Maldives

Demographic and Health Survey

2009

Republic of Maldives

Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2009

Ministry of Health and Family
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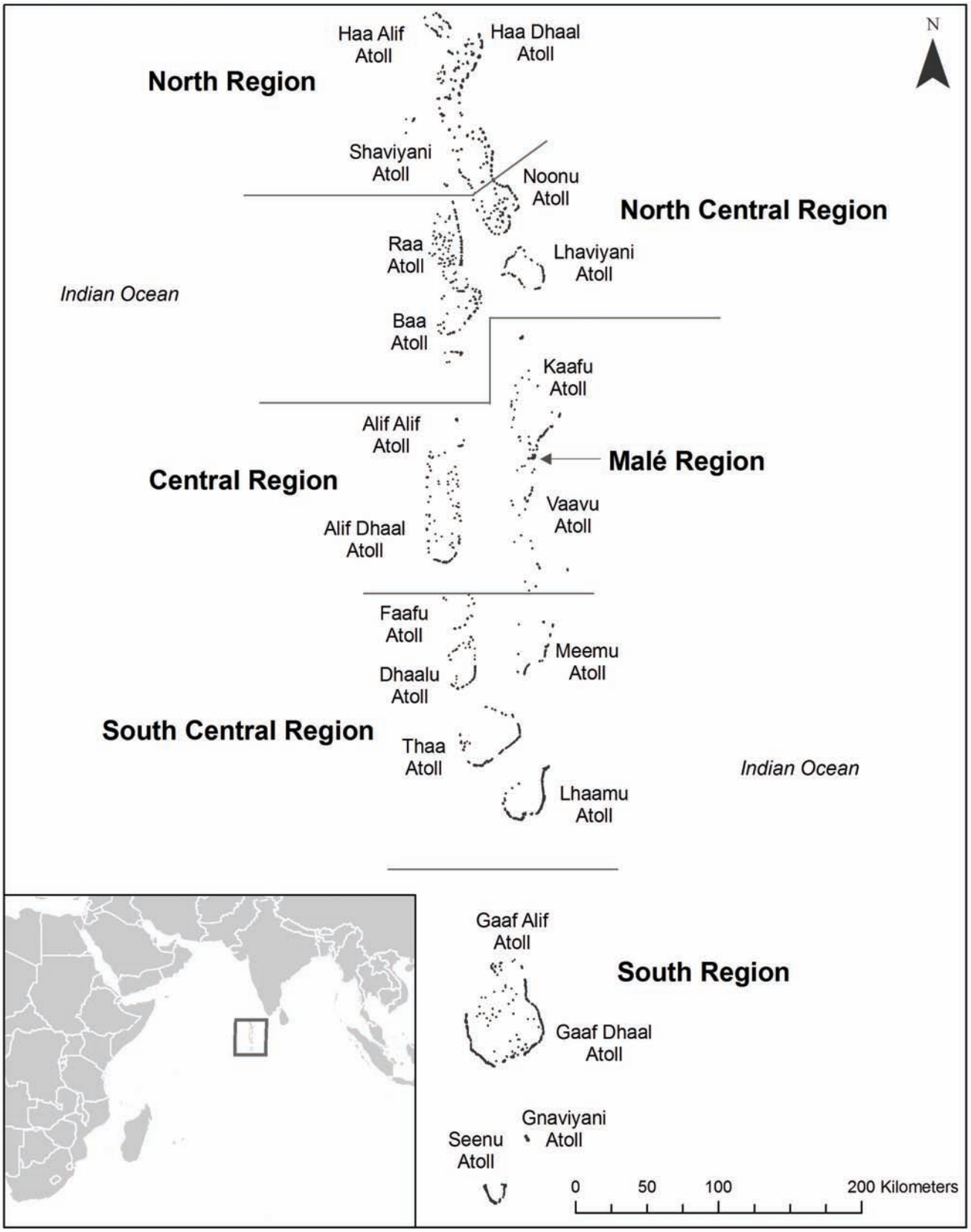
MALDIVES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INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, AND ECONOMY

1.1.1 Geography

The Republic of Maldives is an archipelago in the Indian Ocean located 600 km south of India. Its islands extend from latitude 0° 42 ' 24 " S of the equator to 7 ° 6 ' 35 " N. It consists of 1,192 small islands that form a chain, about 820 km long and 120 km wide, within an area of 90,000 sq km. Only 196 of the islands are officially inhabited, although another 84 islands are used as resorts, and 14 islands serve an industrial purpose. The capital of Malé, with an area of about 2 sq km, accommodates one-third of the country's population of about 300,000. The total land area is estimated to be 300 sq km, of which only 10 percent are suitable for agriculture. For administrative purposes, the 26 natural atolls of the Maldives are classified into 20 groups, each of which is referred to as an *administrative atoll*.

The islands are low lying, with an average elevation of 1.6 meters above main sea level. Only a few islands have a land area in excess of one sq km. The climate is tropical: warm and humid, with two pronounced monsoon seasons. Daily temperatures vary little throughout the year. The average maximum temperature is 31° Celsius, and the average minimum temperature is 26° Celsius. Relative humidity ranges from 73 percent to 85 percent. The average annual rainfall for the period 1996 to 2000 was 2,140 mm. Monthly variations in rainfall are significant, ranging from 22 mm in March to 258 mm in September (Ministry of Planning and National Development, 2008).

1.1.2 History

The Republic of Maldives has always been a sovereign and independent state except for brief periods of the 18th, 19^{th,} and 20th centuries. The people of Maldives embraced Islam in the 12th century, and Maldives today remains solely a Muslim state. The Maldivians are homogenous in nature and traditions and converse in a common language called Dhivehi. During the 18th century, the Maldives became a protectorate of the Dutch rulers of Ceylon and later of the British who took control of Ceylon in 1796. In 1887, its status was formalized as an internally self-governing British protectorate. The first democratic constitution in 1932 proclaimed the sultanate, or office of the sultan, an elected position. The country was ruled by a sultan until 1953, when the Maldives became a republic within the Commonwealth, and Mohamed Amin served as its first president. The sultanate was restored after a short period, and the country gained full independence as a sultanate outside of the Commonwealth in 1965. In 1968, its status as a republic was reinstated after a referendum named Ibrahim Nasir to be president. In 1978, Maumoon Abdul Gayyoom became president and continued to serve for 30 years, after being elected for six consecutive terms. The republic rejoined the Commonwealth in 1982.

In 2005, an important step toward democracy was taken when the parliament voted unanimously for a multiparty political system. In August 2007, voters opted for a presidential system of government. In August 2008, President Gayoom ratified the new constitution that paved the way for the first multiparty presidential election. In October 2008, President Gayoom was defeated by opposition leader Mohamed Nasheed. President Nasheed assumed office in November 2008 (www.themaldives.com).

1.1.3 Economy

As an archipelago of many islands that are home to fewer than 500 inhabitants, Maldives has unique development problems. The population is extremely dispersed and fragmented. In addition, the survival of the country's low-lying islands is threatened by the constant rise in sea level due to global warming.

Over the past decade, the gross domestic product (GDP) grew at an annual rate of between 6 and 8 percent, driven by investment in tourism and low levels of inflation. In 2008, tourism accounted for 27 percent of GDP and about 29 percent of government revenue directly. Growth of the tourism sector also opens job opportunities which in 2008 accounted for approximately 24,000 jobs. To boost economic development to the entire country the Government expanded the tourism development, which used to be concentrated in the central region within the easy reach of the Malé International Airport, to other regions of the country. Along with tourism, the fishing industry generates revenues accounting for 6 to 7 percent of GDP and employment from the fishery sector represents 10 to 15 percent of the workforce (The Strategic Action Plan, 2009 -2013).

Significant progress has also been achieved in human and social development over the past two decades. Credible macroeconomic and public investment policies as well as a largely favourable external environment have facilitated this progress, lifting Maldives from its status as one of the 20 poorest countries in the 1970s to one that shares characteristics of a lower middle-income country of today.

The small size of its economy, which largely depends on tourism and fisheries, makes the Maldives vulnerable to external shocks, such as the economic recession following the tsunami of December 2004. In spite of the relatively low death toll after the tsunami, the country's economy was badly shaken. According to one government assessment, the tsunami set back development by about 20 years. Financial damage was estimated at 62 percent of GDP, or $470 million, aggravated by a non-tsunami budget deficit of approximately $80 million in 2005 resulting from a significant fall in revenue from tourism.

The country lacks land-based natural and mineral resources. As a result, virtually all economic production depends on imports, creating heavy dependence on foreign exchange earnings. Intensive agricultural production is limited because of the poor quality of the soil, which is porous and deficient in nitrogen and potassium, and the limited availability of fresh water. All staple foodstuffs, basic necessities, and items for the tourism industry are imported (Ministry of Economic Development, 2010)

1.2 POPULATION

Little information is available on the ancient people and their way of life. Evidence suggests that the Maldives has been populated and thriving as early as the 4th century BC. It is argued that the earliest settlers migrated from Arabia, eastern Africa, and the Indian subcontinent among other places. Today, the Maldivians are a mixed race, but no ethnic identities exist. The population is homogeneous, follows the same religion (Islam), and speaks one language (Dhivehi). A large expatriate workforce is found in the country, generally unskilled and working in the area of construction and other unskilled jobs. Expatriates in professional jobs are found in the educational sector and the health sector. All expatriates work on a short-term contract basis, and when the contract expires, they must leave the country.

The first population data, recorded in 1911, showed a population of only 72,237. It took about 60 years for the population to almost double (Census 2006 Analytical Report). In the 1950s, the annual population growth is 1 percent or less until 1958, when the rate was 5.28 percent. Thereafter, population growth slowed and underwent mild fluctuations. Between 1960 and 1980, the population

grew an average of 3 percent annually. Significant declines in mortality during the 1980s and subsequent declines in fertility brought down the population growth rate. Although subsequent censuses recorded an increase in size of the population, the annual population growth rate decreased significantly, from 3.43 percent in 1985-1999 to 1.69 percent in 2000-2006. Between the 2000 and 2006 inter-census years, a 10 percent increase was seen in the total population. The 2006 population census puts the total population at 298,968, of which about 49 percent are women.

The Maldives has recorded significant achievement in human development. The infant mortality rate declined from 63 deaths in 1986 to 11 deaths per 1,000 births in 2009 (Vital Registration data, 2009). The crude death rate declined from 17 deaths per 1,000 population in 1971 to 4 deaths per 1000 population. The crude birth rate, which was 49 births per 1,000 population in 1985, declined to 23 births per 1,000 population in 1996. In 1995, the average life expectancy at birth was 70.6 years, about 20 years higher than the life expectancy recorded in 1980. In 2009, the life expectancy at birth was 73 years for males and 74 years for females (Statistical Year Book of Maldives, 2009).

Table 1.1 Basic demographic indicators

Demographic indicators from selected sources

Indicators	1995	2000	2006
Population	244,814	270,101	298,968
Sex ratio	104	103	103
Intercensal growth rate (percent)	2.73	1.96	1.69
Percent urban	na	27%	35%
Life expectancy at birth (years)			
Male	69.9	70.1	72.0
Female	71.6	70.1	73.2

Source: http://www.planning.gov.mv
na = Not available

1.3 HEALTH SERVICES AND HEALTH CARE CHALLENGES

The unique geographical nature of the country poses a challenge to service provision. Though the size of the population is comparatively small, it is geographically dispersed. Such isolated island communities require many facilities to provide service at a variety of locations.

Health services in the Maldives are currently organized by a four tier referral system comprising of island, atoll, regional and central level services. The Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Malé serves as a tertiary-level hospital at the central level of the referral system. At the regional level, health care is delivered by regional hospitals in six strategic locations across the island archipelago. Each of the six regional hospitals serves as the referral centre for 2 to 4 atolls, providing services in a number of specialty areas of medical care. At the atoll level, hospitals are found in 13 of the atolls in which a regional hospital is not located. Atoll hospitals were initiated in the early 2000s, with the primary objective being to bring emergency obstetric care closer to the community. Atoll health centres provide basic medical care, including obstetric services. The lowest level of the system consists of the island-level primary health care centres, health posts, and family health units. Currently the country has 3 island hospitals (including one private hospital), 6 regional hospitals, 13 atoll hospitals, and 176 health centres (including two in Malé).

Medical services have expanded rapidly in the country during the last two decades. In 2005 the doctor to population ratio was 1:775, and the nurse to population ratio was 1:302. The nurse-to-doctor ratio was about 3:1. Medical services are provided to a large extent by an expatriate workforce, both in the public and the private sectors. The high turnover of professionals and strict recruitment process are among problems faced by the country in its effort to provide health care.

The private sector in health care in the Maldives, although small, is vigorous and popular. There is one private tertiary facility located in Malé. A total of 62 clinics are distributed throughout the country, of which 73 percent are located in Malé. Pharmacy services are predominantly provided by the private sector, except for the pharmacy operated by the State Trading Organization (STO). Owing to the remote and small population in many islands, and the need to ensure access to drugs, the government supports committees of women or youth and NGOs to establish community pharmacies.

The new government, which resumed office in November 2008, re-established the government's health care mission— 'to provide affordable, accessible and quality health care for all through establishing internationally accepted standards of health care, by improving the quality of health services; establishing better referral system and high quality regional centres; assuring health care training opportunities to Maldivians; reducing the costs of health care; setting up an inclusive social health insurance system; and encouraging private sector participation in health' (Strategic Action Plan, 2009-2013).

Under the government's health care reform policies of decentralization, corporatization and privatization, the directive is to deliver health care services through Public Private Partnerships managed by corporate bodies at strategic local levels. Along with corporatization and privatization of delivery of health care, the government gives emphasis for revitalization of primary health care focusing on preventive health by empowering communities to make decisions related to healthy lifestyles and health services at island and atoll levels through political and administrative decentralization and supporting training of community based public health professionals.

Health Care Challenges

Notable achievements have been made in controlling many communicable diseases. However, acute respiratory infections and some vector-borne diseases such as dengue, *chikungunya*, scrub typhus, toxoplasmosis and leptospirosis have emerged due to environment and climate changes and have become endemic in various parts of the country. Although the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is low, certain risk behaviours such as sex work and intravenous drug use, which are seen to be increasing, pose increased risk of contracting HIV in these at-risk populations. Lifestyle changes associated with socio-economic development and chronic non-communicable diseases have emerged as the main cause of morbidity and mortality. Thalassaemia with an estimated carrier prevalence of 20 percent and increasing number of renal diseases are other chronic disease concerns. The demography in the Maldives suggests that adolescent sexual and reproductive health issues for the young, as well as health care for the growing number of elderly citizens need to be addressed. In addition, mental health and occupational health are MDG plus issues that the health sector has identified.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY

The 2009 MDHS was designed to provide data to monitor the population and health situation in Maldives. Specifically, the MDHS collected information on fertility levels and preferences, marriage, sexual activity, knowledge and use of family planning methods, breastfeeding practices, nutrition status of women and young children, childhood mortality, maternal and child health, and awareness and behaviour regarding AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. At the household level, the survey collected information on domains of physical disability among those age 5 and older, developmental disability among young children, support for early learning, children at work, the impact of the tsunami of 2004, health expenditures, and care and support for physical activity of adults age 65 and older. At the individual level, the survey assessed additional features of blood pressure, diabetes, heart attack, and stroke.

1.5 ORGANIZATION OF THE SURVEY

Maldives' first Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS) was carried out by the Ministry of Health and Family (MOHF). The survey was funded by the government of Maldives, UNFPA, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Health Organisation (WHO). Technical assistance was provided by ICF Macro.

Conducting a demographic and health survey in the Maldives has been a long-felt need for internationally comparable information on the demographic and health situation of the Maldivian population. The survey also was intended to provide information for decision-makers to plan, monitor, and evaluate population, health, and nutrition programs. Because it was the first survey of its kind in the Maldives, external technical assistance was sought. The local planners at the Ministry of Health approached the MEASURE DHS program for technical assistance.

Technical assistance from Macro International was received in April 2007 to develop the design of the survey and to identify (1) additional specific data needs; (2) primary design issues; and (3) development of key survey documents, including a draft work plan and the Household and Individual Questionnaires. A steering committee, representing stakeholder agencies, including the UN organizations, was formed to assist mainly in identifying data needs and to provide advice and facilitate the design process.

A second technical support visit was made by Macro staff in June-July 2007, resulting in the development of the sample plan, selection of the sample points, and preparation of household listing documents and household selection materials. A subsequent visit by Macro staff in September 2007 allowed finalization of the MDHS plans. During the visit, the work plan and budget for the MDHS; the household and individual questionnaires; the supervisor's and interviewer's training manuals; and a training agenda for the pre-test training were finalized.

1.6 SAMPLE DESIGN

The population of the republic of Maldives is distributed on 195 inhabited islands among a total of 202 inhabited islands; seven islands have no residents (MPND, 2008). Each inhabited island is an administrative unit with an island office that handles island-based affairs. The islands are regrouped to form atolls, a higher-level administrative unit with an atoll office and an atoll chief. There are 20 atolls in total in the republic. The capital city of Malé and the two surrounding islands, Villingili and Hulhumale, form a special atoll. The 21 atolls are regrouped to form six geographic regions according to their location. Malé atoll alone forms a region. In Maldives, there is no urban-rural designation for residential households within an atoll. All residential households in the 20 atolls outside of Malé are considered rural; all residential households in Malé are considered urban.

The 2009 Maldives DHS is based on a probability sample of 7,515 households. The sample was designed to produce representative data on households, women, and children for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas, for the six geographical regions, and for each of the atolls of the country. The male and youth surveys were designed to produce representative results for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas, and for each of the six geographical regions.

The 2006 Maldives Population and Housing Census provided the sampling frame for the 2009 MDHS. The MDHS sample was a stratified multistage sample selected in two stages from the census frame. In the first stage, 270 census blocks were selected using a systematic selection, with probability proportional to the number of residential households residing in the block. Stratification was achieved by treating each of the 21 atolls as a sampling stratum. Samples were selected independently in each stratum according to an appropriate allocation.

In the second stage of sampling, residential households were selected in each of the selected census blocks. Household selection involved an equal probability systematic selection of a fixed number of households: 28 households per block. Households were selected from the household listings created in the census, but to allow all households an opportunity to be included in the sample, listings were sent to island offices for updating prior to making household selections for the MDHS.

All ever-married women age 15-49 in the total sample of MDHS households, who were either usual residents of the household or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey, were eligible to be interviewed. In half of the households selected for the ever-married sample of women, all ever-married men age 15-64, who were either usual residents of the household or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey, were eligible to be interviewed. In the same half of households selected for the ever-married sample of men, never-married women and never-married men age 15-24, who were either usual residents of the household or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey, were also eligible to be interviewed. The MDHS was for the most part limited to Maldivian citizens; non-Maldivians were included in the survey only if they were the spouse, son, or daughter of a Maldivian.

1.7 QUESTIONNAIRES

Four questionnaires were used for the 2009 MDHS: the Household Questionnaire, the Women's Questionnaire, the Men's Questionnaire, and the Youth Questionnaire. The contents of the Household, Women's, and Men's questionnaires were based on model questionnaires developed by the MEASURE DHS programme. The DHS model questionnaires were modified to reflect concerns pertinent to the Maldives in the areas of population, women and children's health, family planning, and others. Questionnaires were translated from English into Dhivehi.

The Household Questionnaire was used to list all the usual members and visitors in the selected households and to identify women and men who were eligible for the individual interview. Basic information was collected on the characteristics of each person listed, including their age, sex, education, and relationship to the head of the household. The Household Questionnaire was also designed to collect information on characteristics of the household's dwelling unit, such as the source of water, type of toilet facilities, water shortage, materials used for the floor and roof of the house, and ownership of various durable goods. In addition, height and weight measurements of ever-married women age 15-49 and children age 6-59 months were recorded in the Household Questionnaire to assess their nutritional status.

Topics added to the Household Questionnaire to reflect issues relevant in the Maldives include physical disability among those age 5 and older, developmental disability among young children, support for early learning, children at work, the tsunami of 2004, health expenditures, and care and support for physical activities of adults age 65 and older.

The Women's Questionnaire was used to collect information from ever-married women age 15-49. These women were asked questions on the following topics:

- Background characteristics (education, media exposure, etc.)
- Reproductive history
- Knowledge and use of family planning methods
- Fertility preferences
- Antenatal and delivery care
- Breastfeeding and infant feeding practices
- Vaccinations and childhood illnesses
- Marriage and sexual activity
- Woman's work and husband's background characteristics
- Infant and child feeding practices

- Childhood mortality
- Awareness and behaviour about AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Knowledge of blood pressure, diabetes, heart attack, and stroke

The Men's Questionnaire was administered to all ever-married men age 15-64 living in every second household in the MDHS sample. The Men's Questionnaire collected much of the same information as the Women's Questionnaire, but it was shorter because it did not contain questions on reproduction, maternal and child health, and nutrition.

The Youth Questionnaire was administered to all never-married women and men age 15-24 living in every second household in the MDHS sample (the same one-half selected for the Men's survey). The Youth Questionnaire focuses on priorities of the MOHF that pertain to young adults: reproductive health, knowledge and attitudes about HIV/AIDS, sexual activity, and tobacco, alcohol, and drug use.

1.8 PRE-TEST

A pre-test was conducted in April-May 2008. The training team consisted of two consultants from ICF Macro and eight staff from the MOHF. The pre-test provided the opportunity to review questionnaire content and language, logistics, equipment needs, and general protocols for the survey. Lessons learned from the pre-test were used to finalize the survey instruments and logistical arrangements. The pre-test also served as training for the upcoming main survey. Pre-test fieldwork for the MDHS took place in Malé and Thinadhoo Islands.

1.9 TRAINING

The first training course for field staff was conducted for four weeks in December 2008. The training team consisted of one consultant from ICF Macro and staff from the MOHF. A total of 58 trainees participated. Trainees were recruited on the basis of their education, prior experience as interviewers or supervisors in other surveys, interest and ability to travel to other islands, other related experience, and performance during the selection interview. The majority of trainees were graduates of 'O' level education (completed grade 10). Other staff members are community health workers who were recruited as supervisors. Two additional trainings of three weeks each were conducted in response to field staff dropouts occurring during data collection. An additional 21 recruits were trained in February 2009, and another 20 recruits were trained in April 2009. Each training was held for three weeks. In all, a total of 91 persons were trained for the survey.

All participants were trained on interviewing techniques and the contents of the MDHS questionnaires. Participants were also trained to conduct anthropometric measurements. The training was conducted following the standard DHS training procedures, including class presentations, mock interviews, written tests, and field practice.

At the start of the field work, six field teams were formed. The team of Malé region started data collection in the first week of January, and the atoll teams started fieldwork during the third week of January.

1.10 FIELDWORK

Based on the experience from previous surveys, fieldwork was planned to be completed in four months. However, the 2009 MDHS is the first survey to cover a large number of islands. Furthermore, the high turnover of field staff lengthened the duration of fieldwork because two training sessions had to be conducted to replace staff dropouts. The main reason for the dropouts was the start of the school year when many of the interviewers returned to school.

Fieldwork started with all six teams deployed in Malé on January 8, 2009, with the intent of familiarizing team members with fieldwork procedures and practices. Because of administrative constraints, other teams did not start data collection until January 21, 2009. Teams in atolls outside Malé completed fieldwork in 5 to 6 months. The team in North Central region was the first to complete fieldwork on June 7, 2009. In Malé, fieldwork was slower and had to be suspended for one month to observe fasting (August 22-September 19, 2009). All teams underwent a change of team members. In all, data collection took place over a period of 10 months, from January 2009 to October 2009. All interviews were conducted in Dhivehi.

Field teams usually consisted of 8 members: 4 female interviewers, 2 male interviewers, 1 field editor, and 1 team supervisor. Team composition varied somewhat over time, but each team maintained having one supervisor, one field editor, and at least 2 female interviewers and 1 male interviewer at all times. Fieldwork launched with six teams being disbursed to six regions of the survey. Over time, one team was dismantled and dispersed among other teams that suffered staffing shortfalls.

To ensure data quality in fieldwork, the following steps were followed:

1. **Check the accuracy and quality of household listing.** On arrival at the cluster, the field team updated the household list. This was done by visiting all households and checking the residential status of the households in the list, removing nonresidential ones, and adding new households to the list. The final revised number on the household list was then sent to the central office, which selected the households for interviews.

2. **Observe interviews.** The team supervisors observed some interviews to see that the right procedures for interviewing had been followed by the interviewers.

3. **Edit all questionnaires.** The team field editor checked completed questionnaires for completeness, legibility, and consistency of editing. Mistakes were corrected and, if necessary, the interviewer might have had to revisit the household to clarify or obtain the correct information from the respondent. The team supervisor also reviewed selected questionnaires. When completed questionnaires were received at the central office, all questionnaires were checked by office editors who also recorded the occupation codes.

4. **Re-interview households.** During the team's visit to a cluster, the team supervisor or the field editor conducted a re-interview in selected households using parts of the Household Questionnaire.

5. **Field-check tables.** The performance levels of the field teams, including interview response rates, was monitored using field check tables produced by the data processing supervisor.

6. **Monitoring fieldwork by the central office.** Throughout the fieldwork, each team was visited by the survey coordinator one time. However, communication between the teams and the MOHF central office was carried out on a daily basis by mobile telephone. This mode of communication is possible because mobile telephone coverage is available in Maldives even in the most remote island. In these discussions, problems arising in the field were discussed and resolved immediately. These problems included logistics, accommodations, support from the community, administrative, and health authorities, and team member performance. During field supervision by the survey coordinator, the completed questionnaires were reviewed, and the performance of each team member and response rates were discussed with the teams.

1.11 DATA PROCESSING

Following completion of all fieldwork, completed questionnaires were sent to the MOHF central office by various means. All programs for processing the MDHS data were prepared using the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro). Data entry was conducted at the Ministry of Health and Family in Malé. About nine data entry operators worked at any one time to enter and check the data; a total of 20 different data entry operators worked on data entry and processing through the data entry period.

Additional data processing was performed to aggregate all data, complete secondary data editing and date imputation, compute sampling weights, and prepare the data files for analysis. This phase of the survey was completed in November 2009.

1.12 DATA COLLECTION

Table 1.2 shows response rates for the 2009 MDHS. A total of 7,515 households were selected in the sample, of which 7,137 were found to be occupied at the time of data collection. The difference between the number of households selected and the number occupied usually occurs because some structures are found to be vacant or non-existent. The number of occupied households successfully interviewed was 6,443, yielding a household response rate of 90 percent.

In the households interviewed in the survey, a total of 8,362 ever-married women were identified as eligible for the individual interview; interviews were completed with 7,131 women, yielding a female response rate of 85 percent. In the one-half sub-sample of MDHS households, a total of 3,224 ever-married men age 15-64 were identified as eligible for the individual interview; interviews were completed with 1,727 men, yielding a male response rate of 54 percent. In the same sub-sample of households, a total of 3,205 never-married women and men age 15-24 (youth) were identified as eligible for individual interview; interviews were completed with 2,240 youth, yielding a youth response rate of 70 percent. The response rate was higher for female youth (80 percent) than male youth (61 percent).

Table 1.2 Results of the household and individual interviews

Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence (unweighted), Maldives 2009

Result	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Household interviews			
Households selected	1,202	6,313	7,515
Households occupied	1,132	6,005	7,137
Households interviewed	944	5,499	6,443
Household response rate[1]	83.4	91.6	90.3
Interviews with ever-married women age 15-49			
Number of eligible women	1,320	7,042	8,362
Number of eligible women interviewed	1,041	6,090	7,131
Eligible women response rate[2]	78.9	86.5	85.3
Household interviews for men and young adults			
Households selected	601	3,151	3,752
Households occupied	566	2,993	3,559
Households interviewed	463	2,741	3,204
Interviews with ever-married men age 15-64			
Number of eligible men	579	2,645	3,224
Number of eligible men interviewed	274	1,453	1,727
Eligible men response rate[2]	47.3	54.9	53.6
Interviews with never-married women 15-24			
Number of respondents	333	1,191	1,524
Number of eligible women interviewed	260	953	1,213
Eligible young women response rate[2]	78.1	80.0	79.6
Interviews with never-married men 15-24			
Number of respondents	349	1,332	1,681
Number of eligible men interviewed	210	817	1,027
Eligible young men response rate[2]	60.2	61.3	61.1

[1] Households interviewed/households occupied
[2] Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

The urban household response rate of 83 percent is lower than the 92 percent response rate among rural households. The same is true for individual interviews with ever-married respondents; response rates are somewhat lower among urban women (79 percent) and men (47 percent) than among their rural counterparts (87 percent and 55 percent, respectively). The difference in response rates between urban and rural youth is negligible.

HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS 2

This chapter provides a demographic and socioeconomic profile of the 2009 MDHS household sample. Information is presented on the age, sex, and education of the household population as well as on their housing facilities and household possessions. Information at the household level is included on a variety of health care topics: physical disability among those age 5 and older, developmental disability among young children, support for early learning, children in the workplace, care and support for physical activities of adults age 65 and older, general health expenditures, and the effects on health of the 2004 tsunami. The profiles of the households provided in this chapter will help readers to place in context the results of the 2009 MDHS. In addition, the household information may prove useful for social and economic development planning.

2.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

The 2009 MDHS survey collected information from all usual residents of a selected household (de jure population) and from persons who stayed in the selected household the night before the interview (de facto population). The tabulations of the MDHS household data presented in this chapter are based on the de facto population, unless otherwise stated.

2.1.1 Age and Sex Composition

Age and sex are important variables and are the primary basis of demographic classification. Table 2.1 presents the percent distribution of the household population by age according to urban-rural residence and sex. The table portrays the demographic context in which behaviours examined later in the report occur. The population spending the night before the survey in the households selected for the survey included 39,945 individuals, of which 47 percent were male and 53 percent were female.

Table 2.1 Household population by age, sex, and residence

Percent distribution of the de facto household population by five-year age groups, according to sex and residence, Maldives 2009

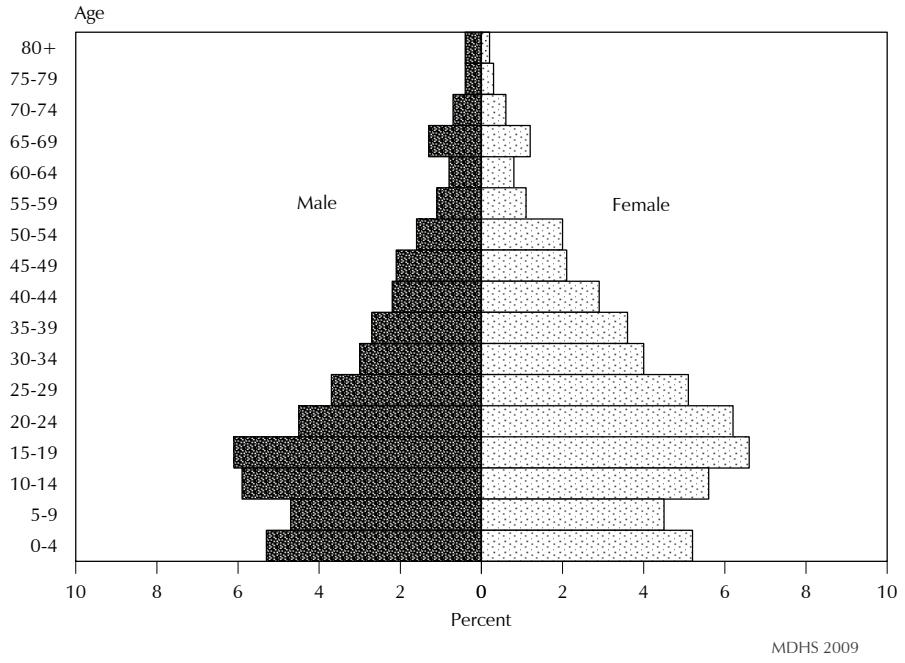
	Urban			Rural			Total		
Age	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<5	9.7	9.1	9.4	11.8	10.2	11.0	11.1	9.8	10.5
5-9	7.8	6.7	7.3	11.0	9.6	10.2	10.0	8.6	9.3
10-14	8.6	9.0	8.8	14.2	11.4	12.7	12.4	10.6	11.4
15-19	14.1	13.8	13.9	12.3	12.0	12.2	12.9	12.6	12.7
20-24	12.4	13.3	12.9	7.9	11.0	9.5	9.4	11.8	10.6
25-29	10.9	10.6	10.7	6.4	9.1	7.8	7.9	9.6	8.8
30-34	8.3	8.9	8.6	5.3	6.9	6.1	6.3	7.6	7.0
35-39	7.4	7.3	7.3	5.0	6.7	5.9	5.8	6.9	6.4
40-44	5.9	5.7	5.8	4.1	5.4	4.8	4.7	5.5	5.1
45-49	4.7	3.6	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.0	4.2
50-54	3.0	3.4	3.2	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.6
55-59	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2
60-64	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5
65-69	1.6	1.7	1.6	3.2	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.5
70-74	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.9	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.3
75-79	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7
80 +	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.6
Don't know/missing	0.9	2.5	1.7	2.4	0.5	1.4	1.9	1.1	1.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,233	6,915	13,148	12,732	14,062	26,797	18,965	20,977	39,945

Note: Total includes 3 persons whose sex was not stated.

Fifty-eight percent of the women are in their reproductive years at ages 15-49. The majority of the household population (55 percent) is younger than age 25, and 31 percent of the population is under age 15. The proportion of the population under age 15 is higher in the rural areas (34 percent) than in the urban areas (26 percent). Overall, 5 percent of the population is age 65 or older. This proportion is higher in rural than in urban areas (6 percent compared with 3 percent). The age dependency ratio, calculated as the ratio of children under age 15 and adults age 65 and older to the working age population (age 15-64) is 58 percent. This figure is comparable to that reported in the 2006 Maldives population census (Ministry of Planning and National Development, 2006).

The population pyramid shown in Figure 2.1 is constructed using the sex and age distribution of the 2009 MDHS household population. Maldives has a pyramid with a broad base but with a narrower band at the bottom, indicating declining fertility.

Figure 2.1 **Population Pyramid**



2.1.2 Household Composition

Table 2.2 shows for urban and rural areas the distribution of households by the sex of the head of the household, by the number of household members, and by the percentage of households with orphans and foster children under age 18. These characteristics are important because they are associated with the welfare of the household. Female-headed households are, for example, typically poorer than male-headed households. In addition, the size and composition of the household affects the allocation of financial and other resources among household members, which in turn influences the overall well-being of these individuals. Household size is also associated with crowding in the dwelling, which can lead to unfavourable health conditions.

Almost two in three households in Maldives are headed by men. Urban households are more often headed by women than rural households (40 and 33 percent, respectively). The average household size is 6.4 persons, with rural households (6.2 persons) having a smaller size than urban households (6.6 persons). Forty percent of the households in urban and rural areas have seven or more members.

Table 2.2 provides information on the proportion of households with foster children (that is, children who live in households with neither biological parent present), double orphans (children with both parents dead), and single orphans (children with one parent dead). Overall, 13 percent of the households contain foster children or orphans. Most of these households have foster children (11 percent), and 5 percent of the households have single orphans. Urban households have a higher proportion of foster children and orphans than rural households (19 percent compared with 11 percent). This is because children from other islands come to Malé for their education and live with family or relatives.

Table 2.2 Household composition

Percent distribution of households by sex of head of household and by household size; mean size of household, and percentage of households with orphans and foster children under 18, according to residence, Maldives 2009

Characteristic	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Household headship			
Male	60.5	67.0	65.0
Female	39.5	33.0	35.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of usual members			
0	0.0	0.1	0.1
1	2.5	3.0	2.8
2	5.2	5.8	5.6
3	8.7	8.3	8.5
4	17.2	12.9	14.3
5	12.9	16.2	15.2
6	13.4	14.0	13.8
7	9.7	11.9	11.2
8	7.0	8.0	7.7
9+	23.4	19.7	20.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean size of households	6.6	6.2	6.4
Percentage of households with orphans and foster children under 18			
Foster children[1]	16.8	7.6	10.5
Double orphans	0.1	0.2	0.2
Single orphans	3.4	5.0	4.5
Foster and/or orphan children	18.5	11.1	13.4
Number of households	1,994	4,449	6,443

Note: Table is based on de jure household members, i.e., usual residents.
[1] Foster children are those under age 18 living in households with neither their mother nor their father present.

2.2 ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

2.2.1 Children's Living Arrangements and Orphanhood

The Household Questionnaire collected information on the living arrangements of all children under age 18 in the households included in the 2009 MDHS sample. Information was also collected on the survival status of the children's parents. The results are presented in Table 2.3.

Seventy-one percent of children under age 18 live with both of their parents. Six percent of children are not living with a biological parent. The percentage of children who do not live with a biological parent increases with age, from about 1 percent among children age 0-4 years to 15 percent among children age 15-17. There are urban-rural differences; 11 percent of urban children under age 18 do not live with a biological parent compared with 4 percent of rural children. Children in Malé (11 percent) and in the South region (5 percent) more often live in households with no biological parent than in other regions. Interestingly, children from wealthier households[1] are more likely to live in households with no biological parent.

[1] Note: For description of the construction of the wealth quintiles, see Section 2.6

Table 2.3 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 by living arrangements and survival status of parents, the percentage of children not living with a biological parent, and the percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not father		Living with father but not mother		Not living with either parent				Missing information on father or mother	Total	Percentage not living with a biological parent	Percentage with one or both parents dead[1]	Number of children
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only father alive	Only mother alive	Both dead					
Age														
0-4	74.7	22.5	0.4	0.6	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6	100.0	1.1	0.6	4,192
<2	75.2	22.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.1	100.0	1.0	0.3	1,923
2-4	74.2	22.8	0.5	0.9	0.1	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	100.0	1.2	0.8	2,269
5-9	74.4	20.1	1.3	0.9	0.2	1.9	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.7	100.0	2.4	2.0	3,703
10-14	69.7	18.2	2.5	1.9	0.7	5.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.6	100.0	6.4	4.2	4,566
15-17	61.3	14.8	3.2	2.3	0.9	13.5	0.5	0.8	0.3	2.5	100.0	15.0	5.6	3,032
Sex														
Male	71.4	18.4	1.7	1.6	0.6	4.7	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.2	100.0	5.2	2.9	7,839
Female	69.7	20.0	1.8	1.2	0.3	5.3	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.8	100.0	6.2	3.0	7,651
Residence														
Urban	70.1	14.1	0.6	1.9	0.6	10.2	0.3	0.5	0.1	1.8	100.0	11.1	2.0	4,316
Rural	70.7	21.1	2.2	1.2	0.4	2.9	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	100.0	3.6	3.3	11,177
Region														
Malé	70.1	14.1	0.6	1.9	0.6	10.2	0.3	0.5	0.1	1.8	100.0	11.1	2.0	4,316
North	74.4	18.3	2.8	0.9	0.9	1.8	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	100.0	2.4	4.3	2,595
North Central	71.1	22.0	1.7	1.2	0.3	2.9	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	100.0	3.3	2.5	2,440
Central	73.7	18.3	1.5	2.3	0.0	2.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.7	100.0	3.4	2.4	1,381
South Central	72.9	18.9	1.7	1.3	0.4	2.9	0.3	0.4	0.1	1.1	100.0	3.7	3.0	1,889
South	64.3	25.7	2.7	0.9	0.3	4.3	0.3	0.5	0.0	1.1	100.0	5.1	3.8	2,872
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	69.4	21.5	3.1	1.1	0.4	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.9	100.0	3.5	4.5	3,427
Second	72.8	19.4	2.1	1.0	0.4	3.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	100.0	3.9	3.3	3,467
Middle	68.5	23.2	1.8	1.7	0.4	3.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.9	100.0	3.4	2.7	3,127
Fourth	69.9	17.4	0.8	1.5	0.8	7.6	0.3	0.5	0.0	1.2	100.0	8.4	2.4	2,907
Highest	72.3	12.8	0.5	1.8	0.2	10.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	1.7	100.0	10.8	1.4	2,565
Total <15	72.8	20.2	1.4	1.2	0.3	2.9	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.6	100.0	3.4	2.3	12,461
Total <18	70.5	19.2	1.8	1.4	0.4	5.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	1.0	100.0	5.7	3.0	15,493

Note: Table is based on de jure members, i.e., usual residents. Total includes 3 children whose sex was not stated.

2.3 EDUCATION OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

The educational level of household members is among the most important characteristics of the household because education is associated with reproductive health behaviour, including use of contraception and the health of children. In Maldives, the official age for entry into primary school is 6 years. Primary school consists of 7 years of education, and secondary school consists of 5 years. Lower secondary level is defined as completion of grade 10 in secondary school. Maldives has already achieved the Millennium Development Goal of providing universal primary education, and steps are being taken to provide education free of cost and to improve the quality of education (Government of Maldives, 2009).

Information on the educational level of the female and male population age 6 and above is presented in Tables 2.4.1 and 2.4.2. An examination of the education distributions for successive cohorts indicates positive changes over time in the educational attainment of women and men alike. Results show that about one in four women and men have never attended school. Improvements over time can be seen by comparing the percentage of the population that has never attended school: 1 percent for women age 20-24 compared with 59 percent for women age 40-44. A similar pattern is observed for men. One in five women and men have gone to primary school without completing it. Twenty-three percent of women and 18 percent of men have completed lower secondary education.

Table 2.4.1 Educational attainment of the female household population

Percent distribution of the de facto female household populations age 6 and over by highest level of schooling attended or completed and median grade completed, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	No education	Some primary	Completed primary[1]	Some lower secondary	Completed lower secondary[2]	Completed higher secondary[3]	More than secondary	Don't know/ missing	Total	Number	Median years completed
Age											
6-9	23.9	75.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,452	0.9
10-14	0.6	64.1	17.6	17.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	100.0	2,228	5.3
15-19	0.6	1.4	4.5	41.5	47.7	2.2	1.4	0.6	100.0	2,641	9.1
20-24	1.1	2.6	8.7	9.3	63.3	5.9	6.7	2.4	100.0	2,470	9.4
25-29	2.3	8.9	22.8	8.4	44.0	2.6	9.3	1.7	100.0	2,020	9.2
30-34	13.8	17.2	28.3	10.9	20.4	1.2	5.7	2.5	100.0	1,585	6.6
35-39	33.2	19.4	25.5	5.8	9.8	0.9	3.6	1.9	100.0	1,454	5.3
40-44	58.8	12.7	15.5	4.6	4.0	0.0	1.7	2.8	100.0	1,154	0.0
45-49	72.2	11.2	8.9	2.5	1.9	0.0	1.4	1.8	100.0	843	0.0
50-54	80.5	7.5	5.2	1.4	2.3	0.0	0.0	3.1	100.0	796	0.0
55-59	82.0	7.0	4.0	1.6	1.0	0.0	0.9	3.6	100.0	439	0.0
60-64	87.7	4.5	2.4	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	100.0	310	0.0
65+	91.3	3.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	100.0	924	0.0
Don't know/missing	2.0	0.4	0.0	0.6	1.6	0.4	0.0	95.1	100.0	240	7.1
Residence											
Urban	14.9	15.8	10.6	13.3	29.8	3.6	7.5	4.5	100.0	6,174	8.1
Rural	29.4	22.3	13.6	11.4	19.6	0.6	0.9	2.3	100.0	12,382	5.5
Region											
Malé	14.9	15.8	10.6	13.3	29.8	3.6	7.5	4.5	100.0	6,174	8.1
North	28.4	23.0	12.0	13.4	20.6	0.2	0.6	1.9	100.0	2,905	5.6
North Central	31.7	20.7	14.9	10.2	20.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	100.0	2,757	5.5
Central	28.5	22.3	17.0	10.8	18.3	0.5	0.7	1.8	100.0	1,444	5.8
South Central	30.6	23.6	14.1	9.8	18.8	0.5	0.6	2.1	100.0	2,101	5.2
South	28.0	22.2	12.0	11.9	19.4	1.0	1.4	4.0	100.0	3,175	5.6
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	34.2	25.2	13.0	11.5	14.3	0.2	0.3	1.2	100.0	3,712	4.4
Second	28.6	23.7	13.5	12.1	18.8	0.3	0.7	2.3	100.0	3,649	5.4
Middle	27.4	19.6	14.9	10.9	22.4	0.8	1.2	2.8	100.0	3,618	6.1
Fourth	19.3	17.5	12.0	12.5	30.3	1.9	3.2	3.3	100.0	3,759	7.0
Highest	13.9	14.8	9.7	13.2	29.0	4.4	9.7	5.4	100.0	3,819	8.6
Total	24.6	20.1	12.6	12.0	23.0	1.6	3.1	3.0	100.0	18,556	6.3

[1] Completed 7th grade at the primary level
[2] Completed 10th grade at the lower secondary level
[3] Completed 12th grade at the higher secondary level

Table 2.4.2 Educational attainment of the male household population

Percent distribution of the de facto male household populations age 6 and over by highest level of schooling attended or completed and median grade completed, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	No education	Some primary	Completed primary[1]	Some lower secondary	Completed lower secondary[2]	Completed higher secondary[3]	More than secondary	Don't know/ missing	Total	Number	Median years completed
Age											
6-9	26.0	72.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	100.0	1,527	0.0
10-14	0.7	68.5	16.8	13.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	2,342	5.2
15-19	1.2	3.7	9.9	45.7	35.7	2.6	0.7	0.5	100.0	2,449	8.7
20-24	1.5	4.7	11.8	11.7	52.1	8.4	7.3	2.4	100.0	1,781	9.4
25-29	2.8	8.0	20.0	12.4	38.8	5.1	8.9	4.0	100.0	1,492	9.1
30-34	8.7	10.4	25.4	12.7	24.1	3.7	8.6	6.5	100.0	1,195	7.4
35-39	24.9	13.5	20.1	9.0	16.1	1.3	6.5	8.6	100.0	1,096	6.4
40-44	46.7	9.2	15.6	6.5	9.2	0.4	3.4	9.0	100.0	892	0.0
45-49	61.5	5.6	9.7	3.4	4.2	0.9	3.4	11.3	100.0	846	0.0
50-54	69.6	4.9	8.0	3.2	3.9	0.6	3.4	6.4	100.0	650	0.0
55-59	75.4	5.3	3.8	3.8	2.5	0.0	1.9	7.2	100.0	445	0.0
60-64	78.4	3.5	4.7	4.4	1.1	0.0	1.6	6.4	100.0	300	0.0
65+	88.3	1.4	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.0	7.5	100.0	1,109	0.0
Don't know/missing	5.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	91.1	100.0	367	0.0
Residence											
Urban	12.4	14.7	9.9	15.6	29.1	4.8	8.7	4.9	100.0	5,510	8.4
Rural	28.8	24.4	13.2	12.5	12.9	1.0	0.7	6.5	100.0	10,979	5.0
Region											
Malé	12.4	14.7	9.9	15.6	29.1	4.8	8.7	4.9	100.0	5,510	8.4
North	30.3	26.3	11.0	14.1	12.8	1.0	0.6	3.9	100.0	2,383	4.6
North Central	29.4	24.4	15.5	12.0	12.6	1.3	0.7	4.0	100.0	2,340	5.1
Central	27.0	23.1	16.8	10.1	14.2	0.6	0.7	7.5	100.0	1,474	5.4
South Central	30.9	24.8	13.3	11.7	13.7	0.7	0.5	4.4	100.0	1,893	4.7
South	26.7	23.3	11.4	13.4	11.8	1.0	0.8	11.6	100.0	2,889	5.0
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	33.5	27.3	12.7	12.0	8.8	0.6	0.3	4.9	100.0	3,268	4.1
Second	27.9	26.3	14.1	13.0	11.8	0.6	0.5	5.8	100.0	3,240	5.0
Middle	26.3	22.6	12.9	13.2	16.3	1.4	0.8	6.7	100.0	3,251	5.7
Fourth	17.6	16.4	11.6	15.0	24.5	3.5	3.9	7.5	100.0	3,308	7.0
Highest	12.1	13.8	9.5	14.5	29.4	4.9	10.8	5.1	100.0	3,423	8.9
Total	23.3	21.2	12.1	13.5	18.3	2.2	3.3	6.0	100.0	16,490	6.2

[1] Completed 7th grade at the primary level
[2] Completed 10th grade at the lower secondary level
[3] Completed 12th grade at the higher secondary level

As expected, women and men in urban areas have better education than those in rural areas. There is not much variation in educational attainment across regions except in Malé, which has a much better educated population than other regions. For example, only 15 percent of women in Malé do not attend formal education compared with 28 to 32 percent in other regions. For women and men, educational attainment increases with the wealth quintile. Fourteen percent of women in the lowest quintile have completed lower secondary education compared with 29 percent in the highest wealth quintile. A similar pattern is observed for men.

2.3.1 School Attendance Rates

Data on net attendance ratios (NARs) and gross attendance ratios (GARs) by school level, sex, residence, region, and wealth quintile are shown in Table 2.5. The NAR indicates participation in primary schooling for the population age 6-12 and in secondary schooling for the population age 13-18. The GAR measures participation at each level of schooling among the population age 6-24. The GAR is nearly always higher than the NAR for the same educational level because the GAR includes participation by those who may be older or younger than the official age range for that level. A NAR of 100 percent indicates that all persons in the official age range for the level attend school at that level. The GAR can exceed 100 percent if there is significant over-age or under-age participation. Over-age participation for a given level of schooling occurs when a student starts school at a younger age than peers, repeats one or more grades, or drops out of school and later returns.

Table 2.5 also shows the Gender Parity Index (GPI) for primary and secondary school. The GPI for primary school is the ratio of the primary school GAR for females to the GAR for males. The GPI for secondary school is the ratio of the secondary school GAR for females to the GAR for males. The gender parity index (GPI) assesses sex-related differences in school attendance rates and is calculated by dividing the GAR for females by the GAR for males. A GPI less than one indicates a gender disparity in favour of males (i.e., a higher proportion of males than females attends that level of schooling). A GPI greater than 1 indicates a gender disparity in favour of females. A GPI of one indicates parity or equality between participation rates for males and females.

Table 2.5 shows that the overall NAR for primary schools is 83, although the GAR is 115. There is a small difference in the NAR between males and females at the primary school level (82 and 84 percent, respectively). This is also true for the GAR (118 percent for males and 113 percent for females).

Table 2.5 School attendance ratios

Net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de facto household population by sex and level of schooling; and the gender parity index (GPI), according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio[1]				Gross attendance ratio[2]			
	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index[3]	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index[3]
PRIMARY SCHOOL								
Residence								
Urban	80.3	85.0	82.7	1.06	114.3	114.5	114.4	1.00
Rural	81.9	83.0	82.4	1.01	118.9	112.2	115.7	0.94
Region								
Malé	80.3	85.0	82.7	1.06	114.3	114.5	114.4	1.00
North	81.5	86.7	84.0	1.06	118.2	117.4	117.8	0.99
North Central	85.7	81.4	83.6	0.95	119.8	111.7	115.8	0.93
Central	80.3	81.4	80.8	1.01	119.9	109.2	114.9	0.91
South Central	82.9	84.8	83.8	1.02	117.8	115.5	116.7	0.98
South	78.9	80.7	79.8	1.02	118.8	107.1	113.2	0.90
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	80.8	83.4	82.0	1.03	120.7	115.7	118.3	0.96
Second	83.9	82.6	83.3	0.99	120.0	111.8	116.1	0.93
Middle	81.6	82.6	82.1	1.01	119.8	111.2	115.7	0.93
Fourth	81.3	84.7	83.1	1.04	116.2	111.9	114.0	0.96
Highest	78.8	84.9	82.0	1.08	107.9	112.9	110.5	1.05
Total	81.5	83.5	82.5	1.02	117.8	112.8	115.3	0.96
SECONDARY SCHOOL								
Residence								
Urban	57.4	60.1	58.8	1.05	71.3	75.0	73.2	1.05
Rural	50.6	60.8	55.7	1.20	59.1	68.9	64.0	1.17
Region								
Malé	57.4	60.1	58.8	1.05	71.3	75.0	73.2	1.05
North	48.1	62.1	55.5	1.29	57.0	67.6	62.6	1.19
North Central	53.1	60.9	57.2	1.15	60.7	70.3	65.7	1.16
Central	46.1	59.5	52.3	1.29	54.5	69.6	61.5	1.28
South Central	53.8	57.2	55.4	1.06	64.1	64.5	64.3	1.01
South	50.8	62.3	56.3	1.23	58.7	71.6	64.8	1.22
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	43.4	57.6	50.7	1.33	52.5	65.6	59.2	1.25
Second	52.4	60.3	56.2	1.15	60.1	69.4	64.6	1.15
Middle	53.5	61.2	57.2	1.14	61.1	69.4	65.1	1.14
Fourth	53.9	61.8	58.2	1.15	68.0	73.2	70.8	1.08
Highest	61.9	62.5	62.2	1.01	75.6	77.8	76.7	1.03
Total	52.7	60.6	56.7	1.15	62.9	70.9	66.9	1.13

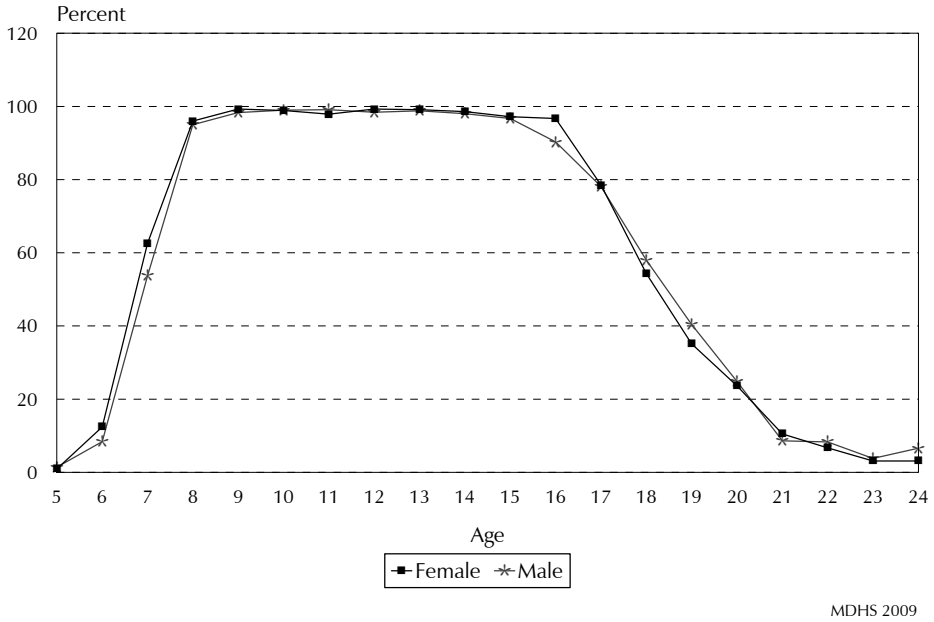
[1] The NAR for primary school is the percentage of the primary-school-age (6-12 years) population that is attending primary school. The NAR for secondary school is the percentage of the secondary-school-age (13-18 years) population that is attending secondary school. By definition the NAR cannot exceed 100 percent.
[2] The GAR for primary school is the total number of primary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary-school-age population. The GAR for secondary school is the total number of secondary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official secondary-school-age population. If there are significant numbers of over-age and under-age students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100 percent.
[3] The Gender Parity Index for primary school is the ratio of the primary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR(GAR) for males. The Gender Parity Index for secondary school is the ratio of the secondary school NAR(GAR) for females to the NAR(GAR) for males.

The NAR and GAR at the secondary school level are significantly lower than at the primary level (57 and 67, respectively).

The primary school GPI of 1.02 indicates gender parity at the primary level. The GPI at the secondary school level is 1.15, reflecting that a larger proportion of girls than boys attend secondary school. The analysis does not show much variation across residence, region, or wealth quintile.

Figure 2.2 illustrates age-specific attendance rates for women and men (i.e., the percentage of a given age cohort who attend school, regardless of the level attended (primary, secondary, or higher). At age 6, only 12 percent of the girls attend school. The percentage jumps to 63 percent by age 7 and to 96 percent by age 8. For males, the proportion for age 6 is 8 percent. It increases to 54 percent by age 7 and to 95 percent by age 8.

Figure 2.2 **Percentage of Females and Males Currently Attending School, by Age**



MDHS 2009

2.3.2 Grade Repetition and Dropout Rates

Repetition rates and dropout rates shown in Table 2.6 describe the flow of pupils through the educational system in Maldives at the primary level. The repetition rates indicate the percentage of pupils who attended a particular grade during the 2008 school year (January to November) who again attended that same class in the 2009 school year. The dropout rates show the percentage of pupils in a grade during the 2008 school year who no longer attended school in the 2009 school year.

Table 2.6 shows that, overall, repetition is highest at grade 7 (8 percent). At grades 5 and 6 repetition rates are much higher among males and in rural areas than among females and in urban areas. The table also shows that repetition rates at grade 7 are highest among respondents in the lowest wealth quintile (13 percent) and lowest among children in the highest wealth quintile (3 percent).

Dropout rates are small for all grades except grade 7. At this grade, the dropout rate for males is higher than for females (4 percent compared with 1 percent). Rural children more often drop out of school at grade 7 than urban children. Across regions, Grade 7 dropout rate ranges from 4 percent in the North Central and the Central regions to 2 percent in Malé. There is no uniform pattern for Grade 7 dropout rates across wealth quintiles.

Table 2.6 Grade repetition and dropout rates

Repetition and dropout rates for the de facto household population age 5-24 who attended primary school in the previous school year by school grade, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	School grade						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
REPETITION RATE[1]							
Sex							
Male	1.0	1.7	1.6	1.6	3.1	4.2	11.5
Female	1.0	0.1	2.3	1.0	2.4	2.4	4.4
Residence							
Urban	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.0	2.8
Rural	1.3	1.2	2.3	1.3	3.2	4.2	9.8
Region							
Malé	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.0	2.8
North	1.5	0.7	0.7	0.0	2.9	8.0	13.4
North Central	1.8	0.7	2.1	3.4	3.9	1.1	8.4
Central	2.3	1.9	3.4	0.0	3.0	5.6	13.4
South Central	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.8	3.0	2.8	6.3
South	1.2	2.3	4.3	0.9	3.2	4.4	7.9
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	2.3	0.9	2.2	1.8	4.9	3.5	13.3
Second	0.9	0.9	2.7	1.7	3.1	5.0	8.4
Middle	1.2	1.2	2.2	0.3	1.8	4.1	7.7
Fourth	0.0	1.5	0.3	0.5	1.0	1.6	4.0
Highest	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.4
Total	1.0	0.9	1.9	1.3	2.8	3.4	8.0
DROPOUT RATE[2]							
Sex							
Male	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	3.8
Female	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
Residence							
Urban	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Rural	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.9
Region							
Malé	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
North	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
North Central	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	3.9
Central	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3
South Central	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.2
South	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.0	2.2
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	3.7
Second	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	3.2
Middle	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.6	1.8
Fourth	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Highest	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Total	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	2.6

[1] The repetition rate is the percentage of students in a given grade in the previous school year who are repeating that grade in the current school year.
[2] The drop-out rate is the percentage of students in a given grade in the previous school year who are not attending school.

