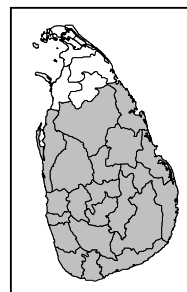




**About the DHS Survey**

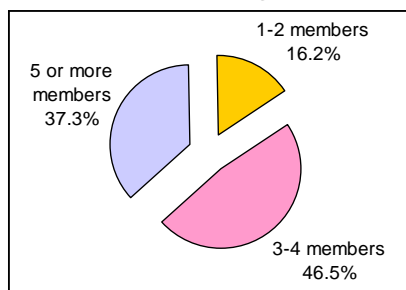
Demographic & Health Survey (2006/07) conducted by the Department of Census & Statistics provides important information on Fertility, Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition and awareness of HIV/AIDS. The survey is designed to provide National as well as district and sector wise estimates. The survey covered all parts of the country excluding Northern Province. Information was collected from 23000 housing units. Main target group of the survey was ever married women in the 15-49 age group and their children below 5 years of age at the time of the survey.

- No. of households interviewed: 19,862.
- No. of eligible women (age 15-49) interviewed: 14,909.
- Estimated housing units: 4,611,014.
- Estimated population: 19,085,697.
- Household response rate: 97.8%.



**Household Size -**

**Figure 1: Households by household size in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



- Average household size is 4.1 persons per household.
- About 63 percent of households are with less than 5 persons.

**About the household population -**

**Table 1: Proportion of the population in selected age groups & sex in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

Age Group	Total	Male	Female
Below 5 yrs.	9.0	9.6	8.4
Below 15 yrs.	26.2	27.7	24.8
Below 18 yrs.	31.5	33.2	29.9
15-49 yrs.	51.6	51.3	51.9
15-64 yrs.	66.5	65.6	67.3
65 years or more	7.3	6.6	7.9

- 52 percent of females are in the reproductive age group.

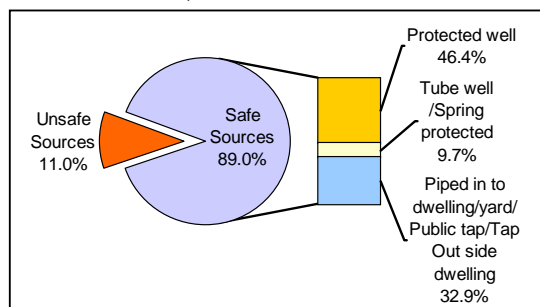
**Table 2: Age dependency ratio in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

Age Dependency Ratio	Total
Below 15 yrs.	39.4
65 years or more	10.9

- Young age dependency ratio (39.4) is more than thrice that of old age dependency ratio (10.9).

**Access to safe drinking water -**

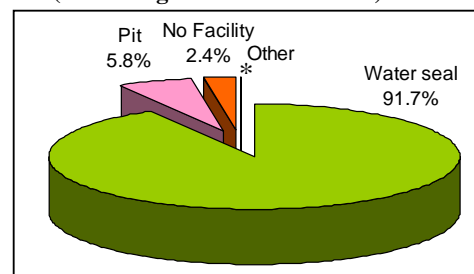
**Figure 2: Households by availability of safe drinking water in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



- 89 percent of households have access to source of safe drinking water. About 25 percent of households have water piped in to dwelling or yard and 7.5 percent used public tap. 46.4 percent have access to water from protected well.

**Sanitation Facility -**

**Figure 3: Households by availability of sanitation facility in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

- About 92 percent of households use water sealed toilets while 5.8 percent use pit toilets.
- It was observed that 2.4 percent of households in Sri Lanka do not have any toilet facility.

**Electricity (Excluding Northern Province)**

80.1 percent households in Sri Lanka have electricity.

## Ownership of household consumer goods -

**Table 3: Percentage of households by ownership of household equipment in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

Equipment	Percentage of Households
Television	77
Radio	79
Refrigerator	36
Mobile phones	38
Land phones	34

### Main source of cooking fuel –

- About 78 percent of households in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) use firewood for cooking while about 17 percent use LP gas as main source of fuel for cooking.

### Use of Mosquito nets –

- About 64 percent of households in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) currently use mosquito nets and 12 percent of households use mosquito coils.

