vocational training of women with minor children;

orts are being undertaken to ensure the equal participation of men and women in the holding of public office;

social partnership between state structures and non-governmental women's organizations is being promoted with a view to tackling the problems of improving the status of women.

Plan of action for improving the status of women with a view to promoting the employment of women who are the sole breadwinners in families in which both parents are unemployed, assisting their business initiatives, and developing a network of services for women and

women will continue to be implemented, providing support for their families and for the promotion of women's business initiatives, and developing a network of socialized institutions for children.

result of discussions in the Commission on improving the status of women the Government of the Russian Federation regarding progress in implementing the national plan of action for improving the status of women was held in society in the period up to the year 2000. A decision was taken on the need for revision and updating of the plan. Proposals from state bodies and non-governmental organizations for broadening the scope of the plan will serve as a basis for the elaboration of a new national plan to improve the status of women in the long term.

of women and implementing enhancing the was taken con received from scope of the strategy for

COMMONLY USED TO EVALUATE
DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

IN THESE CASES, INDICES/INDICATORS
PROGRESS MADE IN

	1996	1997	1998
and birth rate			
	147 107.4	146 959.2	146 823.6
	69 629.0	68 823.6	
	78 108.2	77 915.8	
	107 347.4	107 082.6	106 841.2
	50 199.7	49 073.6	
	57 227.7	67 108.9	

	1995
Population	
Number of permanent inhabitants	
total population	147 608.9
Men and women	147 608.9
Men	69 288.7
Women	78 320.1
urban population	
Men and women	107 671.2
Men	50 325.6
Women	57 345.4

Education

	1995	1996	1997	1998
Literacy rate among the population aged 15 years and over, percentage ¹		98.4		
Men		99.5		
Women		97.1		
Literacy rate among the population aged 15 to 24 years, percentage ¹		99.7		
Men		99.7		
Women		99.8		

percentage of population aged 7 to 14 years in primary schools

percentage of pupils admitted to the first grade of day schools providing general education upon completion of third (2007th) grade

enrolled in the first 26 classes

grade of day schools providing general education

average number of years of schooling completed

¹ According to data from the 1994 population census.

AO/G

Gender equality in the field of

1996	1997	1998
49.8	49.8	49.8

	1995
Proportion of boys among pupils attending day schools providing general education, percentage	49.8

1996	1997	1998
9.7	11.8	23.3
10.0	12.2	13.6
1.3	11.5	13.0
57.6	54.9	52.9
63.9	60.9	58.9
51.9	49.5	47.6

	1995
Unemployment rate, ¹⁴ percentage	4.5
Men	4.7
Women	4.3
Employment rate, ¹⁴ percentage	58.6
Men	65.0
Women	52.6

Percentage of (FSA) number of employed persons	1996	1997	1998
Hired workers	95.6	95.1	95.1
Men	94.8	94.5	94.5
Women	96.3	95.7	95.7
Self-employed	4.4	4.9	4.9
Men	5.2	5.5	5.5
Women	3.9	4.3	4.3

BY type of activity of the main employer:

	1996	1997	1998
in construction	0.1	0.1	0.1
in manufacturing and	0.1	0.1	0.1
in the services	99.8	99.8	99.8

Number of employed persons in the total population

Number of employed persons in the total population

Number of employed persons in the total population

Economy

	Unit of measurement	1995	1996	1997	1998 ¹⁾
GDP	Billions of roubles	1 585 025.8	2 200 225.3	2 562 597.8	2 684 510.5 ²⁾
Per capita GDP	Millions of roubles	10 659.4	14 892.4	17 195.7	18 273.5 ²⁾

Income and poverty levels

Income (thousands of roubles per month)

	1995	1996	1997	1998
24.4	24.9	26.1	27.4	28.6
24.7	25.1	26.8	28.0	

1) Provisional data.
2) Billions of roubles.
3) Thousands of roubles.
4) Based on 1998 prices.