2.4 HOUSEHOLD ENVIRONMENT

The physical characteristics of the dwelling in which a household lives are important determinants of the health status of household members, especially children. Physical characteristics can also be used as indicators of the socioeconomic status of households. MDHS respondents were asked a number of questions about their household environment, including questions on the source of drinking water; type of sanitation facility; type of flooring, walls, and roof; and number of rooms in the dwelling. The results are presented both in terms of households and of the de jure population.

2.4.1 Drinking Water

Table 2.7 shows that 97 percent of households have access to improved sources of water. Rural households are slightly less likely to have access to improved water sources than urban households (97 percent compared with 99 percent). Rainwater is a more important source of drinking water in the rural areas (95 percent) than in the urban areas (5 percent). Fifty-two percent of urban households have piped water into their premises) but it is not the main source of water for drinking. Overall, 13 percent of the households use bottled water for cooking/washing (41 percent in urban areas and 1 percent in rural areas).

Table 2.7 Household drinking water

Percent distribution of households and de jure population by source, time to collect, and person who usually collects drinking water; and percentage of households and the de jure by treatment of drinking water, according to residence, Maldives 2009

Characteristic	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Source of drinking water						
Improved source	**98.6**	**97.0**	**97.4**	**98.8**	**97.4**	**97.7**
Piped water into dwelling/yard/plot	52.0	0.5	16.4	56.6	0.7	18.7
Public tap/standpipe	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Protected dug well	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.1
Bottled water, improved source for cooking/washing[1]	40.9	0.5	13.0	34.3	0.4	11.3
Rainwater	4.7	94.7	66.8	6.3	94.8	66.3
Non-improved source	**0.7**	**0.4**	**0.5**	**0.6**	**0.4**	**0.4**
Unprotected dug well	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2
Bottled water, non-improved source for cooking/washing	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.2
Other	0.5	2.5	1.9	0.5	2.2	1.7
Missing	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage using any improved source of drinking water	**98.7**	**97.0**	**97.5**	**98.8**	**97.3**	**97.8**
Time to obtain drinking water (round trip)						
Water on premises	98.8	91.3	93.6	99.0	91.7	94.1
Less than 30 minutes	0.5	6.8	4.9	0.6	6.3	4.4
30 minutes or longer	0.3	1.3	1.0	0.2	1.6	1.1
Don't know/missing	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Person who usually collects drinking water						
Adult female 15+	0.6	6.7	4.8	0.4	6.4	4.5
Adult male 15+	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.5	1.0	0.8
Female child under age 15	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2
Male child under age 15	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
Other	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
Water on premises	98.8	91.3	93.6	99.0	91.7	94.1
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Water treatment prior to drinking[2]						
Boiled	10.8	8.9	9.5	11.6	8.9	9.7
Bleach/chlorine	0.2	3.2	2.3	0.1	3.4	2.4
Strained through cloth	0.5	38.2	26.6	0.9	39.3	26.9
Ceramic, sand or other filter	8.0	3.6	5.0	7.9	3.5	4.9
Solar disinfection	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.9	0.6
No treatment	80.8	45.8	56.7	79.6	44.3	55.7
Percentage using an appropriate treatment method[3]	**18.9**	**47.6**	**38.7**	**20.0**	**48.7**	**39.5**
Number	1,994	4,449	6,443	13,204	27,776	40,980

[1] Because the quality of bottled water is not known, households using bottled water for drinking are classified as using an improved or non-improved source according to their water source for cooking and washing.
[2] Respondents may report multiple treatment methods, so the sum of treatment may exceed 100 percent.
[3] Appropriate water treatment methods include boiling, bleaching, straining, filtering, and solar disinfecting.

Ninety-four percent of households have the water source on the premises (99 percent in urban and 91 percent in rural areas). Adult females collect drinking water (5 percent) more often than anyone else in the household. In urban areas, most households use water from desalinated plants. More than half of the households (57 percent) do not treat the water prior to drinking (81 percent in urban areas and 46 percent in rural areas). Among households that treat their drinking water; 39 percent use an appropriate method (19 percent in urban areas and 48 percent in rural areas). Straining through cloth (27 percent) and boiling (10 percent) are the most common methods used to treat water.

2.4.2 Household Sanitation Facilities

A household is classified as having an improved toilet if the toilet is used only by members of one household (that is, not shared with members of other households) and if the toilet separates the waste from human contact (WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, 2004).

Table 2.8 shows that rural households are somewhat less likely to have a non-improved toilet facility than urban households (7 percent and 3 percent, respectively).Flush toilets are the most common type of toilet in Maldives. Ninety-seven percent of households in urban areas use flush toilets to a piped sewer system. The most common type of toilet in rural areas is a flush toilet facility to a pit latrine. Only 2 percent of households have no toilet facility.

Table 2.8 Household sanitation facilities

Percent distribution of households and de jure population by type of toilet/latrine facilities, according to residence, Maldives 2009

	Households			Population		
Type of toilet/latrine facility	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Improved, not shared facility						
Flush/pour flush to piped sewer system	96.5	17.2	41.7	96.9	18.3	43.6
Flush/pour flush to septic tank	0.8	34.8	24.3	0.6	35.4	24.2
Flush/pour flush to pit latrine	0.0	39.0	27.0	0.0	37.9	25.7
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine	0.0	1.1	0.8	0.0	1.1	0.7
Pit latrine with slab	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.3
Non-improved facility						
Any facility shared with other households	2.6	1.9	2.1	2.4	1.7	1.9
Flush/pour flush not to sewer/septic tank/pit latrine	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.0	1.0	0.7
Pit latrine without slab/open pit	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3
No facility/bush/field	0.0	2.2	1.5	0.0	1.4	1.0
Other	0.0	2.0	1.4	0.0	2.2	1.5
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,994	4,449	6,443	13,204	27,776	40,980

2.4.3 Housing Characteristics

Table 2.9 presents information on a number of household dwelling characteristics and the proportion of households using various types of fuel for cooking. These characteristics reflect the household's socioeconomic situation. They also may influence environmental conditions—for example, in the case of the use of biomass fuels, exposure to indoor pollution—that have a direct bearing on household members' health and welfare. Electricity is universally available in Maldives.

Table 2.9 Household characteristics

Percent distribution of households and de jure population by housing characteristics and percentage using solid fuel for cooking; and among those using solid fuels, percent distribution by type of fire/stove, according to residence, Maldives 2009

	Households			Population		
Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Electricity						
Yes	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
No	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flooring material						
Earth, sand	0.3	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.8
Wood/planks	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Parquet or polished wood	10.4	58.1	43.3	10.3	57.1	42.0
Vinyl or asphalt strips	83.5	38.1	52.1	82.8	39.3	53.3
Ceramic tiles	2.8	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.4
Cement	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.2
Carpet	2.1	0.1	0.7	2.3	0.1	0.8
Other	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2
Missing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rooms used for sleeping						
One	23.4	13.9	16.9	13.9	8.0	9.9
Two	36.9	31.7	33.3	32.9	26.3	28.4
Three or more	39.6	53.9	49.5	53.2	65.3	61.4
Missing	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Place for cooking						
In the house	91.1	32.9	50.9	91.4	31.0	50.5
In a separate building	6.5	63.1	45.6	7.3	66.2	47.2
Outdoors	0.8	2.2	1.7	0.7	2.1	1.6
Other	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Missing	1.6	1.7	1.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cooking fuel						
Electricity	1.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	0.5	0.8
LPG/natural gas/biogas	96.6	88.7	91.2	97.7	89.5	92.2
Kerosene	0.2	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.4
Wood	0.0	8.3	5.7	0.0	8.8	6.0
No food cooked in household	1.4	1.6	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage using solid fuel for cooking[1]	0.0	8.3	5.7	0.0	8.8	6.0
Number of households	1,994	4,449	6,443	13,204	27,776	40,980

LPG = Liquid petroleum gas
[1] Includes wood

More than half of the households (52 percent) use vinyl or asphalt strips for flooring material. These materials are more often used in urban areas than in rural areas (84 percent and 38 percent, respectively). In rural areas, 58 percent of the households use parquet or polished wood compared with 10 percent in urban areas. Almost half of the households in Maldives live in housing units with three or more bedrooms, and one in three households has two bedrooms. Households in rural areas typically have a larger number of rooms for sleeping compared with urban households.

Fifty-one percent of households cook inside the house, and 46 percent cook in a separate building. Nine in ten households in urban areas cook inside the house. In rural areas this proportion is only 33 percent. LPG, natural gas, or biogas is the most common fuel used for cooking, reported by 91 percent of households. Gas is more often used in urban areas (97 percent) than in rural areas (89 percent). Firewood is used for cooking in 6 percent of households, all of them in rural areas.

2.5 HOUSEHOLD POSSESSIONS

The possession of durable consumer goods is a good indicator of a household's socioeconomic status. Moreover, particular goods have specific benefits. For instance, having access to a radio or a television exposes household members to innovative ideas; a refrigerator prolongs food storage; and a means of transport allows greater access to many services away from the local area.

Table 2.10 shows that most households own the consumer goods asked about in the survey. Eighty-three percent own a radio (72 percent in urban areas and 88 percent in rural areas), and 96 percent own a television (97 percent in urban areas and 95 percent in rural areas). A mobile telephone is available in 97 percent of households (99 percent in urban areas and 97 percent in rural areas) and 24 percent of the households have non-mobile telephones (45 percent in urban areas and 15 percent in rural areas). Eighty-five percent of the households own a refrigerator (96 percent in urban areas and 80 percent in rural areas).

Table 2.10 also shows that 40 percent of the households own a bicycle (15 percent in urban areas and 51 percent in rural areas), 42 percent own a motorcycle (70 percent in urban areas and 29 percent in rural areas), and only 5 percent own a car. Five percent of the households own a boat with a motor (3 percent in urban areas and 6 percent in rural areas). Bicycles and boats with a motor are more common in rural areas than in urban areas.

Table 2.10 Household durable goods

Percentage of households and de jure population possessing various household effects, means of transportation, agricultural land and livestock/farm animals by residence, Maldives 2009

	Households			Population		
Possession	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Household effects						
Radio	71.9	88.1	83.1	75.4	88.9	84.6
Television	97.3	95.0	95.7	98.2	97.3	97.6
Mobile telephone	98.9	96.6	97.3	99.6	98.2	98.7
Non-mobile telephone	44.6	14.8	24.0	48.2	16.2	26.5
Refrigerator	95.7	80.1	84.9	97.4	83.6	88.0
Means of transport						
Bicycle	14.7	51.2	39.9	18.1	55.3	43.3
Motorcycle/scooter	69.8	28.8	41.5	76.2	32.8	46.8
Car/truck	10.6	2.5	5.0	12.2	3.1	6.1
Boat with a motor	2.7	5.6	4.7	3.1	6.9	5.7
Number	1,994	4,449	6,443	13,204	27,776	40,980

2.6 WEALTH INDEX

Information on household assets was used to create an index representing the wealth of the households interviewed in the MDHS. To construct the wealth index, each household asset for which information was collected in the survey was assigned a weight or factor score generated through principal components analysis, and the resulting asset scores were standardized. The MDHS households were then assigned a standardized score for each asset, where the score differed depending on whether or not the household owned that asset. The scores were summed by household. Individuals were ranked according to the total score of the household in which they resided and divided into population quintiles, i.e., five groups with the same number of individuals in each.

The wealth index has been compared with both poverty rates and gross domestic product per capita for India, and with expenditure data from household surveys in Nepal, Pakistan, Indonesia (Filmer and Pritchett, 1998), and Guatemala (Rutstein, 1999). The evidence from those studies suggests that the assets index is highly comparable to conventionally measured consumption expenditures.

Table 2.11 shows the degree to which wealth is distributed across residence in Maldives. As expected, urban populations are wealthier than rural populations. This is shown by the small percentage of the population in the urban areas in the three lowest quintiles (less than 3 percent). On the other hand, almost six in ten rural populations are in the first two quintiles (59 percent). Across regions, 61 percent of the population in Malé belong to the highest wealth quintile compared with one percent or less in other regions.

Table 2.11 Wealth quintiles

Percent distribution of the jure population by wealth quintiles according to residence and region, Maldives 2009

Residence/region	Wealth quintile					Total	Number of population
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest		
Residence							
Urban	0.2	0.4	2.2	36.4	60.9	100.0	13,204
Rural	29.4	29.3	28.5	12.2	0.6	100.0	27,776
Region							
Malé	0.2	0.4	2.2	36.4	60.9	100.0	13,204
North	39.1	28.6	22.4	9.8	0.1	100.0	6,360
North Central	29.9	29.6	29.0	10.9	0.6	100.0	5,996
Central	22.4	29.0	34.2	13.9	0.4	100.0	3,561
South Central	29.6	35.6	27.5	7.1	0.2	100.0	4,726
South	23.7	25.7	31.1	18.1	1.4	100.0	7,133
Total	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0	40,980

2.7 BIRTH REGISTRATION

The registration of a birth is the inscription of the facts of the birth into an official log. A birth certificate is issued at the time of registration or later as proof of the registration of the birth. Birth registration is basic to ensuring a child's legal status and, thus, basic rights and services (UNICEF, 2006; United Nations General Assembly, 2002). The registration of vital events in most developing countries is a function of a number of socioeconomic factors. Information on the registration of births was collected in the household interview by asking whether children under age 5 had a birth certificate. If the interviewer was told that the child did not have a birth certificate, the interviewer probed further to ascertain whether the child's birth had been registered with the civil authority. Overall, 93 percent of children were registered, 89 percent had a birth certificate, and 3 percent were registered but did not have a birth certificate. Coverage of registration does not vary greatly across most background characteristics, as shown in Table 2.12. For instance, coverage varies between 86 percent in the South region and 97 percent in the North region.

Table 2.12 Birth registration of children under age 5

Percentage of de jure children under 5 years of age whose births are registered with the civil authorities, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of children whose births are registered: Had a birth certificate	Did not have a birth certificate	Total registered	Number of children
Age				
<2	86.3	5.4	91.7	1,923
2-4	91.8	1.3	93.2	2,269
Sex				
Male	89.8	3.0	92.8	2,112
Female	88.8	3.4	92.3	2,077
Residence				
Urban	90.4	2.2	92.6	1,233
Rural	88.8	3.6	92.4	2,960
Region				
Malé	90.4	2.2	92.6	1,233
North	94.2	2.8	96.9	672
North Central	92.9	2.4	95.3	639
Central	87.3	4.5	91.8	401
South Central	90.5	2.8	93.3	492
South	80.3	5.5	85.7	756
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	87.7	4.2	91.9	795
Second	89.6	3.9	93.5	888
Middle	90.4	3.0	93.5	893
Fourth	87.0	2.6	89.6	846
Highest	91.7	2.2	93.8	770
Total	89.3	3.2	92.5	4,192

Note: Total includes 3 children whose sex was not stated.

2.8 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ATTENDANCE

In the MDHS, information was collected if the child attended any organized learning or early childhood education programme, including kindergarten or community childcare, run either by a private or a public facility.

Table 2.13 shows that 71 percent of children age 3-4 years attend some form of early childhood education. Girls attend this education more often than boys; 72 percent and 70 percent, respectively. The highest percentage of children attending early education is reported in the North Central region (79 percent), and the lowest is in the South Central region (52 percent).

Table 2.13 Early childhood education attendance

Percentage of children age 3-4 years who attend some form of organized early childhood education, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percent	Number of children
Sex		
Male	69.5	782
Female	71.9	751
Region		
Malé	69.0	437
North	76.3	246
North Central	79.2	254
Central	75.4	148
South Central	51.6	165
South	69.6	284
Total	70.7	1,534

2.9 DISABILITY

Each respondent to the household questionnaire was asked to report on the ability of household members to function within six domains. The domains inquired about are those recommended by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (Washington Group on Disability Statistics, 2006) and include vision, hearing, communicating, remembering, mobility, and self-care. Respondents were asked to report for each household member age 5 years and older whether the person is able to perform those functions with no difficulty, only

with some difficulty, with a lot of difficulty, or not at all. Table 2.14 presents the percentage of household members who are reported to have either some difficulty or a lot of difficulty functioning within each of the six domains. It also presents the percentage of household members reported as not being able to perform the function at all. In addition, the table presents the percentage of household members reported to have some difficulty functioning within at least one of the domains, the percentage having a lot of difficulty functioning within at least one of the domains, and the percentage who cannot perform at all in at least one of the six function domains. Each of the disability measures is presented for the entire household population age 5 years and older and for household members age 5-14 years, age 15-49 years, and age 50 years and older.

Table 2.14 Disability

Percentage of de-facto household members age 5 and above with a disability, by specific age groups, Maldives 2009

	Level of functioning		
	Some difficulty	Lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGE 5 AND ABOVE			
Function domain			
Vision	13.2	4.7	0.2
Hearing	4.0	1.5	0.2
Communicating	2.5	1.1	0.5
Remembering	6.4	2.3	0.4
Mobility	7.4	4.0	0.6
Self-care	1.6	1.1	0.6
Prevalence of at least one function being reported at the specified level of functioning	22.0	9.6	1.3
Number of household members	35,691	35,691	35,691
HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGE 5-14			
Function domain			
Vision	6.9	2.1	0.1
Hearing	2.1	0.7	0.2
Communicating	3.3	1.2	0.4
Remembering	4.8	2.0	0.4
Mobility	1.3	0.7	0.2
Self-care	0.8	0.6	0.4
Prevalence of at least one function being reported at the specified level of functioning	13.9	5.0	0.7
Number of household members	8,269	8,269	8,269
HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGE 15-49			
Function domain			
Vision	10.8	3.3	0.1
Hearing	2.9	1.0	0.2
Communicating	1.6	0.8	0.4
Remembering	4.4	1.3	0.3
Mobility	4.1	1.7	0.2
Self-care	0.7	0.4	0.2
Prevalence of at least one function being reported at the specified level of functioning	17.6	6.4	0.8
Number of household members	21,917	21,917	21,917
HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGE 50+			
Function domain			
Vision	31.9	14.5	0.7
Hearing	11.5	4.6	0.4
Communicating	4.7	2.1	0.6
Remembering	16.8	6.6	0.9
Mobility	29.9	18.1	2.6
Self-care	6.6	4.3	2.2
Prevalence of at least one function being reported at the specified level of functioning	51.3	29.3	4.2
Number of household members	5,504	5,504	5,504

Twenty-two percent of household members age 5 years and older have some difficulty functioning in at least one of the domains, 10 percent have a lot of difficulty in at least one of the domains, and 1 percent cannot function at all in at least one of the six domains. The disability reported most often is with vision (13 percent) followed by mobility (7 percent). The prevalence of functioning with some difficulty in at least one domain increases from 22 percent for persons age 5-14 to 51 percent for persons age 50 and older. Four percent of persons age 50 and older cannot function at all in at least one of the domains compared with less than one percent of household members in each of the other age groups. The proportion of household members reported to have at least one function impairment increases with age, from 33 percent among household members age 5-14 to 86 percent among household members age 50 and older.

Vision is the domain in which increases in problems across age groups are greatest; the percentage reporting at least difficulty with vision increases from 9 percent among persons age 5-14 to 47 percent among persons age 50 and older. Next to vision, the domains in which household members age 50 and older have the greatest problems in functioning are mobility (51 percent) and remembering (24 percent).

2.9.1 Young Child Disability

Questions relating to young children's disability were asked to a child's parent or primary caretaker. Respondents were asked to report whether the young children had any of the following disabilities: serious delay in sitting, standing, or walking, difficulty seeing, either in the daytime or at night, difficulty hearing, difficulty understanding what is being said, difficulty in walking or moving arms, having fits, becoming rigid or losing consciousness, not learning to do things like other children; and difficulty speaking/being understood.

Table 2.15 Young child disability

Percentage of children aged 2-9 years who, compared to other children, have specific difficulties, according to type of difficulty, and the percentage of children with at least one disability, Maldives 2009

Disability	Percent
Serious delay in sitting, standing or walking	3.8
Difficulty seeing, either in the daytime or at night	3.1
Have difficulty hearing	2.9
Difficulty understanding what is being said	7.3
Difficulty in walking or moving arms	2.8
Have fits, become rigid or lose consciousness	5.5
Does not learn to do things like other children	9.7
Difficulty speaking/being understood	4.4
At least one disability	24.8
Number	6,050

Table 2.15 shows that one in four children age 2-9 years was reported to have at least one difficulty. The disability reported most often is that the child does not learn to do things like other children (10 percent) followed by difficulty understanding what is being said (7 percent). Six percent of children were reported to have fits, become rigid, or lose consciousness, and 4 percent have a serious delay in sitting, standing, or walking and difficulty speaking or being understood.

2.10 Children in Economically Productive Labour

Information was collected in the survey on work done by children age 5-14 years. Economically productive work includes any work (paid and unpaid) for someone who is not a member of the household; help with household chores such as shopping, collecting firewood, cleaning, fetching water, or caring for children; and family work (on the farm or in a business or selling goods in the street).

Table 2.16 shows that 34 percent of children age 5-14 are working in economically productive work, and most of them do domestic work (32 percent). Among children who work in domestic jobs, 22 percent work for less than 4 hours per day and 11 percent work for more than 4 hours per day. Older children (10-14 years), girls, and children in the South region are more likely to work than other children.

Table 2.16 Children in economically productive labour

Percentage of children age 5-14 years working in economically productive work, by selected background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Working for someone who is not a member of the household		Domestic work		Other family/ farm business	Currently working	Number of children
	Paid	Unpaid	Less than 4 hours	4 hours or more/day			
Age							
5-9	0.1	2.2	18.5	5.3	0.5	25.5	3,735
10-14	0.4	3.0	24.1	14.8	1.3	41.2	4,631
Sex							
Male	0.4	2.8	19.4	7.6	0.8	29.3	4,278
Female	0.2	2.4	24.0	13.7	1.0	39.3	4,089
Region							
Malé	0.0	4.2	14.4	4.9	0.4	21.9	2,123
North	0.5	1.9	21.7	12.4	1.4	35.9	1,450
North Central	0.5	2.9	22.0	9.6	0.8	34.6	1,369
Central	0.4	0.7	22.2	6.2	1.3	29.7	739
South Central	0.2	3.9	9.7	15.8	0.9	27.9	1,061
South	0.4	1.1	38.1	15.7	1.1	54.5	1,625
Total	0.3	2.6	21.6	10.6	0.9	34.2	8,367

2.11 CARE AND SUPPORT FOR OLDER ADULTS

Table 2.17 shows that overall, 31 percent of household members are under age 15, 64 percent are age 15-64, and 5 percent are age 65 or older. Malé has the highest proportion of people who belong to the productive group (age 15-64), and the South region has the lowest (71 percent and 58 percent, respectively).

More than one in four households (26 percent) has at least one member who is 65 years or older. The proportion of households with a member age 65 or older ranges from 16 percent in Malé to 37 percent in the South region.

Table 2.17 Households with older adult population

Percent distribution of household population by specific age groups and the percentage of households with a usual member (de jure) age 65 or older, by region, Maldives 2009

Region	Age				Total	Number of usual members of a household (de jure members)	Percentage of households with a usual member age 65 or older	Number of households
	0-14	15-64	65+	Don't know/ missing				
Malé	25.7	71.3	2.8	0.2	100.0	12,994	15.9	1,994
North	33.3	61.1	5.4	0.1	100.0	6,302	25.9	1,032
North Central	33.4	60.4	6.0	0.2	100.0	5,970	28.2	1,008
Central	32.1	63.3	4.6	0.1	100.0	3,515	26.5	480
South Central	32.6	60.9	6.4	0.0	100.0	4,698	30.0	780
South	34.0	57.9	7.6	0.5	100.0	6,963	37.2	1,150
Total	30.8	63.9	5.1	0.2	100.0	40,443	25.7	6,443

To gauge the level of care and support that is provided by households for older adults, each respondent to the household questionnaire was asked to report on the care and support that the older members (age 65 and older) of their household require in five areas of physical activity. Respondents were asked to report whether household members age 65 and older require assistance with the following physical activities: personal care such as bathing, dressing, or eating; medical care such as giving medications or changing dressings; household activities such as cooking, laundry, and cleaning; going outside the house; and being watched over so as not to hurt themselves or others. The findings are presented in Table 2.18.

Table 2.18 Care and support of physical activities for older adults

Percentage of de-facto household members age 65 and older requiring care and support for specific physical activities, by region, Maldives 2009

Region	Physical activities for which adults age 65 and older require care and support					Total number of household members age 65 and older
	Personal care	Medical care	Household activities	To go outside	Watched over for safety	
Malé	22.0	39.2	20.8	28.6	17.4	382
North	27.4	46.4	24.7	20.4	18.6	338
North Central	21.8	33.0	20.3	16.8	19.7	343
Central	25.4	41.4	23.8	18.7	14.8	157
South Central	28.2	43.8	27.7	19.7	15.1	294
South	29.1	42.1	33.5	24.3	32.5	519
Total	25.8	40.9	25.8	22.1	21.3	2,033

About 4 in 10 older adults (41 percent) need assistance with medical care such as taking medications and changing dressings, or other medical requirements. About one in four older adults requires help with personal care, and the same proportion needs assistance with general household tasks. One in five older adults each must be assisted when leaving their home and must be watched over for safety reasons.

To further assess the overall extent of care and support required by older adults, Table 2.19 presents the percentage of older adults who require assistance with one or more needs, two or more needs, three or more needs, four or more needs, or help with all five needs.. Overall, 5 percent of the population age 65 and older need assistance with all five needs that were asked about, while 43 percent do not require assistance with any of the five activities.

Table 2.19 Amount of care and support of physical activities for older adults

Percentage of de-facto household members age 65 and older requiring care and support in one or more areas, by region, Maldives 2009

Region	In how many areas of physical activity is care and support needed by household members age 65 and older?						Total number of household members age 65 and older
	Require no support	One or more	Two or more	Three or more	Four or more	All five[1]	
Malé	42.9	57.1	34.3	20.7	12.5	3.5	382
North	38.1	61.9	37.7	22.6	10.4	5.0	338
North Central	55.2	44.8	31.4	20.1	12.0	3.2	343
Central	44.6	55.4	30.8	21.2	13.1	3.6	157
South Central	44.2	55.8	37.0	21.9	13.5	6.3	294
South	35.1	64.9	42.7	30.9	15.5	7.5	519
Total	42.5	57.5	36.6	23.7	13.0	5.1	2,033

[1] Personal care, medical care, household activities, going outside, and watching over for safety.

2.12 HEALTH EXPENDITURES

The MDHS included a health expenditure module to determine how much money households paid for expenditures related to health care. Household respondents were asked to report on expenditures for health insurance premiums, hospital stays in the previous year, and for all health care related costs incurred in the previous month, including visits to health care providers, laboratory tests, other medical tests, prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, and finally, travel and accommodation costs associated with obtaining care on other islands.

Prior to asking specific expenditure questions, household respondents were asked to report on the frequency of the related health activity. Each household was asked whether any member of the household was covered by a health welfare or assistance plan at any time in the preceding year. Table 2.20 shows that 29 percent of households have at least one household member who was covered by a health welfare or assistance plan in the previous year. As many as 4 in 10 households in Malé had a member so covered. This is the highest percentage in the regions of Maldives. In contrast, only 17 percent of households in South Central have at least one member who is covered by a health welfare plan or assistance. Coverage with a health welfare or assistance plan is more common as the wealth level of the household rises. Only 18 percent of the poorest households have a member who has health coverage compared with 4 in 10 of the wealthiest households.

Table 2.20 shows that hospitalization is more common in rural areas, and in the North, Central, and South regions. Admittance to a hospital declines as the education level and wealth status of the household head increases. For example, the proportion of households with a member admitted to a hospital in households whose head has no education is 58 percent compared with 45 percent of households whose head has more than secondary education.

The last column in Table 2.20 is shown to gauge the utilization of outpatient services. Overall, 61 percent of households had a member who visited a health care provider for treatment or preventive care in the month before the survey. Rural households had a slightly higher proportion of visits to a health care provider than urban households. There are small variations across regions. Visits to a health care provider decline as the education level of the household head increases. For example, 63 percent of households whose head has no education have a member who visited a health care provider compared with 52 percent of households whose head has more than secondary education.

Table 2.20 Health insurance coverage and utilization of inpatient and outpatient services

Percentage of households with at least one household member who was covered by a health welfare plan or assistance, was hospitalized during the year before the survey, or visited a health provider during the past month, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of households with at least one member who: Was covered by a health welfare plan/ assistance	Had a hospital stay last year	Visited a health provider during the last month	Number of households
Residence				
Urban (Malé)	40.2	42.9	59.8	1,994
Rural	23.2	60.3	61.8	4,449
Region				
Malé	40.2	42.9	59.8	1,994
North	22.9	61.2	62.1	1,032
North Central	21.0	58.7	62.0	1,008
Central	35.6	60.9	62.7	480
South Central	16.9	59.7	62.5	780
South	24.6	60.8	60.4	1,150
Education of the head of the household				
No education	25.9	58.4	62.6	3,731
Primary	24.4	51.0	61.1	1,293
Secondary	42.7	46.9	57.1	829
More than secondary	42.6	44.7	51.8	211
Wealth index quintile				
Lowest	17.5	56.5	60.9	1,523
Second	21.4	62.5	63.4	1,269
Middle	27.9	62.2	60.6	1,257
Fourth	37.0	51.4	62.3	1,232
Highest	42.2	40.3	58.5	1,162
Total	28.5	54.9	61.2	6,443

Note: Total includes 379 households with information missing on the level of formal education for the household head

Results of the specific expenditure questions are not included in this report because as can be seen in Table 2.21, a high percentage of household respondents reported that they did not know all the expenditure questions they were asked. Table 2.21 shows what percentage of households had a household member who experienced a health care service, but did not know the answer to the question on how much the service cost. For example, 38 percent of households had a member of the household admitted to a hospital in the previous year, but did not know how much the household was charged for the hospital stay (excluding costs covered by a health welfare or assistance plan). Similarly, thirty-two percent of households reported having a member of the household obtain laboratory tests, but did not know how much the household was charged for the laboratory tests (excluding costs covered by a health welfare or assistance plan). Due to the rather high percentage of "Don't know" responses or missing data on costs, the cost data are not included in this report.

Table 2.21 Quality of health expenditure data

Percentage of households with at least one household member having a specific health service for which the response on the question relating to costs of the service was 'Don't know' or missing, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage "don't know" and missing on cost					
	Hospital stay	Provider visit	Laboratory fees	Other medical test	Prescription drugs	Non-prescription drugs
Residence						
Urban (Malé)	47.2	33.1	44.4	45.8	45.6	35.6
Rural	35.1	18.4	25.3	36.6	25.4	17.5
Region						
Malé	47.2	33.1	44.4	45.8	45.6	35.6
North	32.2	10.7	19.8	31.0	22.5	17.9
North Central	30.4	11.1	22.8	34.9	21.5	11.6
Central	43.4	30.1	40.8	50.7	33.7	31.6
South Central	36.7	25.4	29.3	37.4	24.9	20.1
South	37.0	22.1	22.9	33.8	28.5	14.0
Atoll						
Malé	47.2	33.1	44.4	45.8	45.6	35.6
Haa Alif	20.2	7.9	11.3	(14.8)	13.2	(12.1)
Haa Dhaal	35.7	10.5	20.8	(32.1)	22.5	(13.8)
Shaviyani	39.9	14.6	27.9	(49.0)	33.2	(27.4)
Noonu	32.6	10.8	19.5	(31.8)	23.3	*
Raa	33.0	8.0	26.4	38.5	25.1	*
Baa	31.0	11.9	29.3	(35.3)	17.7	6.9
Lhaviyani	20.7	15.5	10.7	(30.1)	18.5	(22.4)
Kaafu	34.0	26.7	34.5	(53.3)	24.6	(31.5)
Alif Alif	46.7	19.3	38.5	54.5	32.6	(27.9)
Alif Dhaal	53.3	45.4	49.9	48.7	47.2	33.7
Vaavu	29.9	11.6	27.1	(26.0)	16.4	*
Meemu	35.4	12.5	29.4	33.4	22.1	*
Faafu	21.9	11.1	19.5	(33.9)	13.9	*
Dhaalu	38.6	24.6	(26.6)	(49.6)	26.6	*
Thaa	35.0	26.9	33.3	(44.9)	20.1	*
Lhaamu	43.3	35.1	30.3	32.2	31.9	(25.5)
Gaaf Alif	49.1	27.4	24.8	41.1	32.0	(27.8)
Gaaf Dhaal	38.5	15.5	23.3	(28.4)	34.6	(11.4)
Gnaviyani	30.9	24.1	25.9	(38.5)	29.7	(13.2)
Seenu	32.5	23.8	20.9	(32.4)	22.2	*
Education of the head of the household						
No education	36.9	21.5	29.8	41.2	30.3	25.5
Primary	36.7	21.4	27.8	32.1	26.6	22.7
Secondary	43.5	27.6	38.5	40.8	38.5	31.6
More than secondary	(33.2)	22.5	(29.7)	*	(35.8)	*
Certificate	43.0	16.9	(27.1)	*	23.0	*
Missing	45.7	35.5	52.3	68.1	47.7	(25.9)
Wealth index quintile						
Poorest	38.5	18.2	29.1	36.3	27.6	14.8
Poorer	37.4	17.2	22.2	33.8	25.8	19.6
Middle	31.8	20.6	25.0	39.9	22.0	20.3
Richer	37.9	27.9	37.1	44.7	42.4	29.9
Richest	48.6	32.7	44.7	44.0	41.5	35.1
Total	38.0	22.8	31.6	40.1	31.3	25.2
Number	3,537	3,941	2,175	1,182	3,702	876

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

2.13 TSUNAMI

Nearly one in ten households report having a household member who has been displaced as a result of the tsunami (see Table 2.22). The most affected region is South Central, where one in four households report having a member displaced by the tsunami. The Central and North Central regions each have 20 percent and 11 percent of household members who were displaced.

Table 2.22 indicates that, among households that have a household member who was displaced by the tsunami, 7 percent were displaced on the same island and 2 percent were displaced to another island. Nineteen percent of households in the South Central region and 13 percent in the Central region have a household member who was displaced on the same island.

Table 2.22 Tsunami displacement

Percentage of households who have a household member who was displaced because of the tsunami, and whether or not they were displaced to another island, by region, Maldives 2009

	Displaced to where:			Percentage of households who have a household member who was displaced	Number of households
Region	Displaced on the same island	Displaced to another island	Not determined		
Malé	1.1	0.5	0.0	1.5	1,994
North	5.3	0.1	0.1	5.5	1,032
North Central	7.6	2.7	0.2	10.5	1,008
Central	13.3	5.1	0.7	19.1	480
South Central	18.5	6.7	0.0	25.2	780
South	7.5	0.7	0.4	8.5	1,150
Total	6.9	1.9	0.2	9.0	6,443

Households which have a household member who was displaced because of the tsunami were asked the location of those household members. Table 2.23 indicates that among those households with a household member who was displaced by the tsunami, 14 percent have a household member who is still living in temporary shelter. About half are living in their own house that has been reconstructed or repaired, and 16 percent are living in a new house. Another 10 percent live with a host family.

The proportion of displaced persons who live in their own renovated or repaired house varies across regions, ranging from 43 percent in North Central to 64 percent in Central region. Three in ten displaced persons in North Central region live in a reconstructed new house.

Table 2.23 Current location of tsunami displaced

For those households who have a household member who was displaced because of the tsunami, the distribution of where those displaced members live now, by region, Maldives 2009

	Where displaced members live now:							
Region	Temporary shelter	Old damaged house	Own renovated/ repaired house	Reconstructed new house	Living with host family	Not determined	Total	Number of households
Malé	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	31
North	19.1	3.9	53.0	6.3	17.7	0.0	100.0	57
North Central	7.5	10.8	43.4	30.5	6.0	1.7	100.0	106
Central	6.8	9.4	64.1	8.8	10.4	0.6	100.0	92
South Central	17.6	10.2	48.8	16.1	7.3	0.0	100.0	197
South	12.2	6.0	52.2	7.8	15.3	6.5	100.0	98
Total	13.8	8.3	49.1	16.3	10.1	2.4	100.0	580

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 2.24 shows that, among households that gave shelter after the tsunami, 3 in 10 provided shelter to 0-4 people, 36 percent sheltered 5-9 people, and 26 percent sheltered 10 or more people. Table 2.23 also shows some variations across regions.

Table 2.24 Number of people sheltered

Among households giving shelter after the tsunami, the percent distribution of number of people sheltered, by region, Maldives 2009

Region	Number of people given shelter					Number of households
	0-4	5-9	10+	Don't know/ missing	Total	
Malé	(38.2)	(33.7)	(15.3)	(12.7)	100.0	108
North	35.3	43.9	15.4	5.4	100.0	80
North Central	31.2	35.3	29.3	4.2	100.0	94
Central	26.4	48.1	16.1	9.3	100.0	65
South Central	25.7	31.7	35.7	6.9	100.0	178
South	26.4	29.0	35.1	9.6	100.0	65
Total	30.3	35.8	26.0	7.9	100.0	589

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

Households that gave shelter to tsunami victims were asked whether they received benefits after the tsunami. Table 2.25 shows that 70 percent of the households did not receive any benefits. Among households that received benefits, 11 percent received benefits for 1-4 persons, 14 percent for 5-9 people, and 4 percent received benefits for 10 or more people.

Table 2.25 Number of household members who received benefits

Among households giving shelter after the tsunami, the percent distribution of number of household members who received benefits after the tsunami, by region, Maldives 2009

Region	Number of people given benefits						Number of households
	0	1-4	5-9	10+	Don't know/ missing	Total	
Malé	(80.4)	(13.6)	(4.2)	(0.0)	(1.8)	100.0	108
North	85.8	8.2	6.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	80
North Central	79.0	7.2	9.4	3.5	1.0	100.0	94
Central	62.2	9.2	22.4	6.2	0.0	100.0	65
South Central	57.2	13.3	22.5	5.2	1.8	100.0	178
South	60.1	14.5	15.8	6.3	3.2	100.0	65
Total	69.6	11.4	14.1	3.5	1.4	100.0	589

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS 3

This chapter provides a demographic and socioeconomic profile of female respondents interviewed in the 2009 MDHS. Such background information is essential to the interpretation of findings and for understanding the results presented later in the report. Basic characteristics collected include age, level of education, marital status, religion, and wealth status. Exposure to mass media and literacy status were examined, and detailed information was collected on employment status, occupation, and earnings.

3.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Table 3.1 presents the distribution of the ever-married women who were interviewed in the 2009 MDHS by age, marital status, urban or rural residence, region of residence, educational level, and wealth quintile.

The findings show that approximately two-fifths of women are under age 30 and about one-fourth are age 40 or older. There are fewer women in the 15-19 and 20-24 age groups than in the 25-29 cohort. The majority of women (91 percent) are married, and the remainder are split between divorced or separated (8 percent) and widowed (1 percent). Thirty-three percent of women live in urban areas. Considering place of residence, 33 percent of the women are from Malé, 30 percent are from the North and the North Central regions combined, 9 percent from the Central region, 12 percent from the South Central region, and 17 percent from the South region.

The majority of respondents have had some education. Approximately one-fourth of the women never attended school. Around one-third of women have only a primary education, while four in ten attended secondary school or higher. The women are fairly evenly distributed across the wealth quintiles, with the smallest percentage found in the lowest wealth quintile (18 percent).

Table 3.1 Background characteristics of female respondents

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by selected background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Weighted percent	Weighted	Unweighted
Age			
15-19	1.7	119	129
20-24	17.8	1,268	1,381
25-29	21.6	1,539	1,528
30-34	18.0	1,287	1,184
35-39	16.6	1,185	1,169
40-44	14.2	1,013	1,004
45-49	10.1	721	736
Marital status			
Married	91.2	6,500	6,558
Divorced/separated	7.7	549	492
Widowed	1.2	82	81
Residence			
Urban	33.2	2,368	1,041
Rural	66.8	4,763	6,090
Region			
Malé	33.2	2,368	1,041
North	15.0	1,067	960
North Central	14.5	1,038	1,259
Central	8.6	615	1,290
South Central	12.0	853	1,543
South	16.7	1,190	1,038
Education			
No formal education	23.4	1,668	1,941
Primary	34.6	2,464	2,503
Secondary	36.2	2,584	2,384
More than secondary	4.7	333	216
Unknown - Certificate	1.1	81	87
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	18.2	1,300	1,578
Second	19.6	1,396	1,850
Middle	20.9	1,488	1,931
Fourth	20.3	1,447	1,112
Highest	21.0	1,499	660
Total 15-49	100.0	7,131	7,131

Note: Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was completed.

3.2 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Table 3.2 presents a detailed distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 by educational attainment. The general pattern evident in Table 3.2 indicates a decrease in the proportion of women with no education from the oldest to the youngest cohort. For example, 1 percent of women age 15-24 have no formal education, compared with 57 percent of women age 40-44 and 72 percent of women

age 45-49. Similarly, 74 percent of women age 15-24 had some secondary education compared with only 8 percent of women age 40-44 and 5 percent of women age 45-49. Overall, the median years of school completed for women age 15-49 is 6.7 years.

The MDHS data indicate that educational opportunities vary by urban-rural residence. Urban women have higher rates of school attendance than their rural counterparts. Twelve percent of urban women have not attended school compared with 29 percent of women in rural areas. Comparison of the median number of years of education completed shows that urban women have a median of 8.7 years of schooling and rural women have 6.3 years of education. Forty-four percent of urban women have attended some secondary school compared with 30 percent of rural women.

Table 3.2 Educational attainment

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by highest level of schooling attended or completed, and median grade completed, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Highest level of schooling							Total	Median years completed	Number of women
	No formal education	Some primary	Completed primary[1]	Some secondary	Completed secondary[2]	More than secondary	Unknown - Certificate			
Age										
15-24	0.7	3.0	12.7	74.2	3.3	5.0	1.1	100.0	9.3	1,387
15-19	0.8	3.8	9.6	84.8	0.7	0.1	0.4	100.0	9.3	119
20-24	0.7	2.9	13.0	73.2	3.5	5.5	1.2	100.0	9.3	1,268
25-29	1.9	11.1	25.0	50.4	2.0	8.7	0.9	100.0	9.1	1,539
30-34	11.7	19.8	29.4	30.3	1.9	5.2	1.8	100.0	6.6	1,287
35-39	32.2	22.4	26.6	14.3	0.3	2.9	1.2	100.0	5.4	1,185
40-44	57.3	15.4	15.6	8.3	0.0	2.2	1.0	100.0	a	1,013
45-49	71.6	13.2	9.3	4.5	0.0	0.9	0.6	100.0	a	721
Residence										
Urban	12.2	10.9	17.6	43.9	3.3	11.0	1.1	100.0	8.7	2,368
Rural	29.0	15.3	22.3	30.3	0.5	1.6	1.1	100.0	6.3	4,763
Region										
Malé	12.2	10.9	17.6	43.9	3.3	11.0	1.1	100.0	8.7	2,368
North	29.6	15.7	24.7	28.6	0.2	0.7	0.5	100.0	6.2	1,067
North Central	35.2	12.4	21.8	28.1	0.4	1.1	1.1	100.0	6.2	1,038
Central	27.9	16.5	25.1	27.7	0.9	1.4	0.5	100.0	6.3	615
South Central	30.9	15.7	20.4	30.2	0.5	1.0	1.3	100.0	6.3	853
South	22.1	16.4	20.4	35.1	0.8	3.3	1.9	100.0	6.8	1,190
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	37.0	19.3	22.3	20.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	100.0	5.4	1,300
Second	29.2	16.7	22.1	29.9	0.1	0.9	1.1	100.0	6.3	1,396
Middle	24.5	13.3	24.2	34.2	0.6	2.0	1.3	100.0	6.6	1,488
Fourth	18.8	11.1	18.7	42.7	1.9	5.4	1.5	100.0	7.4	1,447
Highest	9.4	9.6	16.8	44.7	4.0	14.1	1.4	100.0	9.1	1,499
Total	23.4	13.8	20.8	34.8	1.5	4.7	1.1	100.0	6.7	7,131

a = Omitted because more than 50 percent of women had no formal schooling
[1] Completed 7th grade at the primary level
[2] Completed 12th grade at the secondary level

Educational levels are lowest in the North Central region, where 35 percent of the women have never attended school. The highest educational level is found in Malé, where only 12 percent of women have never attended school. Educational attainment also increases as household economic status increases. For example, 37 percent of the women in the poorest households have no formal education compared with 9 percent of women in the most advantaged households. Forty-five of women in the highest wealth quintile have some secondary education compared with 21 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile.

3.3 Access to Mass Media

The 2009 MDHS collected information on the exposure of respondents to broadcast and print media and the Internet (Table 3.3). This information is important because it indicates to what extent the mass media can be used to disseminate family planning, health, and other information. Access to

mass media is relatively high in Maldives. Television is the most popular of the mass media among women (96 percent watch television at least once a week), followed by radio (78 percent of women listen to radio at least once a week). Readership of print media and use of the Internet is comparatively lower for women (36 percent and 21 percent, respectively).

There is no strong relationship between access to the four types of media and age; however, women age 15-19 read a newspaper and listen to the radio once a week less than older women; in contrast, they use the Internet at least once a week at higher rates than older women. On the other hand, media use varies by residence. Women who live in urban areas read a newspaper and use the Internet at least once a week, much more than other women, whereas women living in rural areas listen to the radio at least once a week at higher rates than urban women. The percentage of women who read a newspaper or magazine at least once a week varied considerably, from 15 percent in the Central region to 59 percent in the Male region. The percentage who use the Internet at least once a week ranges from 44 percent in Malé to 6 percent in the North and the Central regions.

Table 3.3 Exposure to mass media

Percentage of women age 15-49 who are exposed to specific media on a weekly basis, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Reads a newspaper at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to radio at least once a week	At least three media at least once a week[1]	No media at least once a week	Uses Internet at least once a week	Number of women
Age							
15-19	15.6	96.2	71.8	25.8	0.0	29.2	119
20-24	33.0	97.0	73.7	38.4	0.2	29.7	1,268
25-29	36.9	96.7	77.4	39.9	0.7	27.9	1,539
30-34	37.9	97.2	74.8	37.7	0.4	24.3	1,287
35-39	39.1	96.7	80.4	36.6	0.8	16.9	1,185
40-44	37.2	95.4	79.6	33.1	0.9	12.2	1,013
45-49	33.6	94.8	86.2	30.4	1.0	6.9	721
Residence							
Urban	59.1	96.7	66.4	59.3	0.4	44.0	2,368
Rural	24.6	96.3	83.6	25.2	0.7	10.2	4,763
Region							
Malé	59.1	96.7	66.4	59.3	0.4	44.0	2,368
North	17.8	95.7	89.8	18.9	0.6	6.2	1,067
North Central	23.6	96.4	79.8	23.0	0.9	8.6	1,038
Central	15.1	96.7	78.9	15.4	1.2	5.8	615
South Central	15.6	96.3	81.3	16.7	0.7	6.8	853
South	43.1	96.4	85.3	43.9	0.5	19.9	1,190
Education							
No formal education	23.7	94.6	84.6	20.9	1.2	1.8	1,668
Primary	33.6	96.9	81.7	31.1	0.7	9.0	2,464
Secondary	41.5	97.4	72.8	45.6	0.2	36.6	2,584
More than secondary	69.4	95.0	56.9	77.1	0.0	86.4	333
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	17.7	93.2	86.1	17.0	1.3	3.7	1,300
Second	19.7	96.8	84.8	20.3	0.6	5.9	1,396
Middle	30.9	97.8	82.3	30.9	0.4	11.8	1,488
Fourth	46.7	97.2	73.7	48.6	0.5	29.4	1,447
Highest	62.2	96.8	63.9	62.5	0.3	53.0	1,499
Total	36.1	96.4	77.9	36.5	0.6	21.4	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.
[1] Refers to radio, television and newspaper

The percentage of women who reported that they have been exposed to at least three media at least once a week is 37 percent. Women with more than secondary education and women in the highest wealth quintile have the highest rates of exposure to three media at least once a week (77 percent and 63 percent, respectively).

3.4 EMPLOYMENT

Employment is a source of empowerment for women, given that they gain control over their own income. It is difficult to measure employment status because some work, especially work on family farms, in family businesses, or in the informal sector, is often not perceived as employment by women and men themselves, and hence not reported as such. The 2009 MDHS asked women detailed questions about their employment status to ensure complete coverage of employment in any sector, whether formal or informal. Women who reported that they were currently working and those who reported that they worked at some time during the 12 months preceding the survey are considered to have been employed. Additional information was collected on the type of work women were doing, whether they worked continuously throughout the year, for whom they worked, and the form in which they received their earnings.

Tables 3.4 shows the percent distribution of women age 15-49 by employment status and according to background characteristics. Two in five women are currently employed. Seven percent reported that they worked at some point during the past 12 months but were not working at the time of the survey, and fifty-three percent did not work at all in the 12 months preceding the survey (Figure 3.1).

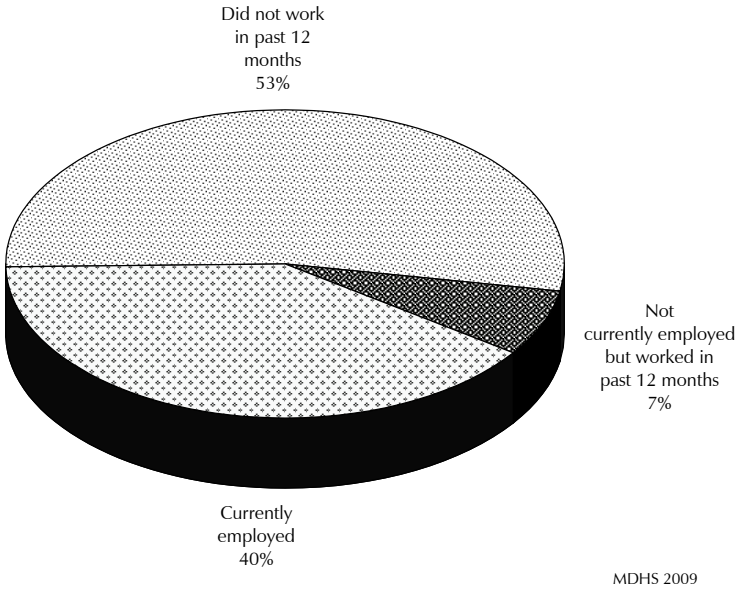
Table 3.4 Employment status

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 by employment status, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Employed in the 12 months preceding the survey		Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Total	Number of women
	Currently employed[1]	Not currently employed			
Age					
15-19	27.3	18.5	54.2	100.0	119
20-24	37.1	10.5	52.3	100.0	1,268
25-29	37.8	7.5	54.6	100.0	1,539
30-34	41.6	5.4	53.0	100.0	1,287
35-39	43.2	6.4	50.4	100.0	1,185
40-44	42.7	5.4	51.3	100.0	1,013
45-49	40.4	7.1	51.9	100.0	721
Marital status					
Married	38.7	7.5	53.7	100.0	6,500
Divorced/separated/widowed	53.5	5.8	39.6	100.0	631
Number of living children					
0	48.4	12.5	39.1	100.0	1,040
1-2	39.7	6.4	53.8	100.0	3,183
3-4	37.2	5.5	56.9	100.0	1,636
5+	37.6	7.6	54.5	100.0	1,272
Residence					
Urban	40.3	6.1	53.3	100.0	2,368
Rural	39.9	7.9	52.1	100.0	4,763
Region					
Malé	40.3	6.1	53.3	100.0	2,368
North	40.9	9.2	49.6	100.0	1,067
North Central	41.3	9.8	48.9	100.0	1,038
Central	41.2	4.7	54.1	100.0	615
South Central	45.4	8.5	46.1	100.0	853
South	33.3	6.5	60.2	100.0	1,190
Education					
No formal education	39.5	7.9	52.3	100.0	1,668
Primary	34.4	6.1	59.2	100.0	2,464
Secondary	41.7	8.4	49.9	100.0	2,584
More than secondary	64.6	6.1	29.3	100.0	333
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	40.0	9.6	50.3	100.0	1,300
Second	39.1	7.4	53.4	100.0	1,396
Middle	38.1	8.1	53.6	100.0	1,488
Fourth	39.8	5.0	55.1	100.0	1,447
Highest	43.1	6.8	49.9	100.0	1,499
Total	40.0	7.3	52.5	100.0	7,131

Note: Total includes women with information missing on employment status who are not shown separately. Total includes 81 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.
[1] ""Currently employed' is defined as having done work in the past seven days. Includes persons who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reason.

Figure 3.1 Women's Employment Status in the Past 12 Months



Women in the older age group have higher current employment rates than younger women. A higher proportion of women who are divorced, separated, or widowed (54 percent) are currently employed compared with other women (39 percent). In addition, higher rates of women with no children are also currently employed compared with those who have children. There is no difference by urban-rural residence in the proportion of women who are currently employed (40 percent). Levels of employment vary a little by region; for example, among women, current employment ranges from a low of 33 percent in the South to a high of 45 percent in the South Central region. Women with more than a secondary education had the highest rates of current employment at the time of the survey. For example, 40 percent of the women with no education are currently employed compared with 65 percent of the women with more than secondary education. There are no substantial variations in the proportion currently employed across wealth quintiles.

3.5 OCCUPATION

Respondents who reported being currently employed or who worked in the 12 months preceding the survey were asked what type of work they normally do. Table 3.5 shows the distribution of women by occupation and according to background characteristics.

The majority of women who are currently working are employed in non-agricultural occupations. Slightly less than one-third of working women (32 percent) hold skilled manual jobs, and 26 percent work in professional, technical, or managerial positions. An additional 21 percent work in sales and services, and 16 percent have clerical jobs. Only 4 percent of working women are involved in some type of agricultural activity.

More women who are married are engaged in professional, technical, or managerial activities or skilled manual labour than divorced, separated, or widowed women. Higher proportions of women who are divorced, separated, or widowed are in sales and services positions. Residence has a significant effect on the type of occupation. Urban women have higher employment rates in professional, technical, or managerial and clerical jobs, while rural women have higher employment rates in skilled manual labour and agricultural work. About half of women (49 percent) with no formal education and in the lowest wealth quintile (53 percent) work as skilled manual labour. The majority of women with more than secondary education (85 percent) and women who belong to both the fourth and the highest wealth quintiles (32 percent each) hold professional, technical, or managerial jobs.

Table 3.5 Occupation

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by occupation, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Professional/ technical/ managerial	Clerical	Sales and services	Skilled manual	Agriculture	Missing	Total	Number of women
Age								
15-19	33.5	23.1	25.7	16.3	1.4	0.0	100.0	55
20-24	33.9	28.9	15.9	18.6	0.9	1.7	100.0	603
25-29	35.0	21.4	15.9	25.7	1.1	0.9	100.0	698
30-34	28.1	18.4	17.9	30.3	4.5	0.9	100.0	604
35-39	21.9	7.6	24.1	39.4	7.0	0.0	100.0	587
40-44	16.5	8.0	25.6	42.1	6.8	0.9	100.0	488
45-49	10.6	3.5	33.9	42.7	9.0	0.2	100.0	343
Marital status								
Married	27.0	16.0	19.3	32.4	4.5	0.8	100.0	3,004
Divorced/separated/widowed	19.0	16.8	35.1	25.3	3.1	0.7	100.0	374
Number of living children								
0	38.9	26.9	17.5	14.4	0.9	1.3	100.0	634
1-2	34.2	21.1	16.6	25.7	1.8	0.6	100.0	1,470
3-4	14.0	7.9	26.2	44.4	6.8	0.7	100.0	700
5+	6.3	1.2	30.2	50.0	11.6	0.8	100.0	574
Residence								
Urban	31.0	31.5	19.0	17.3	0.4	0.8	100.0	1,098
Rural	23.8	8.6	22.1	38.5	6.2	0.8	100.0	2,280
Region								
Malé	31.0	31.5	19.0	17.3	0.4	0.8	100.0	1,098
North	21.3	7.8	12.2	52.3	6.1	0.3	100.0	535
North Central	23.8	6.5	24.1	41.5	3.6	0.4	100.0	530
Central	23.9	7.2	33.1	27.8	5.9	2.1	100.0	282
South Central	21.4	7.3	24.8	36.7	9.4	0.3	100.0	460
South	28.9	14.1	21.6	27.6	6.4	1.5	100.0	473
Education								
No formal education	5.4	1.9	33.1	49.4	9.4	0.8	100.0	791
Primary	13.5	6.8	27.6	45.2	6.3	0.6	100.0	998
Secondary	35.7	32.5	13.1	17.1	0.7	0.9	100.0	1,295
More than secondary	85.1	12.1	0.7	0.8	0.0	1.4	100.0	236
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	14.3	3.5	21.8	52.6	7.3	0.6	100.0	646
Second	20.8	7.5	24.3	38.9	7.5	0.9	100.0	649
Middle	29.9	11.7	20.6	32.4	4.3	1.1	100.0	687
Fourth	32.3	23.3	22.2	18.6	3.1	0.5	100.0	648
Highest	32.3	32.0	17.0	17.7	0.1	0.9	100.0	748
Total	26.1	16.1	21.1	31.6	4.3	0.8	100.0	3,378

Note: Total includes 59 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.

3.6 EARNINGS AND TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT

Table 3.6 shows the percent distribution of ever-married women who were employed during the 12 months preceding the survey by type of earnings received, type of employer, continuity of employment, and variations by type of employment (agricultural or non-agricultural). Ninety-seven percent of women received their earnings in cash; only 1 percent received payment in cash and in kind; and 2 percent receive no payment (Figure 3.2).

Table 3.6 presents information separately for women engaged in agricultural work or non-agricultural work. Nine in ten women employed in agricultural work are paid in cash, 3 percent are paid in cash and in-kind, and 7 percent are not paid. The majority of women who work in the agricultural sector are self-employed (95 percent), and 69 percent work all year. Among women employed in the non-agricultural sector, 97 percent earn cash only, 58 percent are employed by a non-family member, and 82 percent work all year.

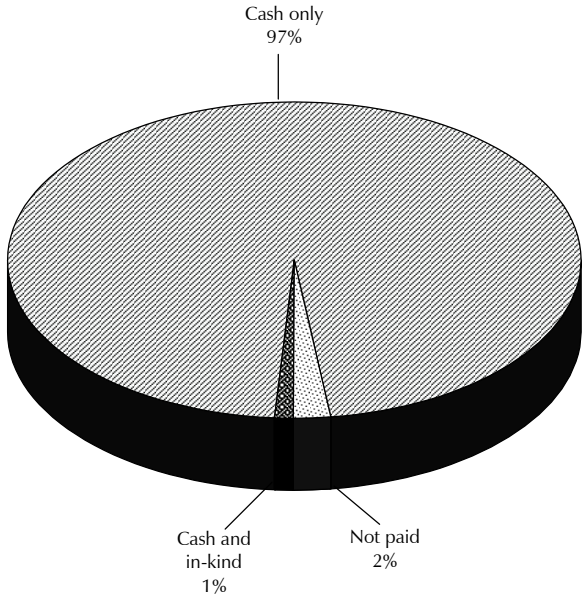
Table 3.6 Type of employment

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 employed in the 12 months preceding the survey by type of earnings, type of employer, and continuity of employment, according to type of employment (agricultural or non-agricultural), Maldives 2009

Employment characteristic	Agricultural work	Non-agricultural work	Total
Type of earnings			
Cash only	90.2	97.2	96.5
Cash and in-kind	3.1	0.5	0.6
In-kind only	0.2	0.1	0.1
Not paid	6.5	2.0	2.4
Missing	0.0	0.2	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of employer			
Employed by family member	2.9	1.6	1.7
Employed by non-family member	2.6	57.8	55.3
Self-employed	94.5	40.6	42.7
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Continuity of employment			
All year	69.1	81.7	80.9
Seasonal	25.4	13.2	13.6
Occasional	5.5	4.8	4.8
Missing	0.0	0.3	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women employed during the past 12 months	146	3,204	3,378

Note: Total includes women with information missing on type of employment who are not shown separately.