### About Children in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)

- Out of the children in 5 – 15 year age group about 99 percent have ever attended a school.
- It is reported that 10.3 percent of currently school attending children in 5-17 year age group do not have enough school books.
- Fathers of 3.7 percent of the children in 0-17 year age group were not alive at the time of the survey.

### Child Health (Excluding Northern Province) -

#### Immunization Coverage

- It was observed that about 97 percent of children between 12-23 months in Sri Lanka have received specified vaccines BCG, Polio, DPT and Measles by 12 months of age.

#### Birth Weight (Excluding Northern Province)

- 83.4 percent of children (with health development report) of 0-59 months in Sri Lanka have birth weight as equal or above 2.5kg.
- 16.6 percent of children reported low birth weight.

### Mother's Health Care in Sri Lanka 2006/7 (Excluding Northern Province)-

- The Government health facilities have served about 95 percent of deliveries which occurred during the 5 year period preceding the survey.
- The survey further reported that almost 99 percent of mothers have received assistance of skilled health person at their deliveries which occurred during the 5 year period preceding the survey.

### Exclusive breast feeding (Excluding Northern Province)

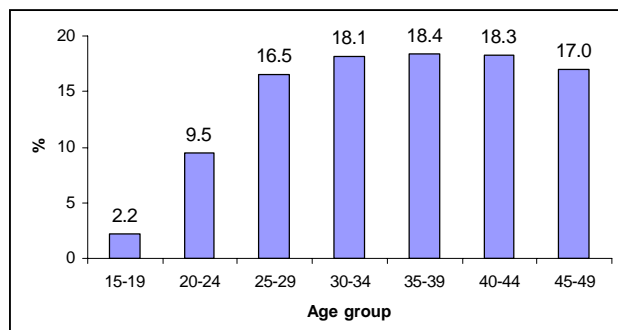
- The proportion of mothers who have exclusively breast fed during the first 4 months at their last birth in Sri Lanka is 82.7.

## Background characteristics of ever married females of 15-49 years

### Age distribution of eligible women\* -

- Figure 4 shows that highest proportion (18.4 percent) of eligible women belong to 35-39 age category.

**Figure 4: Distribution of eligible women in Sri Lanka by age group (Excluding Northern Province)**



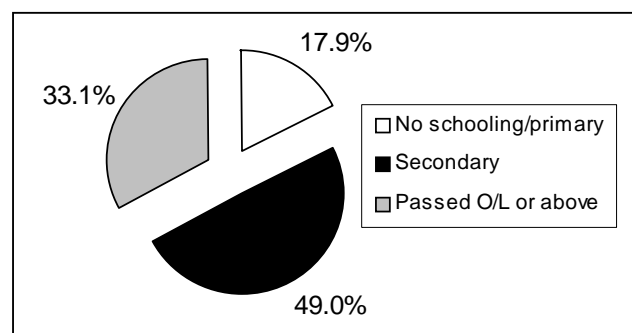
### Marital status of eligible women -

- About 94 percent of eligible women were married at the time of the survey while only 6 percent of them were not in union (widowed or separated).

### Level of education of eligible women -

- 17.9 percent of eligible women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) have primary level education or never attended school.
- Majority (49%) of them have secondary level of education.

**Figure 5: Eligible women by level of education in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



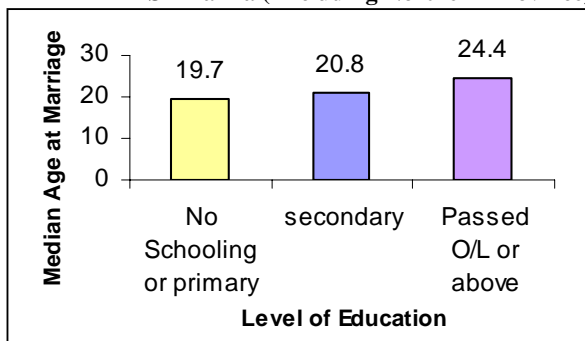
### Awareness about HIV AIDS -

- About 92 percent of women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) have heard about HIV AIDS. Out of this about 64 percent of women know that the AIDS can be prevented by using condoms, while about 87 percent of them have knowledge about limiting sex to one uninfected partner and 86.5 percent stated that abstaining from sex help to reduce HIV AIDS.

