

Displacement and Women's Health in the Republic of Georgia

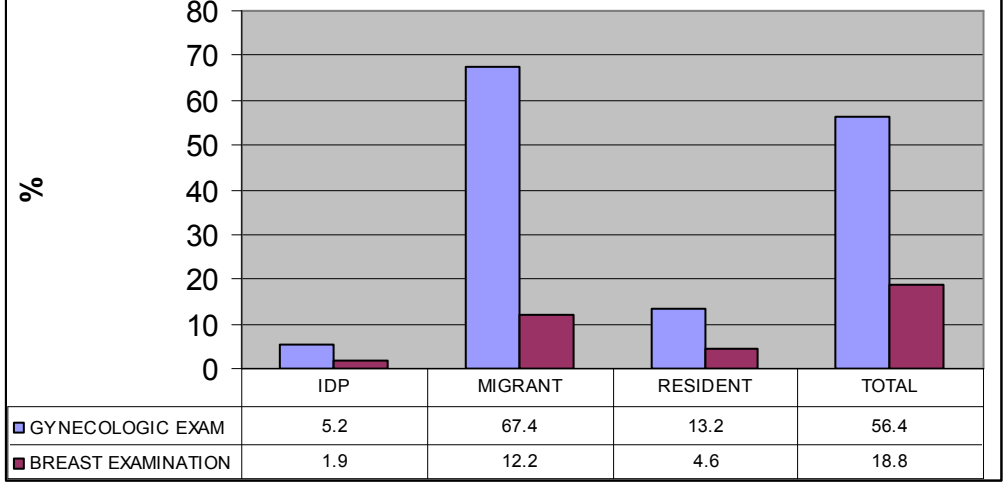
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Recent investigations have identified significant unmet need for health practice and services among populations subjected to forced migration. (Krause, Jones, and Purdin 2000). Refugees and the internally displaced inhabit a socially, politically, and economically marginalized position in countries of settlement. This marginalization is associated with negative health outcomes and low levels of access to health care overall, and reproductive health care in particular. As the number of the displaced globally increase, insights into their specific health needs become valuable. In this paper we focus on female health differentials between internally displaced individuals, migrants who changed the place of residence since they were 12 years old and the resident population of current place since the birth. The study focused on Republic of Georgia, a country with a significant IDP population and growing urbanization. Using the 1999-2000 Georgian Reproductive Health Survey, we examine differentials in practice of non-pregnancy related gynecologic exam, practice of breast self-examination, test and diagnose of STDs, and self-reported overall health for women officially classified as Internally Displaced, migrant and permanent residents. The Georgian RHS provides information regarding reproductive health practices and prevalence for 7798 women, of whom 1810 are officially registered as IDPs, 4540 are migrants and 1448 permanent residents since the birth.

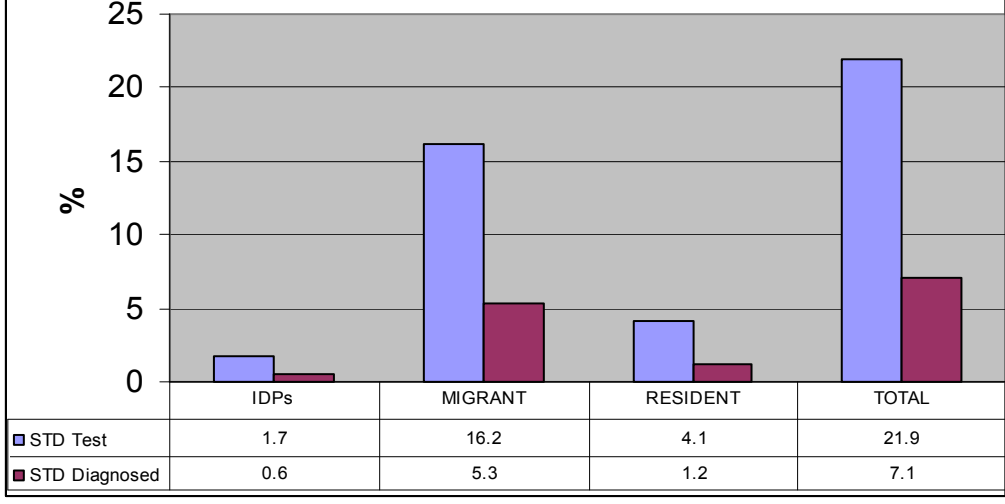
Bivariate findings indicate difference in practices concerning to gynecologic exam, breast self-examination, test and diagnose of STSs, and in overall reported health between the three population subgroups. In pooled multivariate analyses controlling for demographic and socio-economic variables, migrant origin is associated with increased practice and prevalence regarding STDs test and diagnose, then IDPs and resident. The profile similarity and model difference regarding health practice and prevalence between three groups contributes to our understanding of the health care needs and provides motivation for further examination of special service needs of displaced population.