Figure 3.2 Type of Earnings of Employed Women Age 15-49



MDHS 2009

FERTILITY LEVELS, TRENDS, AND DIFFERENTIALS 4

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter looks at a number of fertility indicators, including levels, patterns, and trends in both current and cumulative fertility; the length of birth intervals; and the age at which women initiate childbearing. Information on current and cumulative fertility is essential in monitoring population growth. The data on birth intervals are important because short intervals are strongly associated with childhood mortality. The age at which childbearing begins can also have a major impact on the health and well-being of both the mother and the child.

Data on fertility were collected in several ways. Each woman was asked about all of the births in her lifetime. To ensure completeness of the responses, the duration, the month and year of termination, and the outcome were recorded for each pregnancy. In addition, the women were asked questions separately about sons and daughters who live with them, those who live elsewhere, and those who have died. Subsequently, a list of all births was recorded along with each child's name, age if still alive, and age at death, if dead. Finally, information was collected on whether the women were pregnant at the time of the survey.

4.2 CURRENT FERTILITY

The level of current fertility is one of the most important topics in this report because of its direct relevance to population policies and programs. Current fertility can be measured using the age-specific fertility rate (ASFR), the total fertility rate (TFR), the general fertility rate (GFR), and the crude birth rate (CBR). The ASFR provides the age pattern of fertility, while the TFR refers to the number of live births that a woman would have had if she were subject to the current ASFRs throughout the reproductive ages (15-49 years). The GFR is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 women of reproductive age, and the CBR is reported as the number of live births per 1,000 population. The measures of fertility presented in this chapter all refer to the period three years prior to the survey. This time span generates a sufficient number of births to provide robust and current estimates.

Table 4.1 Current fertility

Age-specific, total, and general fertility rates and the crude birth rate for the three years preceding the survey, by residence, Maldives 2009

	Residence		
Age group	Urban	Rural	Total
15-19	6	12	10
20-24	89	165	138
25-29	152	159	156
30-34	121	118	119
35-39	40	72	61
40-44	16	24	22
45-49	0	2	2
TFR	2.1	2.8	2.5
GFR	68	88	82
CBR	22.9	25.5	24.7

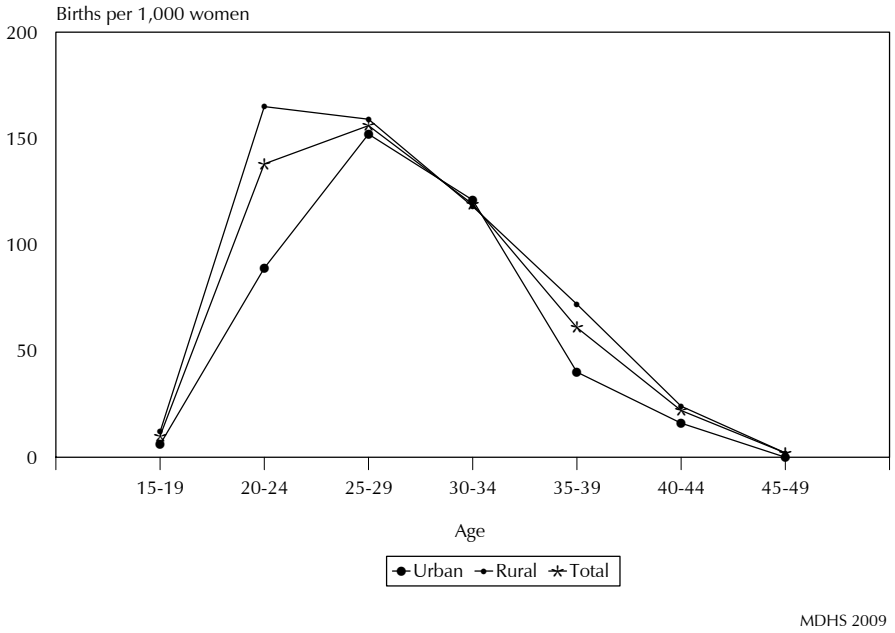
Notes: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Rates for age group 45-49 may be slightly biased due to truncation. Rates are for the period 1-36 months prior to interview.
TFR: Total fertility rate expressed per woman
GFR: General fertility rate expressed per 1,000 women
CBR: Crude birth rate, expressed per 1,000 population

Current estimates of fertility levels in Maldives are presented in Table 4.1 by urban-rural residence. The total fertility rate (TFR) indicates that if childbearing were to remain constant at the age-specific fertility rates measured for the 36-month period before the Maldives DHS (MDHS), a Maldivian woman who is at the beginning of her childbearing years would give birth to 2.5 children by the end of her childbearing years. The TFR among urban women is lower than that among rural women (2.1 births compared with 2.8 births per woman). The peak of childbearing for urban women is at age 25-29 and for rural women is at age 20-24, with 152 births per 1,000 women and 165 births per 1,000 women, respectively. At almost all age groups, the age-specific fertility rates for urban women are lower than those for rural women (Figure 4.1). Fertility

declines with age somewhat more rapidly among urban women than among rural women, although the greatest absolute urban-rural difference in ASFRs (76 births per 1,000 women) is among women age 20-24.

The GFR for rural women is much higher than for urban women (88 compared with 68 live births per 1,000 women). The crude birth rate (CBR) is 25 live births per 1,000 population.

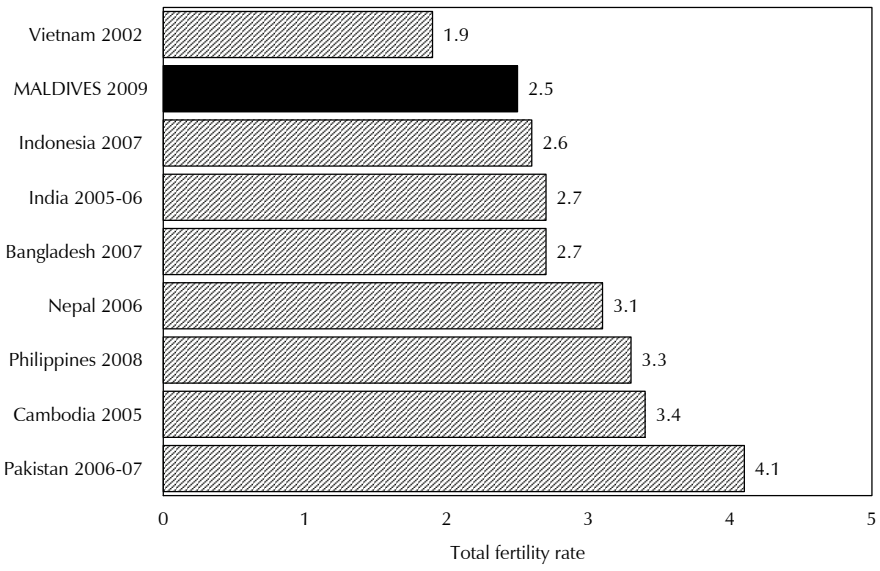
Figure 4.1 Age-Specific Fertility Rates by Urban-Rural Residence



MDHS 2009

Figure 4.2 shows that the TFR of 2.5 births per woman in Maldives is higher only in comparison with the TFR in Vietnam of 1.9 births per woman and lower than the rate in any other country in South or Southeast Asia where comparable data are available.

Figure 4.2 Total Fertility Rates in Selected South Asia and Southeast Asia Countries



Source: ICF Macro, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler
http://www.measuredhs.com, April 26 2010

The Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs) of Maldives have routinely collected current and retrospective fertility data since 1977. Because the type of data collected in the census and the technique for fertility estimation used in the census differ from those used in the MDHS, fertility estimates from the census are not directly comparable to those from the MDHS. The TFR estimated from the 2006 PHC using direct and indirect techniques for 2006 is 2.15 births per woman. The Vital Registration System (VRS) in Maldives has collected and compiled reports of births and deaths since 1999. Data for 2006 show that the crude birth rate is 23 births per 1,000 population. For all measurements, the MDHS estimates are higher than estimates from the 2006 PHC and the VRS.

Fertility is known to vary by a woman's residence, education, and other background characteristics. Table 4.2 shows several different indicators of fertility, mainly the total fertility rate, the mean number of births to women age 40-49, and the percent of women age 15-49 currently pregnant. The mean number of births to women age 40-49 is an indicator of cumulative fertility; it reflects the fertility performance of older women who are nearing the end of their reproductive period. If fertility remains stable over time, the two fertility measures, total fertility rate (TFR) and children ever born (CEB), tend to be very similar. The percentage pregnant provides a useful additional measure of current fertility, although it is recognized that it may not capture all pregnancies in an early stage.

Table 4.2 indicates that there are variations in the TFR by residence, region, and wealth quintile. Women in Malé have the smallest average number of children in the country, and women in the South Central region have the highest fertility, followed closely by women in the South and in the Central regions. Fertility varies little by the woman's education. However, wealth quintile is inversely associated with fertility; the TFR is noticeably higher among women in the lowest three quintiles (2.8) than among women in the highest two quintiles.

Table 4.2 Fertility by background characteristics

Total fertility rate for the three years preceding the survey, percentage of women age 15-49 currently pregnant, and mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 years, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Total fertility rate	Percentage of women age 15-49 currently pregnant	Mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49
Residence			
Urban	2.1	3.6	3.7
Rural	2.8	5.7	5.6
Region			
Malé	2.1	3.6	3.7
North	2.7	5.9	5.5
North Central	2.5	6.1	5.7
Central	2.8	6.3	5.9
South Central	3.0	5.3	5.4
South	2.9	5.0	5.7
Education			
No formal education	2.8	2.5	5.5
Primary	2.7	5.7	4.5
Secondary	2.6	5.5	2.7
More than secondary	2.7	5.3	2.6
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	2.8	5.0	5.6
Second	2.9	4.9	5.8
Middle	2.7	6.8	5.3
Fourth	2.4	4.6	4.6
Highest	2.1	3.6	3.7
Total	2.5	5.0	5.0

Note: Total fertility rates are for the period 1-36 months prior to interview.

Table 4.2 also presents information on currently pregnant respondents. Five percent of women reported that they were pregnant at the time of the survey. This proportion is higher in rural areas than in urban areas. Women with no education are less than half as likely to be pregnant as educated women. The proportion pregnant by wealth quintile shows a curvilinear pattern, it is lower for women in the lowest and highest wealth quintiles and peaks for women in the middle quintile.

Table 4.2 presents a crude assessment of trends in fertility if one compares current total fertility with a measure of completed fertility: the mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49. The mean number of children ever born to older women who are nearing the end of their reproductive years is an indicator of average completed fertility among women who began child-bearing approximately three decades preceding the survey. If fertility remained constant over time and the reported data on both children ever born and births during the three years preceding the survey are reasonably accurate, the TFR and the mean number of children ever born for women age 40-49 are expected to be similar. When fertility levels have been falling, the TFR will be substantially lower than the mean number of children ever born. The 2009 MDHS data show that the mean number of children ever born for women age 40-49 is much higher than the TFR for the three years preceding the survey (5.0 compared with 2.5 children per woman), indicating a recent substantial reduction in fertility.

Fertility has declined in both urban and rural areas, at all educational levels except for women with more than secondary education, and for all wealth quintiles. The difference between current and completed fertility is highest in rural areas (2.8 births), among women in the North Central region (3.2 births), among women who have no formal education (2.8 births), and among women in the second wealth quintile (2.9 births).

4.4 FERTILITY TRENDS

Table 4.3 uses information from the retrospective birth histories obtained from MDHS respondents to examine trends in age-specific fertility rates for successive five-year periods before the survey. To calculate these rates, births were classified according to the period of time in which the birth occurred and the mother's age at the time of birth. Because birth histories were not collected for women over age 50, the rates for older age groups become progressively more truncated for periods more distant from the survey date. For example, rates cannot be calculated for women age 45-49 for the period 5-9 years or more prior to the survey, because women in that age group would have been 50 years or older at the time of the survey.

Table 4.3 Trends in age-specific fertility rates

Age-specific fertility rates for five-year periods preceding the survey, by mother's age at the time of the birth, Maldives 2009

Mother's age at birth	Number of years preceding survey			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
15-19	12	29	69	125
20-24	135	138	188	274
25-29	146	142	180	264
30-34	114	113	155	[19]
35-39	59	79	[101]	-
40-44	22	[32]	-	-
45-49	[1]	-	-	-

Note: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Estimates in brackets are truncated. Rates exclude the month of interview.

Table 4.3 shows that over time the ASFRs in every age group have declined. The declines are steepest between the periods of 10-14 and 15-19 years preceding the survey. Although fertility has fallen in all age groups for the periods 5-9 and 0-4 years preceding the survey, the declines are less pronounced than in previous years, except in age group 15-19.

4.5 CHILDREN EVER BORN AND LIVING

Table 4.4 presents the distribution of all women and currently married women by number of children ever born, according to five-year age groups. The table also shows the mean number of children ever born. Data on the number of children ever born reflect the accumulation of births to women over their entire reproductive years. They, therefore, have limited reference to current fertility levels, particularly when a country has experienced a decline in fertility. However, the information on

children ever born is useful for observing how average family size varies across age groups, and for observing the level of primary infertility. It reflects the cumulative number of births over the past 30 years among women interviewed in the MDHS. The data may be subject to some recall error, which typically is greater for older women than for younger women.

The information on parity is useful for understanding a number of related issues. First, the results show how the average family size increases from one age group to the next. They also offer insight into the impact of marital status on women's fertility. Because almost all Maldivian women are married by age 35 (see Table 6.1), differences in parity between ever-married women and currently married women represent primarily the effects of widowhood and divorce on fertility. In addition, the percentage of women in their forties who have never had children provides an indicator of the level of primary infertility,[1] or the inability to bear children. Voluntary childlessness is rare in developing countries like Maldives; married women who are nearing the end of their childbearing years who have no live births are generally thought to be unable to bear children. Finally, a comparison of the mean number of children ever born and surviving children among women in their forties reflects the extent and impact of mortality on the population.

Almost all women age 15-19 (99 percent) have never given birth. However, this proportion declines sharply to 10 percent for women age 30-34 and to less than 5 percent for women age 35 and older, indicating that childbearing among Maldivian women is nearly universal. Women nearing the end of their reproductive years have a parity of 5.5 children.

Table 4.4 shows that, on average, women gave birth to less than one child before their mid-twenties, more than three children by their mid-thirties, and about five children by their mid- to late forties. The same pattern is found among currently married women, except that the mean number of children ever born is higher for currently married women (2.68 children) than for all women (1.85 children). The difference in the mean number of children ever born between all women and currently married women is due to a large proportion of young, unmarried women who, among all women, have lower fertility.

Table 4.4 Children ever born and living

Percent distribution of all women and currently married women by number of children ever born, mean number of children ever born, and mean number of living children, according to age group, Maldives 2009

	Number of children ever born														
Age	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	Total	Number of women	Mean number of children ever born	Mean number of living children
15-19	98.7	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,156	0.01	0.01
20-24	67.6	25.9	5.8	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,161	0.40	0.39
25-29	24.7	39.7	24.6	7.8	2.5	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,737	1.26	1.24
30-34	10.1	18.8	30.4	22.8	10.7	4.4	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,357	2.32	2.24
35-39	4.8	10.0	19.0	21.5	17.8	13.0	7.7	3.3	1.7	0.5	0.6	100.0	1,213	3.43	3.25
40-44	3.3	6.0	7.9	17.6	13.6	15.7	14.9	10.0	6.0	2.4	2.7	100.0	1,028	4.65	4.32
45-49	3.5	4.5	7.6	10.1	10.2	13.0	13.7	14.1	11.8	4.7	6.7	100.0	735	5.46	4.92
Total	41.2	16.8	12.8	9.4	6.0	4.7	3.5	2.5	1.7	0.7	0.8	100.0	10,388	1.85	1.74
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN															
15-19	76.4	22.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	111	0.24	0.24
20-24	45.0	45.1	9.0	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,188	0.66	0.65
25-29	14.7	44.9	27.9	9.0	2.8	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,446	1.43	1.40
30-34	4.5	19.4	32.5	24.4	11.4	4.7	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,193	2.48	2.39
35-39	2.3	8.8	19.2	22.5	18.5	14.0	8.2	3.6	2.0	0.6	0.4	100.0	1,065	3.58	3.39
40-44	1.4	5.3	6.6	17.6	14.4	16.1	16.0	10.6	6.2	2.8	3.0	100.0	884	4.86	4.52
45-49	1.3	3.7	7.8	9.8	10.4	12.1	15.1	14.4	12.5	5.3	7.6	100.0	612	5.71	5.18
Total	14.3	24.7	18.6	13.6	8.7	6.6	5.2	3.5	2.4	1.0	1.2	100.0	6,500	2.68	2.53

[1] It should be pointed out here that this estimate of primary infertility does not include women who may have had one or more births but who are unable to have more children (i.e., secondary infertility).

4.6 BIRTH INTERVALS

A birth interval is defined as the length of time between two live births. The study of birth intervals is important in understanding the health status of young children. Research has shown that short birth intervals are closely associated with poor health of children, especially during infancy. Children born too close to a previous birth, especially if the interval between the births is less than two years, are at increased risk of health problems and dying at an early age. Longer birth intervals, on the other hand, contribute to the improved health status of both mother and child.

Table 4.5 presents the distribution of second and higher-order births in the five years preceding the survey by the number of months since the previous birth, according to background characteristics. The table also presents the median number of months since the preceding birth. Five percent of births are less than 18 months apart and 8 percent of births were born less than two years after the previous birth. Sixteen percent of births are 24-35 months apart, and 70 percent are at least three years apart.

Table 4.5 Birth intervals

Percent distribution of non-first births in the five years preceding the survey, by number of months since preceding birth and by median number of months since preceding birth, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

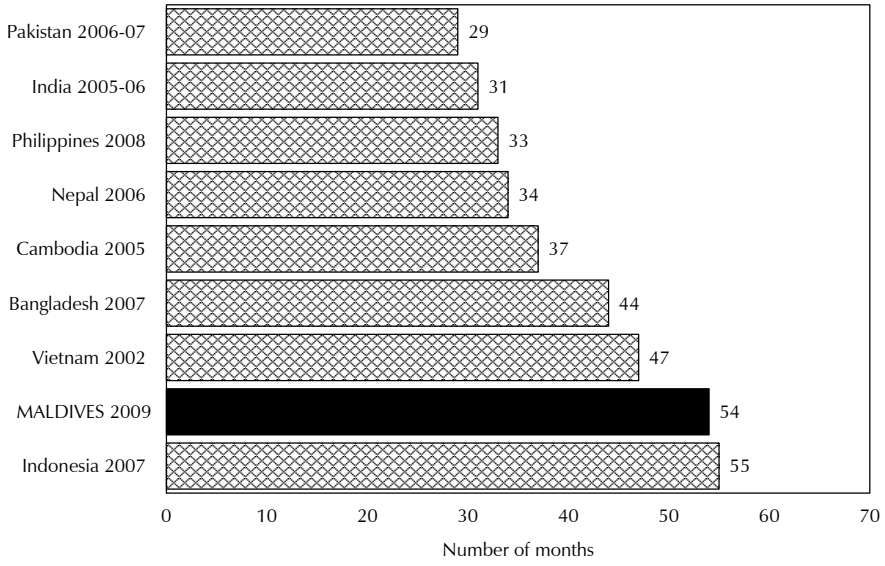
Background characteristic	Months since preceding birth							Number of non-first births	Median number of months since preceding birth
	7-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60+	Total		
Age									
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	2	31.1
20-29	9.3	11.3	25.2	17.4	15.5	21.3	100.0	762	38.2
30-39	3.7	6.8	10.5	13.0	11.2	54.7	100.0	1,180	64.8
40-49	0.6	4.9	13.5	10.8	8.0	62.2	100.0	227	77.5
Birth order									
2-3	5.9	7.8	16.4	14.7	14.0	41.2	100.0	1,446	52.1
4-6	4.7	8.8	15.1	12.5	7.9	51.0	100.0	567	61.9
7+	2.9	9.3	15.6	17.3	13.4	41.5	100.0	158	52.5
Sex of preceding birth									
Male	4.9	7.6	17.1	13.2	14.1	43.2	100.0	1,104	54.7
Female	5.8	8.8	14.9	15.5	10.6	44.4	100.0	1,066	52.8
Survival of preceding birth									
Living	5.0	8.1	16.1	14.4	12.5	43.9	100.0	2,115	54.1
Dead	19.9	11.8	14.3	8.5	7.4	38.0	100.0	56	44.5
Residence									
Urban	4.2	7.6	16.2	15.6	12.0	44.4	100.0	607	54.3
Rural	5.8	8.4	16.0	13.8	12.5	43.5	100.0	1,564	53.9
Region									
Malé	4.2	7.6	16.2	15.6	12.0	44.4	100.0	607	54.3
North	4.7	8.5	17.7	14.0	12.2	43.0	100.0	347	53.4
North Central	6.2	8.4	14.7	11.4	16.1	43.2	100.0	327	53.9
Central	4.9	6.7	16.3	13.8	9.2	49.1	100.0	204	58.7
South Central	5.5	7.0	16.2	14.4	12.3	44.7	100.0	260	56.0
South	7.1	10.2	15.2	15.1	11.8	40.7	100.0	425	50.3
Education									
No formal education	2.8	4.9	12.3	10.1	13.3	56.7	100.0	424	68.6
Primary	4.6	9.0	14.4	13.8	11.4	46.9	100.0	1,057	56.4
Secondary	8.4	9.1	21.7	17.9	12.7	30.2	100.0	612	41.1
More than secondary	(6.5)	(9.4)	(13.0)	(17.3)	(19.9)	(33.8)	100.0	57	(49.9)
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	5.4	8.4	16.5	14.1	14.5	41.2	100.0	485	52.4
Second	6.2	9.1	15.1	16.2	10.7	42.7	100.0	484	51.6
Middle	4.6	9.3	16.0	11.4	13.1	45.4	100.0	442	56.6
Fourth	6.6	8.8	13.5	13.7	8.8	48.5	100.0	416	57.7
Highest	3.6	4.4	19.7	16.3	15.1	40.8	100.0	343	51.4
Total	5.4	8.2	16.0	14.3	12.4	43.7	100.0	2,171	54.0

Note: First-order births are excluded. The interval for multiple births is the number of months since the preceding pregnancy that ended in a live birth. Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Total includes 21 births for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

The overall median birth interval is 54.0 months. The median number of months since the preceding birth increases substantially with age, from 31.1 months for births to women age 15-19 to 77.5 months for births whose mother is age 40-49. The median birth interval is longest for children of birth order 4 to 6 (61.9 months) and births to women with no education (68.6 months). There are no notable differences in the length of the median birth interval by sex of the preceding birth or by urban-rural residence. The 2009 MDHS confirms findings from previous studies that the death of a preceding child leads to a shorter birth interval than when the preceding child survives (e.g., Bicego and Ahmad, 1996). The median birth interval is ten months longer for births whose previous sibling is alive than for births whose previous sibling did not survive (54.1 months and 44.5 months, respectively).

Compared with the median birth interval of other countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia where comparable data are available, the median birth interval in Maldives is one of the longest (Figure 4.3). It is one month shorter than in Indonesia (55 months) and longer than in most other Asian countries. In contrast, the median birth interval in Pakistan is only 29 months.

Figure 4.3 **Median Birth Interval in Selected South Asia and Southeast Asia Countries**



Source: ICF Macro, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler
http://www.measuredhs.com, April 26 2010

4.7 AGE AT FIRST BIRTH

The age at which childbearing commences is an important determinant of the overall level of fertility as well as the health and welfare of the mother and the child. In some societies, postponement of first births due to an increase in age at marriage has contributed to overall fertility decline. Table 4.6 shows the percentage of women who have given birth by specific ages, according to age at the time of the survey. This cross-sectional data can be used to show the trend in age at first birth. The data indicate that women are gradually having children at an older age. The median age at first birth has increased from 19.3 years for women age 45-49 to 23.9 years for women age 25-29. The increase in age at first birth can also be observed from the increase in the proportion of women who have given birth at age 15 across age groups. Five percent of women age 45-49 had their first child by age 15 compared with less than 1 percent of women age 25-29.

Another indicator shown in the table is the proportion of women who have never given birth, by age. Whereas 99 percent of women age 15-19 have never given birth, the corresponding proportion for women age 45-49 is 4 percent.

Table 4.6 Age at first birth

Percentage of women age 15-49 who gave birth by exact ages, percentage who have never given birth, and median age at first birth, according to current age, Maldives 2009

Current age	Percentage who gave birth by exact age					Percentage who have never given birth	Number of women	Median age at first birth
	15	18	20	22	25			
15-19	0.0	na	na	na	na	98.7	2,156	a
20-24	0.0	1.4	8.3	na	na	67.6	2,161	a
25-29	0.5	6.6	18.2	32.9	59.6	24.7	1,737	23.9
30-34	2.4	17.6	34.8	50.9	69.0	10.1	1,357	21.9
35-39	3.4	27.0	48.8	65.7	81.3	4.8	1,213	20.1
40-44	4.8	35.2	59.8	73.6	84.6	3.3	1,028	19.1
45-49	4.6	34.4	58.6	76.3	87.8	3.5	735	19.3
20-49	2.0	16.1	31.7	na	na	26.1	8,232	22.5
25-49	2.7	21.4	40.0	55.6	73.7	11.3	6,070	21.2

na = Not applicable
a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 4.7 presents trends and differentials in the median age at first birth across age cohorts for key sub-groups. The measures are also presented for women age 25-49 to ensure that half of the women have already had a birth. Results of the 2009 MDHS indicate that the median age at first birth is 21.2 years. Urban women start childbearing 2.5 years later than their rural counterparts (22.9 years compared with 20.4 years). The median age at first birth increases as a woman's level of education and wealth quintile also increase. The median age at first birth increases from 18.8 years for women with no education to 24.6 years for women with some secondary education. Women in the wealthiest households give birth 3.4 years later than women in poorer households (23.4 and 20.0 years, respectively).

Table 4.7 Median age at first birth

Median age at first birth among women age 25-49 years, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Age					Women age 25-49
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
Residence						
Urban	a	23.9	21.5	20.3	20.2	22.9
Rural	23.3	20.8	19.5	18.6	19.0	20.4
Region						
Malé	a	23.9	21.5	20.3	20.2	22.9
North	23.3	20.8	19.3	19.1	19.8	20.8
North Central	23.6	21.6	19.9	18.7	19.0	20.6
Central	22.0	19.5	18.6	18.0	17.7	19.4
South Central	23.3	20.2	19.3	18.3	19.2	20.2
South	23.5	21.3	19.6	18.8	18.3	20.7
Education						
No formal education	22.4	19.6	18.6	18.5	19.0	18.8
Primary	20.7	20.0	20.0	19.2	19.5	20.1
Secondary	24.8	24.5	25.1	23.8	21.5	24.6
More than secondary	a	26.8	24.7	24.9	17.7	a
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	22.7	20.5	18.3	18.7	19.8	20.0
Second	23.5	19.8	19.6	18.5	19.3	20.2
Middle	23.1	21.1	20.1	18.8	18.3	20.7
Fourth	24.0	22.9	21.0	19.5	19.5	22.0
Highest	a	24.4	22.0	20.3	19.9	23.4
Total	23.9	21.9	20.1	19.1	19.3	21.2

a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

4.8 TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND MOTHERHOOD

Teenage pregnancy is a major health concern because of its association with high morbidity and mortality for both the mother and child. Childbearing during the teenage years also frequently has adverse social consequences, particularly on female educational attainment because women who become mothers in their teens are more likely to curtail education.

Table 4.8 shows that pregnancies among teenagers in Maldives are rare. Only 2 percent of adolescents have started childbearing, 1 percent are mothers, and less than one percent are pregnant with their first child. Very few teenagers have begun childbearing at age 18, while 7 percent have started at age 19 (4 percent had a live birth, and 3 percent are pregnant with their first child).

The proportion of teenagers who have entered motherhood varies little across subgroups of women. Women in the South begin childbearing earlier than women in other regions. Although the differences are small, there is an inverse relationship between early childbearing and education. Looking at wealth status, the proportion of teenagers who have begun childbearing is highest among those living in households in the lowest wealth quintile (4 percent).

Table 4.8 Teenage pregnancy and motherhood

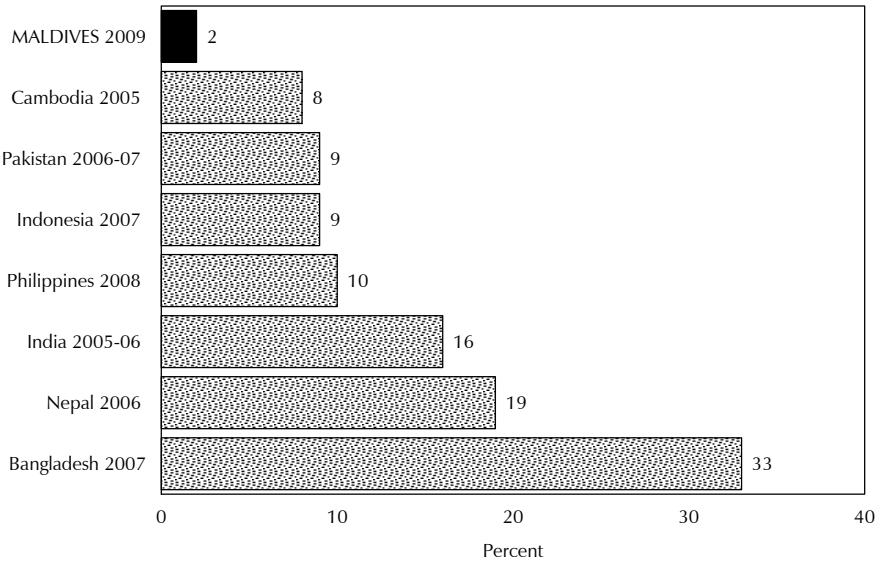
Percentage of women age 15-19 who have had a live birth or who are pregnant with their first child and percentage who have begun childbearing, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who: Have had a live birth	Are pregnant with first child	Percentage who have begun childbearing	Number of women
Age				
17	0.0	0.6	0.6	167
18	0.5	0.2	0.7	1,462
19	3.8	2.8	6.5	527
Residence				
Urban	1.1	0.3	1.4	890
Rural	1.2	1.1	2.3	1,471
Region				
Malé	1.1	0.3	1.4	890
North	0.5	1.7	2.2	379
North Central	0.5	0.3	0.8	330
Central	1.1	1.4	2.5	196
South Central	1.5	1.0	2.5	190
South	2.1	1.1	3.2	418
Education				
No formal education	*	*	*	20
Primary	2.1	2.2	4.3	164
Secondary	1.2	0.8	2.0	1,902
More than secondary	0.0	0.0	0.0	39
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	1.6	2.0	3.6	473
Second	0.4	0.7	1.1	475
Middle	1.7	0.7	2.4	376
Fourth	0.7	0.3	1.0	586
Highest	1.5	0.5	2.0	482
Total	1.3	0.9	2.1	2,156

Note: An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. Total includes 1 woman with information missing on education.

Figure 4.4 shows where Maldivian teenagers stand compared with teenagers from other countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia with regard to starting motherhood. Few teenagers in Maldives have begun childbearing (2 percent). In contrast, one in three women age 15-19 in Bangladesh are pregnant with their first child or have become a mother.

Figure 4.4 Teenage Pregnancy and Motherhood in Selected South Asia and Southeast Asia Countries



Source: Macro International Inc, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler
http://www.measuredhs.com, May 4, 2010

FAMILY PLANNING 5

A policy to implement programs in family planning in Maldives was adopted in 1986. By 1990 the programs had reached all islands. Most of the family planning outlets are in the public sector. Private pharmacies are registered to provide contraceptives prescribed by private physicians. Contraceptives are also available through the Society for Health Education, a non-government organization.

Oral contraceptive pills, injectables, and male condoms are available in all government facilities. IUD insertion and removal and female and male sterilization are performed in all hospitals. Norplant, however, is available only in Malé. All contraceptive methods offered by government health facilities are provided free of charge.

The data on family planning knowledge and use collected in the 2009 MDHS provide insight into one of the principal determinants of fertility.

5.1 KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILY PLANNING METHODS

Awareness of family planning methods is crucial when deciding if one should use a contraceptive, and, if an affirmative decision is made, then selecting which method to use. To assess family planning knowledge, respondents were first asked an open-ended question about the methods a couple can use to delay or avoid pregnancy. All methods named spontaneously in response to this question were recorded as recognized family planning methods.

If a respondent failed to mention any of the methods listed in the questionnaire, the interviewer would describe each method and ask whether the respondent had heard about it. Methods recognized by the respondent after the description was read were also recorded as known.

Information was collected for seven modern methods (female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUD, injectables, implants, male condom, and emergency contraception) and two traditional methods (periodic abstinence and withdrawal). In addition, provision was made in the questionnaire to record other methods that respondents mentioned spontaneously.

No questions were asked to elicit information on depth of knowledge of these methods (e.g., the respondent's understanding of how to use a specific method). Therefore, in the analysis that follows, knowledge of a family planning method is defined simply as having heard of a method.

Table 5.1 shows that knowledge of family planning methods is virtually universal among married women in Maldives. Almost all currently married women age 15-49 interviewed in the MDHS knew at least one modern family planning method. The male condom was the most widely recognized method (98 percent), followed closely by the pill (96 percent). More than 90 percent were also aware of female sterilization and injectables, more than 80 percent knew about the IUD and male sterilization, and 71 percent had heard of implants. Implants were introduced in 2002 and only available in Malé. Emergency contraception, introduced in the Maldives in 2007, was the least widely recognized, with only 29 percent of married women aware of the method. Seven in ten married women had heard of at least one traditional method. The mean number of methods known by women was 7.7.

Table 5.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Percentage of ever-married women and currently married women age 15-49 who know any contraceptive method, by specific method, Maldives 2009

Method	Ever-married women	Currently married women
Any method	99.2	99.3
Any modern method	99.2	99.3
Female sterilization	93.6	93.7
Male sterilization	81.3	81.8
Pill	95.7	96.1
IUD	86.4	86.4
Injectables	93.0	93.2
Implants	70.4	71.0
Male condom	97.3	97.6
Emergency contraception	29.0	28.9
Any traditional method	71.5	71.7
Rhythm	61.0	61.5
Withdrawal	56.8	56.8
Folk method	1.1	1.2
Mean number of methods known by respondents 15-49	7.7	7.7
Number of respondents	7,131	6,500

5.2 EVER USE OF FAMILY PLANNING

Data on the level of ever use of family planning methods were obtained in the MDHS by asking respondents separately if they had ever used each of the family planning methods that they knew. Table 5.2 shows the percentages of ever-married women and currently married women who had ever used family planning, according to a woman's age and the method used. Overall, 60 percent of currently married women had used a family planning method at some time. Across age groups, the highest level of ever use of any family planning method among currently married women was observed in the 40-44 age group (69 percent), while the lowest level is found among women age 15-19 (42 percent).

Table 5.2 Ever use of contraception

Percentage of ever-married women and currently married women age 15-49 who have ever used any contraceptive method by method, according to age, Maldives 2009

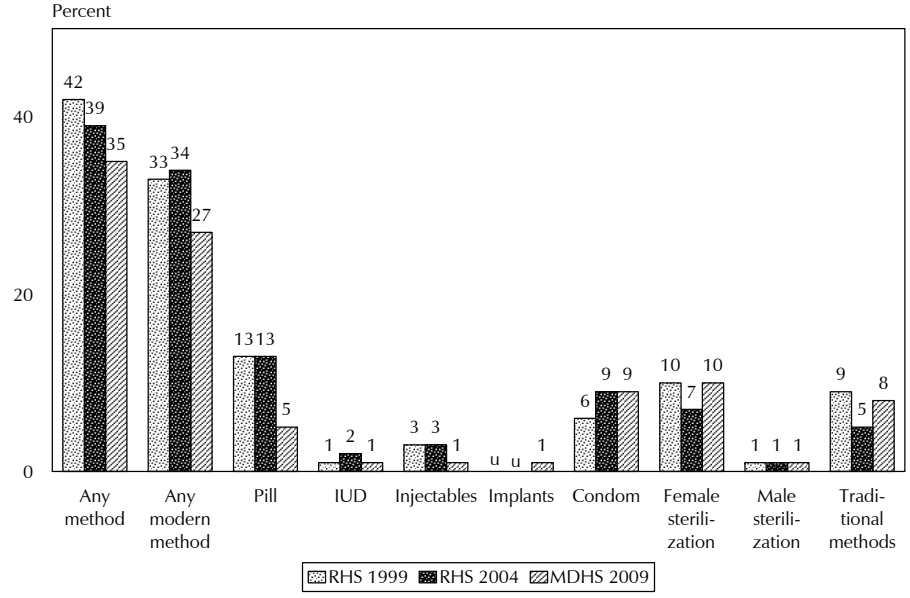
	Modern method										Traditional method				
Age	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Male condom	Emergency contraception	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Folk method	Number of women
EVER-MARRIED WOMEN															
15-19	41.8	36.8	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	1.8	0.0	35.7	0.0	10.3	1.6	9.6	1.1	119
20-24	47.1	39.8	0.1	0.0	7.2	0.6	3.0	0.7	33.3	0.5	15.0	5.3	11.7	0.7	1,268
25-29	59.0	50.7	1.2	0.1	19.9	2.6	7.3	1.4	33.6	0.9	20.5	9.9	13.8	0.8	1,539
30-34	60.2	52.0	6.4	0.4	27.2	3.9	6.0	1.0	28.6	0.9	21.3	13.1	12.4	0.8	1,287
35-39	65.4	58.4	16.2	1.1	29.4	5.2	10.6	0.5	23.2	0.6	20.7	13.4	12.7	0.5	1,185
40-44	66.3	60.4	23.0	1.4	31.2	5.4	13.2	0.7	19.0	0.3	16.3	10.2	10.0	0.3	1,013
45-49	57.9	54.6	24.3	1.7	25.1	2.7	13.9	0.0	12.0	0.0	10.2	6.3	5.4	0.3	721
Total	58.8	51.8	9.8	0.7	22.4	3.3	8.3	0.8	26.7	0.6	17.9	9.8	11.5	0.6	7,131
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN															
15-19	41.5	36.1	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.9	0.0	34.9	0.0	9.9	1.8	9.3	1.1	111
20-24	47.7	40.1	0.1	0.0	7.0	0.6	2.8	0.8	33.9	0.5	15.5	5.5	12.0	0.7	1,188
25-29	60.5	51.9	1.3	0.1	20.1	2.7	7.8	1.5	34.5	1.0	21.0	10.3	14.0	0.8	1,446
30-34	60.6	52.5	6.4	0.5	27.7	3.8	6.3	1.1	29.0	0.7	21.8	13.5	12.9	0.8	1,193
35-39	67.2	60.3	17.3	1.3	30.8	4.9	11.4	0.6	23.8	0.5	21.2	14.1	12.6	0.6	1,065
40-44	69.3	63.0	24.2	1.6	34.3	4.9	14.2	0.8	19.4	0.4	17.1	10.6	10.5	0.3	884
45-49	60.5	56.9	26.1	1.8	27.3	2.6	12.1	0.0	13.0	0.1	11.0	6.9	5.7	0.3	612
Total	60.2	53.0	10.1	0.7	23.2	3.1	8.4	0.9	27.6	0.6	18.5	10.2	11.9	0.6	6,500

Virtually all currently married women who had used a method had experience with modern methods. The most commonly used modern method was the male condom (28 percent), followed by the pill (23 percent). Around one-fifth of married women had used a traditional method.

5.3 CURRENT USE OF FAMILY PLANNING

Overall, the MDHS results indicate that around one-third of currently married women in Maldives are using contraception (Figure 5.1). Female sterilization is the most widely used method, followed closely by the male condom (10 percent and 9 percent, respectively). Five percent of married women use the pill. Smaller proportions of women are using other modern methods; e.g., 1 percent use injectables. Eight percent of women reported use of traditional methods, with women somewhat more likely to have used withdrawal (4 percent) than rhythm (3 percent).

Figure 5.1 **Trends in Contraceptive Use, Maldives 1999-2009**



u = Unknown

Table 5.3 shows that current use levels rise rapidly with age, from a level of 15 percent among currently married women age 15-19 to a peak of 45 percent among women age 40-44. The male condom is the most popular method among women under age 40, with around one in ten women age 20-39 using the condom. Female sterilization is the widely used method among women age 35 and over; around one in four women age 40-49 report they use female sterilization.

Table 5.3 Current use of contraception by age

Percent distribution of currently married women by contraceptive method currently used, according to age, Maldives 2009

	Modern method									Traditional method						
Age	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterili-zation	Male sterili-zation	Pill	IUD	Inject-ables	Implants	Male condom	Any tradi-tional method	Rhythm	With-drawal	Folk method	Not currently using	Total	Number of women
15-19	15.0	9.6	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.2	0.0	6.8	5.4	0.7	4.7	0.0	85.0	100.0	111
20-24	23.2	16.8	0.1	0.0	3.5	0.4	1.0	0.6	11.3	6.4	1.8	4.6	0.0	76.8	100.0	1,188
25-29	30.0	20.8	1.3	0.0	4.1	1.2	2.0	0.7	11.6	9.2	3.7	5.4	0.2	70.0	100.0	1,446
30-34	35.1	26.5	6.4	0.2	7.1	1.2	1.0	0.6	10.1	8.6	4.1	4.2	0.2	64.9	100.0	1,193
35-39	44.0	35.1	17.3	0.7	5.2	0.8	1.5	0.0	9.5	8.9	4.9	4.0	0.0	56.0	100.0	1,065
40-44	45.3	38.4	24.2	1.2	5.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	5.5	7.0	3.1	3.8	0.1	54.7	100.0	884
45-49	39.7	34.8	26.1	1.7	2.0	0.3	0.8	0.0	3.9	4.9	3.2	1.7	0.0	60.3	100.0	612
Total	34.7	27.0	10.1	0.5	4.6	0.8	1.2	0.5	9.3	7.8	3.4	4.2	0.1	65.3	100.0	6,500

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.

Table 5.4 shows the variation in current use levels with other background characteristics. The results indicate that some women in Maldives adopt contraception before having the first birth; 13 percent of childless women are current family planning users. Among women with more than one child, contraceptive use increases with the number of living children, peaking at 54 percent among women with five or more children.

Table 5.4 Current use of contraception by background characteristics

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

			Modern method							Traditional method						
Background characteristic	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterili-zation	Male sterili-zation	Pill	IUD	Inject-ables	Implants	Male condom	Any tradi-tional method	Rhythm	With-drawal	Folk method	Not currently using	Total	Number of women
Number of living children																
0	12.9	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	5.4	2.1	3.3	0.0	87.1	100.0	946
1-2	29.2	20.5	1.6	0.1	3.9	0.9	1.2	0.7	12.2	8.6	4.2	4.3	0.2	70.8	100.0	2,908
3-4	44.4	35.8	15.8	0.6	8.0	1.5	1.7	0.4	7.7	8.6	3.6	5.0	0.0	55.6	100.0	1,486
5+	54.2	47.8	32.0	1.6	5.4	0.6	1.6	0.4	6.2	6.3	2.4	3.8	0.1	45.8	100.0	1,160
Residence																
Urban	33.6	25.6	10.1	0.4	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.2	10.1	8.0	4.7	3.1	0.2	66.4	100.0	2,122
Rural	35.3	27.6	10.1	0.5	6.0	0.6	1.5	0.1	8.9	7.6	2.8	4.8	0.0	64.7	100.0	4,378
Region																
Malé	33.6	25.6	10.1	0.4	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.2	10.1	8.0	4.7	3.1	0.2	66.4	100.0	2,122
North	39.4	28.2	5.7	0.3	6.5	0.9	2.4	0.0	12.5	11.2	4.5	6.7	0.0	60.6	100.0	1,009
North Central	37.4	28.3	10.3	0.1	7.5	0.3	1.9	0.1	8.0	9.2	3.3	5.8	0.0	62.6	100.0	967
Central	42.0	33.1	13.7	1.5	5.4	0.4	0.7	0.1	11.4	8.9	2.6	6.1	0.2	58.0	100.0	563
South Central	31.7	25.0	8.6	0.6	6.9	0.5	0.9	0.1	7.4	6.7	2.2	4.5	0.0	68.3	100.0	789
South	28.4	25.5	13.2	0.5	3.9	0.5	1.1	0.3	6.0	3.0	1.3	1.5	0.1	71.6	100.0	1,051
Education																
No formal education	43.6	36.2	21.5	1.3	5.8	0.6	1.0	0.2	5.7	7.4	3.7	3.7	0.1	56.4	100.0	1,488
Primary	36.9	29.2	12.0	0.5	5.5	0.8	1.5	0.6	8.4	7.6	3.1	4.5	0.0	63.1	100.0	2,216
Secondary	27.3	19.6	2.3	0.0	3.5	1.0	1.0	0.5	11.2	7.7	3.4	4.2	0.2	72.7	100.0	2,409
More than secondary	32.7	21.2	1.7	0.0	2.1	0.8	0.5	0.7	15.4	11.5	5.7	5.8	0.0	67.3	100.0	316
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	36.9	29.1	10.7	0.4	7.1	0.4	2.5	0.1	7.9	7.8	2.8	4.9	0.0	63.1	100.0	1,167
Second	35.4	27.0	9.3	0.7	6.6	0.5	1.2	0.1	8.7	8.4	2.6	5.7	0.1	64.6	100.0	1,278
Middle	34.3	27.4	10.5	0.3	5.3	0.7	1.2	0.5	8.8	7.0	2.8	4.2	0.0	65.7	100.0	1,363
Fourth	33.4	25.6	10.9	0.5	3.0	0.8	0.8	0.4	9.2	7.8	4.2	3.5	0.0	66.6	100.0	1,311
Highest	33.9	26.0	9.0	0.4	1.7	1.7	0.6	1.2	11.5	7.9	4.6	3.0	0.3	66.1	100.0	1,381
Total	34.7	27.0	10.1	0.5	4.6	0.8	1.2	0.5	9.3	7.8	3.4	4.2	0.1	65.3	100.0	6,500

Note: Total includes 72 women with information missing on level of education. If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.

The MDHS found, somewhat surprisingly, that rural women are slightly more likely than urban women to use family planning (35 percent and 34 percent, respectively). Use levels vary markedly by region, from 28 percent in the South to 42 percent in the Central region. Interestingly the level of use of female sterilization is similar in the South and Central regions (13 percent and 14 percent respectively) while the level of condom use among women in the Central region is nearly double the level in the South (11 percent and 6 percent, respectively).

Use generally declines with education. This is largely attributable to a higher rate of use of female sterilization among less educated women; 22 percent of women with no formal education and 12 percent of women with only a primary education are using sterilization compared with only two percent of women with secondary or more than secondary education. Across wealth quintiles, there are only modest differences in the level of current family planning use; 37 percent of married women in the lowest wealth quintile are using family planning compared with 33-34 percent among women in the middle to highest quintiles.

5.4 TRENDS IN CURRENT USE OF FAMILY PLANNING

Table 5.5 shows the trend in current use of contraceptive methods among currently married Maldivian women during the period 1999-2009. Findings show that use of any method by currently married women has decreased from 42 percent in the 1999 Reproductive Health Survey (RHS) to 35 percent in the 2009 MDHS. There has been a shift in the use of some modern methods. In 1999, the pill was used by 13 percent of currently married women; this rate has decreased steadily since, with only 5 percent of currently married women using the pill in the 2009 MDHS. Use of condoms has increased from 6 percent in 1999 to the current rate of 9 percent. The proportion of married women who were sterilized declined from 10 percent in 1999 to 7 percent in 2004 but increased to 10 percent in 2009. Use of traditional methods also declined slightly from 9 percent in 1999 to 8 percent in 2009, after dipping to 5 percent in 2004. While the pill was the most commonly used modern method in the 1999 and 2004 RHS surveys, female sterilization has become the most commonly used modern method in the 2009 MDHS.

Table 5.5 Trends in use of specific contraceptive methods, Maldives 1999-2009

Percentage of currently married women who are currently using a contraceptive method, by specific method, Maldives 1999-2009

Method	RHS 1999	RHS 2004	MDHS 2009
Any method	42	39	35
Any modern method	33	34	27
Pill	13	13	5
IUD	1	2	1
Injectables	3	3	1
Implants	u	u	1
Condom	6	9	9
Female sterilization	10	7	10
Male sterilization	1	1	1
Traditional methods	9	5	8
Number of women	923	972	6,500

u = Not available

5.5 FIRST USE OF FAMILY PLANNING

Women who reported that they had used family planning methods at some time were asked about the number of children they had when they first used family planning. These data are useful in identifying the stage in the family-building process when women begin using family planning as well as highlighting their motivation for adopting family planning.

Table 5.6 presents the percent distribution of ever-married women by the number of living children at the time of the first use of family planning. A substantial proportion of women used family planning to delay the first birth; around one-fifth of all women—nearly one-third of all ever users—started using family planning immediately after marriage while they were still childless.

Sixteen percent of women began use of family planning after they had their first child, 9 percent started after they had two children, and 15 percent had three or more children before using family planning.

Table 5.6 Number of children at first use of contraception

Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49, by number of living children at the time of first use of contraception, according to current age, Maldives 2009

Current age	Never used	Number of living children at time of first use of contraception						Total	Number of women
		0	1	2	3	4+	Missing		
15-19	58.2	38.4	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	119
20-24	52.9	33.3	11.7	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	1,268
25-29	41.0	25.9	24.0	7.1	1.3	0.5	0.0	100.0	1,539
30-34	39.8	16.8	22.2	11.6	6.0	3.4	0.1	100.0	1,287
35-39	34.6	11.2	16.6	14.3	10.3	13.0	0.1	100.0	1,185
40-44	33.7	9.4	7.5	12.7	12.4	23.9	0.4	100.0	1,013
45-49	42.1	8.6	4.0	7.6	7.1	30.1	0.4	100.0	721
Total	41.2	19.3	15.6	8.9	5.6	9.3	0.2	100.0	7,131

Looking at the age patterns, there has been a shift in the timing of the adoption of the first contraceptive method, with younger women initiating use of family planning methods at lower parities than older women. For example, one-third of women age 20-24 started family planning when they were childless compared with 9 percent of women age 40-49.

5.6 KNOWLEDGE OF FERTILE PERIOD

An elementary understanding of reproductive physiology, particularly knowledge of when in the ovulatory cycle a woman is most likely to become pregnant, may be useful in ensuring success in the use of coitus-related methods such as the condom, vaginal methods, and withdrawal. Such knowledge is especially critical for the practice of periodic abstinence.

To investigate women's knowledge about their fertile period, respondents were asked in the 2009 MDHS whether there are certain days a woman is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual intercourse. Those who responded affirmatively to that question were asked if this time is just before the period begins, during the period, right after the period ends, or halfway between two periods.

Table 5.7 shows that understanding of the ovulatory cycle is limited among Maldivian women. Only around one-fifth of the ever-married women age 15-49 who were interviewed knew that a woman has a greater probability of becoming pregnant if she has sexual intercourse halfway between two periods. Women who had ever used the rhythm method were more knowledgeable than other women; nevertheless, only around one-third of rhythm users were aware that the chance of becoming pregnant was greatest for a woman if she has intercourse halfway between her periods.

Table 5.7 Knowledge of fertile period

Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 by knowledge of the fertile period during the ovulatory cycle, according to current use of the rhythm method, Maldives 2009

Perceived fertile period	Users of rhythm method	Nonusers of rhythm method	Ever-married women
Just before her menstrual period begins	1.8	2.2	2.2
During her menstrual period	0.6	0.4	0.4
Right after her menstrual period has ended	46.0	32.3	32.7
Halfway between two menstrual periods	34.7	20.1	20.6
Other	0.0	0.1	0.1
No specific time	3.4	11.7	11.4
Don't know	13.5	32.9	32.3
Missing	0.0	0.3	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	223	6,908	7,131

5.7 TIMING OF STERILIZATION

Female sterilization is among the most widely used family planning methods in Maldives, with one in ten ever-married women having been sterilized. In countries like the Maldives where contraceptive sterilization is prevalent, there is interest in knowing the trend in the adoption of the method and in determining whether the age at which sterilization occurs is declining. To investigate these issues, information was collected in the 2009 MDHS from sterilized women on the month and year in which the sterilization took place. This information is used in Table 5.8 to look at the timing of adoption of sterilization among Maldivian women. The results indicate that most Maldivian women adopt sterilization when they are in their thirties. An examination of the variation in the median age at sterilization by the years since the operation has occurred indicates little change in the age pattern of adoption of sterilization.

Table 5.8 Timing of sterilization

Percent distribution of sterilized women age 15-49, by age at the time of sterilization and by median age at sterilization, according to the number of years since the operation, Maldives 2009

Years since operation	Age at time of sterilization						Total	Number of women	Median age[1]
	<25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49			
<2	2.3	12.8	31.1	36.8	14.8	2.2	100.0	102	34.0
2-3	0.0	13.5	36.1	28.5	19.2	2.7	100.0	98	33.4
4-5	3.2	18.5	33.6	33.6	11.1	0.0	100.0	113	34.0
6-7	0.9	19.6	38.9	33.7	6.9	0.0	100.0	106	33.4
8-9	2.1	10.7	22.3	61.9	2.9	0.0	100.0	82	35.6
10+	10.3	39.1	36.6	13.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	201	a
Total	4.2	22.1	33.9	31.0	8.0	0.7	100.0	701	-

a = Not calculated due to censoring
[1] Median age at sterilization is calculated only for women sterilized before age 40 to avoid problems of censoring

5.8 SOURCES FOR MODERN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS

In the MDHS, detailed information was collected from current users on sources from which family planning methods were obtained. Table 5.9 shows the distribution of current users by source. Overall, nearly two-thirds of current family planning users in the Maldives received their method from a governmental source. Private sector sources served the majority of users only in the case of the male condom; more than half of condom users said they got their condoms from a private sector source, principally pharmacies. Current users obtaining condoms from public sources were most likely to have gotten them from a government health centre (22 percent). Government health centres also served the majority of users of injectables (65 percent) and pill users (61 percent). Three in four female sterilization users went to a public hospital to be sterilized. Notably the Indira Ghandhi Memorial Hospital provided sterilization services for nearly four in ten sterilization users.

Table 5.9 Source of modern contraception methods

Percent distribution of current users of modern contraceptive methods age 15-49, by most recent source of method, according to method, Maldives 2009

Source	Female sterilization	Pill	Injectables	Male condom	Total[1]
Public sector	76.6	81.1	89.2	32.3	63.1
Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital	39.0	2.8	5.7	2.1	19.7
Government regional hospital	23.9	5.3	6.1	3.5	12.7
Government atoll hospital	13.6	6.7	8.2	2.4	8.1
Government health centre	0.1	60.6	64.9	22.2	20.6
Government health post	0.0	4.2	3.3	1.6	1.4
Community/family health worker	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.3	0.5
Other public	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.1
Private medical sector	22.3	14.2	4.1	56.2	31.0
Private hospital, clinic	8.0	0.8	1.1	2.9	4.8
Private pharmacy	0.0	11.3	0.0	52.7	19.6
Private doctor	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.3
Other private medical	1.6	0.6	3.0	0.6	1.2
Hospital/clinic abroad	12.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2
Other source	0.0	0.6	0.0	2.6	1.0
Shop	0.0	0.6	0.0	2.4	0.9
Friend/relative	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Other	0.0	4.1	0.0	5.4	2.8
Don't know	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Missing	0.9	0.0	6.8	3.5	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	701	303	80	607	1,809

[1] Total includes other modern methods for which results are not presented separately due to the small number of unweighted cases.

5.9 INFORMED CHOICE

Ensuring that potential users have the information they need to make informed choices is a vital component of family planning programs. Users should be informed of the range of methods that are available in order to make decisions about the contraceptive method most appropriate for their personal situation. Family planning providers should also inform potential users of the side effects that may be experienced when using specific methods and what they should do if effects are encountered. This information both assists the user in coping with side effects and decreases unnecessary discontinuation of temporary methods.

The 2009 MDHS included a number of questions designed to assess whether women who were using family planning at the time of the survey had received sufficient information to make informed choices. Current users were asked whether they had been told about other methods, told about side effects, or given advice about what to do about side effects by the provider from whom they obtained their method. If they were not told about other methods or about side effects during that consultation, they were asked if they had ever received information from a provider about these topics. Caution must be exercised in interpreting the responses to these questions since they are subjective. In addition, they also suffer from an unknown degree of recall error, that is, many users had gone to the provider months or even years before the MDHS interview and may not accurately have remembered the encounter. Nevertheless, the results of these questions provide some insight into the nature of the family planning counselling received by the users.

Table 5.10 presents information on the informed choice indicators for current users who adopted the method in January 2003 or later. In general, the information exchange between many current users and their provider is limited. Less than half of users were told about side effects and only 43 percent were told what to do if they experienced side effects. Just over half of users were provided information about other family planning methods they might use.

Table 5.10 Informed choice

Among current users of modern methods age 15-49 who started the last episode of use within the five years preceding the survey, percentage who were informed about possible side effects or problems of that method, the percentage who were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects, and the percentage who were informed about other methods that they could use, by method and source; and among sterilized women, the percentage who were informed that the method is permanent, by initial source of method, Maldives 2009

	Among women who started last episode of modern contraceptive method within five years preceding the survey:				Among women who were sterilized:	
Method/source	Percentage who were informed about side effects or problems of method used	Percentage who were informed about what to do if experienced side effects	Percentage who were informed by a health or family planning worker of other methods that could be used	Number of women	Percentage who were informed that sterilization is permanent[1]	Number of women
Method						
Female sterilization	18.2	14.8	30.7	262	75.8	262
Pill	57.4	53.6	64.9	242	na	na
Injectables	73.6	72.9	68.4	68	na	na
Initial source of method[2]						
Public sector	49.5	47.0	58.3	522	74.4	208
Indhira Gandhi Memorial hospital	47.2	46.4	58.8	151	83.8	87
Government regional hospital	32.3	28.4	46.9	98	67.2	68
Government atoll hospital	30.2	28.4	41.5	75	69.2	52
Government health centre	65.5	62.6	67.6	171	*	1
Government health post	*	*	*	16	na	na
Community/family health worker	*	*	*	9	na	na
Other public	*	*	*	1	na	na
Private medical sector	31.8	27.1	36.5	97	(81.3)	54
Total[3]	45.3	42.6	53.7	643	75.8	262

Note: Table excludes users who obtained their method from friends/relatives. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates the figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
na = Not applicable
[1] Among women who were sterilized in the five years preceding the survey
[2] Source at start of current episode of use
[3] Total includes users of other modern methods and users of other sources for which results are not presented separately due to the small numbers of unweighted cases.