### Median age at marriage -

- Median age at marriage of women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) 21.7.
- Median age at marriage increases with the level of education.

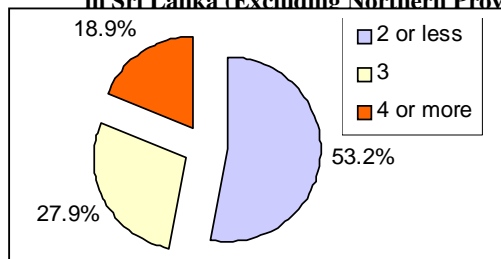
**Figure 6: Median age at marriage by level of education in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



### Desired family size -

- Currently married women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) prefer small families. 53.2 percent of women would like to have 2 or less than 2 children. Further, 81 percent of women liked to have 3 or less than 3 children.

**Figure 7: Ever married women by desired family size in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



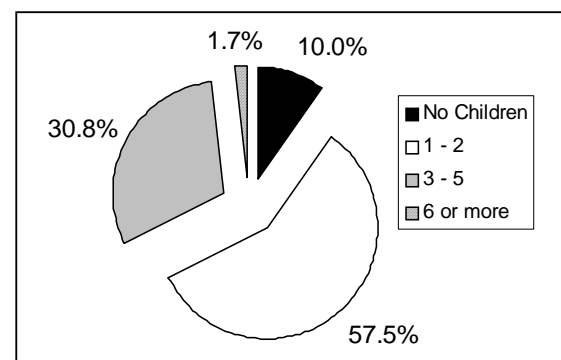
### Mean no. of children -

On average ever married women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) have 2.1 children.

### Children ever born -

10 percent of ever married eligible women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province) never have children while about 57 percent of women have only 1 or 2 children.

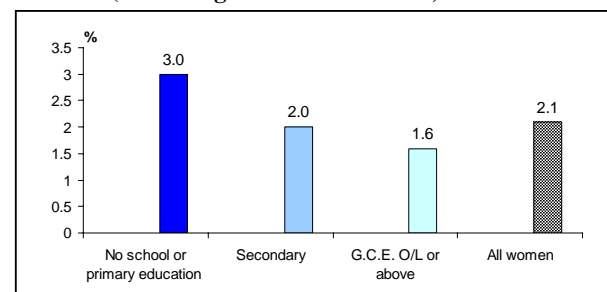
**Figure 8: Ever married Women by number of children ever born in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



Note \*: See Definition

### Mean number of children ever born by level of education-

**Figure 9: Mean number of children ever born by level of education of eligible women in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

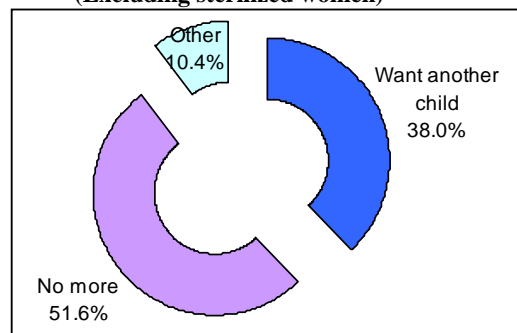


- Mean number of children ever born decreases with increasing the level of education of eligible women.

### Fertility preferences -

More than half of eligible women (Excluding sterilized women) have answered that they do not want to have another child. Proportion of women like to have another child is 38 percent.

**Figure 10: Ever married Women (Excluding Northern Province) by fertility preferences in Sri Lanka (Excluding sterilized women)**



### Awareness of contraceptive methods -

**Table 4: Ever married women by awareness of contraceptive methods in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

Method	Percentage of know method
Female sterilization	94.5
Male sterilization	74.0
Pills	97.5
IUD	90.1
Injection	97.3
Norplant	47.7
Male Condom	82.5
Female Condom	16.6
LAM	38.9
Safe period	66.7
Withdrawal	67.4
Emergency contraception	33.8

- Pill and injection are the widely known methods (97.5 percent and 97.3 respectively), followed by the Female sterilization and IUD (94.5 percent and 90.1 percent).
- Percentage who knows about male condom is also high (82.5).
- Percentage of women knowing LAM, Norplant and Emergency contraception is relatively low.

## Current use of contraception -

- Total number of estimated currently married women in Sri Lanka is 3,299,875.
- 68.3 percent of women are currently using contraception.

