

## S8 – Female Pelvic Skeleton



See diagram  
on next page

The pelvic girdle consists of 2 large hipbones, or ossa coxae. Each hipbone (os coxae or coxal bone) forms by the fusion of 3 bones: an ilium, an Ischium, and a pubis.

### Ilium

1. ilium
2. ilium body
3. ilium ala
4. iliac crest
5. tubercle of iliac crest
6. iliac fossa
7. anterior gluteal line
8. posterior gluteal line
9. inferior gluteal line
10. anterior superior iliac spine
11. posterior superior iliac spine
12. anterior inferior iliac spine
13. posterior inferior iliac spine
14. auricular surface
15. greater sciatic notch
16. arcuate line
17. sacroiliac joint

### Ischium

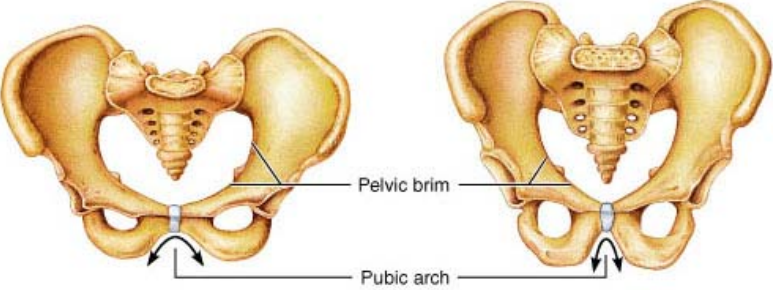
18. ischium
19. ischial body
20. ischial spine
21. lesser sciatic notch
22. ischial tuberosity
23. ischial ramus

### Pubis

24. pubis
25. pubic tubercle
26. superior ramus
27. pubic body
28. inferior ramus
29. pubic crest
30. obturator foramen
31. pubic arch (also called subpubic angle)
32. pelvic brim
33. pubis symphysis


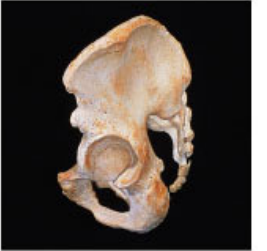


# S8 – Female Pelvic Skeleton

**Table 8.2 Comparison of the Male and Female Pelves (1 of 2)**

Characteristic	Female	Male
General structure and functional modifications	Tilted forward; adapted for childbearing; true pelvis defines the birth canal; cavity of the true pelvis is broad, shallow, and has a greater capacity	Tilted less far forward; adapted for support of a male's heavier build and stronger muscles; cavity of the true pelvis is narrow and deep
Bone thickness	Less; bones lighter, thinner, and smoother	Greater; bones heavier and thicker, and markings are more prominent
Acetabula	Smaller; farther apart	Larger; closer
Pubic angle/arch	Broader (80° to 90°); more rounded	Angle is more acute (50° to 60°)
Anterior view		

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**Table 8.2 Comparison of the Male and Female Pelves (2 of 2)**

Characteristic	Female	Male
Sacrum	Wider; shorter; sacral curvature is accentuated	Narrow; longer; sacral promontory more ventral
Coccyx	More moveable; straighter	Less moveable; curves ventrally
Greater sciatic notch	Wide and shallow	Narrow and deep
Left lateral view		
Pelvic inlet (brim)	Wider; oval from side to side	Narrow; basically heart-shaped
Pelvic outlet	Wider; ischial tuberosities shorter, farther apart and everted	Narrower; ischial tuberosities longer, sharper, and point more medially
Posteroinferior view		

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