Table 5.10 also shows that the proportions of users receiving the information needed to make an informed choice vary markedly with both the method adopted and the type of clinical providers. Female sterilization users generally reported receiving less information than users of other methods. Looking at the differentials by provider type, users obtaining their method from a public sector source were somewhat better informed than users relying on medical providers in the private sector.

5.10 REASONS FOR DISCONTINUATION OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE

Table 5.11 looks in greater detail at the reasons the 2009 MDHS respondents gave for discontinuing contraceptive use. The table shows the percent distribution of all discontinuations in the five-year period prior to the survey by the main reason for discontinuing use, according to the specific method.

Table 5.11 Reasons for discontinuation

Among all discontinuations of methods in the five years preceding the survey, the percent distribution by main reason for discontinuation, according to method, Maldives 2009

Reason	Pill	Injectables	Male condom	Periodic abstinence	Withdrawal	All methods[1]
Became pregnant while using	7.6	1.1	13.4	21.5	30.7	13.8
Wanted to become pregnant	17.3	11.9	33.4	38.7	35.0	28.3
Husband disapproved	2.0	0.7	1.8	2.0	0.3	1.6
Side effects	18.8	41.6	4.4	0.0	0.6	10.4
Health concerns	14.8	18.8	3.0	0.6	0.0	6.8
Access/availability	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2
Wanted a more effective method	3.2	1.0	3.1	5.5	7.1	3.6
Inconvenient to use	2.3	2.9	5.9	0.0	0.3	3.5
Infrequent sex/husband away	8.8	3.9	8.8	5.8	4.4	7.2
Fatalistic	0.8	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Difficult to get pregnant/menopausal	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3
Marital dissolution/separation	0.5	3.3	1.5	0.4	0.8	1.1
Other	11.0	7.7	8.1	1.4	2.6	7.2
Don't know	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.3	0.5
Missing	11.7	5.7	15.4	24.3	18.0	15.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of discontinuations	389	107	756	160	232	1,722

[1] All methods include other modern methods for which results are not presented separately due to the small number of unweighted cases.

More than one-quarter of all discontinuations during the five-year period before the survey occurred because the user wanted to have a child. Among modern contraceptive methods, this reason was given most often in the case of condom discontinuations. Fourteen percent of all discontinuations were the result of method failure; that is, the woman became pregnant while using a method. Method failure was most often mentioned as a reason for discontinuations of use of periodic abstinence (22 percent) and withdrawal (31 percent). Side effects and health concerns accounted for 17 percent of all discontinuations. They were cited most often as the reasons for discontinuations of injectables (60 percent) and the pill (33 percent).

Smaller proportions of users cited other reasons for discontinuations. Infrequent sex or marital dissolution were reasons in the case of 8 percent of discontinuations. Dissatisfaction with the method, including concerns about its effectiveness or convenience, were given as reasons for 7 percent of discontinuations. Husband's disapproval was rarely cited as a main factor affecting the decision to discontinue use (2 percent), and problems in getting the method were almost never cited as reasons for discontinuation.

5.11 INTENTION TO USE CONTRACEPTION IN THE FUTURE

To obtain information about potential demand for family planning services, all currently married women who were not using contraception at the time of the survey were asked about their intention to adopt family planning methods in the future. Table 5.12 shows the percent distribution of nonusers by their intention to use a method in the future, according to number of living children.

Table 5.12 Future use of contraception

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who are not using a contraceptive method, by intention to use in the future, according to number of living children, Maldives 2009

	Number of living children[1]					
Intention to use in the future	0	1	2	3	4+	Total
Intends to use	25.9	29.3	26.7	25.2	22.8	26.4
Unsure	24.0	19.0	20.1	14.8	11.7	17.9
Does not intend to use	49.2	50.5	52.3	58.9	63.6	54.5
Missing	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.9	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	607	1,281	925	561	868	4,242

[1] Includes current pregnancy

The results suggest that there is only limited interest among nonusers in adopting a family planning method in the future. The majority of nonusers (55 percent) did not plan to use in the future, and 18 percent were unsure about their intentions. Only one in four nonusers said that they definitely planned to use in the future. The intention to use varied somewhat with the number of living children the nonuser has. The proportion saying that they did not plan to use in the future increased from 49 percent among women with no children to 64 percent among women with four or more children.

5.12 REASONS FOR NON-USE

Table 5.13 presents the distribution of currently married non-users who do not intend to use contraceptive methods in the future by the main reason they gave for not using. The reasons for non-use are of interest to the family planning program because they help to identify areas for potential interventions to support the adoption of contraception by non-users.

Opposition to use was given as the main reason for non-use by more than four in ten women. In most of these cases, the woman cited her own disapproval (39 percent) rather than that of the husband or others or a religious concern. Method-related reasons were cited by a significant proportion of non-users; 12 percent had health concerns, and 6 percent mentioned fear of side effects.

Table 5.13 Reason for not intending to use contraception in the future

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who are not using contraception and who are not intending to use in the future, by main reason for not intending to use, Maldives 2009

Reason	Percent distribution
Fertility-related reasons	**19.7**
Infrequent sex/no sex	2.9
Menopausal/had hysterectomy	1.4
Subfecund/infecund	8.3
Wants as many children as possible	7.1
Opposition to use	**45.3**
Respondent opposed	38.8
Husband/partner opposed	5.5
Others opposed	0.2
Religious prohibition	0.8
Lack of knowledge	**0.4**
Knows no method	0.4
Method-related reasons	**19.1**
Health concerns	12.0
Fear of side effects	5.5
Lack of access/too far	0.1
Cost too much	0.2
Inconvenient to use	0.7
Interfere with body's normal process	0.6
Other	6.0
Don't know	8.8
Missing	0.7
Total	100.0
Number of women	2,311

Around one in five non-users had fertility-related reasons for not planning to adopt contraception. These reasons included a perceived lack of need for contraception because the woman was subfecund or infecund (8 percent), menopausal, or had had a hysterectomy (1 percent), or was not sexually active, or had sex infrequently (3 percent). Seven percent of the non-users mentioned a desire to have as many children as possible.

5.13 PREFERRED METHOD

Non-users who planned to use family planning in the future were asked about the method they would prefer to use. Table 5.14 shows that 34 percent of all non-users who planned to use preferred the condom, and the pill was preferred by 21 percent. Nine percent said they would use periodic abstinence, and 5 percent would rely on injectables. Four percent preferred female sterilization, and a similar percentage said they planned to use withdrawal. Fifteen percent of non-users intending to use a method in the future were unsure which method they prefer.

Table 5.14 Preferred method of contraception for future use

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who are not using a contraceptive method but who intend to use in the future, by preferred method, Maldives 2009

Method	Percent distribution
Female sterilization	4.3
Male sterilization	0.0
Pill	20.9
IUD	1.8
Injectables	4.8
Implants	3.5
Condom	34.4
Diaphragm	0.6
Periodic abstinence	8.9
Withdrawal	3.9
Other	1.2
Unsure	15.1
Missing	0.6
Total	100.0
Number of women	1,119

5.14 EXPOSURE TO FAMILY PLANNING MESSAGES

The 2009 MDHS obtained information on the types of media (television, radio, newspaper, or magazine) through which women had recently received family planning information.

Table 5.15 shows that radio and television are the primary sources of family planning information for women in the Maldives. Forty-six percent of ever-married women age 15-49 had seen a recent family planning message on radio, and 42 percent reported seeing a message on television. Newspapers and magazines reached far fewer women; around one-quarter of women had read about family planning in a newspaper or magazine. Thirty-eight percent of women had not seen or heard anything any family planning message recently.

The proportion of women who had not been exposed to any family planning message decreased with the woman's age. Somewhat surprisingly, fewer women living in urban areas have seen a family planning message within the few months before the MDHS compared with those living in rural areas. Exposure to a family planning message through the three media sources generally decreases with the woman's educational level and wealth quintile.

Table 5.15 Exposure to family planning messages

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who heard or saw a family planning message on the radio or television or in a newspaper in the past few months, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Radio	Television	Newspaper/ magazine	None of these three media sources	Number
Age					
15-19	34.3	35.4	18.7	45.0	119
20-24	39.3	36.1	26.5	40.6	1,268
25-29	41.5	35.8	25.1	40.3	1,539
30-34	44.7	41.4	23.2	37.7	1,287
35-39	52.4	45.4	25.2	34.7	1,185
40-44	49.5	46.4	24.4	35.1	1,013
45-49	55.1	50.9	25.0	32.7	721
Residence					
Urban	34.7	37.0	32.6	42.5	2,368
Rural	51.5	43.7	20.9	35.1	4,763
Region					
Malé	34.7	37.0	32.6	42.5	2,368
North	52.4	38.4	18.7	37.0	1,067
North Central	51.0	45.6	20.0	34.6	1,038
Central	54.5	46.5	15.4	35.6	615
South Central	54.3	46.0	17.9	31.6	853
South	47.3	43.8	28.7	36.0	1,190
Education					
No formal education	54.5	49.1	19.3	33.3	1,668
Primary	53.1	46.3	24.9	31.9	2,464
Secondary	37.0	35.0	27.3	43.3	2,584
More than secondary	22.0	23.1	30.5	53.8	333
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	55.6	41.5	18.6	34.9	1,300
Second	52.5	44.7	18.0	34.9	1,396
Middle	50.4	45.3	22.7	35.1	1,488
Fourth	39.4	41.4	29.5	38.4	1,447
Highest	33.2	34.7	34.0	43.9	1,499
Total 15-49	45.9	41.5	24.8	37.5	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 women with information missing on level of education.

5.15 CONTACT OF NONUSERS WITH OUTREACH WORKERS/HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

The 2009 MDHS collected information on contacts non-users may have had with family planning workers or other health care providers in which family planning had been discussed during the 12 months prior to survey. Table 15.16 presents the data on both the proportion of currently married non-users who had any contact with a family planning fieldworker and the proportion who discussed family planning with another health care provider during the 12 months prior to the survey. Relatively few women had been reached by fieldworkers, with only 9 percent of non-users reporting that they had been visited at home by a fieldworker who discussed family planning.

Table 15.16 also looks at the extent to which non-users had an opportunity to discuss family planning during their visits to health facilities. Overall, 85 percent of non-users had visited a health facility during the 12-month period before the survey. Only about one in eight of these women—10 percent of all nonusers—had discussed family planning during a visit they had made to a health

facility during the 12 months before the MDHS. Overall, at least eight in ten of the nonusers in every population subgroup shown in Table 15.16 reported that they had never discussed family planning with a health provider or fieldworker during the year before the survey.

Although the results in Table 15.16 suggest that there are many "missed" opportunities for informing and motivating nonusers about family planning, caution must be exercised in drawing such conclusions. Not all visits to health providers present appropriate opportunities for offering family planning information or services, and not all non-users are interested in/or in need of family planning when they visit a facility. Nevertheless, health workers should be taking more advantage of visits that women make to facilities to offer family planning information.

Table 5.16 Contact of non-users with family planning providers

Among women age 15-49 who are not using contraception, the percentage who during the last 12 months were visited by a fieldworker who discussed family planning, the percentage who visited a health facility and discussed family planning, the percentage who visited a health facility but did not discuss family planning, and the percentage who neither discussed family planning with a fieldworker nor at a health facility, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who were visited by fieldworker who discussed family planning	Percentage of women who visited a health facility in the past 12 months and who		Percentage of women who neither discussed family planning with a fieldworker nor at a health facility	Number of women
		Discussed family planning	Did not discuss family planning		
Age					
15-19	9.8	11.9	57.2	82.2	102
20-24	7.9	13.8	71.3	80.9	990
25-29	7.5	12.5	73.0	82.0	1,103
30-34	10.4	13.0	75.4	79.8	861
35-39	8.8	6.4	80.3	86.5	709
40-44	8.7	4.9	80.8	87.5	589
45-49	10.7	5.8	74.9	86.1	463
Residence					
Urban	7.6	10.5	72.2	83.5	1,628
Rural	9.4	10.4	76.4	82.9	3,189
Region					
Malé	7.6	10.5	72.2	83.5	1,628
North	8.5	9.9	76.1	84.4	665
North Central	9.0	10.1	78.0	83.2	669
Central	10.1	10.7	76.1	81.3	373
South Central	10.2	11.3	75.4	81.3	600
South	9.7	10.1	76.2	83.3	881
Education					
No formal education	12.0	6.7	80.0	83.9	997
Primary	9.1	9.8	75.0	83.6	1,626
Secondary	7.3	12.7	72.8	82.3	1,915
More than secondary	7.5	12.6	68.3	79.9	228
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	8.1	10.4	77.2	84.2	862
Second	10.3	10.5	76.0	81.9	931
Middle	10.3	9.1	77.8	83.3	1,010
Fourth	10.4	11.1	72.7	80.6	997
Highest	4.9	10.8	71.5	85.6	1,016
Total	8.8	10.4	75.0	83.1	4,817

Note: Total includes 50 women with information missing on level of education

OTHER PROXIMATE DETERMINANTS OF FERTILITY 6

This chapter addresses the principal factors, other than contraception, which affect a woman's risk of becoming pregnant. These factors include marriage, sexual activity, postpartum amenorrhoea, abstinence from sexual activity, and onset of menopause. The time when exposure to pregnancy begins and the level of exposure throughout a woman's life are also reported in this chapter.

6.1 CURRENT MARITAL STATUS

Marriage is a primary indication that a woman will be exposed regularly to the risk of pregnancy. Therefore, knowledge of when marriage typically occurs in a population is important to the understanding of fertility. Populations that have a low age at first marriage tend to have early childbearing and high fertility rates.

Table 6.1 presents the percent distribution of women, by current marital status. Respondents who are currently married, divorced, separated, or widowed are referred to as 'ever married.' The data indicate that 31 percent of women have never been married, 63 percent are currently married, 5 percent are divorced, and less than 1 percent each are separated or widowed. The percentage of women never married decreases rapidly from 95 percent among teenagers (age 15-19) to 41 percent among women age 20-24. By age 35-39 all but 2 percent of women have been married. The proportion of women who are divorced increases steadily with age, from 3 percent of women age 20-24 to 10 percent of women age 40-44, and then to 11 percent of women age 45-49. The proportion who are widowed also increases with age, reaching a high of 4 percent among women age 45-49.

Table 6.1 Current marital status

Percent distribution of women age 15-49, by current marital status, according to age, Maldives 2009

Age	Marital status					Total	Number of women
	Never married	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed		
15-19	94.5	5.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,156
20-24	41.3	55.0	3.2	0.2	0.3	100.0	2,161
25-29	11.4	83.2	5.2	0.1	0.1	100.0	1,737
30-34	5.2	87.9	6.4	0.2	0.4	100.0	1,357
35-39	2.4	87.8	8.6	0.1	1.2	100.0	1,213
40-44	1.5	86.0	10.0	0.2	2.4	100.0	1,028
45-49	1.9	83.3	10.6	0.0	4.2	100.0	735
Total	31.4	62.6	5.2	0.1	0.8	100.0	10,388

6.2 AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

Marriage correlates with exposure to risk of conception and is consequently associated with fertility. The duration of exposure to the risk of pregnancy depends primarily on the age at which women first marry. Women who marry early in life can be expected to have their first child early and thus give birth to more children, contributing to higher fertility rates.

Table 6.2 shows the proportions of women who marry at specific ages and the median age at marriage for successive age groups. The median is defined as the age by which 50 percent of all women in the age group were married. This measurement of central tendency is preferred over the mean, because, unlike the mean, it can be estimated for all cohorts where at least half of the women

are ever married at the time of survey. In drawing conclusions concerning trends, the data for the oldest cohorts in Table 6.2 should be interpreted with caution because these women may not recall marriage dates or ages with accuracy.

There has been a notable increase in the age at which women first marry across cohorts. For example, 16 percent of women age 45-49 were married by age 15 compared with only 8 percent of women age 35-39 and with less than 2 percent of women age 25-29. Similarly, more than eight in ten women age 45-49 were married by age 20, while one in four women age 20-24 were married by that same age. Overall, the median age at first marriage increases rapidly across cohorts, from 16.9 years among women age 45-49 to 21.6 years among women age 25-29.

Table 6.2 Age at first marriage

Percentage of women age 15-49 who married by age and median age at first marriage, according to current age, Maldives 2009

	Percentage first married, by exact age:					Percentage never		Median age at first
Current age	15	18	20	22	25	married	Number	marriage
15-19	0.0	na	na	na	na	94.5	2,156	a
20-24	0.3	3.9	25.4	na	na	41.3	2,161	a
25-29	1.6	16.8	34.6	53.4	80.6	11.4	1,737	21.6
30-34	8.7	32.5	53.3	66.2	81.9	5.2	1,357	19.7
35-39	8.4	45.3	67.3	79.6	91.1	2.4	1,213	18.3
40-44	15.5	57.2	75.2	84.5	91.7	1.5	1,028	17.3
45-49	16.3	63.0	84.0	89.1	94.9	1.9	735	16.9
20-49	6.5	29.4	49.6	65.3	79.3	14.8	8,232	20.0
25-49	8.7	38.4	58.2	71.1	86.6	5.4	6,070	19.0

Note: The age at first marriage is defined as the age at which the respondent began living with her/his first spouse/partner
na = Not applicable due to censoring
a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women married for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 6.3 shows the median age at first marriage according to residence, level of education, and wealth quintile. Because of the small number of married respondents interviewed, the data for women age 15-24 have been omitted. Urban women age 25-49 marry almost two years later than rural women (20.4 years and 18.5 years, respectively). There are large variations in the age at first marriage across regions, ranging from 17.7 among women in the Central region to 20.4 years among women in Malé (Figure 6.1). Age at first marriage increases as the woman's level of education and wealth status also increase. Among women with secondary and higher education, the median age at first marriage is 23.8 years, almost seven years older than the age of first marriage among women with no education (17.0 years). Similarly, the richest women marry almost three years later than women in the poorest quintile (21.1 years compared with 18.2 years).

Figure 6.1 presents the median age at marriage for women in Maldives in comparison with their median age in countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia for which comparable data are available. Figure 6.1 shows that, on average, women in Maldives marry later in life than women in Bangladesh, Nepal, and India, at about the same age as women in Pakistan, and earlier in life than women in Southeast Asia.

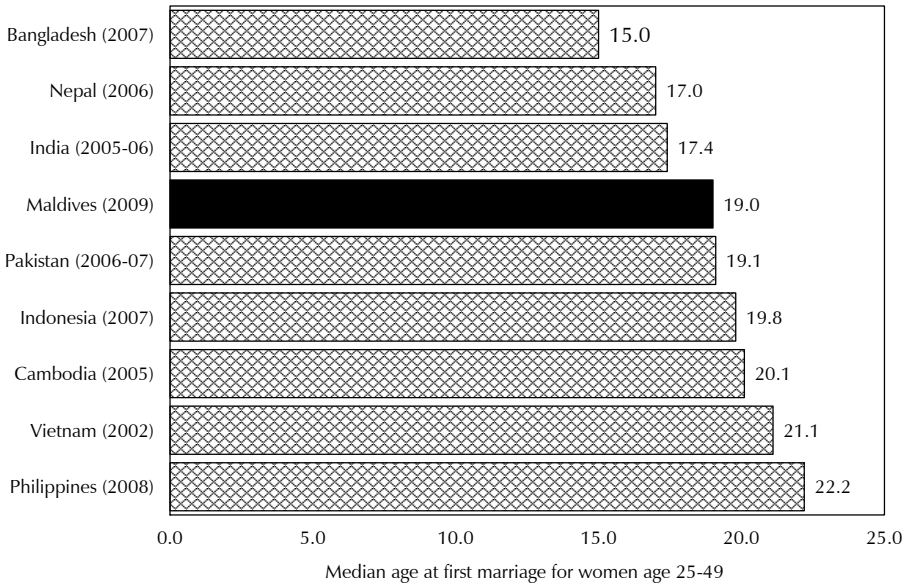
Table 6.3 Median age at first marriage

Median age at first marriage among women, by five-year age groups and age 25-49, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Age					Women age
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	25-49
Residence						
Urban	22.4	21.6	19.5	18.5	17.5	20.4
Rural	21.1	18.8	17.9	16.9	16.8	18.5
Region						
Malé	22.4	21.6	19.5	18.5	17.5	20.4
North	20.9	19.0	17.7	17.7	17.8	18.9
North Central	21.9	19.2	18.5	17.3	16.9	18.7
Central	20.2	17.8	17.3	16.3	15.8	17.7
South Central	21.0	18.5	17.8	16.9	17.0	18.3
South	21.3	19.0	17.8	16.4	16.2	18.4
Education						
No formal education	19.8	17.9	17.3	16.9	16.7	17.0
Primary	18.8	18.3	18.1	17.2	17.0	18.2
Secondary	22.5	22.4	22.4	22.0	19.4	22.4
More than secondary	24.0	24.4	22.4	22.7	15.7	23.8
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	20.5	18.7	17.1	17.2	16.8	18.2
Second	21.1	18.3	18.0	16.8	17.0	18.3
Middle	21.2	18.8	18.3	16.9	16.3	18.6
Fourth	21.8	20.3	19.0	17.8	17.5	19.6
Highest	22.6	22.5	19.9	18.6	16.7	21.1
Total	21.6	19.7	18.3	17.3	16.9	19.0

Note: The age at first marriage is defined as the age at which the respondent began living with her/his first spouse/partner

Figure 6.1 Median Age at First Marriage in South and Southeast Asia



Source: Macro International Inc, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler

6.3 AGE AT FIRST SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

Although age at first marriage often marks first exposure to intercourse, the two events do not necessarily occur at the same time. Women and men sometimes engage in sexual relations before marriage. In the 2009 MDHS, women were asked how old they were when they first had sexual intercourse.

The age at first sexual intercourse varies throughout the age cohorts. For example, 16 percent of women age 45-49 were sexually active by age 15 compared with 8 percent of women age 35-39 and 1 percent of women age 25-29 (Table 6.4). Similarly, whereas almost all women age 45-49 have had sexual intercourse, 95 percent of women age 15-19 are not sexually active. Overall, the median age at first intercourse has increased from 17.0 years among women 45-49 to 21.8 years among women age 25-29.

Table 6.4 Age at first sexual intercourse

Percentage of women age 15-49 who had first sexual intercourse by specific exact age, percentage who never had intercourse, and median age at first intercourse, according to current age, Maldives 2009

	Percentage who had first sexual intercourse by exact age:					Percentage who never had		Median age at first
Current age	15	18	20	22	25	intercourse	Number	intercourse
15-19	0.1	na	na	na	na	94.5	2,156	a
20-24	0.3	3.1	25.7	na	na	41.4	2,161	a
25-29	1.2	15.7	33.9	51.7	77.1	11.6	1,737	21.8
30-34	7.1	27.9	48.3	63.0	76.3	5.2	1,357	20.2
35-39	7.8	41.9	60.7	72.7	81.6	2.4	1,213	18.7
40-44	13.6	52.2	67.4	75.5	81.3	1.5	1,028	17.8
45-49	15.6	59.5	76.5	81.9	85.9	1.9	735	17.0
20-49	5.8	26.8	46.1	61.3	73.6	14.9	8,232	20.5
25-49	7.7	35.2	53.3	na	na	5.4	6,070	19.6
15-24	0.2	na	na	na	na	67.9	4,318	a

na = Not applicable due to censoring
a = Omitted because less than 50 percent of the respondents had intercourse for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group

Differentials in age at first sex by background characteristics are shown in Table 6.5. Urban women had first sexual intercourse two years later than rural women (20.9 years compared with 18.9 years). Women in Malé had first sexual intercourse at a later age than women in other regions, and women in the Central region had the youngest median age for first intercourse. The median age at first sexual intercourse for women with secondary and higher education is 23.8 years, 6.5 years later than the median age for women with no education (17.3 years). The median age at first sexual intercourse increases with wealth status; women in the highest wealth quintile have a median age of 21.3 years compared with 18.5 years for women in the lowest wealth quintile.

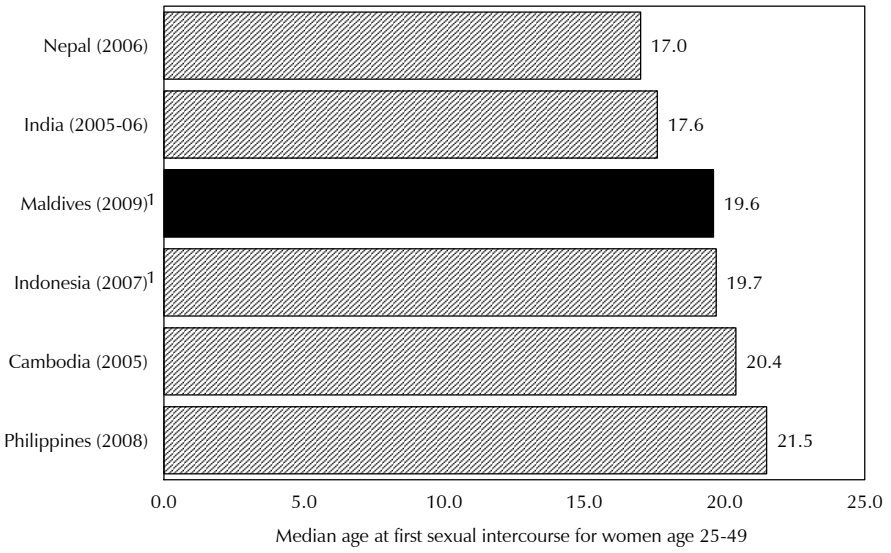
Figure 6.2 shows the median age at first sexual intercourse for countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia for which comparable data are available. Women in Maldives had their first sexual encounter about two years later in life than women in Nepal and India, at about the same age as women in Indonesia and Cambodia, and earlier in life than women in the Philippines.

Table 6.5 Median age at first intercourse

Median age at first sexual intercourse among women by five-year age groups and age 25-49, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Age					Women age
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	25-49
Residence						
Urban	22.6	21.8	20.1	19.2	18.1	20.9
Rural	21.3	19.2	18.3	17.2	16.9	18.9
Region						
Malé	22.6	21.8	20.1	19.2	18.1	20.9
North	21.3	19.8	18.3	18.2	18.0	19.6
North Central	22.1	19.3	18.8	17.2	17.0	18.8
Central	20.3	18.2	18.2	16.6	15.8	18.2
South Central	21.4	19.0	18.2	17.2	17.1	18.7
South	21.3	19.5	18.1	16.7	16.4	18.7
Education						
No formal education	20.3	18.3	17.7	17.2	16.8	17.3
Primary	19.0	18.7	18.2	17.9	17.6	18.5
Secondary	22.6	22.3	22.9	20.9	19.5	22.5
More than secondary	24.0	23.7	23.1	22.8	15.7	23.8
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	20.9	18.8	17.5	17.3	17.0	18.5
Second	21.2	18.8	18.2	17.2	17.0	18.6
Middle	21.5	19.6	18.7	17.3	16.6	19.1
Fourth	21.8	21.0	19.7	18.1	18.0	20.1
Highest	22.8	22.5	20.2	20.0	16.9	21.3
Total	21.8	20.2	18.7	17.8	17.0	19.6

Figure 6.2 Median Age at First Sexual Intercourse in South and Southeast Asia



Source: Macro International Inc, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler

[1] Among ever-married women

6.4 POSTPARTUM AMENORRHOEA, ABSTINENCE, AND INSUSCEPTIBILITY

Postpartum amenorrhoea refers to the interval between childbirth and the return of menstruation. The length and intensity of breastfeeding influence the duration of amenorrhoea, which offers protection from conception. Postpartum abstinence refers to the period between childbirth and the time when a woman resumes sexual activity. Delaying the resumption of sexual relations can also prolong protection. Women are considered to be insusceptible to pregnancy if they are not exposed to the risk of conception, either because their menstrual period has not resumed since a birth or because they abstain from intercourse after childbirth.

Table 6.6 shows the percentage of births in the three years preceding the survey for which the mother is postpartum amenorrhoeic, abstaining, or insusceptible. The estimates in Table 6.6 are based on current status data; they refer to the woman's situation at the time of the survey. The data are grouped in two-month intervals to minimize fluctuations in the estimates.

The duration of postpartum amenorrhea for Maldivian women is relatively short, a median of 4.7 months. The median duration of postpartum abstinence is 3 months. Examining the two factors together, the median duration of postpartum insusceptibility to pregnancy is 5.6 months.

Table 6.6 shows that all women in Maldives are insusceptible to pregnancy in the first two months following a birth, mostly due to the contribution of abstinence. However, the proportion of women who abstain from sexual intercourse decreases rapidly from the second month after birth. The decrease in the protective effect of amenorrhea is less rapid; 73 percent of women are still amenorrhoeic at 2 to 3 months after birth, 32 percent are still amenorrhoeic at 6 to 7 months, and 7 percent are still amenorrhoeic at 12 to 13 months.

Table 6.6 Postpartum amenorrhea, abstinence and insusceptibility

Percentage of births in the three years preceding the survey for which mothers are postpartum amenorrhoeic, abstaining, insusceptible, by number of months since birth, and median and mean durations, Maldives 2009

Months since birth	Percentage of births for which the mother is:			Number of births
	Amenorrhoeic	Abstaining	Insusceptible[1]	
< 2	93.2	100.0	100.0	77
2-3	73.4	63.5	83.1	166
4-5	47.8	25.4	56.9	164
6-7	32.4	13.4	40.6	159
8-9	18.6	7.9	24.1	141
10-11	11.8	4.6	14.4	143
12-13	7.1	2.1	9.2	138
14-15	6.0	8.3	14.3	116
16-17	1.0	5.7	6.6	132
18-19	0.8	3.6	4.4	152
20-21	1.6	6.0	7.6	160
22-23	0.2	0.8	1.1	125
24-25	0.0	3.2	3.2	119
26-27	0.0	2.1	2.1	110
28-29	0.0	2.1	2.1	113
30-31	3.4	2.6	5.9	113
32-33	0.0	2.3	2.3	107
34-35	0.0	0.1	0.1	127
Total	16.6	13.2	21.3	2,362
Median	4.7	3.0	5.6	na
Mean	6.2	5.3	7.8	na

Note: Estimates are based on status at the time of the survey.
na = Not applicable
[1] Includes births for which mothers are either still amenorrhoeic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

Table 6.7 shows the median durations of postpartum amenorrhoea, abstinence, and insusceptibility by background characteristics. There are slight variations of about one month in the median duration across subgroups of women.

Table 6.7 Median duration of amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility

Median number of months of postpartum amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility following births in the three years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Postpartum amenorrhea	Postpartum abstinence	Postpartum insusceptibility[1]
Mother's age			
15-29	4.2	2.7	5.2
30-49	5.7	3.6	6.5
Residence			
Urban	4.1	2.6	5.2
Rural	4.9	3.2	5.8
Region			
Malé	4.1	2.6	5.2
North	5.3	3.2	5.5
North Central	5.0	3.5	6.2
Central	5.4	2.3	5.9
South Central	4.1	2.3	5.1
South	4.7	4.3	5.9
Education			
No formal education	4.5	4.4	6.3
Primary	5.3	2.7	5.9
Secondary	4.2	3.0	5.4
More than secondary	5.7	2.4	5.7
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	4.9	2.7	6.0
Second	4.9	2.7	5.7
Middle	4.4	3.5	5.4
Fourth	5.1	2.4	6.0
Highest	3.9	3.4	5.0
Total	4.7	3.0	5.6

Note: Medians are based on the status at the time of the survey (current status)
[1] Includes births for which mothers are either still amenorrhoeic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

6.5 MENOPAUSE

Another factor influencing the risk of pregnancy among women is menopause. In the context of the available survey data, women are considered menopausal if they are neither pregnant nor postpartum amenorrhoeic and have not had a menstrual period in the six months preceding the survey (Table 6.8). As expected, the proportion of women who are menopausal or who have had a hysterectomy increases with age. Less than 2 percent of women age 30-34 years are menopausal compared with 23 percent of women age 48-49 years.

Table 6.8 Menopause

Percentage of women age 30-49 who are menopausal, by age, Maldives 2009

Age	Percentage menopausal[1]	Number of women
30-34	1.5	1,287
35-39	2.3	1,185
40-41	5.4	432
42-43	6.9	389
44-45	8.4	340
46-47	11.6	336
48-49	23.0	238
Total	5.2	4,205

[1] Percentage of all women who are not pregnant and not postpartum amenorrhoeic whose last menstrual period occurred six or more months preceding the survey

FERTILITY PREFERENCES 7

Insight into the fertility desires of a population is important, both for estimating the potential unmet need for family planning and for predicting future fertility. This chapter presents data from the 2009 MDHS on the fertility intentions of women, the need for family planning services, and the ideal family size as envisioned by women in Maldives. It also considers the potential effect on fertility of efforts to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

7.1 DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

To obtain information on current fertility preferences, all married non-sterilized women were asked the following question in the MDHS: "Would you like to have (a/another) child or would you prefer not to have any (more) children?" For pregnant women, the question was prefaced by the wording, "After the child you are expecting. . . ." Women who wanted more children were then asked how long they would like to wait before the birth of their next child. Sterilized women who were not asked the question about fertility preference are considered to want no more children for purposes of the tabulations in this chapter.

Table 7.1 and Figure 7.1 show the reproductive preferences of currently married women in the Maldives. Nearly half of married women do not want any more children (37 percent) or have been sterilized (11 percent). Among those wanting another child, the majority—26 percent of all currently married women—either want to wait two years or more to have the next birth or are unsure about their childbearing intentions. Slightly less than half of the women who want another child—18 percent of all currently married women—want a child soon (within two years).

Both the desire for a child and the timing desired for the next birth are strongly related to the number of children. As expected, the majority (75 percent) of women who have no children want a birth soon. However, there is interest in controlling the timing of the first birth among some childless women; 17 percent expressed a desire to delay having a child for at least two years. Interest in delaying births is even more evident among women with one child; half want to wait two years or more to have the next birth. Among women with more than one child, the proportion wanting to limit childbearing increases rapidly, from 47 percent among women with two children to 96 percent among women with six or more children.

Table 7.1 Fertility preferences by number of living children

Percent distribution of currently married women 15-49 by number of living children, according to desire for children, Maldives 2009

	Number of living children[1]							Total
Desire for children	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	15-49
Have another soon[2]	75.4	22.9	11.2	4.2	3.5	1.7	0.1	17.8
Have another later[3]	16.5	50.6	21.7	10.7	2.4	2.2	0.3	21.5
Have another, undecided when	5.6	8.1	4.0	2.9	1.0	0.5	0.1	4.1
Undecided	1.0	7.2	14.2	9.9	5.7	1.2	0.9	7.1
Want no more	0.5	10.2	43.8	57.3	65.1	67.1	57.2	37.2
Sterilized[4]	0.0	0.2	3.4	13.3	20.0	24.5	38.6	10.5
Declared infecund	0.8	0.2	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7	0.9
Missing	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.0	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	730	1,683	1,371	954	591	443	728	6,500

[1] The number of living children includes current pregnancy
[2] Wants next birth within 2 years
[3] Wants to delay next birth for 2 or more years
[4] Includes both female and male sterilization

Figure 7.1 Fertility Preferences among Currently Married Women Age 15-49

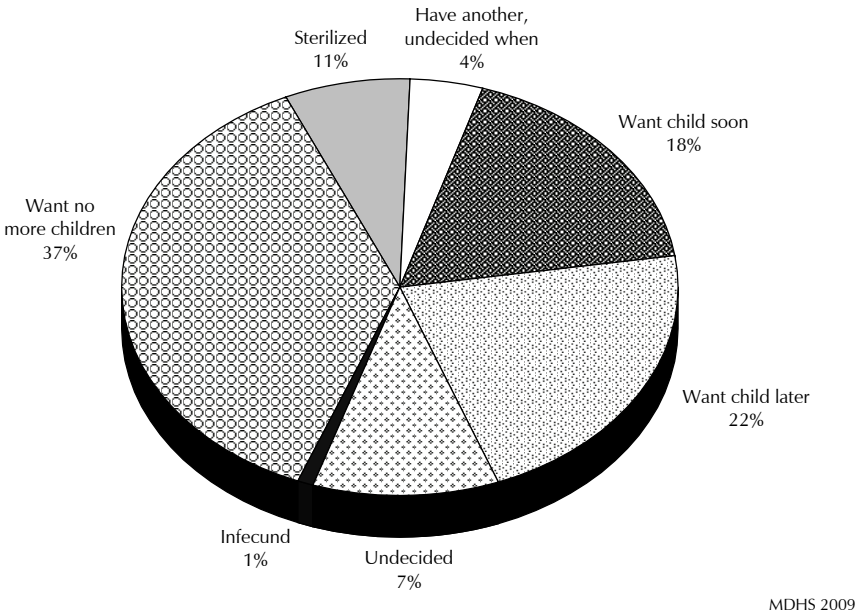


Table 7.2 shows that, among all married women, the proportion that wants no more children varies markedly with education. Higher proportions of women with primary or no education want no more children compared with women with secondary or higher education. Among currently married women with four or more children, there are only minor differences in the proportions that want to limit childbearing. However, among women with three or fewer children, fertility preferences vary more markedly across subgroups. For example, among women with two children, 60 percent in urban areas want to stop childbearing compared with 38 percent in rural areas.

Table 7.2 Desire to limit childbearing

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who want no more children, by number of living children, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Number of living children[1]							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
Residence								
Urban	0.6	17.2	59.5	78.2	89.6	(92.1)	94.9	47.9
Rural	0.5	6.5	38.0	66.7	83.7	91.4	96.0	47.7
Region								
Malé	0.6	17.2	59.5	78.2	89.6	(92.1)	94.9	47.9
North	0.0	4.2	34.6	71.1	82.0	90.8	98.5	46.2
North Central	0.0	3.7	45.4	61.1	80.3	91.0	94.4	47.3
Central	1.2	6.5	36.1	60.7	87.1	93.0	93.3	47.4
South Central	1.1	8.1	40.6	66.2	88.2	93.4	93.4	49.2
South	0.8	10.0	34.4	71.8	81.9	89.6	98.4	48.5
Education								
No formal education	(0.0)	31.9	61.7	74.9	87.6	92.5	94.9	82.6
Primary	0.0	12.5	39.6	67.2	83.7	91.6	99.3	55.1
Secondary	0.6	9.3	52.6	75.1	(86.8)	*	*	24.2
More than secondary	0.8	3.4	41.6	(54.9)	*	*	*	16.0
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	0.7	7.1	38.7	65.9	81.2	85.6	96.0	52.2
Second	0.1	5.8	37.7	61.3	85.3	92.4	96.6	48.6
Middle	0.4	6.7	40.7	71.6	84.5	95.9	96.0	46.6
Fourth	1.6	12.8	50.6	77.7	86.5	89.9	95.3	46.7
Highest	0.0	16.5	58.6	74.4	(90.6)	*	(93.8)	45.4
Total	0.5	10.3	47.2	70.6	85.1	91.5	95.9	47.8

Note: Women who have been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates the figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
[1] The number of living children includes the current pregnancy.

7.2 NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING

One of the major concerns of family planning programs is to define the size of the potential demand for contraception and to identify women who are the most in need of contraceptive services. Table 7.3 presents estimates of unmet and met need for family planning services.

Women with an *unmet need for family planning* (shown in columns 1-3 of Table 7.3) include the following:

(1) Currently married women who are in need of family planning for *spacing* purposes. This group includes (a) pregnant women whose pregnancy is mistimed (i.e., wanted later); (b) amenorrhoeic women whose last birth was mistimed; and (c) non-users who are neither pregnant nor amenorrhoeic and who either want to delay the next birth at least two or more years, are unsure whether they want another child, or want another child but are unsure when to have the birth.

(2) Currently married women who are in need of family planning for *limiting* purposes. This group includes: (a) pregnant women whose pregnancy is unwanted; (b) amenorrhoeic women whose last child was unwanted; and (c) non-users who are neither pregnant nor amenorrhoeic and who want no more children.

Menopausal and infecund women are excluded from the unmet need category as are pregnant or amenorrhoeic women who became pregnant while using a contraceptive method. Pregnant women whose pregnancy is mistimed or amenorrhoeic women whose last birth was mistimed are considered to be in need of better contraception.

Women with a *met need for family planning* (shown in columns 4-6 of Table 7.3) include women who are currently using contraception. The *total demand for family planning* (shown in columns 7-9 of Table 7.3) represents the sum of unmet need and met need. The total demand also includes pregnant and amenorrhoeic women who became pregnant while using a family planning method. The percentage of the total demand that is satisfied is shown in column 10 in Table 7.3.

Table 7.3 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, the total demand for family planning, and the percentage for the demand for contraception that is satisfied, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Unmet need for family planning[1]			Met need for family planning (currently using)[2]			Total demand for family planning			Percentage of demand satisfied	Number of women
Background characteristic	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total		
Age											
15-19	36.3	0.0	36.3	15.0	0.0	15.0	57.3	0.0	57.3	36.6	111
20-24	26.3	5.2	31.5	20.2	3.0	23.2	47.6	8.4	56.0	43.7	1,188
25-29	25.3	8.8	34.2	19.2	10.8	30.0	45.7	19.7	65.3	47.7	1,446
30-34	13.5	16.6	30.2	13.4	21.7	35.1	27.6	38.6	66.2	54.5	1,193
35-39	6.1	18.1	24.2	7.1	36.9	44.0	13.5	55.3	68.9	64.8	1,065
40-44	2.4	20.8	23.2	2.5	42.8	45.3	4.9	63.8	68.8	66.3	884
45-49	0.3	15.7	16.0	0.4	39.2	39.7	0.7	54.9	55.6	71.3	612
Residence											
Urban	14.0	12.2	26.2	12.1	21.5	33.6	26.9	33.9	60.8	56.9	2,122
Rural	15.3	13.7	29.1	12.3	23.0	35.3	28.4	36.9	65.2	55.4	4,378
Region											
Malé	14.0	12.2	26.2	12.1	21.5	33.6	26.9	33.9	60.8	56.9	2,122
North	13.5	11.8	25.4	15.6	23.8	39.4	30.4	36.0	66.4	61.8	1,009
North Central	14.4	12.6	27.1	13.8	23.6	37.4	28.5	36.4	64.8	58.3	967
Central	13.3	11.8	25.1	14.0	28.0	42.0	27.7	40.0	67.7	62.9	563
South Central	14.7	15.9	30.5	11.4	20.3	31.7	26.8	36.3	63.0	51.5	789
South	19.6	16.0	35.6	7.5	20.9	28.4	27.9	36.9	64.9	45.2	1,051
Education											
No formal education	3.9	19.8	23.8	3.2	40.4	43.6	7.3	60.5	67.8	64.9	1,488
Primary	12.2	15.3	27.4	10.1	26.8	36.9	22.6	42.2	64.8	57.6	2,216
Secondary	23.7	8.4	32.1	18.0	9.3	27.3	43.1	17.9	61.1	47.4	2,409
More than secondary	18.4	6.8	25.2	23.6	9.1	32.7	43.1	15.8	58.9	57.3	316
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	14.2	14.6	28.8	11.1	25.9	36.9	26.0	40.8	66.8	56.9	1,167
Second	15.8	13.6	29.4	11.8	23.7	35.4	28.2	37.4	65.6	55.2	1,278
Middle	14.4	14.3	28.7	12.7	21.6	34.3	27.9	36.0	63.8	55.1	1,363
Fourth	15.9	12.8	28.7	12.3	21.1	33.4	28.8	34.0	62.8	54.4	1,311
Highest	14.3	11.1	25.4	13.1	20.9	33.9	28.3	32.1	60.4	57.9	1,381
Total	14.9	13.2	28.1	12.2	22.5	34.7	27.9	35.9	63.8	55.9	6,500

Note: Total includes 72 women with information missing on education level.

[1] Unmet need for spacing includes pregnant women whose pregnancy was mistimed; amenorrhoeic women who are not using family planning and whose last birth was mistimed, or whose last birth was unwanted but now say they want more children; and fecund women who are neither pregnant nor amenorrhoeic, who are not using any method of family planning, and who say they want to wait 2 or more years for their next birth. Also included in unmet need for spacing are fecund women who are not using any method of family planning and say they are unsure whether they want another child or who want another child but are unsure when to have the birth. Unmet need for limiting refers to pregnant women whose pregnancy was unwanted; amenorrhoeic women who are not using family planning, whose last child was unwanted and who do not want any more children; and fecund women who are neither pregnant nor amenorrhoeic, who are not using any method of family planning, and who want no more children.

[2] *Using for spacing* is defined as women who are using some method of family planning and say they want to have another child or are undecided whether to have another. *Using for limiting* is defined as women who are using and who want no more children. Note that the specific methods used are not taken into account here.

According to Table 7.3, the total unmet need among currently married women in Maldives is 28 percent; 15 percent are in need of family planning because of a desire to space the next birth, and the remainder are in need due to an interest in limiting births. Although the drop is not uniform, the level of unmet need tends to decline with age. Unmet need is slightly higher among rural women than urban women and varies from a level of 25 percent in the North and Central regions to 36 percent in the South.

The total met need for family planning (i.e., the proportion of married women currently using contraception) is 35 percent. Around two-thirds of users—23 percent of all married women—are limiters. Overall, the total demand for family planning comprises 64 percent of married women in Maldives. Fifty-six percent of that demand is satisfied. The level of satisfied demand rises with age. It is similar among urban and rural women. Married women in the Central and North regions have the highest level of satisfied demand, and women in the South region have the lowest level (63 percent, 62 percent, and 45 percent, respectively).

7.3 IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN

In the first part of this chapter, the discussion of fertility preferences focused on women's desires with respect to future childbearing. A woman's future childbearing intentions obviously are influenced by the number of children she already has. The 2009 MDHS tried to obtain a measure of fertility preferences that was less dependent on current family size by asking about the respondent's *ideal* number of children. This question required the respondent to perform the difficult task of considering the number of children she would choose to have in her whole life regardless of the number (if any) that she had already borne. Respondents had problems with the abstract nature of the question, and so some respondents gave non-numeric responses.

In considering the results from the question on the ideal number of children, it is important to remember that, for several reasons, the ideal number tends to be fairly closely associated with the actual number of children a woman has. First, women who want a large family tend to have more children than other women. Second, women may rationalize their ideal family size so that as the actual number of children increases, their preferred family size also increases. Furthermore, women with large families are on average older than women with small families and may actually prefer a large family size because of attitudes that they acquired 20 to 30 years ago.

Table 7.4 presents the distribution of ever-married women by their ideal number of children. The table shows that 13 percent of women gave non-numeric responses to a question about their ideal number of children. The proportion giving non-numeric answers rises steeply with the number of children, exceeding 20 percent among women with four and five children and peaking at 40 percent among women with 6 or more children. As a result, caution should be exercised in interpreting the information on family size preferences among higher parity women.

Table 7.4 shows that an ever-married woman in Maldives prefers a moderate-size family. Less than one-third of ever-married women want a two-child family, 23 percent consider a three-child family to be ideal, and almost the same proportion prefer to have four children. Nine percent want five or more children. The mean ideal number of children among ever-married women who gave numeric responses is 2.9 children. As expected, higher parity women expressed a preference for more children; the mean ideal number ranges from 2.6 among women with one child to 4.4 among women with six or more children.

The results in Table 7.4 indicate that some women in Maldives are having more children than they would prefer. For example, 19 percent of women with four children say they would have preferred to have three or fewer children, and 43 percent of the women with six of more children considered a smaller family to be ideal.

Table 7.4 Ideal number of children

Percent distribution of ever-married women, by ideal number of children and by mean ideal number of children, for ever-married women and for currently married women, according to number of living children, Maldives 2009

Ideal number of children	Number of living children[1]							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.2
1	2.4	5.0	1.4	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.3	2.0
2	50.3	46.1	40.3	16.8	9.2	9.6	6.8	30.8
3	24.5	29.7	25.7	29.9	9.3	11.4	9.1	22.9
4	14.0	11.7	22.9	30.3	49.0	20.5	21.5	22.1
5	1.8	1.4	2.6	6.0	6.4	24.9	4.5	4.8
6+	0.7	1.0	0.9	2.8	5.2	8.0	17.5	3.9
Non-numeric responses	6.1	5.0	6.3	13.7	20.8	24.4	39.5	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	822	1,827	1,500	1,049	648	493	791	7,131
Mean ideal number of children[2]:								
Ever-married	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.4	3.1
Number	772	1,736	1,406	906	513	372	479	6,185
Currently married	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.5	3.1
Number	687	1,597	1,282	825	476	336	432	5,635

[1] The number of living children includes current pregnancy for women
[2] Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

Table 7.5 shows how the mean ideal number of children for ever-married women varies among subgroups. As expected, the mean increases with the woman's age and is higher among rural women (3.3 children) compared with urban women (2.8 children). The mean ideal number of children among women with no education is 4.0 children, nearly 50 percent higher than the ideal number among women with more than secondary education (2.7 children). Similarly, family size preferences decline with increasing wealth, from 3.4 children among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 2.8 children in the highest quintile.

Table 7.5 Mean ideal number of children

Mean ideal number of children for ever-married women age 15-49 by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Mean	Number of women
Age		
15-19	2.6	109
20-24	2.6	1,217
25-29	2.8	1,455
30-34	3.1	1,181
35-39	3.4	1,008
40-44	3.8	751
45-49	4.1	463
Residence		
Urban	2.8	2,128
Rural	3.3	4,057
Region		
Malé	2.8	2,128
North	3.2	890
North Central	3.3	867
Central	3.4	518
South Central	3.4	756
South	3.3	1,025
Education		
No formal education	4.0	1,183
Primary	3.3	2,174
Secondary	2.6	2,438
More than secondary	2.7	315
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	3.4	1,071
Second	3.3	1,193
Middle	3.2	1,275
Fourth	3.0	1,275
Highest	2.8	1,371
Total	3.1	6,185

Note: Total includes 72 women with information missing on education level. Means are based on number of women who gave a numeric response

7.4 UNPLANNED AND UNWANTED FERTILITY

Information obtained in the 2009 MDHS on fertility preferences can be used to derive several indicators of the level of unwanted fertility. First, responses to a question about the planning status of recent births, i.e., whether a birth was planned (wanted then), unplanned (wanted later), or not wanted at all, provide some indication of the extent of unwanted childbearing. In interpreting these data, it is important to remember that women may rationalize mistimed or unwanted pregnancies, declaring them as wanted only after the children are born.

Table 7.6 presents the information on the planning status of recent births. The results indicate that around one-quarter of all births in the five-year period before the MDHS were unplanned; 16 percent were not wanted at all at the time they were conceived, and 10 percent were mistimed, i.e., their mothers would have preferred to delay the birth by at least two years. The proportion of births that were not wanted at the time of conception increases directly with birth order. Forty-seven percent of all fourth and higher order births were not

wanted at all, compared with only about 11 percent of second order births. The planning status of births is also affected by the age of the mother. In general, the older the mother, the higher is the percentage of children that are unwanted at conception.

A second approach to assessing unwanted fertility considers what the fertility rate would be in Maldives if women had avoided recent births they did not want. The *wanted fertility rate* is calculated in the same manner as the total fertility rate, but unwanted births are excluded from the numerator. Unwanted births are defined as births that exceed the number considered ideal by the respondent. For purposes of calculating the wanted fertility rate, women who did not report a numeric ideal family size are assumed to have wanted all their births. To the extent that women are unwilling to report an ideal family size that is lower than their actual family size, the wanted fertility rate may be overestimated.

Table 7.6 Fertility planning status

Percent distribution of births to ever-married women age 15-49 in the five years preceding the survey (including current pregnancies), by planning status of the birth, according to birth order and mother's age at birth, Maldives 2009

Birth order and mother's age at birth	Planning status of birth				Total	Number of births
	Wanted then	Wanted later	Wanted no more	Missing		
Birth order						
1	88.7	5.9	4.6	0.8	100.0	1,769
2	73.7	14.4	11.3	0.6	100.0	1,085
3	69.1	13.5	17.0	0.5	100.0	603
4+	43.2	9.5	46.9	0.5	100.0	800
Mother's age at birth						
<20	69.5	10.6	17.8	2.2	100.0	179
20-24	78.5	12.2	8.7	0.6	100.0	1,484
25-29	77.6	10.6	11.3	0.5	100.0	1,281
30-34	71.7	7.8	20.1	0.4	100.0	836
35-39	57.4	3.4	38.2	1.0	100.0	364
40-44	33.3	4.6	61.3	0.8	100.0	109
45-49	*	*	*	*	100.0	5
Total	73.5	9.8	16.0	0.7	100.0	4,258

Note: An asterisk indicates a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 7.7 presents total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the three-year period before the survey. Overall, the wanted fertility rate is 2.2 births per woman, which is 12 percent lower that the total fertility rate (2.5 births). The gap between actual and wanted fertility is smallest among women with a secondary or higher education and among women in the highest wealth quintile.

Table 7.7 Wanted fertility rates

Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the three years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Total wanted fertility rates	Total fertility rate
Residence		
Urban	1.9	2.1
Rural	2.4	2.8
Region		
Malé	1.9	2.1
North	2.3	2.7
North Central	2.2	2.5
Central	2.4	2.8
South Central	2.6	3.0
South	2.5	2.9
Education		
No formal education	2.4	2.8
Primary	2.2	2.7
Secondary	2.5	2.6
More than secondary	2.6	2.7
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	2.3	2.8
Second	2.5	2.9
Middle	2.4	2.7
Fourth	2.1	2.4
Highest	2.0	2.1
Total	2.2	2.5

Note: Rates are calculated based on births to women age 15-49 in the period 1-36 months preceding the survey. The total fertility rates are the same as those presented in Table 4.2.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY 8

This chapter presents levels, trends, and differentials in neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and perinatal mortality. The information is relevant both for understanding population trends—for example, the mortality rates can be used in population projections—and for the planning and evaluation of health policies and programs. Information on child mortality serves the needs of the health sector by identifying population groups that are at high risk.

In the Maldives, mortality statistics are routinely collected and reported to the Ministry of Health through the Vital Registration System (VRS). In addition, every five years, the Population and Housing Census, conducted by the Ministry of Planning and National Development (MPND), generates mortality estimates. These two methods provide an opportunity to compare and address any discrepancy that may exist between the two methods of estimation. The 2009 Maldives DHS provides yet another set of estimates.

The data for mortality estimation were collected in the birth history section of the Women's Questionnaire. The birth history section begins with questions about the respondent's experience with childbearing (i.e., the number of sons and daughters living with the mother, the number living elsewhere, and the number who have died). These questions are followed by a retrospective birth history in which each respondent is asked to list each of her births, starting with the first birth. For each birth, data are obtained on sex, month and year of birth, survivorship status, and current age, or if the child had died, age at death. This information is used to directly estimate mortality.

Age-specific mortality rates are categorised and defined as follows:

Neonatal mortality (NN):	the probability of dying within the first month of life
Postneonatal mortality (PNN):	the difference between infant and neonatal mortality
Infant mortality ($_1q_0$):	the probability of dying before the first birthday
Child mortality ($_4q_1$):	the probability of dying between the first and fifth birthday
Under-five mortality ($_5q_0$):	the probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday

All rates are expressed per 1,000 live births, except for child mortality, which is expressed per 1,000 children surviving to 12 months of age.

8.1 LEVELS AND TRENDS IN INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

Infant and under-5 mortality rates from the 2009 MDHS are presented in Table 8.1. Under-5 mortality was 17 deaths per 1,000 live births for the five-year period preceding the survey (circa 2005-2009), implying that about one in every 60 children born in the Maldives during that period died before reaching a fifth birthday. The infant mortality rate during the five-year period was 14 deaths per 1,000, and the neonatal mortality rate was 10 deaths per 1,000. Thus, more than 80 percent of child deaths during 2005-2009 took place during the first year of the child's life, and seven in ten of those infant deaths occurred during the neonatal period, that is, within the first month of life.

The trend in early childhood mortality in the mid-1990s and later, can be examined by looking at changes in the mortality rates over the three successive five-year periods prior to the survey. The results indicate that mortality among young children has declined significantly in the 15 years prior to the survey, and that decline has occurred much faster in the most recent five years. For example, under-5 mortality in 2000-2004 was 14 percent lower than in 1995-1999, while the rate in the 2005-2009 period (17 deaths per 1,000) is less than half the level estimated for the 2000-2004 period (38 deaths per 1,000).

Table 8.1 Early childhood mortality rates

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for five-year periods preceding the survey, Maldives 2009

Years preceding the survey	Approximate calendar year[1]	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN)[1]	Infant mortality ($_1q_0$)	Child mortality ($_4q_1$)	Under-5 mortality ($_5q_0$)
0-4	2005-2009	10	4	14	3	17
5-9	2000-2004	23	9	32	6	38
10-14	1995-1999	25	11	35	9	44

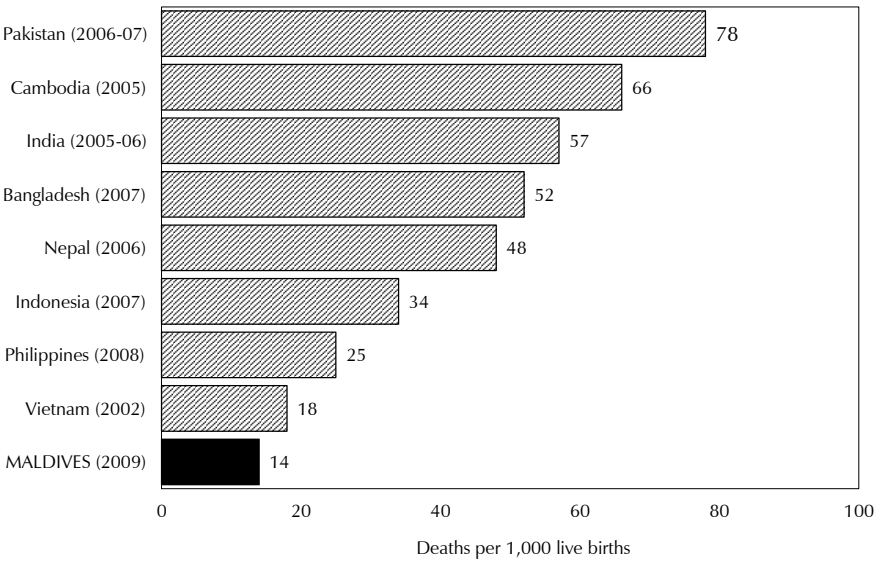
[1] Data collection took place between January and October 2009. The period 0-59 months prior to the survey spans a period between February 2004 and October 2009.
[2] Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

In the Population and Housing Censuses (PHC) of Maldives, the infant mortality rate was calculated data based on infant deaths among live births that occurred during the year preceding the census. This type of data does not permit direct estimation of child mortality. Therefore an indirect technique was employed to arrive at estimates of childhood mortality rates using information on children surviving among children ever born. Based on the 2006 PHC (referring to 2005), the IMR is estimated as 18 deaths per 1,000 live births (MPND, 2008). The Vital Registration System's estimate for 2006 is 16 deaths per 1,000 live births (MOH, 2007).