**Table 5: Currently married women by use of contraceptive methods in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

Method	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3299875</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Not using *</b>	<b>1045493</b>	<b>31.7</b>
<b>Any method</b>	<b>2254382</b>	<b>68.3</b>
<b>Any modern method</b>	<b>1729711</b>	<b>52.3</b>
<b>Modern Permanent Methods</b>		
Sterilization	560513	17.0
<b>Modern Temporary Methods</b>		
Pills	268266	8.1
IUD	212491	6.4
Injection	491713	14.9
Condom	185887	5.6
Norplant	**	**
LAM	**	**
<b>Any traditional method</b>	<b>524671</b>	<b>16.0</b>
Safe period	332968	10.1
Withdrawal	190014	5.8
Other	**	**

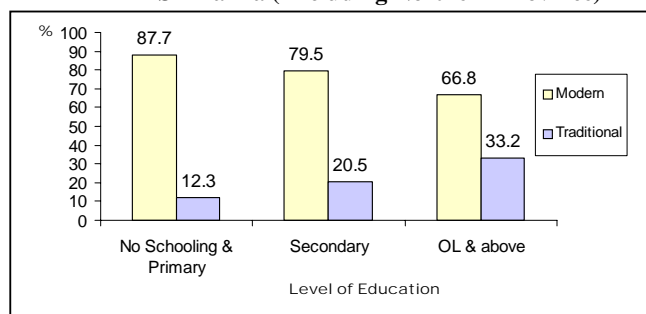
\* Including pregnant women.

\*\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell

- Survey reveals that about 52 percent of currently married women currently using modern contraceptive methods while another 16.0 percent use traditional methods.
- 31.7 percent of currently married women are not currently using any contraceptive method. (Including pregnant women) Data shows that among the temporary modern methods, most commonly used method is injection (14.9 percent) followed by pills (8.1 percent).
- Further, 17.0 percent of eligible women use sterilization (Mostly Female sterilization).
- Among the traditional methods, safe period is the most commonly used method.

## Level of education and use of contraception -

**Figure 11: Currently married and non pregnant women who use family planning by level of education in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



- Figure 11 indicate that females in all education levels inclined towards to modern methods.
- Percentage using traditional methods is higher among those who have qualified O/L and above.

## Contraceptive use by age -

**Table 6: Current use of family planning by age groups in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**

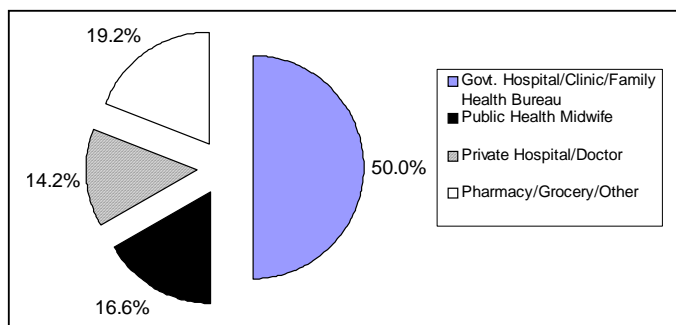
Methods	15 -19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	Total
<b>Any method</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>68.3</b>
Modern method	44.7	52.2	56.2	48.8	52.3
Traditional method	*	9.9	15.9	21.4	16.0
Not using	46.7	37.9	27.9	29.8	31.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size

- Percentage using traditional methods is higher among the older age groups while modern temporary methods are popular among younger age groups.

## Source of supply -

**Figure 12: Current users of contraceptive (Excluding sterilization) by most recent source of supply in Sri Lanka (Excluding Northern Province)**



- Government facilities (Including public health midwife) have catered to the needs of more than 66 percent of current users of modern temporary contraceptive methods.

## Definitions used:

### Safe sources of drinking water:

Protected well, tube well, main water line and protected spring.

### Unsafe sources of drinking water:

Unprotected well, bowser, river/tank/stream and other sources such as rain water and spring water.

**Eligible women:** Women who were ever married and who were in the age group of 15-49 at the time of the survey.

### Level of Education:

No schooling - Never attended school

Primary level- Passed grade 1,2,3,4, or up to grade 5

Secondary level - Passed grade 6,7,8,9 or up to grade 10

O/L and above - Passed GCE O/L or above