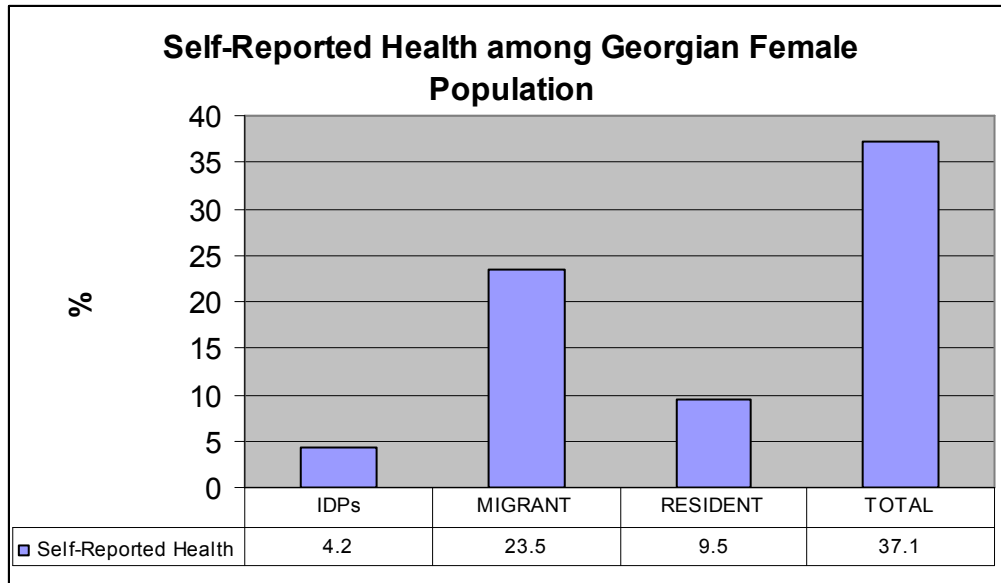
The following figures and table indicate the differences between the three distinct groups.

Practice of Gynecologic Exam and Breast Self-Examination among Georgian Female Population



Tested and Diagnosed STDs among Georgian Female Population





Determinants of Overall Health among Georgian Women: Logistic Regression Analysis.

	IDP	MIGRANT	RESIDENT
Age 35-44	***	***	***
Currently married		**	***
Having child	***	***	
High SES			
University education			
Employed			
Tbilisi City		*	**
R ²	.077	0.47	.064

Note: - means that the variable was not entered in the model

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Determinants of gynecologic exam among Georgian Women: Logistic Regression Analysis

	IDP	MIGRANT	RESIDENT
Age 35-44	***	***	***
Currently married	***	***	***
Having child	***	***	***
High SES		***	
University education		**	***
Employed		**	
Tbilisi City			**
R ²	.304	.133	.305

Note: - means that the variable was not entered in the model

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Determinants Breast Self-examination among Georgian Women: Logistic Regression Analysis

	IDP	MIGRANT	RESIDENT
Age 35-44	***	***	**
Currently married			*
Having child	***	***	*
High SES		***	
University education	***	***	***
Employed	***	***	***
Tbilisi City		*	**
R ²	0.093	.089	.108

Note: - means that the variable was not entered in the model
 *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Determinants of Tested STDs among Georgian Women: Logistic Regression Analysis

	IDP	MIGRANT	RESIDENT
Age 35-44			
Currently married	**	***	*
Having child	***	***	***
High SES	**	***	
University education	***	***	*
Employed	*	***	*
Tbilisi City	***	***	***
R ²	.107	.111	.157

Note: - means that the variable was not entered in the model
 *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Determinants of Diagnosed STDs among Georgian Women: Logistic Regression Analysis

	IDP	MIGRANT	RESIDENT
Age 35-44			
Currently married	*	***	
Having child	**	***	
High SES	*		
University education		**	
Employed		**	***
Tbilisi City	**	***	***
R ²	.038	0.040	.056

Note: - means that the variable was not entered in the model
 *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001