The low level of childhood mortality in Maldives should be viewed with caution and sampling variability should be considered.

Figure 8.1 is presented to show that the infant mortality rate in Maldives is lower than in any other country in South Asia and Southeast Asia where comparable data are available. Among these countries, Pakistan has the highest rate, with 78 deaths per 1,000 births. Vietnam (18 deaths per 1,000 births) has the second lowest infant mortality rate, and ranks directly after Maldives.

Figure 8.1 **Infant Mortality Rate for Five-Year Period Before the Survey for Selected Countries in South and Southeast Asia**



Source: ICF Macro, 2010. MEASURE DHS STATcompiler. http://www.measuredhs.com, June 9 2010.

8.2 DATA QUALITY

Because of the decline in infant and child mortality, a thorough review of the MDHS data was conducted. The quality of mortality estimates calculated from retrospective birth histories depends upon the completeness with which births and deaths are reported and recorded.

One factor that affects childhood mortality estimates is the quality of reporting of age at death, which may distort the age pattern of mortality. If age at death is misreported, it will bias the estimates, especially if the net effect of the age misreporting results in transference from one age bracket to another. For example, a net transfer of deaths from under 1 month to a higher age bracket will affect the estimates of neonatal and postneonatal mortality. To minimise errors in reporting of age at death, interviewers were instructed to record age at death in days if the death took place in the month following the birth, in months if the child died before age 2, and in years if the child was at least age 2. They also were asked to probe for deaths reported at age 1 to determine a more precise age at death in terms of months. Examination of the reporting of age at deaths in months for deaths under age 2 years show that reporting is accurate even for events that took place in a distant past, where deaths are more likely to be reported at ages in multiples of six months (see Appendix Table C.6).

Another potential data quality problem is the selective omission from the birth histories of infants who did not survive, which can lead to underestimation of mortality rates. When selective omission of childhood deaths occurs, it is usually more severe for deaths occurring early in infancy. One way such omissions can be detected is by examining the proportion of neonatal deaths to infant deaths. Generally, if there is substantial underreporting of deaths, the result is an abnormally low ratio of neonatal deaths to infant deaths. Appendix Table C.5 shows that the ratio declines from 93 percent in the 0-4 years preceding the survey to 82 percent in the 10-15 years before the survey.

Data quality is also affected by displacement of birth dates, which may cause a distortion of mortality trends. This can occur if an interviewer knowingly records a death as occurring in a different year; the purpose is to cut down on overall work because live births occurring during the five years preceding the interview are the subject of a lengthy set of additional questions. In the 2009 MDHS questionnaire, the cut-off year for these questions was 2003. Data in Appendix Table C.4 show that there is no evidence of shifting of births outside the reference period; in fact, the number of births in calendar year 2003 is less than in 2004.

8.3 SOCIOECONOMIC DIFFERENTIALS IN INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

A number of socioeconomic, environmental, and biological factors influence infant and child mortality. In a framework developed for the study of child mortality in developing countries, Mosley and Chen (1984) outlined various proximate determinants and socioeconomic factors related to infant mortality. The proximate determinants, which are factors that affect mortality directly, include maternal characteristics such as age, parity, and birth interval; environmental contamination; nutrition; injury; and personal illness. Socioeconomic factors operate through the proximate determinants.

This section discusses differentials in early childhood mortality by the socioeconomic and biodemographic characteristics of the mother. The socioeconomic determinants include place of residence, mother's educational attainment, and wealth index quintile. The biodemographic determinants include sex of child, age of mother, parity, birth interval, and child's birth weight.

Mortality differentials by place of residence, region, educational level of the mother, and household wealth are presented in Table 8.2. Period-specific rates are presented for the ten-year period preceding the survey (approximately 2000 to 2009) to capture a sufficient number of births to study mortality differentials across population subgroups.

There seems to be no difference in infant mortality between children born to mothers living in urban areas and those born to women in rural areas. However, the neonatal mortality rate in urban areas is 33 percent higher than that in rural areas (20 per 1,000 live births compared with 15 per 1,000 live births), and the postneonatal rate in the rural areas is more than double the rate in the urban areas (8 and 3 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively).

Infant mortality rates vary by region, ranging from 13 deaths per 1,000 live births in the North region to 32 deaths per 1,000 in the South Central region. The two regions also show the lowest and highest under-age-5 mortality (21 and 41 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively).

The 2009 MDHS data show that as a mother's educational attainment goes up, the childhood mortality levels decline; children of less educated mothers generally have higher mortality rates than those born to more educated mothers. For instance, the infant mortality rate for children whose mothers had no education is 41 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 13 deaths per 1,000 live births for children whose mothers have a secondary education.

There are no large differentials and no clear patterns in childhood mortality by the wealth status. Some rates are highest among children in the middle wealth quintile.

Table 8.2 Early childhood mortality rates by socioeconomic characteristics

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for the 10-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristic, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN)[1]	Infant mortality ($_1q_0$)	Child mortality ($_4q_1$)	Under-5 mortality ($_5q_0$)
Residence					
Urban	20	3	23	1	23
Rural	15	8	22	6	28
Region					
Malé	20	3	23	1	23
North	10	3	13	8	21
North Central	17	7	24	6	30
Central	19	11	30	4	34
South Central	23	10	32	9	41
South	10	9	19	4	23
Mother's education					
No formal education	32	9	41	6	47
Primary	17	6	23	5	28
Secondary	7	6	13	1	14
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	12	9	21	7	28
Second	20	5	25	6	31
Middle	21	8	28	5	33
Fourth	10	7	16	3	19
Highest	18	2	21	0	21

[1] Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

8.4 DEMOGRAPHIC DIFFERENTIALS IN INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

The demographic characteristics of both mother and child have been found to play an important role in the survival probability of children. Table 8.3 presents early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics (i.e., sex of child, mother's age at birth, birth order, previous birth interval, and birth size). The rates for males are consistently slightly higher than those for females. A mother's age at birth can affect a child's chances of survival. Neonatal mortality rates and infant mortality rates exhibit the expected U-shaped relationship with mother's age—high for women in the young age groups, low for women in the middle age groups, and high for women in the older age groups. For example, the infant mortality rate for women under age 20 when they gave birth is 29

deaths per 1,000 live births. The rate decreases for women who give birth at age 20-29 and at age 30-39 (20 and 26 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively) and then rises to 48 deaths per 1,000 live births for women who give birth at age 40-49 years. The higher rates for younger and older women may relate to biological factors that lead to complications during pregnancy and delivery.

The 2009 MDHS results show that the risk of dying increases with higher order births. For example, although the infant mortality rate for first-order births is 17 deaths per 1,000 live births, the rate for seventh-order births or higher is 47 deaths per 1,000 live births.

As expected, childhood mortality rates decline as the birth interval increases. For example, the infant mortality rate for children born fewer than two years after a previous birth is more than two times higher than the rate for children born after an interval of four or more years (52 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 22 deaths per 1,000 live births).

A child's size at birth has been shown to be strongly associated with the risk of dying during infancy, particularly during the first months of life. In the 2009 MDHS, for all children born in the five years preceding the survey, mothers were asked whether the child was very small, small, average size, large, or very large at birth. Although subjective, the mother's judgment has been shown to correlate closely with the actual birth weight. Results show that mortality levels are higher among children perceived by their mother to have been small or very small at birth compared with other children. Infant mortality rates for infants who were judged by their mothers to be small or very small at birth are, for example, twice as high as those for infants who were reported by their mothers to be average or large at birth (20 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 10 deaths per 1,000 live births).

Table 8.3 Early childhood mortality rates by demographic characteristics

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for the 10-year period preceding the survey, by demographic characteristics, Maldives 2009

Demographic characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN)[1]	Infant mortality ($_1q_0$)	Child mortality ($_4q_1$)	Under-5 mortality ($_5q_0$)
Child's sex					
Male	18	7	24	5	29
Female	15	6	21	5	25
Mother's age at birth					
<20	25	4	29	8	36
20-29	13	7	20	2	22
30-39	20	5	26	7	33
40-49	26	22	48	20	67
Birth order					
1	12	4	17	2	19
2-3	13	7	20	3	23
4-6	25	5	30	7	37
7+	30	17	47	11	57
Previous birth interval[2]					
<2 years	37	15	52	5	57
2 years	12	6	18	8	25
3 years	13	6	19	3	22
4+ years	16	6	22	6	28
Birth size[3]					
Small/very small	11	9	20	-	-
Average or larger	7	3	10	-	-

[1] Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates
[2] Excludes first-order births
[3] Rates for the five-year period before the survey

8.5 PERINATAL MORTALITY

In the 2009 MDHS, women were asked to report all pregnancy losses that occurred in the five years preceding the survey. For each such pregnancy, the duration was recorded. Pregnancy losses occurring after seven completed months of gestation (stillbirths) plus deaths to live births within the first seven days of life (early neonatal deaths) constitute perinatal deaths. The distinction between a stillbirth and an early neonatal death may be a fine one, often depending on observing and then remembering sometimes faint signs of life after delivery. The causes of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths are closely linked, and examining just one or the other can understate the true level of mortality around delivery. For this reason deaths around the time of delivery are combined into the perinatal mortality rate. When the number of perinatal deaths is divided by the total number of pregnancies reaching seven months of gestation, the perinatal mortality rate is derived. The perinatal mortality rate is a useful indicator of the state of delivery services, both in terms of the use of these services and of their ability to ensure delivery of healthy babies.

Table 8.4 presents the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths, and the perinatal mortality rate, for the five-year period preceding the survey. The data show that, overall, 34 stillbirths and 35 early neonatal deaths were reported in the survey, resulting in a perinatal mortality rate of 18 per 1,000 pregnancies.

Table 8.4 Perinatal mortality

Number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths and the perinatal mortality rate for the five-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Number of stillbirths[1]	Number of early neonatal deaths[2]	Perinatal mortality rate[3]	Number of pregnancies of 7+ months duration
Mother's age at birth				
<20	0	8	47	165
20-29	18	16	14	2,433
30-39	15	9	23	1,071
40-49	0	3	26	101
Previous pregnancy interval in months[4]				
First pregnancy	15	14	21	1,426
<15	0	1	9	160
15-26	5	4	19	470
27-38	3	2	13	365
39+	10	14	18	1,348
Residence				
Urban	10	15	22	1,133
Rural	24	21	17	2,637
Region				
Malé	10	15	22	1,133
North	9	2	18	587
North Central	3	5	14	542
Central	4	1	13	346
South Central	3	8	23	456
South	6	5	16	707
Mother's education				
No education	4	5	20	453
Primary	14	17	22	1,382
Secondary	15	13	17	1,719
More than secondary	0	0	0	173
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	8	4	16	717
Second	10	12	27	812
Middle	4	7	14	787
Fourth	5	6	14	760
Highest	7	7	21	693
Total	34	35	18	3,770

[1] Stillbirths are foetal deaths in pregnancies lasting seven or more months.
[2] Early neonatal deaths are deaths at age 0-6 days among live-born children.
[3] The sum of the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths divided by the number of pregnancies of seven or more months' duration, expressed per 1000.
[4] Categories correspond to birth intervals of <24 months, 24-35 months, 36-47 months, and 48+ months.

Perinatal mortality is highest among births to women who gave birth before age 20 and lowest among births to women age 20-29. First pregnancies have the highest proportions resulting in stillbirths or early neonatal death. Perinatal mortality rates are higher in urban than in rural areas (22 and 17 per 1,000 pregnancies, respectively).

There is no clear pattern in the relationship between perinatal mortality and education or perinatal mortality and household wealth.

8.6 HIGH-RISK FERTILITY BEHAVIOUR

Findings from scientific studies have confirmed that there is a strong relationship between children's chances of dying and certain fertility behaviours. Typically, the probability of dying in early childhood is much greater if children are born to mothers who are too young or too old, if they are born after a short preceding birth interval, or if they are high-parity births. Very young mothers may experience difficult pregnancies and deliveries because of their physical immaturity. Older women may also experience age-related problems during pregnancies and delivery. In this analysis, a mother is considered to be too young if she is less than age 18 and "too old" if she is above 34 years at the time of delivery. A "short birth interval" is a birth occurring within 24 months of a previous birth.

Table 8.5 shows the distribution of children born in the five years preceding the survey by risk category. Although first births to women age 18-34 are considered an unavoidable risk, they are included in the analysis and are shown as a separate risk category. The first column in Table 8.5 shows the percentages of births in the five years preceding the survey that fall into the various risk categories. Twenty-eight percent of births have an elevated risk of death that is avoidable, another 41 percent are first births for which risk is considered unavoidable, and 31 percent are not in any high-risk category. Among those who are at risk, 18 percent of births are in only one of the high-risk categories, but 10 percent are in multiple high-risk categories (due to combinations of mother's age, birth order, and birth interval).

Column 2 shows risk ratios for births in various high-risk categories relative to births not having any high-risk characteristics. The single high-risk category with the largest percentage of births is *birth order three or higher*, which constitutes 9 percent of births. The mortality of this category is 1.56 times that of births with no elevated mortality risk. The multiple high-risk category with the largest percentage of births is *children with birth order three or higher born to mothers age 34 or older* (8 percent). Compared with births with no elevated risk, these births have an 84 percent greater risk of death in early childhood. The multiple high-risk category with the highest risk ratio consists of the following combination: *age more than 34 years, birth interval less than 24 months, and birth order three or higher*. Less than 1 percent of children fall in this category, in which children are almost eight times more likely to die than children who have no elevated mortality risk.

The last column in Table 8.5 looks to the future and addresses the question of how many currently married women have the potential for having a high-risk birth. The results were obtained by simulating the risk category into which a birth to a currently married woman would fall if she were to become pregnant at the time of the survey. The results show that more than half of currently married women are in the "any avoidable risk" category, 25 percent face a single risk, and 27 percent are in multiple risk categories.

Table 8.5 High-risk fertility behaviour

Percent distribution of children born in the five years preceding the survey by category of elevated risk of mortality and the risk ratio, and percent distribution of currently married women by category of risk if they were to conceive a child at the time of the survey, Maldives 2009

Risk category	Births in the 5 years preceding the survey		Percentage of currently married women[1]
	Percentage of births	Risk ratio	
Not in any high risk category	31.2	1.00	34.2[a]
Unavoidable risk category			
First-order births between ages 18 and 34 years	40.6	0.90	13.5
Single high-risk category			
Mother's age <18	0.5	10.08	0.0
Mother's age >34	3.0	1.42	8.3
Birth interval <24 months	5.2	0.56	10.6
Birth order >3	9.2	1.56	6.0
Subtotal	17.9	1.48	25.0
Multiple high-risk category			
Age <18 and birth interval <24 months[2]	0.0	0.00	0.0
Age >34 and birth interval <24 months	0.1	0.00	0.5
Age >34 and birth order >3	7.6	0.84	23.0
Age >34 and birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	0.6	7.77	1.4
Birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	1.9	0.87	2.5
Subtotal	10.3	1.25	27.4
In any avoidable high-risk category	28.2	1.40	52.4
Total	100.0	na	100.0
Number of births/women	3,736	na	6,500

Note: Risk ratio is the ratio of the proportion dead among births in a specific high-risk category to the proportion dead among births not in any high-risk category.

na = Not applicable

[1] Women are assigned to risk categories according to the status they would have at the birth of a child if they were to conceive at the time of the survey: current age less than 17 years and 3 months or older than 34 years and 2 months, latest birth less than 15 months ago, or latest birth being of order 3 or higher.

[2] Includes the category age <18 and birth order >3

[a] Includes sterilized women

MATERNAL HEALTH 9

This chapter presents findings on important areas of maternal health: antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care. This information, in combination with data on mortality, is useful in formulating programs and policies to improve maternal and child health services.

9.1 ANTENATAL CARE

The health care that a mother receives during pregnancy and at the time of delivery is important for the survival and well-being of both the mother and the child. Antenatal care (ANC) coverage is described according to the type of provider, number of visits, stage of pregnancy at the time of the first and last visits, and services and information provided during visits. It is also recommended that women receive two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine, adequate amounts of iron and folic acid tablets, and iron syrup to prevent and treat anaemia while at their ANC visits. Blood pressure checks and procedures to detect pregnancy complications are also part of ANC coverage. A well-designed and carefully implemented ANC program facilitates detection and treatment of problems, such as anaemia and infections, and also provides an opportunity to disseminate health care messages to women and their families.

Information on ANC coverage was obtained from women who had given birth in the five years preceding the survey. For women with two or more live births during the five-year period, data on antenatal care refer to the most recent birth only.

9.1.1 Source of Antenatal Care

Table 9.1 shows the percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years prior to the survey. Although mothers of live births may have received antenatal care from more than one type of provider, this report uses the best qualified provider cited by the women. Almost all women (99 percent) received antenatal care from a skilled provider. Most women saw a gynaecologist (92 percent) for antenatal care, while 7 percent of the remaining women report that they received care from a doctor other than a gynaecologist, and less than 1 percent report that they received care from a trained nurse or midwife, a community health worker, or a traditional birth attendant.

There is little variation by background characteristics in the percentage receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider (gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, midwife, and community/family health worker). However, antenatal care received from a gynaecologist is less common among mothers who are age 35-49 at the birth of the child. It is more common among mothers with a first-order birth, those residing in urban areas, those with more than secondary education, and those belonging to the highest wealth quintile.

Table 9.1 Antenatal care

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent birth and the percentage receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider for the most recent birth, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Gynae-cologist	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Community/ family health worker	Traditional birth attendant	No one	Missing	Total	Percentage receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider[1]	Number of women
Mother's age at birth										
<20	92.4	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	111
20-34	92.9	6.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	100.0	99.3	2,682
35-49	86.7	11.2	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	100.0	97.9	397
Birth order										
1	94.6	5.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	99.8	1,263
2-3	92.8	6.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	100.0	99.3	1,275
4-5	86.7	11.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.2	0.2	100.0	98.2	411
6+	85.3	10.8	0.5	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.5	100.0	96.6	241
Residence										
Urban	97.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	99.6	964
Rural	89.8	9.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	100.0	99.0	2,227
Region										
Malé	97.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	99.6	964
North	88.8	9.8	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.2	100.0	98.8	489
North Central	85.5	12.5	0.2	0.2	1.0	0.4	0.2	100.0	98.2	466
Central	92.4	6.3	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	100.0	98.8	293
South Central	81.5	17.5	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.0	100.0	99.1	390
South	98.3	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	99.8	589
Mother's education										
No formal education	84.9	11.8	0.4	0.1	1.2	0.7	0.9	100.0	97.2	396
Primary	89.4	9.3	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.3	100.0	98.7	1,143
Secondary	95.5	4.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	1,456
More than secondary	99.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	156
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	87.1	10.9	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.0	100.0	98.3	595
Second	88.6	9.9	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	100.0	98.6	677
Middle	91.5	7.7	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	100.0	99.3	677
Fourth	95.1	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	643
Highest	98.7	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	99.6	599
Total	92.1	6.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	100.0	99.2	3,190

Note: If more than one source of ANC was mentioned, only the provider with the highest qualifications is considered in this tabulation. Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

[1] Skilled provider includes gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, midwife, and community/family health worker

9.2 NUMBER OF ANC VISITS, TIMING OF FIRST VISIT, AND SOURCE WHERE ANC RECEIVED

Antenatal care is most beneficial in preventing adverse pregnancy outcomes when it is sought early in the pregnancy and is continued throughout the pregnancy. Health professionals recommend that the first antenatal visit should occur within the first three months of the pregnancy and further visits should continue on a monthly basis through week 28 of pregnancy and fortnightly up to week 36 (or until birth). If the first antenatal visit is made at the third month of pregnancy and as regularly as recommended, there will be a total of at least 12 to 13 antenatal visits.

The Master Plan 2006-2015 of the Ministry of Health in Maldives highlights reproductive and maternal health as one of its priority areas (Ministry of Health 2006). The plan aims to provide four ANC checkups by a trained health professional to all pregnant women by 2015 and to ensure that

more than 95 percent of pregnant women are attended to by a gynaecologist at least once during the third trimester by 2015. Table 9.2 presents information on the number of antenatal visits and the timing of the first antenatal visit for the most recent birth in the five years preceding the survey. Eighty-five percent of women who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey reported visiting antenatal clinics at least four times during pregnancy, and 2 percent reported two or three antenatal visits during their last pregnancy. Less than 1 percent did not receive any antenatal care.

Table 9.2 shows that the majority of women (90 percent) had their first antenatal visit in the first trimester of pregnancy; another 7 percent had their first ANC visit during the fourth and fifth months of pregnancy. The median number of months of pregnancy at the first ANC visit is 1.8 months. Women in urban areas do not make four or more ANC visits as often as women in rural areas (80 and 88 percent, respectively). Urban women started ANC earlier than rural women, however; the median number of months pregnant at first visit is 1.6 and 1.9 months, respectively.

Table 9.2 Number of antenatal care visits and timing of first visit

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey by number of antenatal care (ANC) visits for the most recent live birth, and by the timing of the first visit, and among women with ANC, median months pregnant at first visit, according to residence, Maldives 2009

Number and timing of ANC visits	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Number of ANC visits			
None	0.0	0.4	0.3
1	0.2	0.3	0.3
2-3	1.2	1.7	1.5
4+	79.6	87.5	85.1
Don't know/missing	19.0	10.2	12.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of months pregnant at time of first ANC visit			
No antenatal care	0.0	0.4	0.3
<4	95.8	87.9	90.3
4-5	2.9	9.3	7.3
6-7	0.9	1.6	1.4
8+	0.0	0.4	0.3
Don't know/missing	0.4	0.5	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	964	2,227	3,190
Median months pregnant at first visit (for those with ANC)	1.6	1.9	1.8
Number of women with ANC	960	2,215	3,175

9.3 COMPONENTS OF ANTENATAL CARE

The content of antenatal care is an essential component of the quality of ANC services received. Focused antenatal care hinges on the principle that every pregnancy is at risk of complications. Therefore, apart from receiving basic care, every pregnant woman should be monitored for complications.

Screening for complications in addition to providing information concerning pregnancy complications should be routinely included in all antenatal care visits. To assess ANC services, the 2009 MDHS respondents were asked a number of questions about the care they received during pregnancy for their most recent live birth.

Table 9.3 presents information on the content of ANC services, including the percentage of women who took iron tablets, who took intestinal parasite drugs, who were informed of the symptoms of pregnancy complications, and who received selected routine services during ANC visits for their most recent birth in the past five years.

Eighty-seven percent of women take iron supplements during pregnancy. A higher proportion of mothers age 20 or older take iron supplements compared with younger women. A lower proportion of women with four or more children take iron supplements (82 percent) than women having three or fewer children (87-90 percent). There are no variations by urban-rural residence or by region. The percentage of women who take iron supplements increases with level of education and wealth quintile.

Table 9.3 Components of antenatal care

Among women age 15-49 with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey, the percentage who took iron tablets and drugs for intestinal parasites during the pregnancy of the most recent birth, and among women receiving antenatal care (ANC) for the most recent live birth in the five years preceding the survey, the percentage receiving specific antenatal services, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Among women with a live birth in the past five years, the percentage who during the pregnancy of their last birth:			Among women who received antenatal care for their most recent birth in the past five years, the percentage with selected services:					
Background characteristic	Took iron tablets	Took intestinal parasite drugs	Number of women with a live birth in the past five years	Informed of signs of pregnancy compli-cations	Weighed	Blood pressure measured	Urine sample taken	Blood sample taken	Number of women with ANC for their most recent birth
Mother's age at birth									
<20	81.5	17.7	111	53.8	97.0	97.8	95.9	96.6	111
20-34	87.8	13.9	2,682	52.5	99.7	99.7	97.2	98.7	2,672
35-49	84.6	18.9	397	47.0	99.4	99.8	95.0	96.5	392
Birth order									
1	90.1	11.8	1,263	57.2	99.6	99.6	98.0	99.0	1,261
2-3	86.9	12.9	1,275	47.6	99.7	99.7	97.0	98.3	1,272
4-5	82.3	20.5	411	46.7	99.4	99.5	95.8	97.2	405
6+	81.6	28.2	241	55.5	99.2	99.8	92.3	97.2	237
Residence									
Urban	88.7	6.8	964	49.4	99.7	99.7	96.6	99.1	960
Rural	86.5	18.0	2,227	53.0	99.5	99.6	97.0	98.1	2,215
Region									
Malé	88.7	6.8	964	49.4	99.7	99.7	96.6	99.1	960
North	88.5	12.3	489	59.1	100.0	99.8	97.1	98.6	485
North Central	89.9	23.9	466	54.7	98.8	98.8	95.5	95.7	463
Central	88.1	21.2	293	45.1	99.7	99.7	96.5	97.2	292
South Central	84.0	18.4	390	48.8	99.8	99.8	96.8	98.3	388
South	83.1	16.3	589	53.2	99.4	99.8	98.6	99.8	588
Mother's education									
No formal education	80.0	23.7	396	42.1	99.1	99.2	93.6	96.7	390
Primary	83.5	19.7	1,143	51.6	99.7	99.6	96.9	98.0	1,134
Secondary	91.1	9.3	1,456	54.4	99.6	99.7	98.0	98.9	1,456
More than secondary	95.7	6.4	156	55.6	100.0	100.0	94.1	100.0	156
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	84.1	22.4	595	52.2	99.5	99.5	95.5	97.3	590
Second	86.1	20.2	677	56.0	99.3	99.5	97.3	98.3	671
Middle	87.9	15.0	677	50.8	99.7	99.7	98.1	98.3	674
Fourth	87.0	10.5	643	50.1	100.0	99.9	97.0	99.1	643
Highest	90.9	4.7	599	50.1	99.5	99.6	96.5	98.8	597
Total	87.2	14.6	3,190	51.9	99.6	99.6	96.9	98.4	3,175

Note: Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

As a component of antenatal care, the administration of intestinal antiparasitic drugs is less common than the administration of iron supplements because administration of intestinal anti-parasitic drugs is not part of the national ANC program in Maldives. Fifteen percent of women took drugs to combat intestinal parasites during their last pregnancy. There is variation in the use of de-worming mediations during pregnancy by background characteristics. Administration of intestinal antiparasitic drugs is lower among mothers who were age 20-34 at the birth of the child and among mothers of third- or lower-order births. Fewer women in urban areas (7 percent) took intestinal drugs than women in rural areas (18 percent). By region, women taking intestinal parasitic drugs ranged from 7 percent in Malé to 24 percent in the North Central region. The percentages were lowest for women with more than secondary education (6 percent) and women who are in the highest wealth quintile (5 percent).

More than half of the women (52 percent) who received antenatal care during their last pregnancy were informed of the symptoms of pregnancy complications. A smaller proportion of women in urban areas receive such information compared with women in rural areas (49 percent compared with 53 percent). The percentage of women informed of complications ranges from 45 percent in the Central region to 59 percent in the North region. Also, mothers with no formal education have the lowest rates of having been informed of signs of pregnancy complications.

Almost all women who received antenatal care were weighed (100 percent), had their blood pressure measured (100 percent), had urine and blood samples taken (97 percent), and had their blood tested (98 percent). Blood testing is of particular importance in the screening for maternal syphilis, HIV, anaemia, and Hepatitis B.

9.4 TETANUS TOXOID INJECTIONS

Neonatal tetanus is a leading cause of neonatal death in developing countries where a high proportion of deliveries take place at home or in places where hygienic conditions may be poor.

Tetanus toxoid (TT) injections are given to women during pregnancy to prevent infant deaths from neonatal tetanus. Neonatal tetanus can result if sterile procedures are not followed in cutting the umbilical cord after delivery. In the 2009 MDHS, information was collected on the number of TT doses the mother received during pregnancy for her most recent birth in the five years preceding the survey. If the mother did not receive at least two TT injections during the pregnancy, additional questions were asked about the number and timing of TT injections that she may have received prior to that pregnancy. If a pregnant woman has not received any previous TT injections, she needs two doses of TT during pregnancy to be fully protected. However, if a woman was immunised before she became pregnant, she may require one or no TT injections during her pregnancy, depending on the number of injections she has received in the past and the timing of the last injection. Five lifetime tetanus toxoid doses are required to provide protection from neonatal tetanus.

The Maldives' Health Master Plan 2006-2015 aims to improve TT vaccination coverage among mothers from a baseline of 65 percent in 2005 to 90 percent by 2015 (Ministry of Health 2006). Table 9.4 shows the percentage of women with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey who reported receiving TT injections during the pregnancy for the last live birth. Also shown is whether the last birth was fully protected against neonatal tetanus. An infant is considered fully protected if any of the following criteria are met: (1) the mother had two tetanus toxoid injections during the pregnancy; (2) the mother had two lifetime injections, with the last injection received within three years of the last birth; (3) the mother had three lifetime injections, with the last injection received within five years of the last birth; (4) the mother had four lifetime injections, with the last injection received within 10 years of the last birth; or (5) the mother had at least five lifetime injections.

Six in ten women received two or more TT injections during the pregnancy. Three in four women in urban areas received two doses of TT during pregnancy compared with 52 percent of those in rural areas. By region, the percentage of women who received two or more TT injections during the last pregnancy ranges from 32 percent in the Central region to 77 percent in Malé. More than four in five women with more than secondary education received two or more TT injections during the last pregnancy compared with 54 percent of women with no formal education. Women in the lowest wealth quintile (48 percent) have lower rates of TT injections compared with women in the highest wealth quintile (78 percent).

Overall, 82 percent of women's last births were protected against neonatal tetanus. Higher proportions of women age 20-34 were protected (83 percent) compared with older women and younger women (79 percent). The South region had the highest proportion of women whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus (87 percent), while the Central region had the lowest proportion (77 percent). Women with more than secondary education and those in the highest wealth quintile had the highest rates of protection against tetanus for their last birth compared with other women.

Table 9.4 Tetanus toxoid injections

Among mothers age 15-49 with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey, the percentage receiving two or more tetanus toxoid injections (TTI) during the pregnancy for the last live birth and the percentage whose last live birth was protected against neonatal tetanus, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage receiving two or more injections during last pregnancy	Percentage whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus[1]	Number of mothers
Mother's age at birth			
<20	59.1	78.8	111
20-34	59.5	82.7	2,682
35-49	59.0	79.0	397
Birth order			
1	61.7	83.6	1,263
2-3	59.5	82.6	1,275
4-5	53.1	79.4	411
6+	58.1	76.5	241
Residence			
Urban	76.6	84.4	964
Rural	52.0	81.1	2,227
Region			
Malé	76.6	84.4	964
North	49.6	79.0	489
North Central	50.0	79.8	466
Central	32.2	77.2	293
South Central	43.7	79.8	390
South	71.1	86.8	589
Mother's education			
No formal education	53.8	78.1	396
Primary	50.3	77.2	1,143
Secondary	65.9	85.8	1,456
More than secondary	84.4	94.3	156
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	48.4	77.7	595
Second	48.8	80.9	677
Middle	55.0	83.0	677
Fourth	68.3	82.4	643
Highest	77.9	86.6	599
Total	59.4	82.1	3,190

Note: Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

[1] Includes mothers with two injections during the pregnancy of her last birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the last live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the last birth), or four or more injections (the last within ten years of the last live birth), or five or more injections prior to the last birth.

9.5 PLACE OF DELIVERY

Increasing the percentage of births delivered in health facilities is an important factor in reducing deaths arising from the complications of pregnancy. The expectation is that if a complication arises during delivery, a skilled health worker can manage the complication or refer the mother to the next level of care. Table 9.5 shows the percent distribution of all live births in the five years preceding the survey by place of delivery and by the percentage of births delivered in a health facility.

The majority of births (95 percent) in the five years preceding the survey were delivered in a health facility; 85 percent were delivered in a public facility, and 10 percent were delivered in a private health facility. By age, women 20-34 most often deliver in a health facility (96 percent). Women having their first baby have higher rates of delivering in a health facility than other women; the proportion of births occurring in a health facility decreases as birth order increases. Women in urban areas are more likely than rural women to deliver in a health facility (98 percent compared with 94 percent). Across regions, Malé and the South Central region have the highest proportion of institutional deliveries (98 percent), while the North Central region has the lowest (90 percent).

Table 9.5 Place of delivery

Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by place of delivery and by percentage delivered in a health facility, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Health facility		Home	Other	Missing	Total	Percentage delivered in a health facility	Number of births
	Public sector	Private sector						
Mother's age at birth								
<20	84.9	7.3	4.1	3.1	0.5	100.0	92.3	165
20-34	85.1	10.8	2.7	1.1	0.2	100.0	95.9	3,148
35-49	84.0	6.8	5.6	3.0	0.5	100.0	90.8	423
Birth order								
1	84.7	12.8	0.8	1.5	0.2	100.0	97.5	1,552
2-3	84.2	10.7	3.2	1.5	0.4	100.0	94.9	1,459
4-5	87.0	3.8	8.0	1.0	0.2	100.0	90.8	460
6+	87.3	2.6	7.6	2.0	0.5	100.0	89.9	265
Residence								
Urban	74.5	23.4	0.2	1.5	0.4	100.0	97.9	1,123
Rural	89.5	4.5	4.3	1.4	0.3	100.0	94.0	2,613
Region								
Malé	74.5	23.4	0.2	1.5	0.4	100.0	97.9	1,123
North	93.0	1.3	4.3	1.3	0.2	100.0	94.3	578
North Central	86.2	4.0	9.0	0.5	0.3	100.0	90.3	539
Central	83.6	8.2	7.4	0.7	0.1	100.0	91.8	343
South Central	93.8	4.0	1.2	0.8	0.2	100.0	97.8	453
South	89.3	6.0	1.3	3.0	0.5	100.0	95.2	700
Mother's education								
No formal education	83.5	3.3	10.8	1.6	0.8	100.0	86.8	449
Primary	89.6	4.6	4.4	1.0	0.5	100.0	94.2	1,368
Secondary	83.3	14.7	0.4	1.5	0.0	100.0	98.1	1,703
More than secondary	67.0	28.2	0.6	4.1	0.0	100.0	95.2	173
Antenatal care visits[1]								
None	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8
1-3	77.1	5.2	17.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	82.3	57
4+	86.1	10.3	2.6	1.0	0.0	100.0	96.4	2,715
Don't know/missing	81.8	13.3	1.5	1.9	1.5	100.0	95.1	410
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	88.0	2.4	7.8	1.8	0.0	100.0	90.5	709
Second	90.5	3.0	4.8	1.2	0.4	100.0	93.6	802
Middle	91.2	5.1	2.1	0.9	0.7	100.0	96.3	783
Fourth	84.3	14.0	0.9	0.9	0.0	100.0	98.2	756
Highest	69.1	28.1	0.0	2.5	0.3	100.0	97.2	686
Total	85.0	10.2	3.1	1.5	0.3	100.0	95.1	3,736

Note: Total includes 43 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
[1] Includes only the most recent birth in the five years preceding the survey

Delivery in a health facility increases with the woman's education. For example, 87 percent of women with no formal education delivered in a health facility compared with 95 percent of women with more than secondary education. The proportion of births occurring in a health facility increases with increasing wealth status, from 91 percent of births in the lowest quintile to 97 percent among those in the highest quintile. Poorer women are more likely than richer women to deliver in a public facility, while richer women tend to give birth in a private facility. For example, 88 percent of births to mothers in the lowest wealth quintile occur in a public health facility compared with 69 percent of births to women in the highest wealth quintile.

9.6 ASSISTANCE DURING DELIVERY

In addition to place of birth, assistance during childbirth is an important variable influencing the birth outcome and the health of the mother and infant. The skills and performance of the person providing assistance during delivery determine whether complications are managed and hygienic practices are observed. Table 9.6 shows the percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by person providing assistance at delivery and by the percentage of births attended by a skilled health worker. If the respondent mentioned more than one person attending during delivery, only the most qualified person is presented in the table. Table 9.6 also presents data on the prevalence of births by caesarean section (C-section).

According to Table 9.6, 95 percent of births in the five years preceding the survey were assisted by a skilled health worker (gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, midwife, or community/family health worker); 71 percent by a gynaecologist; 9 percent by a doctor other than a gynaecologist, and 14 percent by a nurse or midwife. Very few births (1 percent) were assisted at delivery by a community/family health worker. In the absence of a skilled health worker, a traditional birth attendant was the next most common person assisting at a delivery (4 percent).

First births have higher rates of assistance from a skilled health professional (99 percent) than subsequent births. Urban women receive assistance from a trained health professional during childbirth more often than rural women (99 percent and 93 percent, respectively). Six percent of rural women receive assistance during birth from a traditional birth attendant. In all regions, the proportion of births assisted by a trained health professional ranges from 89 percent in North Central and Central regions to 99 percent in Malé. As expected, a mother's education and wealth status have a positive relationship with the delivery of care. For example, educated women have higher rates of delivery assistance from a health professional than women with no formal education (92-99 percent compared with 85 percent).

Delivery assistance by gynaecologists varies according to background characteristics of the mother. The percentage of births delivered by a gynaecologist decreases with age of the mother at birth and increases with the mother's level of education and wealth status. The percentage of births delivered by a gynaecologist decreases with increasing birth order and is higher in urban areas than in rural areas.

Table 9.6 shows that 32 percent of births in the five years preceding the survey were delivered by C-section. Caesarean births are slightly more common among first births (39 percent) and births to women in urban areas (38 percent). Rates of C-section deliveries increase with the mother's education and wealth status. The percentage of women with no formal education who give birth by C-section is 22 percent, which compares with 27-39 percent or more among educated women. The percentage who deliver by C-section increases from 25 percent among women in the lowest wealth quintile to 41 percent among women in the highest wealth quintile.

Table 9.6 Assistance during delivery

Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by person providing assistance during delivery, percentage of births assisted by a skilled provider, and percentage delivered by caesarean-section, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Person providing assistance during delivery								Percentage delivered by a skilled provider[1]	Percentage delivered by C-section	Number of births
	Gynae-cologist	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Community/ family health worker	Traditional birth attendant	Relative/ other	Don't know/ missing	Total			
Mother's age at birth											
<20	74.6	10.4	7.4	0.0	7.0	0.0	0.5	100.0	92.5	30.1	165
20-34	71.6	8.9	14.8	0.6	3.7	0.2	0.3	100.0	95.3	32.5	3,148
35-49	67.3	10.8	14.3	0.5	6.4	0.0	0.6	100.0	92.5	32.5	423
Birth order											
1	79.7	6.0	12.8	0.2	1.1	0.0	0.2	100.0	98.5	39.2	1,552
2-3	67.7	10.2	15.6	0.9	4.9	0.3	0.4	100.0	93.4	30.3	1,459
4-5	58.5	14.6	16.6	0.8	9.2	0.0	0.4	100.0	89.7	20.9	460
6+	63.4	12.8	13.7	0.6	9.0	0.0	0.5	100.0	89.9	23.4	265
Place of delivery											
Health facility	73.8	9.6	15.0	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.0	100.0	98.3	34.0	3,555
Elsewhere	23.3	1.7	2.6	6.8	65.0	0.5	0.2	100.0	27.6	0.0	170
Residence											
Urban	75.3	5.0	18.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0	99.0	38.3	1,123
Rural	69.5	11.0	12.6	0.7	5.8	0.1	0.3	100.0	93.0	29.8	2,613
Region											
Malé	75.3	5.0	18.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0	99.0	38.3	1,123
North	69.2	10.9	10.9	1.4	7.4	0.0	0.2	100.0	91.1	20.0	578
North Central	62.1	12.1	14.8	0.8	9.7	0.3	0.3	100.0	88.9	28.3	539
Central	65.2	9.3	15.0	0.6	9.4	0.2	0.3	100.0	89.5	32.9	343
South Central	65.1	22.2	9.3	1.0	2.0	0.1	0.3	100.0	96.6	32.7	453
South	80.4	3.7	13.2	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.5	100.0	97.3	35.8	700
Mother's education											
No formal education	63.3	11.7	10.2	0.9	12.7	0.3	0.9	100.0	85.2	21.7	449
Primary	64.0	13.1	14.9	1.1	6.2	0.1	0.5	100.0	92.1	27.1	1,368
Secondary	77.8	6.5	14.8	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	100.0	99.0	38.5	1,703
More than secondary	85.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	99.4	39.3	173
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	63.0	13.2	12.4	1.3	9.9	0.1	0.0	100.0	88.6	25.4	709
Second	66.3	13.0	13.3	0.8	5.9	0.2	0.5	100.0	92.6	26.6	802
Middle	74.3	8.8	12.3	0.2	3.6	0.1	0.7	100.0	95.4	32.3	783
Fourth	75.4	5.1	18.0	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.0	100.0	98.4	37.8	756
Highest	77.5	5.5	16.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	100.0	99.3	40.6	686
Total	71.2	9.2	14.4	0.6	4.2	0.1	0.3	100.0	94.8	32.4	3,736

Note: If the respondent mentioned more than one person attending during delivery, only the most qualified person is considered in this tabulation. Total includes 11 cases for which information on mother's place of delivery and 43 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

[1] Skilled provider includes gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, midwife and community/family health worker

Table 9.7 shows the percent distribution of women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey, according to assistance at delivery and by place of delivery. Eight in ten deliveries at home were assisted by traditional birth attendants, and 9 percent were assisted by community/family health workers. Public sector health facilities in Maldives include Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH), Regional Hospital, Atoll Hospital, Health Centre, and Health Post. In IGMH, Regional Hospital, and Atoll Hospital, high proportions of deliveries are assisted by gynaecologists (69 percent, 82 percent, and 85 percent, respectively). A nurse or midwife plays an important role at IGMH (25 percent) and at Health Centre (22 percent). At Health Centre, doctors provide assistance during delivery half of the time. Almost all deliveries (97 percent) in the private sector are assisted by a gynaecologist.

Table 9.7 Assistance at delivery by place of delivery

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 giving birth in the 5 years preceding the survey according to assistance at delivery by place of delivery, Maldives 2009

	Person providing assistance during delivery								
Place of delivery	Gynaecologist	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Other health worker	Traditional birth attendant	Relative/ other	Don't know/ missing	Total	Number
Home	2.1	2.0	3.8	8.5	83.0	0.7	0.0	100.0	116
Public sector	71.0	10.5	16.7	0.3	1.4	0.1	0.0	100.0	3,175
IGMH	68.8	6.2	24.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	1,316
Regional hospital	81.7	6.8	11.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	912
Atoll hospital	85.4	7.2	7.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	100.0	659
Government health centre	10.9	49.6	21.5	3.1	14.3	0.6	0.0	100.0	259
Government health post/ other public	(43.0)	(39.4)	(5.4)	(2.5)	(9.8)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	30
Private medical sector	97.0	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	380
Other	68.9	1.0	0.0	3.1	26.4	0.0	0.6	100.0	54
Total	71.2	9.2	14.4	0.6	4.2	0.1	0.3	100.0	3,736

Note: Total includes 11 cases for which information on mother's place of delivery is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.
[1] Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital

9.7 POSTNATAL CARE

Postnatal care (PNC) is important for the welfare of the mother and the child. It provides an opportunity to treat complications arising from the delivery, and it provides the mother with important information on how to care for herself and her infant. The postnatal period is defined as the time between delivery of the placenta and 42 days (6 weeks) following delivery. The timing of postnatal care is important because the first two days after delivery are critical; most maternal and neonatal deaths occur during this period. Table 9.8 shows the timing of the first postnatal checkup for women who had a birth in the past five years.

Table 9.8 shows that only 6 percent of women did not receive any postnatal care; however, 24 percent responded that they did not know the timing or there was information missing, 67 percent received a postnatal checkup within two days of delivery, and 3 percent of women had a checkup 3 to 41 days after delivery. Mother's age relates to the likelihood of receiving postnatal care within two days of delivery; younger women have higher rates of checkup after delivery than older women.

There are only slight differences in postnatal care coverage and timing between women in rural and urban areas. By region, the highest percentage of women who receive postnatal care within the first two days after delivery is found in the Central and the South regions (74 percent and 73 percent, respectively). The lowest percentage of women receiving postnatal care services is in the South Central and North regions (63 percent and 62 percent, respectively). As expected, postnatal coverage increases with women's level of education and wealth status. For example, 14 percent of mothers with no formal education and 11 percent of mothers in the lowest wealth quintile had no postnatal care.

Table 9.8 Timing of first postnatal checkup

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 with a birth in the five years preceding the survey by timing of first postnatal checkup (for the last live birth), according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Timing of first postnatal checkup (time since delivery)							
	Less than 4 hours	4-23 hours	2 days	3-41 days	Don't know/ missing	No postnatal checkup[1]	Total	Number of women
Mother's age at birth								
<20	52.1	16.2	6.0	1.7	20.0	3.9	100.0	111
20-34	46.3	12.1	9.2	2.5	24.6	5.2	100.0	2,682
35-49	44.0	9.4	8.3	3.3	23.3	11.7	100.0	397
Birth order								
1	45.4	14.9	10.0	2.9	23.2	3.6	100.0	1,263
2-3	47.0	11.1	8.5	2.2	25.6	5.6	100.0	1,275
4-5	46.7	7.0	8.0	3.9	23.0	11.4	100.0	411
6+	45.3	9.0	8.4	1.2	25.2	11.0	100.0	241
Residence								
Urban	45.7	11.0	9.7	2.8	28.1	2.8	100.0	964
Rural	46.5	12.4	8.7	2.5	22.6	7.3	100.0	2,227
Region								
Malé	45.7	11.0	9.7	2.8	28.1	2.8	100.0	964
North	37.8	16.8	7.6	2.9	26.7	8.3	100.0	489
North Central	50.9	7.6	7.2	2.6	23.8	8.0	100.0	466
Central	50.6	10.6	12.8	1.7	15.3	9.0	100.0	293
South Central	41.0	13.1	8.9	3.9	28.7	4.3	100.0	390
South	51.6	12.8	8.8	1.7	17.9	7.2	100.0	589
Education								
No formal education	39.8	8.1	10.2	1.4	26.7	13.7	100.0	396
Primary	46.3	9.7	8.9	3.0	24.2	7.9	100.0	1,143
Secondary	47.5	14.0	8.3	2.4	25.2	2.7	100.0	1,456
More than secondary	48.3	18.5	13.5	3.4	12.4	4.0	100.0	156
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	42.4	10.5	8.1	2.9	25.0	11.1	100.0	595
Second	46.8	13.3	9.7	2.4	20.4	7.5	100.0	677
Middle	46.7	14.1	8.2	2.0	23.3	5.5	100.0	677
Fourth	47.8	10.0	9.5	2.4	27.3	3.0	100.0	643
Highest	47.0	11.4	9.6	3.4	25.7	2.9	100.0	599
Total	46.2	11.9	9.0	2.6	24.3	6.0	100.0	3,190

Note: Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] Includes women who received a checkup after 41 days

Table 9.9 presents information on the type of health provider performing the first postnatal checkup. This information is important because the skills of a provider determine the ability to diagnose problems and to recommend appropriate treatment or referral. The majority of women (92 percent) received a postnatal checkup from a gynaecologist, doctor, nurse/midwife, or community/ family health worker. The role of community/family health worker and traditional birth attendant in providing postnatal care is very limited (1 percent).

Mothers who are less than age 20 and mothers who gave birth to their first child have the highest rates of receiving postnatal care from a gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, or midwife (95 percent, each). Health professionals provide postnatal care more often to mothers in urban than rural areas (96 percent versus 90 percent). Women who live in Malé (96 percent) have the highest rate of care from a gynaecologist, doctor, nurse, or midwife. Mothers with no formal education (81 percent) and women in the lowest wealth quintile (85 percent) receive the lowest rates of postnatal care from a trained health professional compared with other women.

Table 9.9 Provider of first postnatal checkup

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 with a birth in the five years preceding the survey by provider of mother's first postnatal checkup (for the last live birth), according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Type of health provider of mother's first postnatal checkup									
	Gynae-cologist	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Community/ family health worker	Traditional birth attendant	Other	Don't know/ missing	No postnatal checkup[1]	Total	Number of women
Mother's age at birth										
<20	64.8	15.3	14.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	3.9	100.0	111
20-34	67.0	16.1	9.7	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.4	5.2	100.0	2,682
35-49	57.8	19.8	6.2	1.1	1.9	1.3	0.3	11.7	100.0	397
Birth order										
1	70.7	14.3	10.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	3.6	100.0	1,263
2-3	66.1	16.5	9.1	0.6	1.1	0.3	0.7	5.6	100.0	1,275
4-5	53.4	22.2	9.6	0.8	1.6	0.4	0.5	11.4	100.0	411
6+	59.5	18.5	6.7	1.3	2.5	0.6	0.0	11.0	100.0	241
Residence										
Urban	68.9	15.0	12.2	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.8	100.0	964
Rural	64.5	17.2	8.3	0.7	1.3	0.2	0.5	7.3	100.0	2,227
Region										
Malé	68.9	15.0	12.2	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.8	100.0	964
North	70.3	12.2	6.9	0.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	8.3	100.0	489
North Central	46.1	31.4	11.1	1.0	1.4	0.3	0.7	8.0	100.0	466
Central	57.0	23.4	7.7	0.3	1.5	0.5	0.6	9.0	100.0	293
South Central	60.3	23.8	9.8	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.4	4.3	100.0	390
South	80.6	2.6	6.5	0.7	1.2	0.3	0.9	7.2	100.0	589
Education										
No formal education	57.2	15.8	7.9	1.4	2.8	0.8	0.4	13.7	100.0	396
Primary	60.8	20.8	7.9	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.3	7.9	100.0	1,143
Secondary	70.1	14.4	11.4	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	2.7	100.0	1,456
More than secondary	81.3	8.4	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	100.0	156
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	60.2	17.4	7.4	1.0	2.0	0.4	0.5	11.1	100.0	595
Second	61.8	18.3	9.1	0.8	1.5	0.2	0.7	7.5	100.0	677
Middle	69.4	15.6	7.6	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.4	5.5	100.0	677
Fourth	69.1	16.5	10.5	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.2	3.0	100.0	643
Highest	68.4	14.6	12.9	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	2.9	100.0	599
Total	65.8	16.5	9.5	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.4	6.0	100.0	3,190

Note: Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] Includes women who received a checkup after 41 days

9.8 PROBLEMS IN ACCESSING HEALTH CARE

Many factors can prevent women from getting medical advice or treatment for themselves when they are sick. Information on such factors is particularly important in understanding and addressing the barriers some women face in seeking care during pregnancy and at the time of delivery. In the 2009 MDHS, women were asked about various problems they face in accessing health care. The women were asked whether each of the following factors would be a big problem in seeking medical care: getting permission to go for treatment, getting money for treatment, distance to health facility, taking transport, not wanting to go alone, concern there may not be a female provider or any health provider, and concern that drugs may not be available. Table 9.10 shows that 83 percent of women reported having one or more problems in accessing health care for themselves.

The main problem in accessing health care was the concern that there would be no drugs available (72 percent). Two-thirds of women were concerned that there would be no provider, and 57 of women were concerned that there would be no female provider available at the health facility. More than a quarter of women reported that distance to the health facility and having to take transport was a problem (26 percent and 28 percent, respectively).

Older women, women with more children, women who are no longer married, those who are employed but not for cash, those who live in rural areas, those who live in the North Central region, women with no formal education, and women from the poorest households report higher rates of problems in accessing health care than other women. Women who are not currently married mention problems related to lack of money for treatment more often than women who are married. As expected, rural women cite access and availability of health services more often than others as a problem (distance to the health facility, availability of female provider, availability of provider, and lack of drugs).

Table 9.10 Problems in accessing health care

Percentage of women age 15-49 who reported that they have serious problems in accessing health care for themselves when they are sick, by type of problem, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Problems in accessing health care									
Background characteristic	Getting permission to go for treatment	Getting money for treatment	Distance to health facility	Having to take transport	Not wanting to go alone	Concern no female provider available	Concern no provider available	Concern no drugs available	At least one problem accessing health care	Number of women
Age										
15-19	1.6	10.5	18.5	20.2	30.7	57.1	64.2	71.7	80.7	119
20-34	1.6	7.4	22.9	24.0	22.9	54.5	64.6	70.1	82.1	4,093
35-49	3.2	16.9	30.6	34.5	24.6	60.5	68.9	75.2	84.3	2,918
Number of living children										
0	2.3	5.9	21.7	20.5	27.2	53.2	63.7	71.6	82.2	1,040
1-2	1.4	8.1	22.7	24.8	21.0	53.1	62.0	67.0	79.9	3,183
3-4	2.8	13.0	27.4	31.3	22.9	58.8	69.4	75.7	84.5	1,636
5+	3.6	21.9	36.1	39.2	28.7	67.3	75.6	81.1	89.2	1,272
Marital status										
Married	1.9	9.8	25.5	27.1	23.1	56.7	66.6	72.4	82.5	6,500
Divorced/separated/widowed	5.6	27.8	31.3	39.8	29.6	60.4	64.4	69.6	88.1	631
Employed past 12 months										
Not employed	2.3	11.5	25.0	26.6	23.2	56.4	64.9	71.5	82.3	3,753
Employed for cash	2.3	11.3	26.8	30.0	24.0	57.2	67.7	72.8	83.4	3,279
Employed not for cash	1.0	11.2	33.0	28.7	35.9	76.0	76.2	81.9	93.1	85
Residence										
Urban	1.3	10.2	14.9	24.3	18.1	35.0	44.7	51.2	68.4	2,368
Rural	2.7	12.0	31.5	30.2	26.5	67.9	77.2	82.6	90.2	4,763
Region										
Malé	1.3	10.2	14.9	24.3	18.1	35.0	44.7	51.2	68.4	2,368
North	2.0	10.1	28.1	25.9	23.4	66.4	72.3	80.3	85.2	1,067
North Central	2.8	10.7	31.4	31.6	27.9	69.0	89.0	92.2	96.8	1,038
Central	3.2	12.4	23.0	22.8	24.9	73.1	82.7	86.9	93.3	615
South Central	3.2	11.1	46.6	44.4	33.7	73.7	74.0	84.9	92.7	853
South	2.6	15.2	28.3	26.4	23.8	61.5	70.6	72.5	85.6	1,190
Education										
No formal education	3.8	19.0	33.9	37.7	28.2	69.1	76.7	82.3	89.6	1,668
Primary	2.3	12.9	29.5	30.2	24.4	60.6	69.1	75.5	85.8	2,464
Secondary	1.2	6.1	19.8	21.1	21.5	49.1	60.4	65.5	78.5	2,584
More than secondary	2.3	5.0	10.6	21.6	14.2	34.2	45.1	51.0	64.7	333
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	3.2	16.8	39.1	37.4	31.6	75.8	81.4	88.3	92.8	1,300
Second	2.7	11.7	32.6	31.5	25.9	67.8	77.0	81.9	90.5	1,396
Middle	2.5	11.1	27.9	26.8	24.4	64.4	75.2	81.1	89.7	1,488
Fourth	1.2	10.0	17.4	23.4	20.0	46.0	56.0	61.5	77.1	1,447
Highest	1.8	7.9	14.9	23.4	17.8	33.9	44.8	50.7	66.4	1,499
Total	2.3	11.4	26.0	28.2	23.7	57.0	66.4	72.2	83.0	7,131

Note: Total includes 14 cases for which information on woman's employment status and 81 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.

CHILD HEALTH 10

This chapter presents information and findings in several areas of importance to child survival: birth weight and size, vaccination coverage, and treatment practices for the two most common childhood diseases: fever and diarrhoea.

Many early childhood deaths can be prevented by immunising children against preventable diseases and by ensuring that children receive prompt and appropriate treatment when they become ill. Results are presented on the prevalence of fever and treatment of fever. The prevalence of and treatment of diarrhoeal diseases with oral rehydration therapy (including increased fluids) is useful in assessing programmes that recommend such treatment. Information is also presented on the manner of disposal of children's faecal matter because appropriate sanitary practices help prevent and reduce the severity of diarrhoeal disease.

10.1 CHILD'S SIZE AT BIRTH

Birth weight is an important indicator for assessing child health in terms of early exposure to childhood morbidity and the risks of mortality. Children whose birth weight is less than 2.5 kilograms, or children reported to be 'very small' or 'smaller than average,' are considered to have a higher than average risk of early childhood death. In the 2009 MDHS, for births in the five years preceding the survey, birth weight was recorded in the Women's Questionnaire based on either a written record or the mother's report. The mother's estimate of the infant's size at birth was also obtained because birth weight may not be known for many infants. Although the mother's estimate is subjective, it can be a useful proxy for the child's weight.

Table 10.1 presents information on child's weight and size at birth. Table 10.1 shows that availability of birth weight information was almost universal (98 percent), and 11 percent of these infants had low birth weight (less than 2.5 kg). There are small variations in prevalence of low birth weight across groups of children by mother's age at birth, birth order, and mother's smoking status. Those who live in rural areas have lower birth weights. Among the regions, Malé has the lowest proportion of low birth weight infants (8 percent) and the South and South Central regions have the highest (13 percent, each). There is no systematic pattern in the relationship between low birth weight and mother's education and household wealth quintile.

Table 10.1 also includes information on the mother's assessment of the baby's size at birth. In the absence of birth weight a mother's subjective assessment of the size of the baby at birth may be useful. However, this assessment may vary among respondents because it is based on the mother's own perception of what is small, average, or large for a baby and not on a uniform definition. Eighty-seven percent of births were considered by their mothers to be of average or larger than average size. Nine percent were perceived as smaller than average, and 4 percent were considered very small. This indicator is important mostly in countries where it is not common for infants to be weighed at birth; however, this is not the case in Maldives.

Table 10.1 Child's weight and size at birth

Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey with reported birth weight by birth weight; percentage of all births with a reported birth weight; percent distribution of all live births in the five years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Distribution of births with reported birth weight[1]				Percentage of all births with a reported birth weight[1]	Distribution of births by mother's estimate of size of child at birth					
	Less than 2.5 kg	2.5 kg or more	Total	Number of births		Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know/ missing	Total	Number of births
Mother's age at birth											
<20	12.8	87.2	100.0	156	94.6	9.1	11.1	77.8	2.0	100.0	165
20-34	10.2	89.8	100.0	3,111	98.8	3.7	8.7	87.2	0.4	100.0	3,148
35-49	12.2	87.8	100.0	411	97.2	4.9	9.4	85.0	0.8	100.0	423
Birth order											
1	11.3	88.7	100.0	1,534	98.8	4.6	9.4	85.6	0.4	100.0	1,552
2-3	9.1	90.9	100.0	1,443	98.9	3.3	7.9	88.3	0.5	100.0	1,459
4-5	11.4	88.6	100.0	449	97.7	4.6	8.9	85.9	0.6	100.0	460
6+	12.6	87.4	100.0	253	95.3	4.6	10.6	83.6	1.2	100.0	265
Mother's smoking status											
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	8.7	91.3	100.0	165	95.3	5.0	6.8	87.7	0.5	100.0	173
Does not smoke	10.6	89.4	100.0	3,508	98.6	4.0	9.0	86.5	0.5	100.0	3,557
Residence											
Urban	7.9	92.1	100.0	1,109	98.8	3.1	6.3	90.0	0.6	100.0	1,123
Rural	11.7	88.3	100.0	2,569	98.3	4.5	9.9	85.1	0.5	100.0	2,613
Region											
Malé	7.9	92.1	100.0	1,109	98.8	3.1	6.3	90.0	0.6	100.0	1,123
North	10.0	90.0	100.0	577	99.8	3.5	18.1	78.3	0.2	100.0	578
North Central	10.5	89.5	100.0	531	98.5	4.8	6.1	88.2	0.9	100.0	539
Central	12.2	87.8	100.0	342	99.6	6.7	11.6	81.2	0.5	100.0	343
South Central	12.7	87.3	100.0	444	98.0	5.8	6.8	86.5	0.9	100.0	453
South	13.1	86.9	100.0	675	96.4	3.1	7.4	89.4	0.1	100.0	700
Mother's education											
No formal education	13.1	86.9	100.0	435	96.9	6.8	11.8	80.3	1.2	100.0	449
Primary	10.3	89.7	100.0	1,341	98.0	4.3	8.6	86.3	0.8	100.0	1,368
Secondary	10.0	90.0	100.0	1,687	99.0	3.5	8.6	87.7	0.2	100.0	1,703
More than secondary	11.7	88.3	100.0	173	100.0	1.2	6.6	92.2	0.0	100.0	173
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	12.4	87.6	100.0	703	99.2	4.6	12.5	82.6	0.3	100.0	709
Second	11.9	88.1	100.0	780	97.2	4.5	8.5	86.2	0.8	100.0	802
Middle	12.6	87.4	100.0	770	98.3	3.7	10.0	85.6	0.6	100.0	783
Fourth	6.9	93.1	100.0	746	98.7	3.5	6.1	90.2	0.1	100.0	756
Highest	8.7	91.3	100.0	679	99.0	4.1	7.2	88.1	0.7	100.0	686
Total	10.5	89.5	100.0	3,678	98.4	4.1	8.9	86.6	0.5	100.0	3,736

Note: Totals include cases for which information on mother's smoking status and mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] Based on either a written record or the mother's recall

10.2 VACCINATION COVERAGE

According to the World Health Organisation, a child is considered fully vaccinated if he or she has received a BCG vaccination against tuberculosis; three doses of DPT vaccine to prevent diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DPT); at least three doses of polio vaccine; and one dose of measles vaccine. These vaccinations should be received during the first year of life. Maldives achieved universal immunization status in 1989, and to maintain these high rates, the Ministry of Education has made immunization an essential requirement for entry into government schools (Ministry of Health, 2004). Prevention against measles and hepatitis B were later added to the immunisation programme, and these infections are expected to have relatively lower coverage.

The 2009 MDHS collected information on coverage for these vaccinations among all children born in the five years preceding the survey. In the 2009 MDHS, information on vaccination coverage was obtained in two ways—from health cards and from mothers' verbal reports. All mothers were asked to show the interviewer the health cards in which immunisation dates are recorded for all children born since January 2003. If a card was available, the interviewer recorded onto the questionnaire the dates of each vaccination received by the child. If a child never received a health card, or the mother was unable to show the card to the interviewer, or a particular vaccination was not recorded on the health card, the vaccination information for the child was based on the mother's report.

Questions were asked for each vaccine type. Mothers were asked to recall whether the child had received BCG, polio, DPT, measles, and hepatitis B vaccinations. If the mother indicated that the child had received the polio, DPT, or hepatitis B vaccines, she was asked about the number of doses that the child received. The mother was then asked whether the child had received other vaccinations that were not recorded on the card, and if she responded in the affirmative, they too were noted on the questionnaire. The results presented here are based on both health card information and, for children without a card, information provided by the mother.

Table 10.2 shows vaccination coverage by source of information for children age 12-23 months, the age by which they should have received all vaccinations. The last row of Table 10.2 shows that 89 percent of children age 12-23 months were fully vaccinated by 12 months of age. Nearly all children had received the BCG vaccination (99 percent), and 91 percent had been vaccinated against measles. Because DPT and polio vaccines are often administered at the same time, their coverage rates are similar. Ninety-five percent or more of children received all doses of DPT and polio vaccine by age 12 months, and 92 percent of the children received all doses of hepatitis B vaccine.

Table 10.2 Vaccinations by source of information

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey, by source of information (vaccination card or mother's report), and percentage vaccinated by 12 months of age, Maldives 2009

Source of information	BCG	DPT			Polio				Measles	All basic vaccinations[2]	No vaccinations	Hepatitis			Number of children
		1	2	3	0[1]	1	2	3				B1	B2	B3	
Vaccinated at any time before survey															
Vaccination card	89.0	89.0	89.0	88.6	89.0	89.0	89.0	88.7	85.9	85.3	0.0	89.0	89.0	88.1	732
Mother's report	10.3	9.8	9.5	9.2	10.1	9.7	9.6	8.3	8.7	7.6	0.6	10.0	8.9	8.9	90
Either source	99.4	98.8	98.5	97.9	99.1	98.7	98.6	97.0	94.5	92.9	0.6	99.0	97.9	96.9	822
Vaccinated by 12 months of age[3]	99.2	98.7	98.3	96.2	99.0	98.6	98.4	95.4	91.3	88.9	-	98.7	97.5	91.9	822

[1] Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth.
[2] BCG, measles and three doses each of DPT and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)
[3] For children whose information was based on the mother's report, the proportion of vaccinations given during the first year of life was assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

Table 10.3 presents information on vaccine coverage among children age 12-23 months from the vaccination cards and mothers' reports. This information may give some indication of the success of the immunization program in reaching out to all population subgroups. Vaccination cards were seen for 89 percent of children. There are no differences in vaccination coverage between male and female children. The percentage of children fully vaccinated is lowest in the Central region (88 percent) and highest in the North Central region (96 percent). There is no clear pattern between the mother's education or wealth status and the children's vaccination coverage.

Table 10.3 Vaccinations by background characteristics

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	BCG	DPT 1	DPT 2	DPT 3	Polio 0[1]	Polio 1	Polio 2	Polio 3	Measles	All basic vaccinations[2]	No vaccinations	Percentage with a vaccination card seen	Number of children
Sex													
Male	99.9	98.9	98.4	97.9	99.9	98.9	98.9	97.0	94.9	93.4	0.1	88.4	413
Female	98.8	98.7	98.7	97.9	98.4	98.5	98.4	97.1	94.2	92.3	1.2	89.7	409
Birth order													
1	99.4	98.8	98.1	97.4	99.0	98.7	98.7	96.7	97.3	94.3	0.6	92.3	367
2-3	99.1	98.4	98.4	97.8	99.0	98.2	98.0	96.7	91.4	90.8	0.9	84.5	309
4-5	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.8	96.1	95.0	0.0	93.8	95
6+	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.1	98.1	91.1	91.1	0.9	84.2	51
Residence													
Urban	100.0	99.2	99.2	98.2	100.0	99.2	99.2	95.7	93.5	91.4	0.0	85.2	243
Rural	99.1	98.7	98.3	97.7	98.8	98.5	98.4	97.6	95.0	93.5	0.9	90.6	579
Region													
Malé	100.0	99.2	99.2	98.2	100.0	99.2	99.2	95.7	93.5	91.4	0.0	85.2	243
North	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.4	98.4	99.0	99.0	99.0	94.0	94.0	1.0	97.8	145
North Central	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.3	99.3	99.3	96.2	95.5	0.0	96.1	105
Central	98.6	97.5	96.8	94.3	97.9	97.5	96.9	92.3	92.5	87.8	1.4	88.2	82
South Central	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.7	99.0	99.0	98.1	96.1	95.2	1.0	90.0	104
South	98.8	97.7	96.5	96.5	98.8	97.5	97.5	97.5	95.7	93.4	1.2	81.0	142
Mother's education													
No education	98.4	98.4	98.4	97.8	98.4	98.4	98.4	94.1	89.5	89.0	1.6	85.9	94
Primary	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.2	99.7	99.7	99.7	98.8	95.7	94.6	0.0	90.5	246
Secondary	99.1	98.4	97.8	97.2	98.9	98.0	97.9	97.5	94.8	93.4	0.9	89.5	424
More than secondary	(100.0)	(100.0)	100.0)	100.0)	(100.0)	100.0)	100.0)	(88.9)	(94.5)	(88.9)	0.0	86.4	49
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	99.3	99.0	98.6	97.7	99.3	99.0	99.0	97.7	96.0	94.7	0.7	91.5	154
Second	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.3	99.1	99.6	99.6	98.6	97.4	96.4	0.4	93.4	173
Middle	99.7	98.6	97.6	96.9	99.2	98.5	98.2	97.5	93.5	91.0	0.3	89.3	170
Fourth	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	97.6	97.6	94.1	92.1	89.9	1.9	85.8	164
Highest	100.0	98.7	98.7	97.3	100.0	98.7	98.7	97.0	93.7	92.2	0.0	84.9	161
Total	99.4	98.8	98.5	97.9	99.1	98.7	98.6	97.0	94.5	92.9	0.6	89.0	822

Note: Total includes 12 children with information missing on mother's education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.
[1] Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth.
[2] BCG, measles, and three doses each of DPT and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

10.3 TRENDS IN VACCINATION COVERAGE

One way of measuring trends in vaccination coverage is to compare coverage among children of different ages within the same survey. Table 10.4 shows the percentage of children age 12-59 months who received vaccinations during the first year of life, by current age. The results show trends in vaccination coverage over the past five years.

Despite the high immunization coverage, improvements in vaccination coverage have continued to take place over the past five years. The percentage of children who received all basic vaccinations by 12 months of age has increased from 83 percent among children age 48-59 months to 89 percent among children age 12-23 months.

Overall, 86 percent of children age 12-59 months received all basic vaccinations on time, that is, by the time they were 12 months old. Vaccination cards were seen for 83 percent of the children.

Table 10.4 Vaccinations in first year of life

Percentage of children age 12-59 months at the time of the survey who received specific vaccines by 12 months of age, and percentage with a vaccination card, by current age of child, Maldives 2009

		DPT			Polio					All basic vaccina-	No vaccina-	Hepatitis			Percentage with a vaccination	Number of
Age in months	BCG	1	2	3	0[1]	1	2	3	Measles	tions[2]	tions	B1	B2	B3	card seen	children
12-23	99.2	98.7	98.3	96.2	99.0	98.6	98.4	95.4	91.3	88.9	0.8	98.7	97.5	91.9	89.0	822
24-35	98.6	98.1	96.3	95.1	97.7	97.8	96.8	94.6	89.9	87.2	1.4	98.4	96.8	48.7	84.8	686
36-47	96.8	96.8	94.6	91.8	95.0	96.4	95.9	91.4	88.2	83.5	2.8	96.7	95.2	84.5	78.7	678
48-59	97.8	97.7	97.2	94.2	96.9	97.6	97.3	89.5	89.5	82.7	2.2	97.3	96.4	89.9	77.9	649
Total	98.2	97.9	96.7	94.4	97.3	97.7	97.2	92.9	89.9	85.9	1.7	97.9	96.5	88.4	83.0	2,835

Note: Information was obtained from the vaccination card or if there was no written record, from the mother. For children whose information was based on the mother's report, the proportion of vaccinations given during the first year of life was assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccinations.
[1] Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth.
[2] BCG, measles and three doses each of DPT and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth)

10.4 PREVALENCE AND TREATMENT OF ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS AND FEVER

10.4.1 Acute Respiratory Infections

In the 2009 MDHS, the prevalence of acute respiratory infection (ARI) was estimated by asking mothers whether their children under age 5 had been ill with a cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing and difficulty in breathing as a result of a problem in the chest, in the two weeks preceding the survey. These symptoms are compatible with ARI. It should be noted that the morbidity data collected are subjective in the sense that they are based on the mother's perception of illness without validation by medical personnel. Less than 1 percent of children had symptoms of ARI in the two weeks preceding the survey, and there are no variations across subgroups of children (data not shown).

10.4.2 Fever

The 2009 MDHS also asked mothers about fever, which is a primary manifestation of malaria and other acute infections in children. Table 10.5 shows the percentage of children under five with fever during the two weeks preceding the survey and the percentage receiving various treatments, by background characteristics. Twenty-nine percent of children under age 5 were reported to have had fever in the two weeks preceding the survey. The prevalence of fever varies with children's age. Children age 6-11 months and 12-23 months have higher rates of fever (34 percent, each) compared with other children. There are no significant variations in the prevalence of fever by sex of the child or by urban-rural residence. There is some variation among regions in the prevalence of fever, ranging from 25 percent in the South region to 31 percent in the North, North Central, and Central regions. The prevalence of fever has no systematic relation to education and wealth status of mothers, except that children of mothers with more than secondary education are least likely to have fever during the two weeks preceding the survey (24 percent).

Eighty-four percent of children with fever were taken to a health facility or health provider for treatment. Female children were slightly more likely to be taken to a health facility or provider. Children in the Central region (88 percent) were treated at a health facility or by a health provider more often compared with children in other regions. Children of mothers with secondary level education are more likely to receive treatment for fever (87 percent) than are those of mothers with no formal schooling (78 percent) and a primary level education (82 percent).

Although they were not recommended, almost nine in ten children with fever were reported by their mothers to have been given antibiotic drugs. It should be noted that the mothers may not know the difference between antibiotic and other drugs. Children under 6 months take antibiotics (68 percent) less than older children. Use of antibiotic drugs is more common in the South Central region (92 percent) than in other regions.

Table 10.5 Prevalence and treatment of fever

Among children under age 5, the percentage who had a fever in the two weeks preceding the survey; and among children with fever, the percentage of children for whom treatment was sought from a health facility or provider and the percentage who took antibiotic drugs, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Among children under age 5		Children under age five with fever		
	Percentage with fever	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider[1]	Percentage who took antibiotic drugs	Number of children
Age in months					
<6	21.8	406	79.9	68.2	88
6-11	34.4	441	86.2	81.1	152
12-23	33.7	822	84.5	89.6	277
24-35	26.9	686	87.1	93.0	184
36-47	28.4	678	83.3	89.5	193
48-59	25.4	649	83.5	93.9	165
Sex					
Male	28.9	1,862	82.6	89.1	538
Female	28.7	1,820	86.3	86.5	522
Residence					
Urban	28.9	1,106	85.1	88.0	319
Rural	28.7	2,576	84.2	87.8	740
Region					
Malé	28.9	1,106	85.1	88.0	319
North	30.8	575	86.0	86.7	177
North Central	31.3	530	80.6	83.4	166
Central	30.8	339	88.2	90.4	104
South Central	27.3	442	86.0	91.9	121
South	25.0	691	82.1	88.6	173
Mother's education					
No formal education	29.2	442	78.1	86.0	129
Primary	30.1	1,343	82.1	86.6	404
Secondary	28.2	1,682	87.4	89.1	474
More than secondary	23.7	173	(97.0)	(92.1)	41
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	29.9	699	79.7	86.9	209
Second	30.1	786	87.4	84.7	237
Middle	27.8	773	84.2	87.9	215
Fourth	28.4	745	85.3	93.3	211
Highest	27.7	679	85.3	86.8	188
Total	28.8	3,682	84.4	87.9	1,060

Note: Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.
[1] Excludes pharmacy, shop, and traditional practitioner

10.5 DIARRHOEAL DISEASE

Dehydration caused by severe diarrhoea is a major cause of morbidity and mortality among young children, although the condition can be easily treated with oral rehydration therapy (ORT). Exposure to diarrhoea-causing agents is frequently related to the use of contaminated water and to unhygienic practices in food preparation and disposal of excreta.

The 2009 MDHS obtained information on the prevalence of diarrhoea among young children by asking mothers whether their children under age 5 had diarrhoea during the two weeks preceding the interview. When a child was identified as having had diarrhoea, information was collected on treatment and feeding practices during the diarrhoeal episode. The mother was also asked whether there was blood in the child's stools. Diarrhoea with blood in the stools is indicative of cholera or other diseases that need to be treated differently from diarrhoea in which there is no blood in the stool. Mothers of children suffering from recent diarrhoea were asked about actions they had taken to treat

the diarrhoea and about feeding practices during the diarrhoeal episode. Other information included the respondent's knowledge of oral rehydration salt (ORS) packets or pre-packaged liquids for treatment of diarrhoea (oral rehydration therapy) and disposal of children's stools.

Table 10.6 shows the percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey, according to selected background characteristics. Overall, only 4 percent of all children under age 5 had diarrhoea, and less than 1 percent had diarrhoea with blood. The occurrence of diarrhoea varies by age of the child. Young children ages 6-11 and 12-23 months are more prone to have diarrhoea than children in the other age groups (7 percent). Children in this age group are being introduced to complementary foods. Diarrhoea is more common among children from households with a non-improved/shared toilet facility (8 percent) than among children from households with an improved toilet facility (4 percent). There are also variations in the prevalence of diarrhoea by region, ranging from 3 percent in the North Central region to 8 percent in the Central region. Lower diarrhoea prevalence is found in children of mothers living in households in the highest wealth quintile (2 percent).

Table 10.6 Prevalence of diarrhoea

Percentage of children under age 5 who had diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey		
	All diarrhoea	Diarrhoea with blood	Number of children
Age in months			
<6	2.5	0.0	406
6-11	6.9	0.3	441
12-23	6.7	0.3	822
24-35	4.4	0.3	686
36-47	2.5	0.6	678
48-59	3.2	0.0	649
Sex			
Male	4.6	0.3	1,862
Female	4.3	0.3	1,820
Source of drinking water[1]			
Improved	4.7	0.3	3,135
Not improved	3.1	0.0	544
Toilet facility[2]			
Improved, not shared	4.3	0.3	3,519
Non-improved or shared	7.7	0.0	156
Residence			
Urban	3.7	0.4	1,106
Rural	4.8	0.2	2,576
Region			
Malé	3.7	0.4	1,106
North	5.3	0.4	575
North Central	3.0	0.2	530
Central	7.8	0.3	339
South Central	5.3	0.1	442
South	3.8	0.2	691
Mother's education			
No formal education	3.4	1.1	442
Primary	6.3	0.1	1,343
Secondary	3.4	0.3	1,682
More than secondary	3.4	0.0	173
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	5.4	0.5	699
Second	5.1	0.2	786
Middle	4.3	0.0	773
Fourth	5.3	0.7	745
Highest	1.8	0.0	679
Total	4.4	0.3	3,682

Note: Total includes 3 cases for which information on source of drinking water, 7 cases for which information on toilet facility, and 41 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] See Table 2.7 for definition of categories.
[2] See Table 2.8 for definition of categories.

Mothers of children who had diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey were asked what they did to treat the illness. Eighty-four percent of the children with diarrhoea were taken to a health care facility or provider where advice or treatment was sought (data not shown). Information on oral rehydration therapy was requested. Eighty-four percent of children with diarrhoea were treated with oral rehydration therapy (ORT) or increased fluids. Fifty-seven percent were treated with ORS, a solution prepared from a packet of oral rehydration salts; 21 percent were given recommended home fluids, and 59 percent received increased fluids. Eleven percent of children were given antibiotic drugs and 33 percent received home remedies or other treatments. Six percent of children with diarrhoea did not receive any treatment at all (data not shown).

When a child has diarrhoea, mothers are encouraged to continue feeding their child the usual amount of food and to increase the child's fluid intake. These practices help to reduce dehydration and minimise the adverse consequences of diarrhoea on the child's nutritional status. In the 2009 MDHS, mothers were asked whether they gave their child with diarrhoea less, the same amount, or more fluids and food than usual when their child had diarrhoea.

Twenty-four percent of children with diarrhoea were given the same amount of liquids as usual, and 59 percent were given more (data not shown). Eight percent of the children were given somewhat less to drink than usual, and 9 percent were given much less to drink during the diarrhoea episode. Twenty-five percent of children were given the same amount of food as usual, 29 percent were given somewhat less, 18 percent were given much less food, and 15 percent were given more food. Five percent of children were not given any food during the diarrhoea episode. Overall, 45 percent of the children had increased fluid intake and continued feeding, and more than three in four children were given ORT, increased fluids, and continued feeding (data not shown).

10.6 KNOWLEDGE OF ORS PACKETS

To ascertain respondents' knowledge of ORS in Maldives, women are asked whether they knew about ORS packets. Table 10.7 presents information on the percentage of mothers with a birth in the five years preceding the survey who had heard about ORS packets. Overall, 96 percent of women know about ORS packets. Knowledge of ORS varies by region, from 99 percent among women in the North Central region to 88 percent among women in the South Central region. Knowledge of ORS is lower among mothers with no formal education and primary schooling (94 percent, each) than among women with more than secondary schooling (98 percent).

Table 10.7 Knowledge of ORS packets or pre-packaged liquids

Percentage of mothers age 15-49 who gave birth in the five years preceding the survey who know about ORS packets or ORS pre-packaged liquids for treatment of diarrhoea by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who know about ORS packets or ORS pre-packaged liquids	Number of women
Age		
15-19	(96.6)	27
20-24	94.2	687
25-34	96.3	1,830
35-49	94.8	646
Residence		
Urban	96.6	964
Rural	95.1	2,227
Region		
Malé	96.6	964
North	96.9	489
North Central	98.5	466
Central	92.6	293
South Central	88.3	390
South	96.5	589
Education		
No formal education	93.6	396
Primary	94.2	1,143
Secondary	96.7	1,456
More than secondary	98.4	156
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	94.8	595
Second	93.8	677
Middle	95.5	677
Fourth	97.0	643
Highest	96.7	599
Total	95.5	3,190

Note: Total includes 39 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
ORS = Oral rehydration salts

10.7 STOOL DISPOSAL

When human faeces are left uncontained, disease can spread by direct contact or by animal contact with the faeces. Hence, proper disposal of children's stools is extremely important in preventing the spread of disease. Table 10.8 shows stool disposal for children under age 5. Eighteen percent of children under age 5 use a toilet or latrine, 7 percent dispose of stool in a toilet or latrine, and 9 percent bury the children's stools.. Sixty-two percent are thrown into the garbage, and only 1 percent is left uncontained. It is important to note that in Maldives, where the water table is high, burying stool is not recommended. Stools that are thrown into the garbage may be contained in disposable diapers.

There are pronounced differences in practices of stool disposal by background characteristics. A child's use of the toilet or latrine increases with increasing age of the child and is higher in rural areas (20 percent) compared with urban areas (14 percent). Malé (14 percent) has the lowest proportion of children using a toilet or latrine, while the North Central region has the highest proportion (26 percent). Surprisingly, a mother's level of education is negatively associated with a child's use of the toilet or latrine, being highest for mothers with no formal education (24 percent). Also, it is lowest for women from the highest wealth quintile.

Table 10.8 Disposal of children's stools

Percent distribution of youngest children under age 3 living with the mother by the manner of disposal of the child's last faecal matter, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Manner of disposal of children's stools									
	Child used toilet or latrine	Put/rinsed into toilet or latrine	Buried	Put/rinsed into drain or ditch	Thrown into garbage	Rinsed away	Other	Missing	Total	Number of mothers
Age in months										
<6	1.4	1.4	11.0	0.2	81.1	1.3	3.5	0.2	100.0	401
6-11	4.3	4.7	7.1	0.3	78.0	1.5	3.9	0.2	100.0	437
12-23	13.4	5.9	9.3	0.1	66.8	1.8	2.7	0.1	100.0	792
24-35	46.3	13.3	7.6	0.6	29.4	1.1	1.5	0.2	100.0	593
Toilet facility										
Improved, not shared[1]	18.1	6.7	8.7	0.3	61.9	1.4	2.7	0.1	100.0	2,126
Non-improved or shared	20.2	7.1	9.2	0.0	56.3	2.9	4.3	0.0	100.0	92
Residence										
Urban	14.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	83.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	685
Rural	20.1	8.5	12.6	0.4	52.1	2.1	4.0	0.2	100.0	1,538
Region										
Malé	14.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	83.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	685
North	17.0	16.5	19.4	0.0	42.1	0.3	4.6	0.0	100.0	348
North Central	26.4	0.3	15.1	0.4	51.5	2.9	3.0	0.5	100.0	303
Central	13.9	5.2	7.2	0.3	67.0	2.9	3.2	0.2	100.0	205
South Central	22.6	1.4	18.0	0.3	51.1	3.5	2.7	0.4	100.0	279
South	19.2	14.3	3.9	0.9	54.4	1.6	5.6	0.0	100.0	404
Education										
No formal education	23.7	12.9	14.1	0.0	45.9	1.2	2.0	0.2	100.0	220
Primary	20.7	7.1	12.2	0.3	53.8	1.9	3.9	0.1	100.0	714
Secondary	15.6	6.3	6.4	0.4	67.6	1.3	2.4	0.2	100.0	1,135
More than secondary	16.8	1.0	1.6	0.0	79.6	0.4	0.7	0.0	100.0	129
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	18.3	9.1	19.7	0.2	46.7	2.6	3.2	0.2	100.0	393
Second	20.9	8.5	13.2	0.5	50.4	2.2	4.1	0.2	100.0	473
Middle	21.9	8.1	9.8	0.3	54.2	1.1	4.2	0.3	100.0	471
Fourth	15.8	4.8	1.8	0.4	74.0	1.4	1.9	0.0	100.0	445
Highest	13.6	3.5	0.0	0.0	82.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	441
Total	18.2	6.8	8.7	0.3	61.6	1.4	2.8	0.1	100.0	2,223

Note: Total includes 5 cases for which information on toilet facility and 26 cases for which mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] Non-shared facilities that are of the types: flush or pour flush into a piped sewer system/septic tank/pit latrine; ventilated, improved pit (VIP) latrine; and pit latrine with a slab

NUTRITION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN 11

This chapter on nutrition covers concerns about children and women. The section on children addresses anthropometric assessment of the nutritional status of young children; infant and young child feeding practices, including breastfeeding and feeding with solid/semi-solid foods; diversity of foods; frequency of feeding; and micronutrient status, supplementation, and fortification. The section on women covers nutritional status of ever-married women 15-49 years of age; the diversity of foods eaten by mothers of children under age 3; and micronutrient status, supplementation, and fortification.

Adequate nutrition is critical to child development. The period from birth to age 2 is important to optimal growth, health, and development. This period is one that may be marked by growth faltering, micronutrient deficiencies, and common childhood illnesses, such as diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections (ARIs). Optimal feeding practices reported in this chapter include early initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding during the first 6 months of life, continued breastfeeding until age 2 and beyond, timely introduction of complementary feeding at 6 months of age, frequent feeding of solid/semi-solid foods, and feeding of diverse food groups to children between 6 and 23 months of age. A summary indicator that describes the quality of infant and young child (age 6-23 months) feeding (IYCF) practices is included.

A woman's nutritional status has important implications for her health as well as for the health of her children. Malnutrition in women results in reduced productivity, increased susceptibility to infections, retarded recovery from illness, and heightened risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes. A woman who has a poor nutritional status as indicated by a low body mass index (BMI), short stature, and presence of anaemia or other micronutrient deficiency faces a greater risk of obstructed labour, low birth weight, poor quality breast milk, illness for herself and her baby, and death from postpartum haemorrhage.

11.1 NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN

Anthropometric data on height and weight collected in the 2009 MDHS permit the measurement and evaluation of the nutritional status of young children in Maldives. This evaluation allows identification of subgroups of the child population that are at increased risk of faltered growth, disease, impaired mental development, and death. However, marked differences, especially with regard to height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age measures are often seen among subgroups of children.

11.1.1 Measurement of Nutritional Status among Young Children

The 2009 MDHS collected data on the nutritional status of children by measuring the height and weight of all children under age 5, regardless of whether their mother was interviewed in the survey. Data were collected to calculate three indices—namely, height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age. Weight measurements were obtained using lightweight, SECA mother-infant scales with a digital screen, designed and manufactured under the guidance of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Height measurements were carried out using a measuring board produced by Shorr Productions. Children younger than 24 months were measured lying down on the board (recumbent length), while standing height was measured for older children.

For the 2009 MDHS, the nutritional status of children is calculated using new growth standards published by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2006. These new growth standards were generated using data collected in the WHO Multicentre Growth Reference Study (WHO, 2006). The study, with a sample size of 8,440 children from six countries around the world, was designed to

describe how children should grow under optimal conditions. The WHO Child Growth Standards can therefore be used to assess children everywhere regardless of ethnicity, social and economic influences, and feeding practices. Each of the three nutritional status indicators described below is expressed as standard deviation units from the median of the Multicentre Growth Reference Study sample.

Each of these indices—height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age—provides different information about growth and body composition, which is used to assess nutritional status. The height-for-age index is an indicator of linear growth retardation and cumulative growth deficits. Children whose height-for-age Z-score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) are considered short for their age (stunted) and are chronically malnourished. Children who are below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) are considered severely stunted. Stunting reflects failure to receive adequate nutrition over a long period and is also affected by recurrent and chronic illness. Height-for age, therefore, represents the long-term effects of malnutrition in a population and is not sensitive to recent, short-term changes in dietary intake.

The weight-for-height index measures body mass in relation to body height or length and describes current nutritional status. Children whose Z-scores are below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) are considered thin (wasted) and are acutely malnourished. Wasting represents the failure to receive adequate nutrition in the period immediately preceding the survey and may result from inadequate food intake or a recent episode of illness causing loss of weight and the onset of malnutrition. Children whose weight-for-height is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) are considered severely wasted. The weight-for-height index can also be used to assess the extent to which children's weight-for-height exceeds that considered normal. Children whose weight-for-height falls above plus two standard deviations (+2 SD) from the WHO reference population median are considered too heavy for their height.

Weight-for-age is a composite index of height-for-age and weight-for-height. It takes into account both acute and chronic malnutrition. Children whose weight-for-age is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are classified as underweight. Children whose weight-for-age is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered severely underweight. Children whose weight-for-age falls above plus two standard deviations (+2 SD) from the WHO reference population median are considered to be overweight.

11.1.2 Results of Data Collection

Height and weight measurements were obtained for 2,513 children under age 5 who were present in MDHS households at the time of the survey. The following analysis focuses on the children for whom complete and credible anthropometric and valid age data were collected. Table 11.1 and Figure 11.1 show the percentage of children under age 5 classified as malnourished according to the three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age.

Height-for-age

Nineteen percent of children under age 5 are stunted, and 6 percent are severely stunted. Stunting is apparent even among children less than 6 months of age (15 percent). As shown in Figure 11.1, stunting increases with the age of the child through the first year of life (from 15 percent among children less than age 6 months to 24 percent among children age 9-11 months) before declining slightly to 22 percent between 12-17 months and then increasing to 25 percent for children age 18-23 months. A higher proportion of male children (20 percent) are stunted compared with female children (17 percent).

Stunting did not vary systematically with the length of the birth interval. Stunting levels were higher among children who were considered by the mother to be very small or smaller than average at birth than among children who were reported to be average or larger at birth. A larger percentage of children whose mothers were underweight (21 percent) were stunted than children of normal weight or overweight/obese mothers (18 percent).

Rural children are more often stunted (20 percent) than urban children (16 percent). Regional variation in nutritional status of children is substantial, with stunting being highest in the North Central region (23 percent) and lowest in Malé and the North (16 percent). Education and wealth are both inversely related to stunting levels. For example, children born to mothers with primary education have higher rates of stunting (21 percent) compared with children born to mothers with more than secondary education (12 percent). A quarter of children born to mothers with no formal education are stunted.

Weight-for-height

Table 11.1 shows that the highest level of wasting is observed for children under age 6 months (16 percent) and children who were reported by the mother to have been very small at birth (20 percent). The proportion of wasting in children of thin mothers is almost twice that of children whose mothers have a normal BMI. The degree of wasting is less in urban than in rural areas (7 percent versus 12 percent).

At the regional level, the North Central region reports the highest level of wasting (15 percent), and Malé reports the lowest level (7 percent). As with stunting, wasting decreases as the level of education increases. For example, children whose mothers have never attended school have the highest levels of wasting (15 percent), while children whose mothers have secondary or more than secondary education have the lowest levels of wasting (8 percent). There is no systematic relationship between wasting level and wealth quintile. Six percent of children under age 5 in Maldives are too heavy for their height, with Z-scores more than two standard deviations (+2 SD) above the median.

Weight-for-age

Reflecting the effects of both chronic and short-term malnutrition, 17 percent of children under age 5 are underweight for their age. Table 11.1 shows the highest proportions of underweight children are in the categories of children age 24-35 months (21 percent), children born less than 24 months after a sibling (26 percent), and children considered by their mother to have been very small or small at birth (43 percent). Children born to thin or underweight mothers are more often underweight than those born to mothers with a normal BMI (27 percent compared with 18 percent).

There are substantial geographical variations. The proportion of children who are underweight is higher in rural areas than in urban areas. At the regional level, children in Malé are the least likely (11 percent) to be underweight, while children in the North Central and the South Central regions are the most likely (24 percent and 20 percent, respectively). As maternal education and wealth increase, the proportion of underweight children declines.

Table 11.1 Nutritional status of children

Percentage of children under five years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Height-for-age			Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age				Number of children
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	
Age in months												
<6	7.8	14.8	(0.6)	6.0	15.5	8.8	(0.3)	3.9	17.2	2.3	(0.8)	222
6-8	8.6	18.5	(0.9)	4.7	8.9	4.9	(0.3)	2.7	9.7	2.2	(0.8)	156
9-11	9.6	24.4	(0.9)	4.1	13.8	5.0	(0.4)	4.5	19.1	2.2	(0.9)	156
12-17	7.5	21.9	(1.0)	1.8	6.6	3.9	(0.3)	1.3	13.8	1.7	(0.7)	269
18-23	8.0	25.1	(1.1)	1.5	6.7	6.3	(0.2)	0.6	14.1	2.4	(0.7)	261
24-35	6.6	19.4	(1.0)	2.4	10.0	4.1	(0.6)	4.8	21.2	1.3	(1.0)	472
36-47	5.2	18.1	(0.9)	2.2	10.9	7.7	(0.6)	4.1	19.1	3.0	(0.9)	499
48-59	3.4	14.2	(0.8)	1.2	12.5	6.1	(0.6)	3.0	17.3	2.5	(0.9)	477
Sex												
Male	7.9	20.3	(1.0)	2.6	10.7	6.0	(0.5)	3.2	17.6	2.2	(0.9)	1,266
Female	4.9	17.4	(0.9)	2.4	10.6	5.8	(0.4)	3.3	17.0	2.2	(0.8)	1,246
Birth interval in months[2]												
First birth[3]	5.1	16.8	(0.8)	2.8	10.1	7.4	(0.3)	2.6	13.5	2.8	(0.7)	953
<24	8.1	20.5	(1.2)	3.0	11.9	3.6	(0.7)	5.8	25.7	1.4	(1.2)	172
24-47	6.9	21.0	(1.0)	1.3	9.2	4.2	(0.5)	3.4	16.1	1.2	(0.9)	399
48+	5.4	17.8	(0.9)	2.4	12.7	4.7	(0.6)	3.2	20.2	2.1	(0.9)	758
Size at birth[2]												
Very small	23.6	35.6	(1.9)	4.0	19.8	7.4	(0.7)	15.6	42.6	0.5	(1.6)	88
Small	6.3	27.4	(1.3)	4.7	15.2	2.7	(0.8)	3.3	27.4	0.7	(1.3)	211
Average or larger	4.9	16.4	(0.8)	2.1	10.1	5.9	(0.4)	2.6	14.9	2.4	(0.7)	1,978
Mother's interview status												
Interviewed	5.7	18.1	(0.9)	2.4	10.9	5.7	(0.5)	3.2	17.1	2.2	(0.8)	2,282
Not interviewed but in household	14.1	25.8	(1.2)	4.1	7.8	9.7	(0.4)	4.5	21.1	2.4	(0.9)	202
Not interviewed, and not in the household[4]	(3.1)	(26.8)	((1.1))	(0.0)	(6.3)	(0.0)	((0.3))	(3.1)	(6.3)	(2.9)	((0.8))	28
Mother's nutritional status[5]												
Thin (BMI<8.5)	6.5	20.5	(1.2)	6.1	18.0	2.3	(1.0)	5.4	26.5	0.0	(1.3)	187
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	5.7	18.1	(0.9)	2.2	10.3	4.5	(0.5)	2.7	17.8	1.4	(0.9)	1,167
Overweight/obese (BMI ≥25)	6.7	18.4	(0.9)	2.2	9.8	7.7	(0.3)	3.1	15.1	3.2	(0.7)	959
Missing	8.7	22.8	(1.0)	2.6	10.8	11.6	(0.1)	4.4	16.4	3.8	(0.6)	156
Residence												
Urban	6.2	15.7	(0.7)	0.8	7.2	7.2	(0.2)	1.1	10.9	2.3	(0.5)	721
Rural	6.5	20.1	(1.0)	3.2	12.0	5.4	(0.6)	4.2	19.9	2.2	(1.0)	1,792
Region												
Malé	6.2	15.7	(0.7)	0.8	7.2	7.2	(0.2)	1.1	10.9	2.3	(0.5)	721
North	4.0	15.7	(0.9)	2.3	11.8	5.0	(0.6)	2.7	18.4	3.1	(0.9)	387
North Central	7.9	22.7	(1.1)	3.4	14.5	3.3	(0.7)	5.7	24.4	1.3	(1.2)	543
Central	8.5	20.9	(1.0)	5.7	14.1	5.7	(0.6)	4.8	18.0	1.3	(0.9)	235
South Central	7.7	20.9	(1.1)	2.6	10.2	5.8	(0.5)	3.7	19.9	2.6	(0.9)	280
South	4.7	19.9	(1.0)	2.8	8.4	8.6	(0.3)	3.4	15.9	2.9	(0.7)	346
Mother's education[6]												
No formal education	8.9	24.9	(1.2)	2.3	14.8	5.5	(0.7)	5.2	27.1	2.7	(1.2)	321
Primary	7.0	20.8	(1.0)	3.4	12.0	4.7	(0.6)	4.7	21.0	1.4	(1.0)	937
Secondary	5.4	16.2	(0.8)	2.2	8.7	7.1	(0.3)	1.9	12.3	2.4	(0.6)	1,092
More than secondary	5.0	12.1	(0.5)	1.0	8.4	6.2	(0.3)	0.0	11.9	3.7	(0.4)	110
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	7.4	21.9	(1.2)	2.8	12.7	4.2	(0.7)	4.8	24.3	2.3	(1.1)	508
Second	7.3	23.1	(1.1)	3.8	11.4	6.8	(0.5)	5.0	19.0	1.6	(1.0)	533
Middle	4.9	17.6	(0.9)	3.3	12.8	4.8	(0.6)	3.7	19.3	1.8	(0.9)	519
Fourth	6.7	15.4	(0.8)	0.9	7.1	6.9	(0.2)	1.6	12.5	3.3	(0.6)	477
Highest	5.6	15.7	(0.7)	1.6	8.7	7.0	(0.3)	0.9	10.5	2.1	(0.6)	475
Total	6.4	18.9	(0.9)	2.5	10.6	5.9	(0.5)	3.3	17.3	2.2	(0.8)	2,513

Note: Table is based on children who slept in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards adopted in 2006. The indices in this table are NOT comparable to those based on the previously used NCHS/CDC/WHO reference. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurement of both height and weight. Total includes 1 case for which information on size at birth and 24 cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.

[1] Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Child Growth standards population median

[2] Excludes children whose mothers were not interviewed

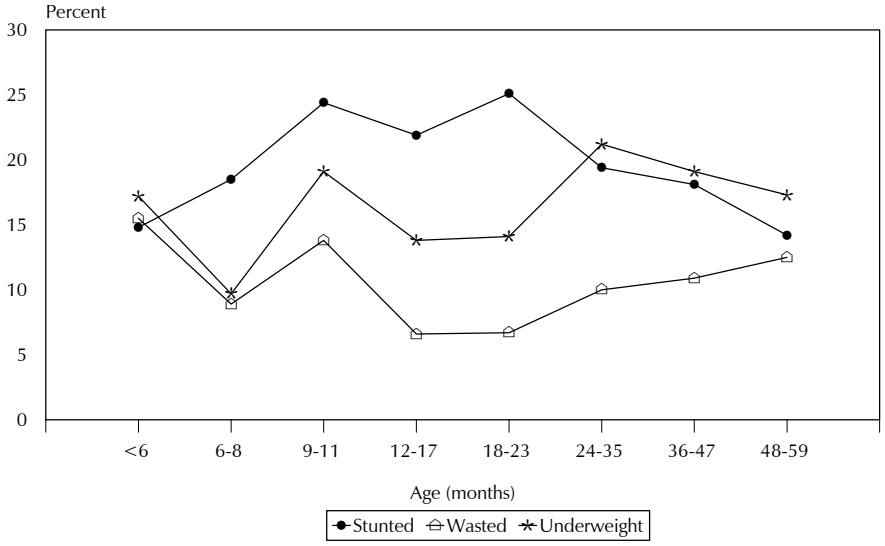
[3] First born twins (triplets, etc.) are counted as first births because they do not have a previous birth interval

[4] Includes children whose mothers are deceased

[5] Excludes children whose mothers were not weighed and measured. Mother's nutritional status in terms of BMI (Body Mass Index) is presented in Table 11.8

[6] For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the Household Questionnaire

Figure 11.1 Nutritional Status of Children by Age



Note: Stunting reflects chronic malnutrition; wasting reflects acute malnutrition; underweight reflects chronic or acute malnutrition or a combination of both. Plotted values are smoothed by a five-month moving average

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11.2 INITIATION OF BREASTFEEDING

Early initiation of breastfeeding is encouraged for a number of reasons. Mothers benefit from early suckling because it stimulates breast milk production and facilitates the release of oxytocin, which helps the contraction of the uterus and reduces postpartum blood loss. The first breast milk contains colostrum, which is highly nutritious and has antibodies that protect the newborn from diseases. Early initiation of breastfeeding also fosters bonding between mother and child.

Table 11.2 shows the breastfeeding status and the timing of initial breastfeeding of all children born in the five years before the survey. It also considers the prevalence of the practice of prelacteal feeding, that is, giving the infant other liquids during the period between the birth and when the mother's milk is flowing freely. This practice is discouraged because it limits the frequency of breastfeeding by the infant and exposes the baby to the risk of infection.

Nearly all children (98 percent) born in the five years preceding the survey were breastfed regardless of their background characteristics. Slightly less than two-thirds of infants (64 percent) were put to the breast within one hour of birth, and 92 percent started breastfeeding within the first day.

Although breastfeeding is widely practiced across all subgroups of women, the timing of initial breastfeeding varies by background characteristics. The proportion of children breastfed within one hour of delivery is higher in rural areas (66 percent) than in urban areas (60 percent). With respect to regions, the South Central region has the highest proportion (74 percent) of children breastfed within one hour of birth, while Malé and the North regions have the lowest proportion (60 percent).

Children born to mothers with no formal education or with at least primary education are breastfed within one hour of birth more often than those born to mothers with secondary or higher education. The timing of initial breastfeeding varies according to the person who assisted at delivery and the place of delivery. Children whose mothers are assisted at birth by a health professional are less likely to be breastfed within one hour of birth (64 percent), and children whose mothers are assisted by a traditional birth attendant are breastfed more often (78 percent). Similarly, the proportion of children breastfed within one hour of birth is higher for children born at home (77 percent) than for those born at a health facility (64 percent).

Only 12 percent of last-born children received a prelacteal feed. There are no marked differences in the proportions of children who received a prelacteal feed by the child's sex. However, there are variations by residence, assistance at delivery, and place of delivery. Prelacteal feeding is practiced more in urban areas and in Malé (16 percent). It is also more common among children whose mothers were assisted by a health professional during delivery and those born in a health facility Children of mothers who have no formal education (6 percent) are least likely to receive prelacteal feeds; likewise, children born to mothers in the higher (fourth and highest) wealth quintiles (15 percent and 16 percent, respectively) are more likely to receive a prelacteal feed than children born to mothers in other wealth quintiles (9 percent).

Table 11.2 Initial breastfeeding

Percentage of children born in the five years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, and for the last-born children born in the five years preceding the survey ever breastfed, the percentage who started breastfeeding within one hour and within one day of birth and the percentage who received a prelacteal feed, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Breastfeeding among children born in past five years		Among last-born children ever breastfed:			
	Percentage ever breastfed	Number of children born in past five years	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 hour of birth	Percentage who started breastfeeding within 1 day of birth[1]	Percentage who received a prelacteal feed[2]	Number of last-born children ever breastfed
Sex						
Male	98.0	1,896	63.2	91.9	11.5	1,575
Female	98.0	1,840	65.4	92.2	11.8	1,560
Residence						
Urban	97.2	1,123	60.0	89.5	16.2	940
Rural	98.3	2,613	66.1	93.1	9.7	2,195
Region						
Malé	97.2	1,123	60.0	89.5	16.2	940
North	98.2	578	59.6	93.9	9.7	480
North Central	98.9	539	68.4	93.0	8.2	461
Central	99.4	343	70.8	93.7	12.1	292
South Central	97.5	453	74.2	92.3	11.2	382
South	98.1	700	62.1	92.8	8.8	579
Mother's education						
No formal education	97.4	449	69.2	91.0	6.0	385
Primary	98.7	1,368	69.2	93.7	9.3	1,132
Secondary	97.7	1,703	59.7	91.2	14.6	1,425
More than secondary	98.4	173	61.1	92.1	12.8	156
Assistance at delivery						
Health professional[3]	98.0	3,564	63.9	92.0	12.0	3,007
Traditional birth attendant	97.3	155	78.0	98.8	4.7	117
Other	*	5	*	*	*	5
Place of delivery						
Health facility	98.1	3,555	64.1	92.1	12.0	3,009
At home	99.1	116	76.9	96.1	3.2	88
Other	(87.9)	54	(61.3)	(98.0)	(8.4)	32
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	98.3	709	65.8	93.6	8.7	586
Second	97.9	802	68.8	93.6	9.4	664
Middle	98.4	783	65.1	92.2	9.3	668
Fourth	98.0	756	63.1	91.3	15.4	631
Highest	97.5	686	58.0	89.4	15.9	587
Total	98.0	3,736	64.3	92.0	11.7	3,135

Note: Table is based on births in the past five years whether the children are living or dead at the time of interview. Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level, assistance at delivery and place of delivery is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Includes children who started breastfeeding within one hour of birth

[2] Children given something other than breast milk during the first three days of life

[3] Doctor, gynaecologist, nurse/midwife, or community/family health worker

11.3 BREASTFEEDING STATUS BY AGE

Both UNICEF and WHO recommend that children be exclusively breastfed during the first six months of life and that children be given solid or semi-solid complementary foods in addition to continued breastfeeding from age 6 months to 24 months (or more) when the child is fully weaned. Exclusive breastfeeding is recommended because breast milk is uncontaminated and contains all the nutrients necessary for children in the first few months of life. In addition, the mother's antibodies in breast milk provide immunity to disease. Early supplementation is discouraged for several reasons. First, it exposes infants to risk of infection. Second, it decreases infants' intake of breast milk and therefore the frequency of breastfeeding, which reduces breast milk production. Third, in low resource settings, supplementary food is often nutritionally inferior.

Table 11.3 and Figure 11.3 show the percent distribution of youngest children under age 3 living with the mother by breastfeeding status, according to age in months. Table 11.3 also presents the percentage of all children under age three who use a bottle with a nipple, by the child's age. Exclusive breastfeeding is common but not universal in early infancy in Maldives. Table 11.3 shows that, among infants under age 2 months, 69 percent receive only breast milk, 2 percent consume breast milk and plain water, 4 percent drink non-milk liquids/juice, and 22 percent have other milk in addition to breast milk. Overall, only 48 percent of infants below age 6 months are exclusively breastfed, and the proportion exclusively breastfed drops off rapidly among older infants. By age 4-5 months, around three in four babies are receiving some form of supplementation and complementary foods.

Table 11.3 Breastfeeding status by age

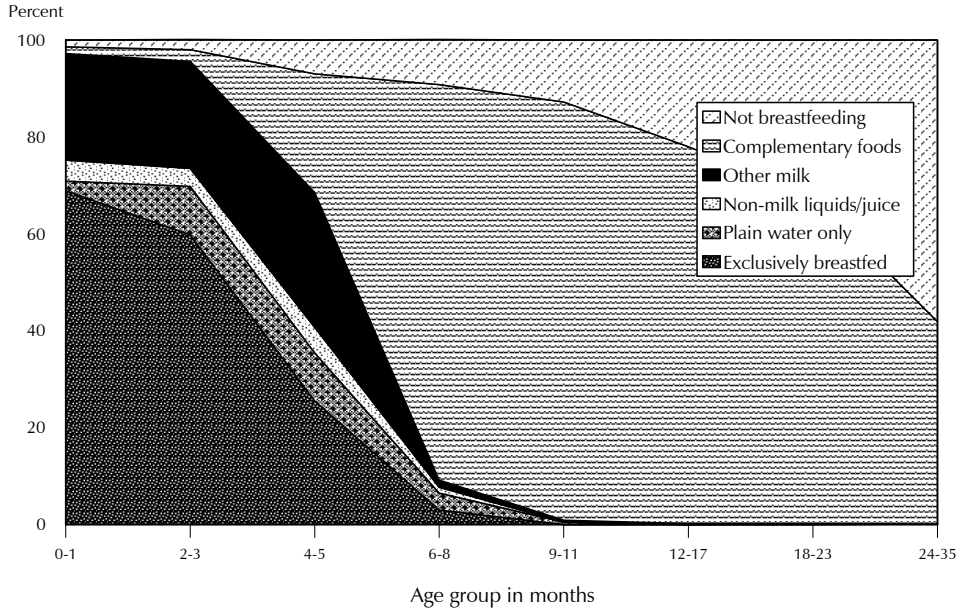
Percent distribution of youngest children under three years who are living with their mother by breastfeeding status; and the percentage currently breastfeeding; and the percentage of all children under three years using a bottle with a nipple, according to age in months, Maldives 2009

	Percent distribution of youngest children under three living with their mother by breastfeeding status										
		Breastfeeding and consuming:									
Age in months	Not breast-feeding	Exclusively breastfed	Plain water only	Non-milk liquids/ juice	Other milk	Comple-mentary foods	Total	Percentage currently breast-feeding	Number of youngest child under three years	Percentage using a bottle with a nipple[1]	Number of children under three years
0-1	1.4	68.9	2.0	4.3	22.0	1.4	100.0	98.6	77	12.5	77
2-3	2.1	59.8	10.0	3.7	22.1	2.4	100.0	97.9	163	23.7	166
4-5	7.0	25.5	9.9	5.3	27.8	24.5	100.0	93.0	161	44.4	164
6-8	9.3	3.0	3.5	1.2	1.5	81.6	100.0	90.7	225	47.2	227
9-11	12.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	86.3	100.0	87.2	213	44.5	214
12-17	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	77.8	100.0	78.0	378	41.3	387
18-23	32.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	67.4	100.0	67.6	414	35.8	436
24-35	58.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	41.8	100.0	41.9	593	33.5	686
0-3	1.8	62.7	7.5	3.9	22.1	2.1	100.0	98.2	240	20.2	242
0-5	3.9	47.8	8.4	4.4	24.4	11.1	100.0	96.1	401	30.0	406
6-9	11.0	2.2	2.7	0.9	1.4	81.8	100.0	89.0	298	47.5	301
12-15	22.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	77.2	100.0	77.3	249	41.6	254
12-23	27.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	72.4	100.0	72.5	792	38.4	822
20-23	31.6	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	68.0	100.0	68.4	267	33.7	286

Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a 24-hour period (yesterday and last night). Children who are classified as *breastfeeding and consuming plain water only* consumed no liquid or solid supplements. The categories *not breastfeeding, exclusively breastfed, breastfeeding and consuming plain water, non-milk liquids/juice, other milk, and complementary foods* (solids and semi-solids) are hierarchical and mutually exclusive, so their percentages add to 100 percent. Children who receive breast milk and non-milk liquids and who do not receive complementary foods are classified in the non-milk liquid category even though they may also get plain water. Any children who get complementary food are classified in that category as long as they are breastfeeding as well.

[1] Based on all children under three years

Figure 11.2 Infant Feeding Practices by Age



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After age 6 months, children need to start receiving foods in order to meet all of their nutritional requirements. As shown in Table 11.3, 82 percent of children age 6-9 months are breastfeeding and receiving complementary food.

The use of a bottle with a nipple, regardless of the contents (breast milk, formula, or any other liquid), requires hygienic handling to avoid contamination that may cause infection in the infant. Table 11.3 shows that 30 percent of infants age 0-5 months are fed using a bottle with a nipple.

11.4 Duration and Frequency of Breastfeeding

Table 11.4 shows the median duration of breastfeeding by selected background characteristics. The estimates of median and mean durations of breastfeeding are based on current status information, that is, the proportion of children born in the three years preceding the survey who were being breastfed at the time of the survey. The median duration of any breastfeeding in Maldives is 25.3 months, and the mean duration is 23.9 months. The median duration does not vary much by the child's background characteristics. Children in households in the fourth wealth quintile are breastfed for the shortest duration (19.9 months), while other children are breastfed for 25-27 months.

At the national level, the median duration of exclusive breastfeeding is 2.2 months. Median duration of exclusive breastfeeding in some other countries is as follows: Bangladesh (2007) 1.8 months, Cambodia (2005) 3.2 months, Egypt (2008) 2.7 months, India (2005-06) 2 months, Indonesia (2007) 0.7 months, Jordan (2007) 0.6 months, Nepal (2006) 2.6 months, and Philippines (2008) 0.7 months (source: STATcompiler 2010).

The median duration of predominant breastfeeding, which is defined as exclusive breastfeeding or breastfeeding in combination with plain water, water-based liquids, or juices, is 3.5 months in Maldives. There is little variation by subgroups of children.

Table 11.4 Median duration and frequency of breastfeeding

Median duration of any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, and predominant breastfeeding among children born in the three years preceding the survey, percentage of breastfeeding children under six months of age living with the mother who were breastfed six or more times in the 24 hours preceding the survey, and mean number of feeds (day/night), by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Median duration (months) of breastfeeding among children born in the past three years[1]			Frequency of breastfeeding among children under six months of age[2]			
Background characteristic	Any breast-feeding	Exclusive breast-feeding	Predomi-nant breast-feeding[3]	Percentage breastfed 6+ times in past 24 hours	Mean number of day feeds	Mean number of night feeds	Number of children
Sex							
Male	25.2	2.2	3.5	96.6	9.3	9.3	172
Female	25.3	2.2	3.4	97.3	8.3	8.9	182
Residence							
Urban	(23.3)	(2.2)	(3.3)	(96.0)	(7.3)	(8.6)	104
Rural	25.6	2.2	3.6	97.4	9.4	9.3	249
Region							
Malé	(23.3)	(2.2)	(3.3)	(96.0)	(7.3)	(8.6)	104
North	(29.1)	(3.1)	(4.1)	(97.2)	(10.1)	(9.6)	49
North Central	27.1	3.2	4.3	95.9	10.7	11.0	48
Central	27.2	2.7	3.9	98.3	8.2	8.2	39
South Central	23.7	0.4	0.4	97.5	8.6	8.5	48
South	22.1	2.6	4.0	98.0	9.4	9.2	65
Mother's education							
No formal education	(29.3)	(1.6)	(2.2)	(100.0)	(10.7)	(10.6)	22
Primary	25.5	2.4	4.1	97.8	9.7	9.9	121
Secondary	25.5	2.0	3.3	96.3	8.5	8.7	181
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	29
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	26.7	1.3	3.0	98.1	11.4	10.5	61
Second	25.7	3.1	4.3	97.4	9.3	9.4	78
Middle	25.3	1.0	2.3	97.3	8.3	8.3	71
Fourth	19.9	2.3	3.7	98.3	8.2	9.0	81
Highest	(14.4)	(2.5)	(3.4)	(93.3)	(7.0)	(8.4)	62
Total	25.3	2.2	3.5	97.0	8.8	9.1	354
Mean for all children	23.9	3.5	4.3	na	na	na	na

Note: Median and mean durations are based on current status. Includes children living and deceased at the time of the survey. Total includes 1 case for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

[1] It is assumed that non-last-born children and last-born children not currently living with the mother are not currently breastfeeding

[2] Excludes children without a valid answer on the number of times breastfed

[3] Either exclusively breastfed or received breast milk and plain water, and/or non-milk liquids only

Almost all breastfeeding children less than six months of age (97 percent) were breastfed at least six times during the 24 hours preceding the survey, which meets the WHO/UNICEF recommendations for optimal breastfeeding. The mean number of daytime feeds is 8.8, and the mean number of nighttime feeds is 9.1.

11.5 TYPES OF COMPLEMENTARY FOODS

UNICEF and WHO recommend the introduction of solid food to infants around the age of 6 months because by that age breast milk alone is no longer sufficient to maintain a child's optimal growth. In the transition to eating the family diet, children age 6 months and older should be fed small quantities of solid and semi-solid foods throughout the day. During this transition period (age 6-23 months), the prevalence of malnutrition increases substantially in many countries because of increases in infections and poor feeding practices.

Table 11.5 provides information on the types of foods given on the day and night preceding the survey to youngest children under age 3 years living with their mother. As expected, the proportions of children who consumed foods or liquids included in the various groups shown in the table rises with the age of the child. The results show that, among all breastfeeding children under age 3, 36 percent consume infant formula and higher proportions receive other milk (55 percent) and other liquids (60 percent). Children age 6-23 months consume foods made from grains more often than foods from any other food group. Among breastfeeding children in this age group, 96 percent ate foods made from grains, and 64 percent ate fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A during the day and night preceding the interview.

Table 11.5 Foods and liquids consumed by children in the day and night preceding the interview

Percentage of youngest children under three years of age who are living with the mother by type of foods consumed in the day or night preceding the interview, according to breastfeeding status and age, Maldives 2009

Age in months	Liquids			Solid or semi-solid foods											Number of children
	Infant formula	Other milk[1]	Other liquids[2]	Forti-fied baby foods	Food made from grains[3]	Fruits and vege-tables rich in vitamin A[4]	Other fruits and vege-tables	Food made from roots and tubers	Food made from legumes and nuts	Meat, fish, poultry, and eggs	Cheese, yogurt, other milk product	Any solid or semi-solid food	Food made with oil, fat, and butter	Sugary foods	
BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN															
0-1	7.3	23.2	5.6	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	76
2-3	15.5	18.8	12.3	0.8	2.0	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	160
4-5	35.0	37.6	26.7	16.7	22.5	8.0	4.2	0.8	0.8	2.0	8.4	26.3	0.5	1.7	150
6-8	47.0	53.5	56.2	67.0	85.3	49.0	24.1	10.2	10.9	13.1	32.5	89.9	10.1	15.9	204
9-11	46.0	46.6	66.9	70.3	96.9	67.8	30.6	26.9	24.2	47.2	45.5	99.0	35.9	36.7	185
12-17	40.4	69.2	80.9	53.1	99.5	70.6	34.6	25.0	23.1	68.5	45.2	99.5	39.2	47.9	295
18-23	39.7	70.1	76.6	34.6	98.5	66.8	35.3	16.9	25.5	76.7	34.6	99.0	45.4	58.9	280
24-35	34.9	73.8	82.7	11.0	99.2	68.4	34.7	26.5	26.3	85.8	28.5	99.7	50.8	60.4	248
6-23	42.7	61.8	71.7	54.0	95.7	64.4	31.8	19.9	21.4	55.1	39.5	97.2	34.2	42.2	964
Total	36.3	55.3	60.1	35.9	75.5	50.4	25.0	16.2	17.1	46.8	29.1	76.9	28.6	35.0	1,597
NON-BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN															
9-11	(80.8)	(92.3)	(85.7)	(65.3)	(98.8)	(81.1)	(54.7)	(26.4)	(31.9)	(65.2)	(58.5)	(98.8)	(39.9)	(58.3)	27
12-17	70.6	88.5	74.0	47.0	99.1	79.2	45.0	31.3	39.4	64.7	52.4	100.0	45.0	39.6	83
18-23	54.3	85.4	78.9	33.7	96.8	61.6	41.3	15.8	32.2	67.7	47.8	99.2	40.6	37.8	134
24-35	32.1	78.2	85.1	11.9	99.2	79.5	41.5	21.4	29.5	82.7	33.6	100.0	53.3	60.1	345
6-23	64.7	86.8	76.9	44.5	97.9	69.3	42.9	21.3	33.6	64.1	50.3	99.5	40.4	40.4	266
Total	46.7	81.9	81.2	25.9	97.5	73.2	41.1	20.8	30.5	72.7	40.9	98.5	46.5	50.4	626

Note: Breastfeeding status and food consumed refer to a 24-hour period (yesterday and last night). Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

[1] Other milk includes fresh, tinned, and powdered cow or other animal milk

[2] Does not include plain water

[3] Includes fortified baby food

[4] Includes pumpkin, orange or yellow squash, carrots, sweet potatoes, dark green leafy vegetables, mangoes, and papayas

Of particular concern is the fact that the majority (68-80 percent) of breastfed children age 6-23 months did not consume any food made from roots and tubers, food made from legumes and nuts, or other fruits and vegetables during the 24-hour period before the survey. Roots and tubers include white potatoes, white yams, manioc, cassava, or any other foods made from roots. Legumes and nuts include beans, peas, lentils, or nuts. The majority of children age 6-23 months also did not consume cheese, yogurt, and other milk products or food made with oil, fat, or butter. The patterns are similar for non-breastfeeding children. Non-breastfeeding children consume milk other than breast milk more often than breastfeeding children (87 percent compared with 62 percent).

11.6 INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING (IYCF) PRACTICES

Appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices include timely initiation of feeding solid/semi-solid foods from age 6 months and increasing the amount and variety of foods and frequency of feeding as the child gets older while maintaining frequent breastfeeding. Guidelines have been established with respect to IYCF practices for children age 6-23 months (PAHO/WHO, 2003 and WHO, 2005).

Table 11.6 presents a summary indicator of IYCF practices. The indicator takes into account the percentages of children for whom feeding practices met minimum standards with respect to food diversity (i.e., the number of food groups consumed) and feeding frequency (i.e., the number of times the child was fed), as well the consumption of breast milk or other milks or milk products. Breastfed children are considered fed by the minimum standards if they consume at least three food groups[1] and receive foods other than breast milk at least twice per day in the case of infants 6-8 months and at least three times per day in the case of children 9-23 months. Non-breastfed children are considered to be adequately fed if they consume milk or milk products, eat from four food groups (including milk products), and are fed at least four times per day.

Data in Table 11.6 show that 98 percent of youngest children age 6-23 months living with the mother received breast milk or breast milk substitutes during the 24-hour period prior to the survey. Seventy-two percent had an adequately diverse diet; that is, they had been fed foods from the appropriate number of food groups depending on their age and breastfeeding status. Seventy-four percent had been fed the minimum standard number of times appropriate for their age. Feeding practices for about 58 percent of children age 6-23 months met the minimum standard with respect to all three of these feeding practices (Figure 11.3).

The proportion fed according to the guidelines is much higher among breastfed children (63 percent) than among those who are not breastfed (40 percent). Among breastfed children age 6-23 months, 74 percent receive foods from at least three food groups, while 80 percent are fed the minimum number of times or more. Among non-breastfed children age 6-23 months, 92 percent receive milk or milk products, 67 percent are fed foods from at least four food groups, and 50 percent are fed four or more times per day.

[1] Food groups used in the assessment of minimum standard of feeding practices include milk other than breast milk, foods made from grains, roots, and tubers; fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A; other fruits and vegetables; eggs; meat, poultry, fish, and shellfish (and organ meats); beans, peas, and nuts; and foods made with oil, fat, or butter.

Table 11.6 Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices

Percentage of youngest children age 6-23 months living with their mother who are fed according to three IYCF feeding practices based upon number of food groups and times they are fed during the day or night preceding the survey by breastfeeding status and background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Among breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				Among non-breastfed children 6-23 months, percentage fed:					Among all children 6-23 months, percentage fed:				
Background characteristic	3+ food groups[1]	Mini-mum times or more[2]	Both 3+ food groups and minimum times or more	Number of breastfed children 6-23 months	Milk or milk products[3]	4+ food groups	4+ times or more	With 3 IYCF practices[4]	Number of non-breastfed children 6-23 months	Breast milk or milk products[3]	3+ or 4+ food groups[5]	Mini-mum times or more[6]	With all 3 IYCF practices	Number of all children 6-23 months
Age in months														
6-8	43.5	74.7	39.8	204	*	*	*	*	21	99.1	43.4	70.5	37.2	225
9-11	72.0	81.1	61.2	185	(94.2)	(71.7)	(59.3)	(38.1)	27	99.3	72.0	78.3	58.3	213
12-17	83.8	82.0	69.7	295	95.6	74.6	48.3	40.1	83	99.0	81.8	74.5	63.2	378
18-23	85.4	82.1	72.3	280	90.1	66.0	52.5	44.5	134	96.8	79.1	72.5	63.3	414
Sex														
Male	75.4	74.5	59.5	475	89.8	65.1	48.7	35.7	146	97.6	73.0	68.4	53.9	621
Female	71.7	85.9	65.4	489	95.3	70.3	51.8	45.1	120	99.1	71.4	79.2	61.4	609
Residence														
Urban	64.4	82.6	55.2	264	(90.2)	(74.9)	(55.5)	(53.4)	105	97.2	67.4	74.9	54.6	369
Rural	76.9	79.4	65.3	700	93.6	62.6	46.6	31.2	161	98.8	74.2	73.3	58.9	860
Region														
Malé	64.4	82.6	55.2	264	(90.2)	(74.9)	(55.5)	(53.4)	105	97.2	67.4	74.9	54.6	369
North	82.9	80.5	70.0	185	*	*	*	*	22	100.0	83.6	76.6	66.5	207
North Central	72.6	79.3	64.8	146	(96.6)	(65.1)	(46.1)	(33.1)	23	99.5	71.6	74.8	60.5	169
Central	68.6	73.3	54.3	89	(89.5)	(58.5)	(50.0)	(26.4)	22	97.9	66.6	68.6	48.8	111
South Central	80.2	81.2	69.8	117	94.1	56.1	52.8	37.2	30	98.8	75.2	75.4	63.1	147
South	76.3	80.4	63.1	162	91.5	56.8	43.5	27.0	63	97.6	70.8	70.0	53.0	226
Mother's education														
No formal education	74.1	75.6	59.3	101	(90.9)	(64.6)	(39.4)	(25.7)	29	98.0	72.0	67.6	51.9	130
Primary	74.5	76.5	61.7	295	93.1	71.1	52.7	42.1	53	98.9	74.0	72.8	58.7	348
Secondary	72.5	82.1	62.5	523	93.3	63.9	46.9	37.6	150	98.5	70.6	74.3	56.9	673
More than secondary	(73.8)	(92.6)	(71.8)	33	*	*	*	*	33	93.6	77.7	82.2	66.5	65
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	73.5	77.5	62.5	196	(91.8)	(63.9)	(56.0)	(38.1)	32	98.8	72.1	74.5	59.0	229
Second	74.4	80.7	62.0	215	92.8	57.9	45.6	24.7	46	98.7	71.5	74.5	55.4	262
Middle	79.6	80.1	67.9	207	93.4	62.9	43.8	30.4	54	98.6	76.1	72.6	60.1	262
Fourth	68.8	82.3	59.4	170	90.1	74.0	50.7	47.5	65	97.3	70.2	73.6	56.1	235
Highest	69.7	81.1	59.9	175	(93.4)	(73.1)	(54.9)	(51.6)	68	98.1	70.7	73.8	57.6	243
Total	73.5	80.3	62.5	964	92.3	67.4	50.1	39.9	266	98.3	72.2	73.8	57.6	1,229

Note: Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Food groups: a. infant formula, milk other than breast milk, cheese or yogurt or other milk products; b. foods made from grains, roots, and tubers, including porridge, fortified baby food from grains; c. vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; d. other fruits and vegetables; e. eggs; f. meat, poultry, fish, and shellfish (and organ meats); g. legumes and nuts; h. foods made with oil, fat, butter.

[2] At least twice a day for breastfed infants 6-8 months and at least three times a day for breastfed children 9-23 months

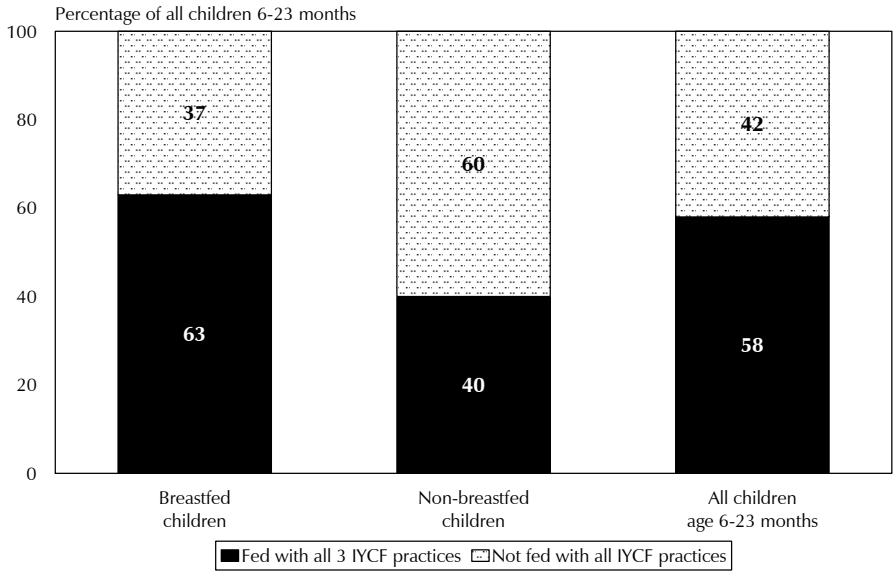
[3] Includes commercial infant formula; fresh, tinned, and powdered animal milk; and cheese, yogurt, and other milk products

[4] Non-breastfed children age 6-23 months are considered to be fed with a minimum standard of three Infant and Young Child Feeding practices if they receive other milk or milk products and are fed at least the minimum number of times per day with at least the minimum number of food groups.

[5] 3+ food groups for breastfed children and 4+ food groups for non-breastfed children

[6] Fed solid or semi-solid food at least twice a day for infants 6-8 months, 3+ times a day for other breastfed children, and 4+ times for non-breastfed children

Figure 11.3 Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Practices



MDHS 2009

11.7 MICRONUTRIENT INTAKE AMONG CHILDREN

Table 11.7 summarises information collected in the 2009 MDHS on the intake of food rich in vitamin A and iron by youngest children and on the receipt of a vitamin A supplement and de-worming medication by all children.

Vitamin A is an essential micronutrient for the immune system that plays an important role in maintaining the epithelial tissue in the body. Severe Vitamin A Deficiency (VAD) can cause eye damage. Deficiency also can increase severity of infections, such as measles and diarrhoeal diseases in children, and can slow recovery from illness. Vitamin A is found in breast milk, other milks, liver, eggs, fish, butter, red palm oil, mangoes, papayas, carrots, pumpkins, and dark green leafy vegetables. The liver can store an adequate amount of the vitamin for four to six months. Periodic dosing (usually every six months) with vitamin A supplement is one method of ensuring that children at risk do not develop VAD.

The MDHS collected information on the consumption of foods rich in vitamin A and on the coverage of supplements. Table 11.7 shows that 82 percent of last-born children living with the mother consumed foods rich in vitamin A in the 24-hour period before the survey. Consumption of foods rich in vitamin A increases from 53 percent among children age 6-8 months to 91 percent among children age 24-35 months. There is no gender difference in the consumption of foods rich in vitamin A. Not surprisingly, breastfeeding children (80 percent) consume foods rich in vitamin A much less frequently than non-breastfeeding children (87 percent). There is not much variation by urban-rural residence in the consumption of vitamin A-rich foods.

With regard to regions, children living in the North region (88 percent) consume foods rich in vitamin A more often than children in other regions. Children of young mothers (15-19) consume food rich in vitamin A (86 percent) at higher rates than children of older mothers. No systematic relation is observed between children's consumption of vitamin A-rich food and the mother's education or wealth status.

Table 11.7 Micronutrient intake among children

Among youngest children age 6-35 months who are living with their mother, the percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the day or night preceding the survey, and among all children age 6-59 months, the percentages who were given vitamin A supplements in the six months preceding the survey, and who were given de-worming medication in the six months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Among youngest children age 6-35 months living with the mother:			Among all children age 6-59 months:		
Background characteristic	Percentage who consumed foods rich in vitamin A in past 24 hours[1]	Percentage who consumed foods rich in iron in past 24 hours[2]	Number of children	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in past 6 months	Percentage given de-worming medication in past 6 months[3]	Number of children
Age in months						
6-8	53.2	15.4	225	11.9	7.0	227
9-11	76.2	49.5	213	46.7	23.9	214
12-17	85.4	67.6	378	59.0	58.8	387
18-23	85.3	73.8	414	46.3	78.1	436
24-35	90.8	84.0	593	49.6	83.9	686
36-47	na	na	0	52.0	81.1	678
48-59	na	na	0	50.0	74.9	649
Sex						
Male	81.1	64.6	917	48.9	66.9	1,668
Female	83.1	67.0	905	47.2	70.3	1,608
Breastfeeding status						
Breastfeeding	79.8	61.4	1,212	49.4	57.1	1,343
Not breastfeeding	86.7	75.2	600	47.3	76.8	1,872
Residence						
Urban	79.8	59.9	547	27.4	64.4	968
Rural	83.1	68.3	1,275	56.7	70.3	2,308
Region						
Malé	79.8	59.9	547	27.4	64.4	968
North	87.6	70.0	293	59.1	70.7	517
North Central	83.9	67.1	253	59.0	73.3	481
Central	79.2	69.4	163	63.5	81.7	296
South Central	81.9	69.7	228	59.7	70.7	390
South	81.2	66.3	337	47.9	62.1	624
Mother's education						
No formal education	81.8	68.5	193	58.4	75.1	415
Primary	81.3	67.1	578	55.0	72.4	1,204
Secondary	81.8	63.6	930	41.9	63.7	1,476
More than secondary	88.4	70.7	98	27.4	68.7	142
Mother's age at birth						
15-19	85.9	73.8	65	37.0	62.6	147
20-29	82.0	65.4	1,187	47.0	69.0	2,115
30-39	82.3	66.0	521	51.5	68.0	926
40-49	78.9	61.4	48	54.6	72.6	88
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	80.6	66.7	329	59.0	74.1	633
Second	82.8	68.4	389	58.5	69.2	701
Middle	83.7	68.1	396	56.1	71.0	697
Fourth	82.1	67.7	353	35.5	65.5	652
Highest	81.0	57.7	356	28.4	62.4	593
Total	82.1	65.8	1,822	48.1	68.6	3,276

Note: Information on vitamin A and de-worming medication is based on the mother's recall. Total includes cases for which information on breastfeeding status and for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
na = Not applicable
[1] Includes meat (and organ meat), fish, poultry, eggs, pumpkin, red or yellow yams or squash, carrots, red sweet potatoes, dark green leafy vegetables, mango, and papaya
[2] Includes meat, (including organ meat) ,fish, poultry, and eggs
[3] De-worming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and for schistosomiasis.

Iron is essential for cognitive development. Low iron intake can contribute to anaemia. Iron requirements are greatest between age 6 and 11 months, when growth is most rapid. Table 11.7 shows that 66 percent of the youngest children age 6-35 months who live with their mother consumed foods rich in iron in the 24 hours preceding the interview. The proportion of children who are fed foods rich in iron increases with age, from 15 percent among children age 6-8 months to 84 percent among children age 24-35 months.

As expected, breastfeeding children (61 percent) consume iron-rich foods less often than those not breastfeeding (75 percent). Urban children (60 percent) are less likely than rural children (68 percent) to receive iron-rich foods. By region, the proportion of children who consume iron-rich foods ranges from 60 percent in Malé to 70 percent in the North and the South Central regions. Consumption of iron-rich foods is highest among children whose mothers were age 15-19 years at the time of their birth. The proportion of children who are fed foods rich in iron does not vary systematically with the mother's level of education and wealth status.

The 2009 MDHS also collected information on vitamin A supplementation. As shown in Table 11.7, almost half of the children (48 percent) age 6-59 months received vitamin A supplements in the six months preceding the survey. Children ages 6-8 months and urban children have low rates of vitamin A supplementation in the six months preceding the survey (12 percent and 27 percent, respectively). A mother's level of education is negatively associated with children receiving vitamin A supplements; 58 percent of children of mothers with no formal education received vitamin A supplements in the past six months compared with 27 percent of children whose mothers have more than secondary education. The proportion of children who receive vitamin A supplements increased with mothers' age at birth and decreased with household wealth status. The proportion of children in the lowest and second wealth quintile who received vitamin A supplement is 59 percent, compared with 28 percent of children in the highest wealth quintile.

Infection with helminths or intestinal worms has been shown to have an adverse impact on the physical development of children and is associated with high levels of iron deficiency anaemia and other nutritional deficiencies. Regular treatment with de-worming medication is a simple, cost effective measure to address these infections. Table 11.7 shows that more than two-thirds of children age 6-59 months received de-worming medication during the six months preceding the survey.

The proportion of children who receive de-worming medication increases with age, from 7 percent among children age 6-8 months to 84 percent among children age 24-35 months, before declining among children age 36 months and older. The proportion of children who receive de-worming medication is much higher among non-breastfeeding children (77 percent) than among those who are breastfeeding (57 percent). By region, the proportion of children who received de-worming medication is highest in the Central region (82 percent) and lowest in the South region (62 percent). The rate of de-worming medication decreases with increase in the mother's level of education and household wealth quintile.

11.8 NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF WOMEN

Anthropometric measurements of height and weight were collected for women age 15-49. In this report, two indicators of nutritional status based on these data are presented: the percentage of women with very short stature (less than 145 cm) and the body mass index (BMI).

The body mass index (BMI), or the Quetelet index, is used to measure thinness and obesity. BMI is defined as weight in kilograms divided by height in metres squared (kg/m2). A cut-off point of 18.5 is used to define thinness or acute undernutrition, and a BMI of 25.0 or above usually indicates overweight or obesity. The height of a woman is associated with past socioeconomic status and nutrition during childhood and adolescence. Low pre-pregnancy BMI and short stature are risk factors for poor birth outcomes and obstetric complications. In developing countries, maternal underweight is the leading risk factor for preventable deaths and diseases.

Table 11.8 shows the percentage of women with height under 145 cm, the mean BMI, and the proportion of women falling into high-risk categories, according to background characteristics. Respondents for whom there was no information on height or weight and for whom a BMI could not be estimated are excluded from this analysis. The data analysis of height is based on 5,694 women, and the analysis of BMI is based on 5,173 women.

Table 11.8 shows that 12 percent of women have short stature (below 145 cm). Short stature increases with age, is higher in rural areas, and decreases with increasing level of education and wealth status. The percentage of women with height under 145 cm ranges from 18 percent among women with no formal education to 6 percent among women with more than secondary education. Short stature ranges from 8 percent in the Central region to 18 percent in the South region.

Table 11.8 Nutritional status of women

Among women age 15-49, the percentage with height under 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and the percentage with specific BMI levels, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Height		Body Mass Index[1]								
				Normal	Thin			Overweight/obese			
Background characteristic	Percentage below 145 cm	Number of women	Mean Body Mass Index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 (total normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0-18.4 (mildly thin)	<17 (moderately and severely thin)	≥25.0 (total overweight or obese)	25.0-29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	Number of women
Age											
15-19	8.4	88	21.9	52.7	23.7	11.1	12.6	23.5	20.7	2.8	69
20-29	8.0	2,211	23.4	54.2	13.4	8.1	5.3	32.4	23.6	8.8	1,877
30-39	11.6	2,012	25.3	46.7	4.0	2.8	1.2	49.3	36.1	13.3	1,863
40-49	19.6	1,383	26.3	37.5	3.2	1.8	1.4	59.3	40.0	19.3	1,364
Residence											
Urban	10.4	1,805	25.3	43.5	5.3	3.3	2.0	51.2	36.9	14.4	1,657
Rural	12.9	3,889	24.6	48.8	8.5	5.2	3.3	42.8	30.2	12.5	3,516
Region											
Malé	10.4	1,805	25.3	43.5	5.3	3.3	2.0	51.2	36.9	14.4	1,657
North	8.6	897	24.1	49.8	11.3	6.6	4.6	39.0	28.8	10.2	809
North Central	13.6	998	24.9	44.8	8.2	4.7	3.5	46.9	33.4	13.5	903
Central	7.8	496	24.9	47.1	6.9	4.0	2.9	46.0	32.4	13.6	440
South Central	14.4	657	24.5	51.5	8.6	5.7	2.9	40.0	28.4	11.6	604
South	18.3	841	24.7	51.2	6.7	4.4	2.3	42.1	28.2	13.9	761
Education											
No formal education	18.2	1,392	25.9	41.7	4.2	2.4	1.9	54.0	34.8	19.3	1,345
Primary	12.1	2,001	25.1	45.3	5.9	3.8	2.1	48.8	35.7	13.1	1,840
Secondary	8.6	2,003	23.7	53.2	11.4	7.3	4.1	35.4	26.6	8.9	1,724
More than secondary	5.5	233	24.2	47.0	9.1	2.3	6.9	43.9	35.5	8.3	203
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	14.4	1,055	24.4	49.1	10.4	6.3	4.0	40.6	28.4	12.1	963
Second	13.3	1,127	24.8	46.6	9.0	5.9	3.1	44.4	31.0	13.4	1,030
Middle	12.5	1,226	24.5	50.7	7.0	3.7	3.3	42.4	31.4	11.0	1,097
Fourth	10.5	1,130	25.3	42.7	5.5	2.9	2.6	51.8	37.0	14.9	1,027
Highest	9.9	1,156	25.1	46.3	5.7	4.3	1.5	48.0	33.8	14.2	1,057
Total	12.1	5,694	24.8	47.1	7.5	4.6	2.9	45.5	32.4	13.1	5,173

Note: The Body Mass Index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in meters (kg/m^2). Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing.
[1] Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

Almost one in two women (47 percent) has a normal BMI. The proportion of women with a normal BMI decreases with age from 53 percent among women age 15-19 to 38 percent among women age 40-49. Small differences are found across other subgroups of women.

Eight percent of women were found to be underweight (BMI less than 18.5), and 46 percent were overweight or obese (BMI 25 or higher). Women age 15-19 are the thinnest compared with older women. Higher rates of underweight women are found in rural areas than in urban areas (9 percent and 5 percent, respectively).

On the other hand, the percentage of overweight or obese women is higher in urban areas (51 percent) than in rural areas (43 percent). Malé (51 percent), North Central region (47 percent), and Central region (46 percent) have the highest percentages of overweight or obese women, and the North region has the lowest percentage (39 percent). Overweight and obesity decrease with increasing level of education. For example, 54 percent of women with no formal education are overweight or obese compared with 44 percent of women with more than secondary education. Women in the lowest wealth quintile also have the lowest rates of overweight or obesity.

11.9 Foods Consumed by Mothers

The quality and quantity of foods consumed by mothers influence their health and that of their children, especially the health of breastfeeding children. The 2009 MDHS included questions on the types of food consumed by mothers with children under age 3 during the day and night preceding the interview.

Table 11.9 shows that approximately nine in ten mothers of young children in Maldives consume foods made of grain and eat meat, fish, shellfish, poultry, or eggs. Two in three women eat vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; about one in two eats foods made with oil, fats, or butter; 44 percent of women consume sugary foods; 40 percent consume other solid or semi-solid food; and 35 percent consume other fruits and vegetables. One in four women consumes foods made of roots or tubers and legumes, and 13 percent consume cheese and yogurt.

The consumption of foods varies according to background characteristics. Consumption of milk, other liquids, and other solid or semi-solid food decreases with age, and intake of tea/coffee, foods made from grains, and foods made from roots/tubers increases with age. The consumption of milk, tea/coffee, other solid or semi-solid food and food made with oil/fat/butter is higher in rural areas than in urban areas, while the consumption of other liquids, food made from roots/tubers, legumes, cheese/yogurt, and other fruits and vegetables is higher in urban areas. As women's education increases, the consumption of legumes, cheese/yogurt, vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables, other fruits and vegetables, other solid or semi-solid food, foods made with oil, fat, and butter, and sugary foods also increases. Finally, the rates of consumption of legumes, cheese/yogurt, and other fruits and vegetables increases with each wealth quintile.

Table 11.9 Foods consumed by mothers in the day and night preceding the interview

Among mothers age 15-49 with a child under age three years living with them, the percentage who consumed specific types of foods in the day or night preceding the interview, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Liquids			Solid or semi-solid foods										
Background characteristic	Milk	Tea/ coffee	Other liquids	Foods made from grains[1]	Foods made from roots/ tubers	Foods made from legumes	Meat/ fish/ shellfish/ poultry/ eggs	Cheese/ yogurt	Vitamin A-rich fruits/ vege-tables[1]	Other fruits/ vege-tables	Other solid or semi-solid food	Foods made with oil/ fat/ butter	Sugary foods	Number of women
Age														
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	25
20-29	59.4	62.1	75.5	90.5	22.7	23.8	86.9	14.2	66.9	34.2	42.5	48.3	44.7	1,356
30-39	55.4	67.2	71.7	92.3	24.7	26.3	85.2	12.4	68.0	35.4	36.0	50.9	40.9	737
40-49	44.0	72.7	63.2	95.3	30.7	25.7	91.5	11.7	64.8	42.6	31.4	38.8	45.7	105
Residence														
Urban	53.2	54.5	77.2	91.4	25.9	29.6	85.7	19.3	67.8	41.1	36.5	44.9	42.0	685
Rural	59.3	68.7	72.5	91.3	22.6	22.3	87.1	10.9	66.7	32.1	41.2	50.4	44.3	1,538
Region														
Malé	53.2	54.5	77.2	91.4	25.9	29.6	85.7	19.3	67.8	41.1	36.5	44.9	42.0	685
North	60.4	70.7	72.7	93.8	26.9	28.7	88.0	8.8	69.5	33.1	42.4	58.2	45.7	348
North Central	57.0	71.7	60.3	92.9	22.2	22.3	89.1	9.1	68.1	34.3	37.1	48.6	47.8	303
Central	57.6	63.8	77.5	91.6	17.3	18.1	86.8	12.9	61.5	31.7	49.3	45.6	46.3	205
South Central	55.2	65.5	77.4	89.9	22.5	16.4	88.7	5.8	60.6	30.2	30.5	50.5	30.8	279
South	63.9	69.6	75.5	88.9	21.9	23.0	83.7	16.4	70.1	31.3	46.4	47.2	48.7	404
Education														
No formal education	51.6	73.0	60.1	91.7	19.6	18.2	85.0	9.2	60.9	26.1	30.7	43.7	38.8	220
Primary	52.3	67.2	73.2	90.5	25.8	22.6	87.3	9.8	64.2	33.0	38.5	48.8	41.4	714
Secondary	61.9	60.8	76.7	91.5	21.5	25.4	86.3	14.6	69.0	36.5	40.1	48.2	44.8	1,135
More than secondary	53.1	63.7	75.7	94.4	35.7	39.6	88.6	31.5	75.5	48.1	57.2	57.2	53.9	129
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	50.4	71.8	70.2	92.5	23.7	20.5	88.9	8.0	63.2	27.4	36.5	48.0	39.1	393
Second	57.4	66.8	70.9	90.9	21.5	21.1	86.0	8.4	65.3	31.1	38.3	48.2	45.4	473
Middle	62.7	67.2	75.2	90.6	20.2	22.9	86.3	11.8	68.5	33.4	45.8	50.6	42.3	471
Fourth	58.6	60.6	77.1	90.3	24.1	27.1	86.4	16.4	71.4	40.8	38.7	48.6	44.5	445
Highest	56.9	56.0	76.0	92.7	28.9	31.1	86.0	22.5	66.4	41.4	38.7	47.6	45.9	441
Total	57.4	64.4	73.9	91.4	23.6	24.6	86.6	13.4	67.0	34.9	39.7	48.7	43.6	2,223

Note: Foods consumed in the past 24-hour period (yesterday and last night). Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
[1] Includes pumpkin, orange or yellow squash, carrots, sweet potatoes, dark green leafy vegetables, mangoes, and papayas

11.10 MICRONUTRIENT INTAKE AMONG MOTHERS

Adequate micronutrient intake by women has important benefits for both women and their children. Breastfeeding children benefit from micronutrient supplementation that mothers receive, especially vitamin A. Iron supplementation of women during pregnancy protects mother and infant against anaemia. Anaemia may lead to an increased risk of premature delivery and low birthweight.

Table 11.10 lists measures that help assess the extent to which women receive adequate intake of vitamin A and iron during pregnancy. About 93 percent of these mothers eat foods rich in vitamin A, and 87 percent eat iron-rich foods. In general the consumption of vitamin A and iron-rich foods is high and does not vary much by background characteristics.

Table 11.10 shows that 52 percent of women with children born in the five years preceding the survey received a dose of vitamin A in the first two months after the birth of the last child. Postpartum vitamin A supplementation is higher among rural women (55 percent) than among urban women (45 percent). By region, the proportion of women who received postpartum vitamin A supplementation ranges from 45 percent in Malé to 61 percent in the North Central region. Postpartum vitamin A supplementation is lowest among women with more than secondary education and women in the highest wealth quintile (32 percent and 44 percent, respectively).

Table 11.10 Micronutrient intake among mothers

Among women age 15-49 with a child under age three years living with her, the percentages who consumed vitamin A-rich and iron-rich foods in the 24 hours preceding the survey; among women age 15-49 with a child born in the past five years, the percentage who received a vitamin A dose in the first two months after the birth of the last child; among mothers age 15-49 who during the pregnancy of the last child born in the five years prior to the survey, the percentage who suffered from night blindness, the percentage who took iron tablets for specific numbers of days, and the percentage who took de-worming medication, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Women with children under three years living with them			Women with children under five years								Percentage of women who took de-worming medication during pregnancy for last birth	Number of women
	Percentage consumed vitamin-A rich foods[1]	Percentage consumed iron-rich foods[2]	Number of women	Percentage who received vitamin A dose postpartum[3]	Percentage who had night blindness during pregnancy for last birth		Number of days iron tablets or syrup taken during pregnancy for last birth						
					Reported	Adjusted[4]	None	<60	60-89	90+	Don't know/ missing		
Age													
15-19	*	*	25	(61.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(17.7)	(6.9)	(1.6)	(60.2)	(13.6)	(12.6)	27
20-29	93.1	86.9	1,356	53.0	3.4	1.8	8.9	6.7	1.8	67.2	15.4	13.0	1,758
30-39	91.8	85.2	737	49.3	1.5	1.0	10.1	6.4	1.2	61.7	20.6	15.1	1,183
40-49	97.0	91.5	105	58.1	6.3	4.8	12.6	5.7	1.4	58.4	21.9	25.1	222
Residence													
Urban	92.0	85.7	685	45.1	3.0	1.8	8.8	4.4	0.8	61.8	24.2	6.8	964
Rural	93.3	87.1	1,538	55.1	2.7	1.7	10.0	7.4	1.9	65.6	15.0	18.0	2,227
Region													
Malé	92.0	85.7	685	45.1	3.0	1.8	8.8	4.4	0.8	61.8	24.2	6.8	964
North	96.1	88.0	348	48.9	1.8	0.9	9.0	6.2	1.6	62.6	20.6	12.3	489
North Central	93.9	89.1	303	61.3	3.7	2.1	7.5	10.6	2.4	69.3	10.2	23.9	466
Central	91.5	86.8	205	55.8	2.3	0.8	8.9	8.9	2.5	69.8	9.9	21.2	293
South Central	92.4	88.7	279	51.9	2.7	1.6	10.4	9.8	1.6	54.6	23.6	18.4	390
South	92.1	83.7	404	57.0	3.1	2.5	13.3	3.6	1.6	70.5	11.0	16.3	589
Education													
No formal education	92.2	85.0	220	53.6	4.6	3.8	15.2	6.9	1.6	52.9	23.5	23.7	396
Primary	93.0	87.3	714	55.8	2.5	1.1	11.9	7.7	1.8	61.5	17.1	19.7	1,143
Secondary	93.1	86.3	1,135	51.1	2.9	1.7	7.4	6.0	1.5	68.4	16.8	9.3	1,456
More than secondary	91.7	88.6	129	32.4	0.9	0.9	2.4	2.0	1.6	78.1	15.9	6.4	156
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	94.2	88.9	393	53.4	4.0	2.9	12.3	7.1	2.6	60.2	17.7	22.4	595
Second	92.1	86.0	473	55.2	2.8	1.6	10.0	7.9	1.5	66.0	14.6	20.2	677
Middle	94.5	86.3	471	55.3	2.3	1.1	8.5	7.9	1.8	67.1	14.7	15.0	677
Fourth	92.8	86.4	445	51.6	2.4	1.7	9.9	5.3	0.7	66.8	17.3	10.5	643
Highest	91.1	86.0	441	44.1	2.7	1.4	7.7	4.0	1.3	61.4	25.5	4.7	599
Total	92.9	86.6	2,223	52.1	2.8	1.7	9.7	6.5	1.6	64.5	17.8	14.6	3,190

Note: Total includes cases for which information on mother's formal education level is missing. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Includes meat (and organ meat), fish, poultry, eggs, pumpkin, red or yellow yams or squash, carrots, red sweet potatoes, mango, and papaya

[2] Includes meat (and organ meat), fish, poultry, eggs

[3] In the first two months after delivery

[4] Women who reported night blindness but did not report difficulty with vision during the day

[5] De-worming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and for schistosomiasis

Only 3 percent of women said that they had experienced night blindness while pregnant with their youngest child. After adjusting this figure for women who also reported vision problems during the day, only 2 percent of women are estimated to have experienced VAD-related night blindness during pregnancy.

To boost iron, 65 percent of women took iron supplements during pregnancy for 90 days or more. Seven percent took iron tablets for fewer than 60 days and 10 percent did not take any iron supplements at all. The percentage of women who took iron supplements for 90 days or more is highest among women age 20-29 (67 percent), rural women (66 percent), and those with more than a secondary level of education (78 percent). By region, this proportion ranges from 55 percent in the South Central region to 71 percent in the South region.

To treat intestinal worms, 15 percent of the women took de-worming medication while pregnant with the last child in the five years preceding the survey. The use of de-worming medication during pregnancy is highest among women age 40-49 (25 percent), rural women (18 percent), women residing in the North central region (24 percent), women with no formal education (24 percent), and women in the lowest wealth quintile (22 percent).

HIV/AIDS-RELATED KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIOUR

12

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). As the virus weakens the immune system, the body becomes susceptible to and unable to recover from other opportunistic diseases that may lead to death through secondary infection. The predominant mode of HIV transmission is through heterosexual contact, followed in frequency by perinatal transmission, in which the mother passes the virus to the child during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding. Other modes of transmission are through infected blood and unsafe injections.

The spread of the AIDS epidemic depends on a number of variables, including the level of HIV/AIDS-related knowledge among the general population; social stigmatization; risk behaviour modification; access to high-quality services for sexually transmitted infections (STIs); provision and uptake of HIV counselling and testing; and access to care and antiretroviral therapy (ART). The principal objective of this chapter is to establish the prevalence of relevant knowledge, perceptions, and behaviours at the national level and also within geographic and socioeconomic subpopulations. In this way, prevention programmes can target those groups of individuals most in need of information and most at risk of HIV infection.

In this chapter, HIV/AIDS knowledge and attitudes are discussed first. The level of self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases is then presented. The prevalence of non-sterile injections, which can increase the risk of infection with HIV and other diseases is considered next. The chapter then reviews several indicators for young ever-married women age 15-24 including HIV/AIDS awareness, knowledge of a source for condoms, and trends in the age at first sex.

Table 12.1 Knowledge of AIDS

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who have heard of AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Has heard of AIDS	Number of women
Age		
15-24	96.7	1,387
15-19	98.2	119
20-24	96.6	1,268
25-29	97.6	1,539
30-39	97.5	2,471
40-49	95.4	1,734
Marital status		
Married	97.0	6,500
Divorced/separated/ widowed	95.3	631
Residence		
Urban	97.5	2,368
Rural	96.6	4,763
Region		
Malé	97.5	2,368
North	95.0	1,067
North Central	97.8	1,038
Central	97.7	615
South Central	97.0	853
South	96.0	1,190
Education		
No formal education	94.1	1,668
Primary	96.5	2,464
Secondary	98.5	2,584
More than secondary	100.0	333
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	95.3	1,300
Second	96.4	1,396
Middle	97.1	1,488
Fourth	97.0	1,447
Highest	98.3	1,499
Total	96.9	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

12.1 HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE, TRANSMISSION, AND PREVENTION METHODS

12.1.1 Awareness of HIV/AIDS

MDHS respondents were asked whether they had heard of HIV or AIDS. Those who reported having heard of HIV or AIDS were asked a number of questions about whether and how HIV/AIDS could be avoided. Table 12.1 shows that awareness of AIDS is nearly universal (97 percent) among ever-married women age 15-49 in the Maldives. At least 94 percent of respondents in all subgroups shown in the table have heard of AIDS.

12.1.2 Methods of HIV Prevention

AIDS prevention programmes focus their messages and efforts on three important aspects of behaviour: using condoms, staying faithful to one partner, and delaying first sexual intercourse in young persons (i.e., abstinence). Table 12.2 shows the percentage of women who, in response to prompted questions, agreed that specific actions would help an individual to avoid AIDS.

Around eight in ten women age 15-49 recognize that using condoms and abstaining from sex are different methods of avoiding HIV infection. Limiting sex to one partner who is not HIV positive is recognized by 9 in 10 women (92 percent) as another way to avoid HIV exposure. Seventy-six percent of women recognize that using condoms and limiting sex to one partner who is not HIV positive are ways to prevent transmission of HIV.

Table 12.2 Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse, by having one sex partner who is not infected and has no other partners, and by abstaining from sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Using condoms[1]	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner[2]	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner[1,2]	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number of ever-married women
Age					
15-24	75.5	91.6	72.5	76.2	1,387
15-19	59.7	90.8	57.1	75.0	119
20-24	77.0	91.7	74.0	76.3	1,268
25-29	82.3	91.5	77.9	79.3	1,539
30-39	82.2	93.3	79.4	82.8	2,471
40-49	75.2	90.0	71.7	80.4	1,734
Marital status					
Married	79.2	91.9	75.7	80.2	6,500
Divorced/separated/ widowed	80.2	90.5	77.4	80.3	631
Residence					
Urban	82.4	92.9	79.4	77.5	2,368
Rural	77.7	91.2	74.1	81.5	4,763
Region					
Malé	82.4	92.9	79.4	77.5	2,368
North	74.8	90.9	72.7	81.7	1,067
North Central	73.1	93.9	70.7	79.8	1,038
Central	81.9	91.0	76.8	82.1	615
South Central	79.4	89.1	73.1	81.4	853
South	80.8	90.7	77.7	82.6	1,190
Education					
No formal education	72.7	87.8	68.7	78.8	1,668
Primary	79.8	91.3	76.2	80.9	2,464
Secondary	81.4	93.9	78.3	80.3	2,584
More than secondary	88.2	96.5	85.3	80.3	333
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	74.5	89.1	70.4	79.1	1,300
Second	77.4	91.3	73.9	81.3	1,396
Middle	79.0	92.2	75.5	83.2	1,488
Fourth	79.1	92.2	76.5	79.4	1,447
Highest	85.5	93.7	82.2	77.8	1,499
Total	79.3	91.8	75.9	80.2	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education
[1] Using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse
[2] Partner who has no other partners

Overall, differentials in the levels of knowledge of the various modes of prevention are not large. The largest differentials tend to be observed across educational levels. For example, 85 percent of women with more than secondary education say that the risk of HIV transmission can be reduced by using condoms and limiting sex to one partner who is not HIV positive; this compares with only 69 percent of women with no formal education. Although knowledge of HIV prevention generally increases with education, there is no clear pattern for knowledge about abstention as a method of prevention.

12.1.3 Rejection of Misconceptions about HIV/AIDS

Stigma and discrimination are two of the constraints in the prevention of HIV/AIDS. Stigma and discrimination usually arise from misconceptions about HIV/AIDS. For programme efforts to succeed, therefore, it is important that common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS are corrected. Common misconceptions about AIDS include the idea that HIV-infected people always appear ill and the belief that the virus can be transmitted through mosquito or other insect bites, by sharing food with someone who is infected, or by witchcraft or other supernatural means. Respondents were asked about each of these misconceptions, and the findings are presented in Table 12.3.

Two in three women correctly said that a healthy-looking person can have an HIV infection. The highest rates of misconceptions are for mosquito bites (i.e., 74 percent of women say that HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bite) and sharing food with a person who has AIDS (i.e., 83 percent of women correctly report that AIDS cannot be transmitted by sharing food with a person who has AIDS). A woman's level of education and household wealth strongly relate to accurate knowledge about the ways in which HIV can and cannot be transmitted; the level of accurate knowledge about HIV transmission increases with an increase in the level of education and the wealth quintile.

Table 12.3 provides an assessment of the level of comprehensive knowledge of HIV prevention and transmission. Comprehensive knowledge is defined as (1) knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one faithful, HIV-negative partner can reduce the chances of getting HIV, (2) knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and (3) rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention: that HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites and by shared food with a person who has HIV or AIDS. The results show that the percentage of respondents with comprehensive knowledge of AIDS among ever-married women is 42 percent.

Table 12.3 Comprehensive knowledge about AIDS

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who say that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus and who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention, and the percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who say that: A healthy-looking person can have AIDS	AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	AIDS cannot be transmitted by super-natural means	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has the AIDS virus	Percentage who say that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus and who reject the two most common local misconceptions[1]	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about AIDS[2]	Number of ever-married women
Age							
15-24	65.3	67.2	83.4	74.7	41.8	35.0	1,387
15-19	69.3	54.7	70.1	62.8	33.3	21.5	119
20-24	64.9	68.4	84.7	75.8	42.6	36.3	1,268
25-29	68.2	78.1	90.6	85.1	53.8	45.5	1,539
30-39	70.5	78.9	92.3	88.3	55.8	48.0	2,471
40-49	63.1	67.4	85.0	81.6	42.2	33.9	1,734
Marital status							
Married	67.4	73.9	88.6	83.5	49.6	41.5	6,500
Divorced/separated/ widowed	65.2	71.1	87.0	81.3	46.7	41.3	631
Residence							
Urban	72.3	82.1	92.4	88.5	60.0	50.8	2,368
Rural	64.6	69.5	86.4	80.8	44.0	36.9	4,763
Region							
Malé	72.3	82.1	92.4	88.5	60.0	50.8	2,368
North	60.3	67.9	84.2	80.2	41.0	35.1	1,067
North Central	69.2	65.1	85.4	79.1	43.9	34.7	1,038
Central	69.9	72.0	86.0	82.5	49.1	42.1	615
South Central	73.0	71.3	87.3	83.1	50.7	41.9	853
South	55.8	72.1	88.9	80.1	39.5	34.3	1,190
Education							
No formal education	61.1	63.4	82.2	78.0	37.8	29.3	1,668
Primary	65.0	74.4	89.1	83.4	49.6	42.1	2,464
Secondary	70.9	76.9	90.4	85.1	53.0	45.6	2,584
More than secondary	82.3	90.9	97.1	93.3	72.6	61.6	333
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	62.8	64.7	82.8	77.7	39.3	32.4	1,300
Second	65.0	67.9	86.4	79.4	43.7	36.9	1,396
Middle	66.0	72.6	88.7	82.6	47.3	39.3	1,488
Fourth	68.3	79.1	90.5	85.7	54.2	45.4	1,447
Highest	73.1	82.7	92.9	90.4	60.6	52.1	1,499
Total	67.2	73.7	88.4	83.3	49.3	41.5	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

[1] Two most common local misconceptions: people can get AIDS from mosquito bites and sharing food with a person who has AIDS.

[2] Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that consistent use of a condom during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting the AIDS virus, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention.

12.2 KNOWLEDGE OF PREVENTION OF MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV

Increasing the level of general knowledge of transmission of HIV from mother to child and reducing the risk of transmission using antiretroviral drugs is critical to reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (MTCT). To assess MTCT knowledge, respondents were asked if the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to a child through breastfeeding and whether a mother with HIV can reduce the risk of transmission to the baby by taking certain drugs during pregnancy.

To assess the extent of awareness of the ways in which AIDS can be transmitted from a mother to her child, MDHS respondents were asked if the virus that causes AIDS can be transmitted during pregnancy, at delivery, or when breastfeeding. As Table 12.4 shows, 85 percent of ever-married women age 15-49 know the virus can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy,

and 70 percent of the women are aware the virus can be transmitted during delivery. Women are less knowledgeable about HIV transmission by breastfeeding (64 percent).

Differentials in the level of awareness of the modes of mother-to-child transmission are also shown in Table 12.4. Knowledge of pregnancy, delivery, and breastfeeding as potential modes of transmission for the HIV virus is generally higher among older women than among their younger counterparts. Awareness of HIV transmission during pregnancy and during delivery by place of residence varies within a small range. However, knowledge that HIV can be transmitted by breastfeeding varies widely by region, ranging from 58 percent in Malé to 70 percent in North Central. Although the pattern is not totally uniform, the level of awareness of pregnancy as a mode of mother-to-child transmission increases with a woman's educational attainment and her wealth quintile. Knowledge of breastfeeding as a means of HIV transmission, on the other hand, decreases as the woman's education and wealth increase.

Table 12.4 Knowledge of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV

Percentage of ever-married women who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, during delivery, and by breastfeeding, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who know that HIV can be transmitted: During pregnancy	During delivery	By breastfeeding	Number of ever-married women
Age				
15-24	81.6	63.4	62.4	1,387
15-19	76.6	57.6	65.9	119
20-24	82.1	64.0	62.1	1,268
25-29	84.1	65.8	58.6	1,539
30-39	89.2	73.5	64.1	2,471
40-49	84.2	73.7	68.3	1,734
Marital status				
Married	85.7	70.1	63.7	6,500
Divorced/separated/widowed	82.6	68.6	63.1	631
Currently pregnant				
Pregnant	84.6	66.7	65.8	522
Not pregnant or not sure	85.5	70.2	63.4	6,609
Residence				
Urban	86.5	70.5	58.3	2,368
Rural	84.9	69.7	66.2	4,763
Region				
Malé	86.5	70.5	58.3	2,368
North	83.3	66.8	62.5	1,067
North Central	87.8	70.8	69.8	1,038
Central	82.5	70.6	67.1	615
South Central	85.6	69.7	66.3	853
South	84.5	70.9	66.0	1,190
Education				
No formal education	83.2	71.9	68.4	1,668
Primary	85.1	70.1	63.6	2,464
Secondary	86.1	67.2	61.0	2,584
More than secondary	91.3	77.7	58.4	333
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	84.1	71.0	68.2	1,300
Second	84.2	69.3	65.8	1,396
Middle	85.1	68.5	67.0	1,488
Fourth	85.6	69.8	59.5	1,447
Highest	87.6	71.2	58.1	1,499
Total	85.4	70.0	63.6	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

12.3 ATTITUDES TOWARDS PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS

Widespread stigma and discrimination in a population can adversely affect both people's willingness to be tested and their adherence to antiretroviral therapy. Reduction of stigma and discrimination in a population is, thus, an important indicator of the success of programmes targeting HIV and AIDS prevention and control.

To assess the level of stigma, survey respondents who had heard of AIDS were asked if they would be willing to care for a relative sick with AIDS in their own households, if they would be willing to buy fresh vegetables from a market vendor who had HIV, if they thought a female or male teacher who has HIV but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching, and if they would want to keep a family member's HIV status secret. The results shown in Table 12.5 indicate that most women were willing to care for a relative with AIDS at home (86 percent), buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper with AIDS (79 percent), allow a female teacher with AIDS to keep teaching (61 percent), or allow a male teacher with AIDS to keep teaching (59 percent). Three in four women say that they would be open about having an HIV-positive family member. Thirty-seven percent of women express accepting attitudes on all four indicators, indicating that some degree of stigma is associated with HIV/AIDS within Maldivian society.

Table 12.5 Accepting attitudes toward those living with HIV/AIDS

Among ever-married women age 15-49 who have heard of AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes toward people with AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Percentage of women who:						
Background characteristic	Are willing to care for a family member with the AIDS virus in the respondent's home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper who has the AIDS virus	Say that a female teacher with the AIDS virus and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Say that a male teacher with the AIDS virus and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with the AIDS virus	Percentage expressing acceptance attitudes on all five indicators	Number of ever-married women who have heard of AIDS
Age							
15-24	85.8	71.6	53.9	52.1	80.1	32.7	1,341
15-19	83.9	68.2	43.8	42.1	88.9	27.4	117
20-24	85.9	72.0	54.9	53.1	79.3	33.2	1,224
25-29	86.8	81.0	60.1	58.6	72.8	35.5	1,503
30-39	84.9	81.7	65.7	62.3	73.5	37.3	2,410
40-49	86.2	78.1	62.3	59.1	79.3	39.8	1,654
Marital status							
Married	85.6	78.5	61.4	58.9	75.9	36.6	6,307
Divorced/separated/ widowed	87.5	80.7	61.0	57.5	77.7	37.2	601
Residence							
Urban	84.0	82.6	62.0	59.8	66.8	35.3	2,309
Rural	86.7	76.7	61.1	58.2	80.7	37.3	4,599
Region							
Malé	84.0	82.6	62.0	59.8	66.8	35.3	2,309
North	84.9	76.3	62.1	59.7	79.3	36.2	1,013
North Central	84.7	74.4	58.8	56.0	77.8	33.1	1,015
Central	88.2	77.6	58.5	56.2	78.9	36.8	601
South Central	92.1	79.5	65.3	62.4	80.3	42.0	827
South	85.1	76.8	60.4	56.9	85.6	38.7	1,142
Education							
No formal education	86.1	75.0	61.3	58.6	82.1	38.8	1,571
Primary	85.8	79.4	62.7	59.2	79.5	38.6	2,377
Secondary	84.9	79.0	58.9	57.0	72.5	34.4	2,546
More than secondary	89.4	87.6	67.3	65.7	51.3	28.7	333
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	85.6	74.2	59.8	57.5	81.7	36.2	1,239
Second	86.6	75.9	60.3	57.1	82.7	37.8	1,346
Middle	86.9	79.5	63.4	60.5	79.8	39.4	1,444
Fourth	85.0	79.1	59.0	56.7	72.8	33.5	1,404
Highest	84.8	84.0	64.0	61.6	64.5	36.1	1,474
Total	85.8	78.7	61.4	58.8	76.0	36.6	6,908

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

12.4 KNOWLEDGE OF A SOURCE FOR HIV TESTING

Another important aspect of AIDS awareness assessed in the 2009 MDHS is the level of knowledge of a place where HIV testing is available. Table 12.6 shows that 82 percent of women age 15-49 know where to go for an HIV test. Knowledge of a source where HIV testing is available is highest among currently married women, women living in urban areas, and Malé residents. Knowledge of a place for HIV testing is directly related to the woman's level of education and wealth. For example, 76 percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile know where to obtain HIV testing compared with 90 percent of women in the highest wealth quintile.

Table 12.6 Knowledge of place for HIV testing

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test[1]	Number of ever-married women
Age		
15-24	83.2	1,387
15-19	77.6	119
20-24	83.7	1,268
25-29	85.1	1,539
30-39	83.9	2,471
40-49	76.6	1,734
Marital status		
Married	82.5	6,500
Divorced/separated/ widowed	79.9	631
Residence		
Urban	88.1	2,368
Rural	79.4	4,763
Region		
Malé	88.1	2,368
North	78.1	1,067
North Central	79.8	1,038
Central	74.6	615
South Central	78.0	853
South	83.6	1,190
Education		
No formal education	73.9	1,668
Primary	79.2	2,464
Secondary	88.7	2,584
More than secondary	94.3	333
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	75.7	1,300
Second	78.2	1,396
Middle	80.7	1,488
Fourth	85.9	1,447
Highest	89.8	1,499
Total	82.3	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

12.5 SELF-REPORTING OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

In the 2009 MDHS, respondents who had ever had sex were asked if they had had a disease they had contracted through sexual contact in the previous 12 months or if they had had either of two symptoms associated with sexually transmitted infections (STIs)—a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge from the vagina or a genital sore or ulcer. Table 12.7 shows the self-reported prevalence of STIs and STI symptoms among ever-married women age 15-49. One percent of women who have ever been sexually active had an STI and/or an STI symptom in the 12 months preceding the survey, 7 percent reported having a bad-smelling genital discharge, and 12 percent had a genital sore or ulcer. The prevalence of an STI or STI symptom is 15 percent. The prevalence of a self-reported STI or STI symptom is higher among women under age 25 compared to older women and among married women compared with divorced/separated/widowed women. Across regions, the prevalence of STI and/or symptoms of STI ranges from 13 percent in Malé, North, and South regions to 19 percent in North Central and Central regions.

Among women who report having an STI or symptoms of an STI, more than four in five sought help from a clinic, hospital, or private doctor/other health professional. About one in six did not seek advice or treatment (data not shown).

Table 12.7 Self-reported prevalence of sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and STI symptoms

Among ever-married women age 15-49 who ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of ever-married women who reported having in the past 12 months: STI	Bad smelling/ abnormal genital discharge	Genital sore/ulcer	STI/genital discharge/ sore or ulcer	Number of ever-married women who ever had sexual intercourse
Age					
15-24	2.0	10.3	15.3	20.3	1,387
15-19	0.0	7.3	16.8	21.6	119
20-24	2.2	10.6	15.1	20.2	1,268
25-29	1.4	9.2	13.7	16.8	1,536
30-39	1.2	6.3	10.8	14.2	2,471
40-49	0.8	3.6	7.6	9.1	1,734
Marital status					
Married	1.3	7.3	11.9	15.1	6,500
Divorced/separated/ widowed	0.9	4.1	7.3	10.3	628
Residence					
Urban	1.4	7.5	10.7	13.2	2,365
Rural	1.2	6.9	11.9	15.5	4,763
Region					
Malé	1.4	7.5	10.7	13.2	2,365
North	0.5	5.4	10.3	12.9	1,067
North Central	1.2	7.4	16.0	19.0	1,038
Central	1.8	10.2	14.3	19.4	615
South Central	1.3	6.4	12.4	15.7	853
South	1.6	6.3	8.2	12.6	1,190
Education					
No formal education	1.0	5.1	10.0	12.3	1,668
Primary	1.2	6.9	11.7	14.7	2,464
Secondary	1.4	8.3	12.6	16.5	2,581
More than secondary	2.2	7.2	9.8	12.5	333
Total	1.3	7.1	11.5	14.7	7,128

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education

12.6 PREVALENCE OF MEDICAL INJECTIONS

Non-sterile injections can pose a risk of infection with HIV and other diseases. To measure the potential risk of transmission of HIV associated with medical injections, respondents in the 2009 MDHS were asked if they had received at least one injection in the past 12 months, and if so, the number of injections altogether. The results indicate that more than 34 percent of women received a medical injection in the past 12 months. The average number of injections received per person during this period (including people who received no injections at all) is 4.7 injections per ever-married woman age 15-49. Women age 15-24 have the highest rates of injections.

Women who received injections were further asked if the syringe and needle were taken from a new, previously unopened package. Table 12.8 shows that more than 90 percent of women who received injections in the previous 12 months were administered injections with a syringe and needle taken from a new, unopened package. This is observed across all subgroups of women.

Table 12.8 Prevalence of medical injections

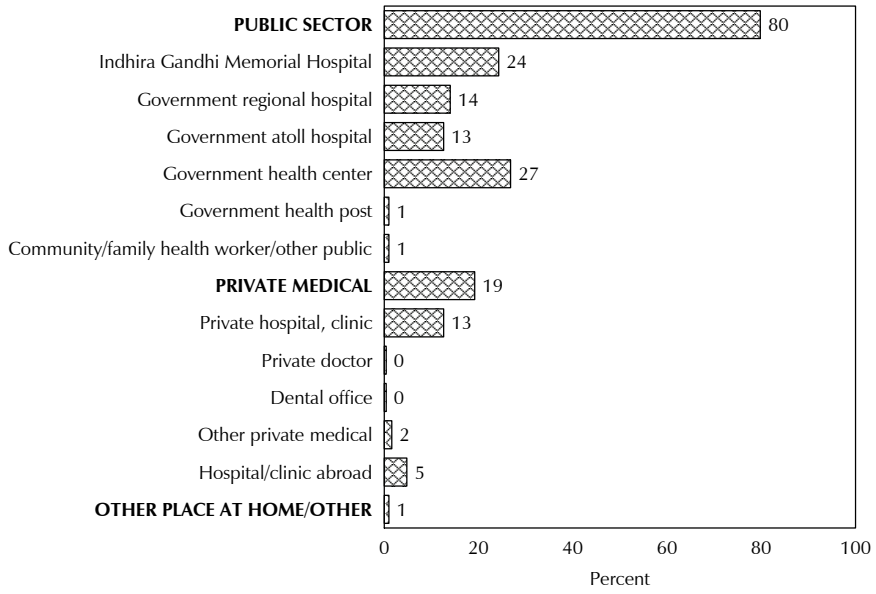
Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who received at least one medical injection in the last 12 months, the average number of medical injections per person in the last 12 months, and among those who received a medical injection, the percentage of last medical injections for which the syringe and needle were taken from a new, unopened package, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who received a medical injection in the last 12 months	Average number of medical injections per person in the last 12 months	Number of ever-married women	For last injection, syringe and needle taken from a new, unopened package	Number of ever-married women receiving medical injections in the past 12 months
Age					
15-24	43.8	4.6	1,387	93.2	607
15-19	46.4	2.2	119	98.2	55
20-24	43.5	4.8	1,268	92.7	552
25-29	33.9	4.7	1,539	93.2	522
30-39	31.5	4.7	2,471	95.4	779
40-49	30.4	4.6	1,734	89.5	527
Residence					
Urban	32.1	5.5	2,368	91.6	761
Rural	35.2	4.2	4,763	93.8	1,675
Region					
Malé	32.1	5.5	2,368	91.6	761
North	33.1	5.3	1,067	93.7	354
North Central	42.1	3.3	1,038	95.2	436
Central	39.4	4.2	615	94.0	242
South Central	34.4	2.9	853	91.0	293
South	29.4	5.1	1,190	94.4	349
Education					
No formal education	32.1	4.1	1,668	91.4	535
Primary	31.0	4.6	2,464	94.9	763
Secondary	38.2	5.4	2,584	92.8	988
More than secondary	34.1	3.2	333	93.0	114
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	33.5	5.0	1,300	93.8	436
Second	36.6	4.1	1,396	93.1	511
Middle	35.8	4.3	1,488	93.0	533
Fourth	32.6	6.2	1,447	95.5	472
Highest	32.3	3.8	1,499	90.2	485
Total	34.2	4.7	7,131	93.1	2,436

Note: Total includes 81 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education. Medical injections are those given by a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, dentist, or other health worker

Respondents who have had an injection in the past 12 months were asked where they obtained their last injection. The information is summarized in the Figure 12.1. Overall, 80 percent received the last injection in a public facility; 27 percent in a health centre, 24 percent in Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital, 14 percent in a regional hospital, and 13 percent in an atoll hospital.

Figure 12.1 Source of Last Medical Injection

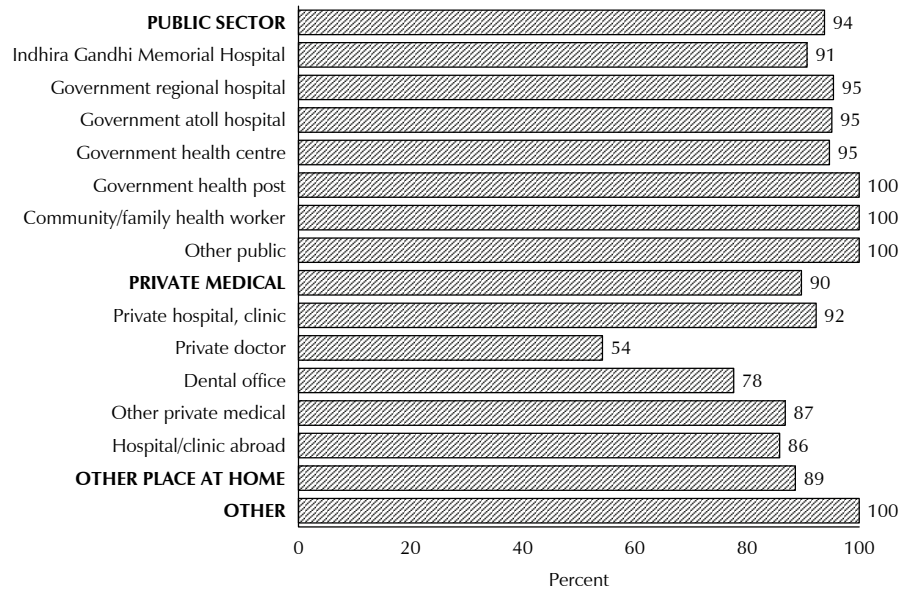


MDHS 2009

Kaye: Figure 12.1 please 1) combine Government health post and Community/family health worker/other public and call it "Other government facility/provider" = 2%, and 2) combine private doctor, dental office, other private medical and call it "Other private medical facility/provider" = 3%.

Figure 12.2 confirms the findings shown in Table 12.8. Safe injection is generally practiced in public facilities. Overall, 94 percent of the women report that their last injection was administered with a new syringe and needle taken from an unopened package at a public facility. The practice is slightly less stringent in the private sector (90 percent).

Figure 12.2 Safe Injection



MDHS 2009

12.7 HIV/AIDS KNOWLEDGE AND SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG YOUTH

This section addresses HIV/AIDS-related knowledge and sexual behaviour among youth age 15-24. Special attention is paid to this group because it accounts for half of all new HIV infections worldwide (Ross et al., 2006). In addition to knowledge of HIV transmission, data are presented on age at first sex, condom use, age differences between sexual partners, sex related to alcohol use, and voluntary counselling and testing for HIV.

12.7.1 HIV/AIDS-Related Knowledge among Young Adults

Young respondents were asked the same set of questions on facts and beliefs about HIV transmission as other respondents. Information on the overall level of knowledge of major methods of avoiding HIV exposure and the rejection of major misconceptions is shown in Tables 12.2 and 12.3. Table 12.9 shows the level of the composite indicator, "comprehensive knowledge," among young people by background characteristics. In general, the results indicate 35 percent of ever-married women age 15-24 have a comprehensive knowledge of AIDS. The knowledge increases with the woman's age. Women living in urban areas and in Malé are more knowledgeable than women living elsewhere. Comprehensive knowledge of AIDS positively relates to the woman's education; increasing from 20 percent for women with primary education to 63 percent for women with more than secondary education.

Table 12.9 Comprehensive knowledge about AIDS and of a source of condoms among youth

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-24 with comprehensive knowledge about AIDS and percentage with knowledge of a source of condoms, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage with comprehensive knowledge of AIDS[1]	Percentage who know a condom source[2]	Number of ever-married women
Age			
15-19	21.5	78.0	119
15-17	*	*	3
18-19	21.6	77.4	116
20-24	36.3	89.5	1,268
20-22	33.4	88.1	639
23-24	39.2	91.0	628
Residence			
Urban	43.4	90.0	384
Rural	31.8	88.0	1,003
Region			
Malé	43.4	90.0	384
North	32.9	91.6	226
North Central	31.2	85.8	212
Central	33.1	84.5	150
South Central	33.1	90.0	189
South	29.2	86.9	226
Education			
No formal education	*	*	10
Primary	19.5	77.6	218
Secondary	36.4	90.5	1,074
More than secondary	62.9	93.2	69
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	23.4	87.6	253
Second	32.8	85.2	291
Middle	34.1	90.4	321
Fourth	38.0	88.6	286
Highest	47.8	90.9	235
Total	35.0	88.5	1,387

Note: Total includes 16 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that consistent use of condom during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting the AIDS virus, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention. The components of comprehensive knowledge are presented in Tables 12.2 and 12.3.

[2] The following responses are not considered sources for condoms: friends, family members, and home

12.7.2 Knowledge of Condom Sources among Young Adults

Condom use among young adults plays an important role in the prevention of transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections as well as prevention of unwanted pregnancies. Knowledge of a source of condoms helps young adults to obtain and use condoms. Table 12.9 shows that the majority of women (89 percent) know of a place to obtain a condom. This percentage does not vary much across subgroups of women and generally follows the same pattern as differentials in comprehensive knowledge of AIDS.

12.7.3 Trends in Age at First Sex

Age at first sexual intercourse marks the time at which most individuals risk being exposed to HIV. Table 12.10 shows the proportion of ever-married women in the 15-24 age cohort who had sex before age 15 and before age 18. Less than 1 percent of young women had sex by age 15, while 6 percent reported having sex by age 18. Most young women in Maldives, therefore, had their first sexual intercourse after age 18. The proportion of women who had sex before age 18 is high among women who live in urban areas and in Malé (8 percent) and low among women in North Central (3 percent). The rate of young women having sexual intercourse by age 18 decreases rapidly by their degree of education, from 14 percent among women with primary education to 5 percent among women with secondary education.

Table 12.10 Age at first sexual intercourse among youth

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-24 who had sexual intercourse before age 15 and percentage of ever-married women age 18-24 who had sexual intercourse before age 18, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of ever-married women age 15-24	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 18	Number of ever-married women age 18-24
Age				
15-19	1.6	119	na	na
15-17	*	3	na	na
18-19	1.6	116	14.0	116
20-24	0.5	1,268	5.3	1,268
20-22	0.4	639	5.0	639
23-24	0.6	628	5.6	628
Knows condom source[1]				
Yes	0.5	1,228	5.4	1,225
No	1.2	159	10.9	159
Residence				
Urban	0.5	384	8.4	382
Rural	0.7	1,003	5.2	1,002
Region				
Malé	0.5	384	8.4	382
North	1.1	226	4.3	226
North Central	0.7	212	2.7	212
Central	0.4	150	7.4	149
South Central	0.4	189	6.6	189
South	0.6	226	5.5	226
Education				
No formal education	*	10	*	10
Primary	2.5	218	14.2	218
Secondary	0.3	1,074	4.5	1,071
More than secondary	0.0	69	0.0	69
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	0.5	253	6.6	252
Second	1.4	291	6.5	291
Middle	1.0	321	5.5	321
Fourth	0.0	286	6.9	286
Highest	0.0	235	4.5	233
Total	0.6	1,387	6.0	1,384

Note: Total includes 16 ever-married women with information missing on level of formal education. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.
na = Not available
[1] The following responses are not considered a source for condoms: friends, family members and home

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH OUTCOMES

13

The 2009 MDHS Ever-Married Women's Questionnaire collected data on the general background characteristics (e.g., age, education, wealth quintile, and employment status) of female respondents and also data more specific to women's empowerment, such as receipt of cash earnings, the magnitude of a woman's earnings relative to those of her husband/partner, and control over the use of her own earnings and those of her husband/partner.

This questionnaire also collected data on a woman's participation in household decision-making, on the circumstances under which she feels that a woman is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband, and her attitude towards wife beating. For this report, three separate indices of empowerment are developed based on the number of household decisions in which the respondent participates, her opinion on the number of circumstances for which a woman is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband/partner, and her opinion on the number of reasons that justify wife beating. The ranking of women on these three indices is then related to selected demographic and health outcomes, including contraceptive use; ideal family size and unmet need for contraception; the receipt of health care services during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postnatal period; and survivorship of children.

13.1 EMPLOYMENT AND FORM OF EARNINGS

Like education, employment can also be a source of empowerment for both women and men. It may be particularly empowering for women if it puts them in control of income. Currently married women were asked whether they were employed at the time of the survey and, if not, whether they were employed in the 12 months that preceded the survey. Table 13.1 shows that 46 percent of currently married women in Maldives are currently employed and the majority (96 percent) are paid in cash. There are small variations in the level of employment across age groups. Older women are more likely than younger women to receive cash payment, whereas younger women are more likely to be unpaid.

Table 13.1 Employment and cash earnings of currently married women

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who were employed at any time in the past 12 months and the percent distribution of currently married women and men employed in the past 12 months by type of earnings, according to age, Maldives 2009

	Currently married women:		Percent distribution of currently married women employed in the past 12 months, by type of earnings						
Age	Percentage employed	Number of women	Cash only	Cash and in-kind	In-kind only	Not paid	Missing	Total	Number of women
15-19	43.6	111	93.5	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	100.0	48
20-24	47.6	1,188	94.9	0.1	0.1	4.5	0.3	100.0	566
25-29	44.7	1,446	95.8	0.9	0.3	2.4	0.6	100.0	646
30-34	45.7	1,193	97.0	0.6	0.0	1.8	0.6	100.0	545
35-39	48.4	1,065	96.6	1.6	0.1	1.7	0.0	100.0	515
40-44	47.4	884	97.2	0.3	0.2	2.3	0.0	100.0	419
45-49	43.1	612	98.6	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.2	100.0	264
Total	46.2	6,500	96.4	0.7	0.1	2.5	0.3	100.0	3,004

13.1.1 Women's Control over Their Own Earnings and Relative Magnitude of Women's Earnings

Currently married and employed women who earn cash for their work were asked who the main decision-maker is with regard to the use of their earnings. In addition, they were asked the

relative magnitude of their earnings compared with their husband/partner's earnings. This information may provide some insight into women's empowerment in the family and the extent of their control over decision-making in the household. It is expected that employment and earnings are more likely to empower women if women themselves control their earnings and perceive their earnings as significant relative to those of a husband/partner.

Table 13.2 shows, for currently married women who earned cash in the past 12 months, their control over their own earnings and their perception of the magnitude of their earnings relative to those of a husband/partner. Two in three women report that they and their husband jointly decide on how their earnings are to be spent, and 29 percent report that they are the main decision-maker in the allocation of their cash income. Only 4 percent of women report that their husband makes the decision on how earnings are to be used.

Table 13.2 Control over women's cash earnings and relative magnitude of women's earnings: Women

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 who received cash earnings for employment in the 12 months preceding the survey by person who decides how wife's cash earnings are used and by whether she earned more or less than her husband, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Person who decides how the wife's cash earnings are used:						Women's cash earnings compared with husband's cash earnings:						
Background characteristic	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Other	Missing	Total	More	Less	About the same	Husband has no earnings	Don't know/ Missing	Total	Number of women
Age													
15-19	25.0	62.7	8.8	3.5	0.0	100.0	6.9	73.7	14.1	2.9	2.4	100.0	45
20-24	20.6	73.0	3.1	3.3	0.0	100.0	13.6	64.0	16.5	3.6	2.3	100.0	538
25-29	25.1	71.2	2.3	1.3	0.1	100.0	15.9	65.1	15.4	1.4	2.3	100.0	625
30-34	31.2	64.3	3.7	0.8	0.1	100.0	13.8	70.1	12.6	1.2	2.3	100.0	533
35-39	33.2	62.5	3.5	0.8	0.0	100.0	15.6	74.0	7.4	1.9	1.1	100.0	506
40-44	36.9	58.6	4.2	0.3	0.0	100.0	13.2	72.5	9.6	3.3	1.3	100.0	409
45-49	25.7	67.9	5.7	0.0	0.7	100.0	13.7	71.3	9.5	2.8	2.7	100.0	260
Number of living children													
0	23.8	69.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	100.0	14.7	62.8	16.2	3.7	2.6	100.0	554
1-2	28.9	67.0	3.0	1.0	0.1	100.0	15.1	66.1	14.4	2.2	2.2	100.0	1,270
3-4	29.6	66.9	3.1	0.4	0.0	100.0	14.3	75.1	8.4	0.8	1.3	100.0	598
5+	31.2	62.1	5.9	0.4	0.4	100.0	11.9	76.5	7.5	2.7	1.4	100.0	492
Residence													
Urban	22.8	73.4	3.4	0.2	0.2	100.0	10.9	67.3	16.9	2.2	2.8	100.0	931
Rural	31.1	63.4	3.7	1.8	0.1	100.0	15.9	69.9	10.2	2.3	1.6	100.0	1,985
Region													
Malé	22.8	73.4	3.4	0.2	0.2	100.0	10.9	67.3	16.9	2.2	2.8	100.0	931
North	34.6	59.6	4.8	1.0	0.0	100.0	9.5	80.1	8.6	1.1	0.7	100.0	476
North Central	29.1	65.4	3.8	1.6	0.1	100.0	10.4	75.2	8.4	3.7	2.2	100.0	471
Central	20.9	72.4	4.8	1.9	0.0	100.0	16.4	69.3	10.6	2.6	1.1	100.0	243
South Central	28.2	66.6	2.4	2.7	0.2	100.0	30.5	57.8	10.0	0.9	0.8	100.0	402
South	38.5	56.7	2.7	2.0	0.0	100.0	15.2	64.2	14.4	3.3	3.0	100.0	393
Education													
No formal education	30.2	63.8	5.5	0.3	0.3	100.0	11.9	76.7	7.5	2.6	1.4	100.0	667
Primary	35.9	60.2	2.3	1.6	0.0	100.0	12.4	76.2	7.4	2.2	1.7	100.0	826
Secondary	25.7	69.2	3.4	1.7	0.1	100.0	15.1	64.7	15.4	2.4	2.4	100.0	1,150
More than secondary	10.6	84.3	4.0	1.1	0.0	100.0	22.0	44.9	29.5	1.2	2.3	100.0	221
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	32.4	62.2	3.9	1.5	0.0	100.0	10.7	77.8	6.8	2.8	1.9	100.0	540
Second	30.7	63.2	4.0	1.9	0.2	100.0	18.8	69.2	9.1	1.7	1.3	100.0	559
Middle	32.8	61.5	3.5	2.1	0.0	100.0	15.5	67.2	13.1	2.5	1.7	100.0	601
Fourth	24.9	70.5	3.6	1.0	0.0	100.0	16.7	64.3	16.0	2.1	0.9	100.0	555
Highest	22.4	74.3	3.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	10.5	67.6	15.9	2.3	3.7	100.0	660
Total	28.5	66.6	3.6	1.3	0.1	100.0	14.3	69.1	12.4	2.3	2.0	100.0	2,915

Note: Total includes 52 women with information missing on level of formal education

Table 13.2 also shows that the majority of women in all subgroups report that they decide jointly with their husbands how the cash earnings they receive for the work they do will be used. The proportion reporting that decisions about how a woman's earnings are used are made jointly with the husband is highest among women with more than secondary education (84 percent). Women from the

South region are most likely to report that they themselves mainly control how they will use the cash they earn (39 percent), Women age 15-19 are most likely to report that the husband mainly decides how the woman's cash income will be used (9 percent).

With regard to the magnitude of woman's earnings, Table 13.2 shows that 69 percent of women earn less than their husband, 12 percent earn about the same as their husband, and 14 percent earn more than their husband. Women are most likely to earn about the same or more than their husband if they live in the South Central region (41 percent) or have more than a secondary education (51 percent).

13.1.2 Control over Husband's Earnings

Table 13.3 looks at control over men's cash earnings from the perspective of the woman. Among married women whose husbands earned cash, 77 percent report that they and their husbands decide jointly how the husband's earnings are to be used, 15 percent report that mainly their husbands decide how their cash earnings are to be used, and 8 percent report that mainly they make the decision.

Table 13.3 Control over men's cash earnings

Percent distributions of currently married women 15-49 whose husbands receive cash earnings, by person who decides how men's cash earnings are used, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Mainly wife	Husband and wife jointly	Mainly husband	Other	Missing	Total	Number
Age							
15-19	(0.0)	(72.4)	(27.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	44
20-24	4.6	82.3	12.9	0.3	0.0	100.0	518
25-29	4.7	83.1	11.5	0.4	0.3	100.0	612
30-34	5.2	76.9	17.8	0.1	0.0	100.0	525
35-39	9.8	74.4	15.2	0.6	0.0	100.0	497
40-44	13.6	69.4	16.6	0.3	0.0	100.0	392
45-49	13.8	69.8	16.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	249
Number of living children							
0	3.4	78.0	18.1	0.5	0.0	100.0	531
1-2	6.3	78.9	14.5	0.2	0.1	100.0	1,240
3-4	8.2	77.9	13.6	0.4	0.0	100.0	592
5+	15.1	70.2	14.3	0.4	0.0	100.0	473
Residence							
Urban	6.6	77.1	15.9	0.4	0.0	100.0	903
Rural	8.1	77.1	14.5	0.2	0.1	100.0	1,934
Region							
Malé	6.6	77.1	15.9	0.4	0.0	100.0	903
North	8.6	71.7	19.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	470
North Central	9.0	75.9	14.8	0.3	0.0	100.0	452
Central	5.4	82.1	12.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	235
South Central	6.5	81.7	11.4	0.3	0.0	100.0	397
South	9.7	77.0	12.8	0.0	0.5	100.0	380
Education							
No formal education	12.6	73.3	13.8	0.3	0.0	100.0	643
Primary	9.2	73.9	16.5	0.4	0.0	100.0	807
Secondary	5.3	78.8	15.6	0.2	0.2	100.0	1,122
More than secondary	0.4	89.7	9.1	0.8	0.0	100.0	214
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	9.0	76.0	14.4	0.2	0.3	100.0	524
Second	9.7	77.4	12.5	0.4	0.0	100.0	548
Middle	7.2	77.2	15.5	0.1	0.0	100.0	586
Fourth	6.3	78.6	14.7	0.5	0.0	100.0	543
Highest	6.2	76.1	17.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	638
Total	7.6	77.1	15.0	0.3	0.1	100.0	2,837

Note: Total includes 52 women with information missing on level of formal education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

The majority of women in all subgroups report that they decide jointly with their husband how his cash earnings will be used. The groups in which women are most likely to say that they themselves mainly decide on how the husband's earnings will be used include women age 40-49, women with 5 or more children, and women with no formal education (13-15 percent). Women are most likely to say that the husband mainly decides on how his earnings will be used if they are age 30-34, are from the North region, or have no children (18-20 percent).

13.1.3 Control over Women's and Husband's Cash Earnings by Magnitude of Women's Earnings

Table 13.4 shows that husband and wife jointly are most likely to decide on the use of a wife's cash earnings if the wife's income is the same as the husband's and least likely if the husband has no cash earnings or did not work (79 percent compared with 61 percent, respectively). Decisions about how the husband's cash earnings will be used are most likely to be made jointly if the woman has the same income as the husband and least likely to be made jointly if the woman herself has no cash earnings (82 percent compared with 71 percent, respectively).

Table 13.4 Women's control over her own earnings and over those of her husband

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 with cash earnings in the past 12 months by person who decides how the woman's cash earnings are used and of currently married women age 15-49 whose husbands have cash earnings by person who decides how the husband's cash earnings are used, according to the relation between woman's and husband's cash earnings, Maldives 2009

	Person who decides how the wife's cash earnings are used:							Person who decides how husband's cash earnings are used:						
Women's earnings relative to husband's earnings	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Other	Missing	Total	Number	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Other	Missing	Total	Number of women
More than husband	22.8	72.2	3.4	1.7	0.0	100.0	417	7.1	77.4	15.3	0.2	0.0	100.0	412
Less than husband	31.1	63.8	3.8	1.3	0.0	100.0	2,014	8.1	76.6	15.0	0.3	0.0	100.0	2,013
Same as husband	17.3	78.6	3.6	0.5	0.0	100.0	360	3.7	81.8	13.8	0.7	0.0	100.0	356
Husband has no cash earnings/ did not work	36.2	61.1	2.1	0.6	0.0	100.0	66	na	na	na	na	na	na	0
Woman has no cash earnings	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	13.3	71.4	13.5	1.8	0.0	100.0	89
Woman did not work in past 12 months	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	8.9	79.5	11.0	0.2	0.3	100.0	3,423
Don't know/missing	(38.0)	(52.9)	(0.0)	(3.5)	(5.6)	100.0	57	(17.4)	(59.5)	(19.9)	(0.0)	(3.2)	100.0	56
Total[1]	28.5	66.6	3.6	1.3	0.1	100.0	2,915	8.4	78.3	12.8	0.3	0.2	100.0	6,349

Note: Total includes 52 women with information missing on level of formal education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.
na = Not Applicable.
[1] Excludes cases where a woman or her husband has no earnings and includes cases where a woman does not know whether she earned more or less than her husband/partner

13.2 WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

In addition to educational attainment, employment status, and control over earnings, the 2009 MDHS collected information on some direct measures of women's autonomy and status. Specifically, questions were asked about women's participation in household decision-making, their acceptance of wife beating, and their opinions of the conditions under which a wife should be able to deny sex to her husband. Such information provides insight into women's control over their environment and their attitudes towards gender roles, both of which are relevant to understanding women's demographic and health behaviour.

The first measure—women's participation in decision-making—requires little explanation because the ability to make decisions about one's own life is of obvious importance to women's empowerment. The other two measures derive from the notion that gender equity is essential to empowerment. Responses that indicate a view that the beating of wives by husbands is justified

reflect a low status of women. They signify acceptance of norms that give men the right to use force against women, which is a violation of women's human rights. Similarly, beliefs about whether and when a woman can refuse to have sex with her husband reflect issues of gender equity regarding sexual rights and bodily integrity. Besides yielding an important measure of empowerment, information about women's attitudes towards sexual rights is useful for improving and monitoring reproductive health programmes that depend on women's willingness and ability to control their own sexual lives.

13.2.1 Women's Participation in Household Decision Making

To assess women's decision-making autonomy, information was sought on women's participation in three different types of household decisions: on the respondent's own health care, on making major household purchases, and on making household purchases for daily needs. Having a final say in decision-making processes is the highest degree of autonomy. Women are considered to participate in a decision if they alone or jointly with their husband have the final say in that decision.

Table 13.5 shows the percent distribution of currently married women according to the person in the household who usually makes decisions concerning these matters. Fifty-six percent of women say that they make decisions about their health care jointly with their husband, 23 percent say the husband mainly makes these decisions, and 20 percent say they themselves are mainly responsible for health care decisions. Forty-seven percent of married women say that decisions about major household purchases are shared between wife and husband, 32 percent say that the husband mainly makes the decision, and 11 percent say that they mainly make the decision. Six in ten women (60 percent) say that they are in charge of purchases of daily household needs; among the remaining women, the majority report making these decisions jointly with their husband.

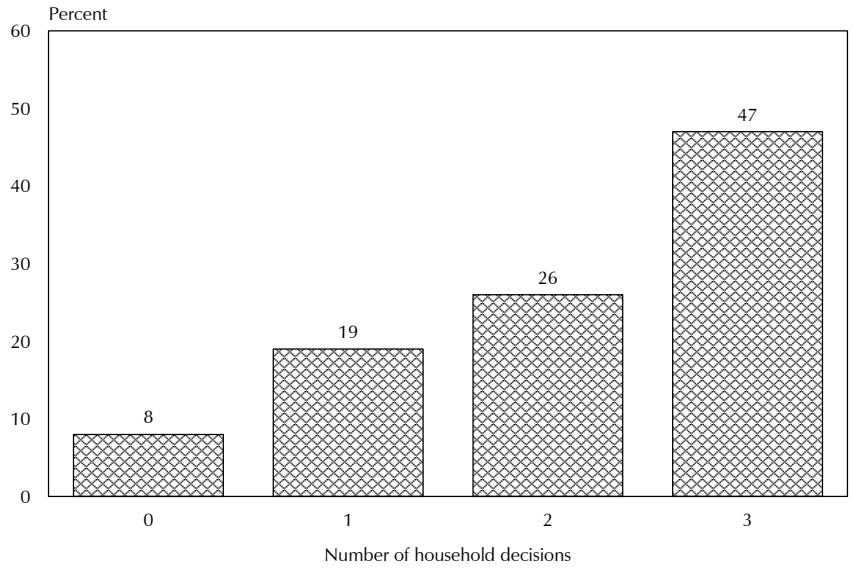
Table 13.5 Women's participation in decision-making

Percent distribution of currently married women by person who usually makes decisions about three kinds of issues, Maldives 2009

Decision	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Someone else	Other	Missing	Total	Number of women
Own health care	20.4	55.6	22.7	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0	6,500
Major household purchases	10.9	46.9	31.7	8.6	1.8	0.1	100.0	6,500
Purchases of daily household needs	59.8	18.3	10.0	9.5	2.1	0.2	100.0	6,500

Women may have a say in some decisions but not in others. To assess a woman's overall decision-making autonomy, the decisions in which she participates—that is, in which she alone has the final say or does so jointly with her husband or partner—are added together. The total number of decisions in which a woman participates is a measure of her empowerment. Figure 13.1 shows the percentage of currently married women according to the number of decisions in which they participate, either alone or in conjunction with their husbands. Overall, 47 percent of women say that they participate in all decision-making regarding their household. At the other extreme, 8 percent of women say that they have no say in household decision-making.

Figure 13.1 Number of Decisions in Which Women Participate



MDHS 2009

Table 13.6 shows how women's participation in decision-making varies by background characteristics. There is no clear correlation between age and involvement in the specific decisions. The percentage of women participating in all three decisions increases from 34 percent among women age 15-19 to 52 percent among women age 30-44 and then declines to 45 percent among women age 45-49. Women who are employed for cash are slightly more likely to participate in all decisions. Women who live with their husbands and women with husbands who are at least five years younger have higher rates of participation in all household decision-making than other women. The likelihood that a married woman is involved in all decisions is highest among women with 3-4 living children. Urban woman are more likely than rural women to have a say in all of the decisions. Looking at regional variations, the proportion of currently married women participating in all decisions is highest in the Central and the South regions (53 percent). Participation in decision-making increases with an increase in a woman's education, and 44 percent of women with no formal education participate in all specified decisions compared with 55 percent of women with more than secondary education. The proportion of currently married women who participate in all three decisions increases from 46 percent for women in the lowest wealth quintile to 56 percent for women in the highest wealth quintile).

Table 13.6 Women's participation in decision making by background characteristics

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Own health care	Making major household purchases	Making purchases for daily household needs	Percentage who participate in all three decisions	Percentage who participate in none of the three decisions	Number of women
Age						
15-19	68.9	43.0	66.7	33.6	9.3	111
20-24	75.6	51.2	65.2	38.4	10.4	1,188
25-29	78.6	59.2	74.4	47.1	7.7	1,446
30-34	80.7	59.9	81.4	51.6	6.3	1,193
35-39	75.3	60.4	85.7	49.3	5.6	1,065
40-44	73.8	60.8	86.6	51.8	7.5	884
45-49	67.2	56.4	82.3	45.3	10.2	612
Employment (past 12 months)						
Not employed	75.0	56.7	78.5	46.9	8.9	3,492
Employed for cash	77.5	59.1	78.2	47.1	6.1	2,915
Employed not for cash	70.1	54.6	65.8	43.3	17.6	79
Husband living with respondent						
Yes	76.1	58.9	78.9	48.0	7.8	5,226
No	75.9	52.9	75.0	42.7	7.8	1,260
Missing	68.7	50.3	84.1	42.5	15.9	14
Age difference with husband						
Husband 10+ years older	74.8	58.4	82.3	48.5	7.7	864
Husband 5-9 years older	76.2	55.7	80.2	45.7	7.2	1,817
Husband -/+ 4 years younger/older	77.0	58.5	76.0	47.3	8.1	3,557
Husband 5+ years younger	74.1	70.8	82.9	54.5	6.0	97
Don't know/missing	61.6	53.3	77.9	39.4	11.4	166
Number of living children						
0	72.6	47.7	62.0	34.8	12.2	946
1-2	79.9	60.5	77.4	49.2	6.8	2,908
3-4	74.5	59.5	84.6	50.5	6.8	1,486
5+	71.0	56.7	85.0	46.7	8.0	1,160
Residence						
Urban	78.4	64.7	79.0	53.0	7.4	2,122
Rural	74.9	54.4	77.8	44.0	8.0	4,378
Region						
Malé	78.4	64.7	79.0	53.0	7.4	2,122
North	73.0	52.6	80.3	41.6	7.1	1,009
North Central	74.7	49.8	73.7	39.2	9.4	967
Central	82.9	60.8	77.0	53.3	6.8	563
South Central	71.8	46.9	76.5	35.8	7.8	789
South	74.8	62.4	80.4	52.0	8.5	1,051
Education						
No education	70.0	56.1	83.5	45.8	9.3	1,488
Primary	75.8	56.7	82.3	46.7	6.6	2,216
Secondary	78.0	58.4	71.7	46.3	8.1	2,409
More than secondary	88.6	65.2	72.4	55.9	8.2	316
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	72.7	54.8	79.5	43.5	7.8	1,167
Second	74.3	54.4	79.1	44.3	8.6	1,278
Middle	77.8	54.2	77.4	45.1	7.4	1,363
Fourth	75.7	60.8	77.3	48.9	7.6	1,311
Highest	79.1	64.0	77.6	52.2	7.6	1,381
Total	76.0	57.8	78.1	46.9	7.8	6,500

Note: Total includes 72 women with information missing on level of formal education and 14 women with information missing on employment in past 12 months and husband's residence.

13.2.2 Attitudes towards Wife Beating

Violence against women has serious consequences for their mental and physical well-being, including their reproductive and sexual health (WHO, 1999). One of the most common forms of violence against women worldwide is abuse by a husband or partner (Heise et al., 1999).

The MDHS gathered information on women's attitudes towards wife beating, a proxy for women's perception of their status. Women who believe that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for any of the specified reasons may believe themselves to be low in status both absolutely and relative to men. Such a perception could act as a barrier to accessing health care for themselves and their children, affect their attitude towards contraceptive use, and influence their general well-being. Women were asked whether a husband is justified in beating his wife under a series of circumstances: if the wife burns the food, argues with him, goes out without telling him, neglects the children, or refuses sexual relations. Table 13.7 summarizes women's attitudes towards wife beating in these five specific circumstances. The table also shows the percentage of women who agree that wife beating is justified in at least one of the circumstances. Acceptance of wife beating ranges from 6 percent (burn the food) to 19 percent (refuse to have sexual intercourse). Thirty-one percent of women agree with at least one of the specified reasons that purportedly justify a husband's beating his wife.

Table 13.7 Attitude towards wife beating

Percentage of all women age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she: Burns the food	Argues with him	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the children	Refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	Number
Age							
15-19	7.9	21.3	16.9	27.8	17.4	40.7	119
20-24	3.7	17.0	10.2	18.9	15.9	31.1	1,268
25-29	3.1	13.8	10.0	14.7	15.1	26.3	1,539
30-34	5.1	13.9	10.0	14.8	17.8	25.7	1,287
35-39	6.4	16.4	12.3	15.9	19.7	29.3	1,185
40-44	10.0	21.5	18.2	23.8	26.1	37.5	1,013
45-49	14.1	23.6	22.6	24.5	27.1	40.2	721
Employment (past 12 months)							
Not employed	6.6	17.3	13.0	18.4	19.0	30.9	3,742
Employed for cash	6.0	16.9	13.1	18.0	19.7	30.8	3,279
Employed not for cash	3.2	14.4	8.3	17.8	21.7	28.0	85
Marital status							
Married	6.2	17.0	13.0	18.2	19.2	30.6	6,500
Divorced/separated/widowed	7.0	17.6	13.1	18.2	20.7	32.9	631
Number of living children							
0	4.7	16.9	12.5	17.9	16.3	30.7	1,040
1-2	3.6	13.4	8.8	14.3	14.9	25.4	3,183
3-4	7.6	17.9	14.3	18.2	22.3	32.6	1,636
5+	12.6	25.0	22.1	27.9	28.9	41.7	1,272
Residence							
Urban	2.4	9.6	6.2	9.0	9.8	17.6	2,368
Rural	8.2	20.7	16.4	22.7	24.0	37.3	4,763
Region							
Malé	2.4	9.6	6.2	9.0	9.8	17.6	2,368
North	8.4	20.9	15.9	24.0	25.3	37.1	1,067
North Central	9.5	23.3	20.0	26.6	29.8	42.7	1,038
Central	6.3	15.0	13.7	17.9	21.3	32.6	615
South Central	6.0	17.9	13.6	18.3	21.3	32.2	853
South	9.5	23.3	16.9	23.8	21.2	39.0	1,190
Education							
No formal education	12.3	24.6	22.0	27.4	29.6	42.8	1,668
Primary	7.1	18.0	13.7	18.5	21.4	31.9	2,464
Secondary	2.6	12.8	8.2	13.7	12.6	24.7	2,584
More than secondary	0.6	6.1	2.0	5.7	6.2	10.2	333
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	9.2	22.6	20.5	24.9	26.0	40.1	1,300
Second	8.1	20.6	14.6	22.4	24.6	36.7	1,396
Middle	7.8	18.8	14.6	21.3	22.7	36.1	1,488
Fourth	5.1	15.9	10.9	15.4	15.4	27.2	1,447
Highest	1.8	8.2	5.4	7.9	8.9	15.3	1,499
Total	6.3	17.0	13.0	18.2	19.3	30.8	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 women with information missing on level of formal education and 25 women with information missing on employment in past 12 months.

Acceptance of wife beating varies by the woman's age. The youngest and oldest women are more likely than other women to agree that a husband is justified in beating a wife in any of the specified circumstances. However, women age 20 and older increasingly accept that a husband is justified in abusing his wife for all specified reasons. Acceptance of wife beating varies little by the woman's employment or marital status. The proportion of women who justify wife beating in at least some circumstances increases with the number of living children. Rural women are more than twice as likely as urban women to justify wife beating (37 percent and 18 percent, respectively). As expected, the proportion of women agreeing with at least one of the given reasons for beating a wife varies by region, ranging from 18 percent in the Malé region to 43 percent in the North Central region. The likelihood that a woman perceives wife beating as justified in some circumstances decreases markedly with the woman's level of education (from 43 percent for women with no education to 10 percent for women with more than secondary education). Women in the highest wealth quintile are the least likely to agree with the specified reasons for wife beating, while women in the lowest quintile are the most likely (15 percent and 40 percent, respectively).

13.3 WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT INDICATORS

The two sets of empowerment indicators, namely women's participation in making household decisions and their attitude towards wife beating can be summarized into two separate indices. The first index shows the number of decisions (see Table 13.5 for the list of decisions) in which women participate alone or jointly with their husband/partner. This index ranges in value from 0 to 4 and is positively related to women's empowerment. It reflects the degree of decision-making control that women are able to exercise in areas that affect their own lives and environments.

The second index, which ranges in value from 0 to 5, is the total number of reasons (see Table 13.8 for the list of reasons) for which the respondent feels that a husband is justified in beating his wife. A lower score on this indicator is interpreted as reflecting a greater sense of entitlement and self-esteem and a higher status of women.

Table 13.8 shows how these indicators relate to each other. In general, the expectation is that women who participate in making household decisions are also more likely to disagree with wife beating. This pattern is confirmed by the data; the percentage of women who disagree with reasons that justify wife beating increases with the number of decisions in which women participate. Similarly, the percentage of women who participate in all household decisions decreases as the number of reasons that justify wife beating increases.

Table 13.8 Indicators of women's empowerment

Percentage of women age 15-49 who participate in all decision making, and the percentage who disagree with all reasons for justifying wife-beating, by value on each of the indicators of women's empowerment, Maldives 2009

Empowerment indicator	Percentage who participate in all decision making	Number of women	Percentage who disagree with all the reasons justifying wife beating	Number of women
Number of decisions in which women participate				
0	na	na	63.6	508
1-2	na	na	66.6	2,941
3	na	na	73.1	3,052
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified				
0	49.4	4,514	na	na
1-2	42.2	1,197	na	na
3-4	40.8	529	na	na
5	38.4	261	na	na

na = Not applicable
[1] See Table 13.5 for the list of decisions.
[2] See Table 13.6 for the list of reasons.

13.4 CURRENT USE OF CONTRACEPTION BY WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT STATUS

A woman's ability to control her fertility and the contraceptive method she chooses are likely to be affected by her status, self-image, and sense of empowerment. A woman who feels that she is unable to control other aspects of her life may be less likely to feel that she can make decisions regarding fertility. She may also feel the need to choose methods that are easier to conceal from her husband or that do not depend on his cooperation.

Table 13.9 shows the relationship of each of the two indicators of women's empowerment with current use of contraceptive methods among currently married women age 15-49 in Maldives. There are no significant variations in the use of contraception according to the number of decisions a woman participates in. Women who have no say in household decisions are slightly more likely to use temporary modern methods, and women who participate in 3 decisions are more likely to use female sterilization. It is interesting to note that the prevalence of female sterilization increases with an increase in the number of reasons a woman agrees ~~to~~ as justifying wife beating. On the other hand, use of male condoms decreases with the number of reasons that a woman accepts as justifying wife beating. Women who do not agree that a husband is justified to beat his wife for any of the specified reasons are almost twice as likely to use a male condom as women who that all of the five reasons ~~for~~ justify wife beating.

Table 13.9 Current use of contraception by women's status

Percent distribution of currently married women age 15-49 by current contraceptive method, according to selected indicators of women's status, Maldives 2009

			Modern methods							
Empowerment indicator	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterili-zation	Male sterili-zation	Temporary modern female methods	Male condom	Any traditional method	Not currently using	Total	Number of women
Number of decisions in which women participate										
0	31.0	24.6	9.1	0.3	6.8	8.4	6.4	69.0	100.0	508
1-2	32.9	24.7	8.9	0.3	6.3	9.1	8.2	67.1	100.0	2,941
3	37.1	29.6	11.3	0.7	8.1	9.6	7.5	62.9	100.0	3,052
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified										
0	34.2	26.7	9.3	0.4	6.9	10.1	7.6	65.8	100.0	4,514
1-2	35.2	25.6	10.0	0.5	7.2	7.9	9.6	64.8	100.0	1,197
3-4	36.9	30.8	13.2	0.7	10.0	6.9	6.1	63.1	100.0	529
5	36.7	30.7	17.1	1.3	6.5	5.8	6.0	63.3	100.0	261
Total	34.7	27.0	10.1	0.5	7.2	9.3	7.8	65.3	100.0	6,500

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.
[1] Pill, IUD, injectables, implants, female condom, diaphragm, foam/jelly and lactational amenorrhea method
[2] See Table 13.5 for the list of decisions.
[3] See Table 13.6 for the list of reasons.

13.5 IDEAL FAMILY SIZE AND UNMET NEED BY WOMEN'S STATUS

Women's fertility preferences are commonly lower than those of their partners. As a woman becomes more empowered to negotiate fertility decision-making, she has more control over contraceptive use and thus her chances of becoming pregnant and giving birth. Table 13.10 shows women's ideal family size and their unmet need for family planning by the two indicators of women's empowerment. The data indicate that there are small differences in the mean ideal number of children depending on the number of decisions in which a woman participates. However, the mean ideal number of children increases with the number of reasons the woman uses to justify wife beating; it is 3.1 children for women who disagree with any reason for a husband to abuse his wife and 3.5 children for women who agree with five reasons for wife beating.

Table 13.10 Women's empowerment and ideal number of children and unmet need for family planning

Mean ideal number of children for women 15-49 and the percentage of currently married women age 15-49 with an unmet need for family planning, by indicators of women's empowerment, Maldives 2009

Empowerment indicator	Mean ideal number of children	Number of women	Percentage of currently married women with an unmet need for family planning: For spacing	For limiting	Total	Number of women
Number of decisions in which women participate						
0	3.1	435	17.1	12.5	29.7	508
1-2	3.1	2,551	14.4	12.7	27.2	2,941
3	3.1	2,649	15.0	13.8	28.8	3,052
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified						
0	3.1	4,357	14.6	13.1	27.8	4,514
1-2	3.2	1,140	18.4	11.6	30.0	1,197
3-4	3.3	477	13.8	14.8	28.6	529
5	3.5	210	5.9	19.1	25.0	261
Total	3.1	6,185	14.9	13.2	28.1	6,500

[1] Mean excludes respondents who gave non-numeric responses.
[2] See table 7.3.1 for the definition of unmet need for family planning.
[3] Restricted to currently married women. See Table 13.5 for the list of decisions.
[4] See Table 13.6.1 for the list of reasons.

Table 13.10 also shows that in general there is no clear pattern in the association between unmet need for family planning services and the two women empowerment indicators. Unmet need does not vary much by the number of decisions in which a woman participates. On the other hand, unmet need for spacing births among women who agree with no reason for wife beating is 15 percent in contrast with 6 percent for women who agree with five reasons. Unmet need for limiting births increases from 13 percent for women who disagree with any reason for wife abuse compared with 19 percent for women who agree with all reasons for wife beating.

13.6 WOMEN'S STATUS AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

Table 13.11 examines whether women's use of antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care services from health workers varies by their level of empowerment as measured by the three indicators of empowerment. In societies where health care is widespread, women's empowerment may not affect their access to reproductive health services; in other societies, however, increased empowerment of women is likely to increase their ability to seek out and use health services to better meet their own reproductive health goals, including the goal of safe motherhood.

Table 13.11 indicates that coverage of antenatal care and delivery assistance by a health professional varies little by the woman's empowerment status. However, postnatal care attendance by a health professional in the first two days after delivery increases ~~slightly~~ with an increase in the number of household decisions in which women participate. Similarly, two in three women (67 percent) who were attended by a health professional for postnatal care agree with no reason for wife beating compared with 60 percent of women who agree with all 5 reasons.

Table 13.11 Reproductive health care by women's empowerment

Percentage of women age 15-49 with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey who received antenatal care, delivery assistance and postnatal care from health personnel for the most recent birth, by indicators of women's empowerment, Maldives 2009

Empowerment indicator	Received antenatal care from health personnel	Received delivery assistance from health personnel	Received postnatal care from health personnel within the first two days since delivery	Number of women with a child born in the past five years
Number of decisions in which women participate				
0	97.8	93.4	59.8	222
1-2	99.5	96.0	66.7	1,318
3	99.7	96.6	67.1	1,501
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified				
0	99.5	96.4	66.6	2,256
1-2	99.4	95.6	65.6	598
3-4	98.5	92.1	64.0	248
5	97.3	94.1	60.4	88
Total	99.3	95.9	66.0	3,190

Note: 'Health personnel' includes doctor, nurse, midwife, or auxiliary nurse or auxiliary midwife.
[1] Includes deliveries in a health facility and not in a health facility
[2] Restricted to currently married women. See Table 13.5 for the list of decisions.
[3] See Table 13.6 for the list of reasons.

13.7 EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY RATES BY WOMEN'S STATUS

A woman is empowered if she has access to information, makes decisions, and acts effectively in her interest and in the interest of those who depend on her. In most cases women are the primary caretakers of their children, and children of empowered women are expected to have better health and chances of survival.

Table 13.12 shows information on the impact of women's empowerment on infant and child mortality. The data show that women's participation in household decisions has a positive effect on their children's survival; childhood mortality rates decrease with increasing numbers of decisions in which mothers participate.

Table 13.12 Early childhood mortality rates by women's status

Infant, child, and under-five mortality rates for the 10-year period preceding the survey, by indicators of women's status, Maldives 2009

Empowerment indicator	Infant mortality ($_1q_0$)	Child mortality ($_4q_1$)	Under-five mortality ($_5q_0$)
Number of decisions in which women participate			
0	27	7	34
1-2	22	5	27
3	22	3	26
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified			
0	20	3	23
1-2	26	6	32
3-4	18	8	25
5	57	16	72

[1] Restricted to currently married women.
[2] See Table 13.5 for the list of decisions.
[3] See Table 13.6 for the list of reasons

There is a clear pattern in the relationship between another indicator of women's empowerment—reasons for justifying wife beating—and infant and under-5 mortality. For example, the under-5 mortality rate is lowest for children whose mother does not accept any reason for beating a wife (23 deaths per 1,000 live births) and highest for children whose mother accepts all reasons for wife beating (72 deaths per 1,000 live births).

DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH INDICATORS ON MEN 14

In the Maldives DHS (MDHS), half of the households selected for the ever-married sample of women were also selected for a survey of men and youth. In these households, all ever-married men, never-married women age 15-24, and never-married men age 15-24, who were either usual residents of the household or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey, were eligible to be interviewed. The survey was limited to Maldivian citizens; non-Maldivians were included in the survey only if they were the spouse, son, or daughter of a Maldivian. This chapter discusses the findings of a subset of interviews conducted only with ever-married men age 15-64. Results of interviews with never-married women and never-married men are presented in Chapter 15.

14.1 RESPONSE RATES FOR MEN'S SURVEY

Table 14.1 shows response rates for the ever-married men's survey component of the 2009 MDHS. A total of 3,752 households were selected in the sample for the men's survey, of which 3,559 were found to be occupied at the time of data collection. The difference between the number of households selected and the number occupied usually occurs because some structures are found to be vacant or non-existent. A total of 3,204 occupied households were successfully interviewed, yielding a household response rate of 90 percent.

In the MDHS households selected for the men's survey, a total of 3,224 ever-married men age 15-64 were identified as eligible for the individual interview; interviews were completed with 1,727 men, yielding a male response rate of 54 percent. The urban response rate of 47 percent is lower than the 55 percent response rate among rural respondents. The low response rate suggests that the men who participated in the survey may not represent all ever-married men in Maldives, especially those in urban areas or Malé.

Table 14.1 Results of the household and individual interviews

Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence (unweighted), Maldives 2009

	Residence		
Result	Urban (Malé)	Rural	Total
Households selected for male interview			
Households selected	601	3,151	3,752
Households occupied	566	2,993	3,559
Households interviewed	463	2,741	3,204
Household response rate[1]	0.82	0.92	0.90
Individual interviews: ever-married men 15-64			
Number of eligible men	579	2,645	3,224
Number of eligible men interviewed	274	1,453	1,727
Eligible man response rate[2]	47.3	54.9	53.6

[1] Household interviewed/household occupied
[2] Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

14.2 CHARACTERISTICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

The distribution of ever-married men age 15-49 by background characteristics is shown in Table 14.2. The largest proportions of men are in age group 30-34 and age group 35-39 (20 percent each). Nearly all men (95 percent) are currently married.

Four in ten ever-married male MDHS respondents live in urban areas. The same proportion lives in the Malé region. The remaining respondents are distributed across the five other regions of the Maldives. After Malé, the regions with the largest proportions of respondents in the men's survey are the South (15 percent) and North Central regions (14 percent). The Central region has the smallest proportion of respondents in the men's survey.

Overall, 22 percent of ever-married men have never received any formal education. Thirty-four percent of men have attended primary school (without having gone on to secondary school), and 34 percent have attended secondary school (without continuing to higher education). Seven percent of men have received education beyond secondary school. The percentage of men interviewed rises with the wealth quintile, suggesting that wealthier males may be somewhat overrepresented among the men's survey respondents.

Table 14.2 Background characteristics of respondents

Percent distribution of ever-married men age 15-49 by selected background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Weighted percent	Weighted	Unweighted
Age			
15-19	0.2	3	5
20-24	8.3	115	132
25-29	18.4	255	248
30-34	19.9	276	271
35-39	19.6	272	251
40-44	17.5	243	236
45-49	16.1	224	225
Marital status			
Married	94.6	1,312	1,306
Divorced/separated	5.1	71	57
Widowed	0.3	4	5
Residence			
Urban	38.0	527	223
Rural	62.0	860	1,145
Region			
Malé	38.0	527	223
North	12.9	178	158
North Central	14.1	196	230
Central	9.0	125	254
South Central	11.2	156	299
South	14.8	205	204
Education			
No formal education	22.4	311	355
Primary	33.9	470	500
Secondary	33.9	470	410
More than secondary	7.3	101	63
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	14.9	206	264
Second	16.9	235	323
Middle	21.5	298	396
Fourth	20.3	282	228
Highest	26.4	366	157
Total 15-49	100.0	1,388	1,368
50-64	na	339	359
Total men 15-64	na	1,727	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was completed.
na = not applicable

14.3 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Table 14.3 presents a detailed distribution of educational attainment. The general pattern evident in Table 14.3 indicates a decrease in the proportion of men with no education from the oldest to the youngest cohorts. For example, only 1 percent of young men age 15-24 have no formal education compared with 59 percent of men age 45-49. Three in five men age 15-24 have acquired some secondary education compared with only 9 percent of men age 45-49. Overall, the median years of school completed for men age 15-49 is 6.7 years.

The MDHS data indicate that educational opportunities vary by urban-rural residence. Urban men have higher rates of school attendance than their rural counterparts. Ten percent of urban men have not attended school compared with 30 percent of men in rural areas. Comparison of the median number of years of education completed shows that urban men have a median of 8.6 years of schooling compared with 6.3 years for rural men.

School attendance varies among ever-married men in Maldives. The lowest level is observed in North region, where 36 percent of the men have never attended school, while the highest is found in Malé, where only 10 percent of ever-married men have never gone to school. Educational attainment increases as household economic status increases. Four in ten men in the poorest households have no formal education compared with one in ten men in the richest households.

Table 14.3 Educational attainment

Percent distribution of ever-married men age 15-49 by highest level of schooling attended or completed, and median grade completed, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Highest level of schooling							Total	Median years completed	Number of men
	No formal education	Some primary	Completed primary	Some secondary	Completed secondary	More than secondary	Unknown - Certificate			
Age										
15-24	1.4	3.5	15.3	60.0	6.5	11.4	2.0	100.0	9.3	117
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	*	3
20-24	1.5	3.5	15.6	59.1	6.6	11.6	2.0	100.0	9.3	115
25-29	0.4	8.6	19.4	56.9	5.7	7.2	1.7	100.0	8.9	255
30-34	3.5	15.9	31.8	30.5	2.9	11.7	3.8	100.0	6.9	276
35-39	17.4	13.0	30.4	28.4	1.2	6.3	3.3	100.0	6.6	272
40-44	49.0	13.1	17.0	13.3	2.4	3.6	1.5	100.0	3.6	243
45-49	59.1	7.7	16.4	8.6	1.0	4.8	2.3	100.0	0.0	224
Residence										
Urban	9.7	8.3	19.9	39.4	5.8	15.2	1.8	100.0	8.6	527
Rural	30.2	12.9	24.5	25.7	1.3	2.4	3.0	100.0	6.3	860
Region										
Malé	9.7	8.3	19.9	39.4	5.8	15.2	1.8	100.0	8.6	527
North	36.1	10.7	23.3	22.8	0.5	3.0	3.6	100.0	6.1	178
North Central	24.8	12.6	25.3	26.3	2.6	2.6	5.7	100.0	6.4	196
Central	30.6	17.0	22.3	23.9	1.0	3.4	1.8	100.0	6.1	125
South Central	26.2	16.7	28.4	24.8	0.2	1.4	2.3	100.0	6.4	156
South	33.2	9.6	23.3	29.4	1.6	1.8	1.0	100.0	6.4	205
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	39.8	16.8	28.0	11.3	0.7	0.9	2.5	100.0	5.2	206
Second	29.6	17.2	24.0	24.3	0.1	1.8	2.8	100.0	6.2	235
Middle	23.6	9.9	24.9	33.4	2.5	2.6	3.2	100.0	6.7	298
Fourth	18.2	6.4	24.8	36.0	3.9	9.1	1.6	100.0	7.2	282
Highest	10.3	8.6	15.8	40.2	5.8	16.8	2.5	100.0	8.8	366
Total 15-49	22.4	11.1	22.8	30.9	3.0	7.3	2.5	100.0	6.7	1,388
50-64	71.1	5.9	7.4	9.8	0.6	2.7	2.5	100.0	na	339
Total men 15-64	32.0	10.1	19.8	26.8	2.5	6.4	2.5	100.0	6.5	1,727

Note: An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.
na = not applicable
[1] Completed 7th grade at the primary level
[2] Completed 5th grade at the secondary level

14.4 ACCESS TO MASS MEDIA

The 2009 MDHS collected information on the exposure of respondents to newspaper, television, radio, and the Internet (Table 14.4). Almost all ever-married men age 15-49 (97 percent) watch television at least once a week, 74 percent listen to the radio, 52 percent read a newspaper, and 39 percent use the Internet at least once a week.

Exposure to radio increases with age while use of the Internet shows the opposite association. The rate of television watching does not vary across subgroups of men. In general, younger men, men in urban areas, and those men who live in Malé have higher rates of media exposure than other men.

Exposure to mass media increases with men's education and wealth status. For example, the percentage of men who were exposed to at least one of the three media (radio, television or newspaper) at least once a week ranges from 40 percent for men in the lowest wealth quintile to 68 percent for men in the highest wealth quintile .

Table 14.4 Exposure to mass media: Men

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who are exposed to specific media on a weekly basis, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Reads a newspaper at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to radio at least once a week	Uses Internet at least once a week	At least three media at least once a week[1]	No media at least once a week[1]	Number
Age							
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	47.2	98.5	63.4	53.2	51.5	0.6	115
25-29	59.3	99.3	68.4	56.9	63.6	0.3	255
30-34	58.5	94.1	66.8	47.7	59.1	1.5	276
35-39	56.2	97.4	70.8	39.0	55.9	0.7	272
40-44	47.8	97.3	81.5	25.3	45.8	1.0	243
45-49	36.7	97.2	90.7	14.2	39.7	0.7	224
Residence							
Urban	68.4	97.0	60.1	58.7	66.6	0.4	527
Rural	41.6	97.2	82.5	26.7	45.0	1.1	860
Region							
Malé	68.4	97.0	60.1	58.7	66.6	0.4	527
North	49.4	94.3	89.1	27.5	52.5	1.7	178
North Central	40.9	99.7	86.0	23.1	44.0	0.3	196
Central	23.8	97.2	79.5	20.6	26.8	2.4	125
South Central	36.0	97.8	79.3	25.8	40.7	0.6	156
South	50.7	97.1	77.7	33.9	53.7	0.9	205
Education							
No education	31.1	95.0	90.8	3.5	28.7	1.3	311
Primary	47.9	96.9	78.9	22.5	48.1	1.3	470
Secondary	63.7	98.6	62.5	64.6	66.7	0.2	470
More than secondary	75.0	97.4	50.1	94.0	84.9	0.0	101
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	37.1	96.5	89.9	12.8	39.9	0.6	206
Second	36.9	97.6	84.1	18.5	38.0	0.8	235
Middle	44.5	97.1	77.6	33.0	48.0	1.6	298
Fourth	59.7	98.4	66.3	50.3	61.1	0.5	282
Highest	69.4	96.3	61.5	62.5	68.4	0.5	366
Total 15-49	51.8	97.2	74.0	38.9	53.2	0.8	1,388
50-64	44.8	94.3	89.9	15.6	44.9	1.3	339
Total men 15-64	50.4	96.6	77.1	34.3	51.6	0.9	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.
Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was completed.
[1] Radio, television, or newspaper

14.5 EMPLOYMENT

The 2009 MDHS asked ever-married men detailed questions about their employment status. Men who said that they were currently working and those who reported that they worked sometime during the 12 months preceding the survey are considered to have been employed. Additional information was collected on the type of work that the men did, the continuity of their work throughout the year, for whom they worked, and the form in which they received their earnings.

Overall, 93 percent of ever-married men were employed in the 12 months preceding the survey (Table 14.5). The variations in employment status across subgroups of men is generally small, with the exception that a much lower proportion of separated, divorced, or widowed men are currently employed than other men.

Table 14.5 Employment status

Percent distribution of ever-married men age 15-49 by employment status, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Employed in the 12 months preceding the survey		Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey	Missing/ don't know	Total	Number of men
	Currently employed[1]	Not currently employed				
Age						
15-19	*	*	*	*	100.0	3
20-24	93.8	1.2	5.0	0.0	100.0	115
25-29	94.7	4.0	1.3	0.0	100.0	255
30-34	95.3	4.4	0.3	0.0	100.0	276
35-39	93.0	5.3	0.9	0.8	100.0	272
40-44	94.1	3.9	2.0	0.0	100.0	243
45-49	87.9	7.5	3.4	1.2	100.0	224
Marital status						
Married or living together	94.1	4.0	1.6	0.4	100.0	1,312
Divorced/separated/widowed	78.4	16.2	5.4	0.0	100.0	75
Number of living children						
0	91.7	4.2	4.1	0.0	100.0	229
1-2	96.0	2.6	1.1	0.4	100.0	641
3-4	91.3	6.9	1.8	0.0	100.0	301
5+	89.0	8.3	1.5	1.3	100.0	216
Residence						
Urban	96.4	1.5	1.2	0.9	100.0	527
Rural	91.3	6.6	2.1	0.0	100.0	860
Region						
Malé	96.4	1.5	1.2	0.9	100.0	527
North	89.6	7.0	3.3	0.0	100.0	178
North Central	90.6	6.2	3.2	0.0	100.0	196
Central	95.9	3.5	0.6	0.0	100.0	125
South Central	92.5	6.6	0.9	0.0	100.0	156
South	89.4	8.5	2.1	0.0	100.0	205
Education						
No formal education	90.9	6.0	2.2	0.9	100.0	311
Primary	92.5	5.4	2.1	0.0	100.0	470
Secondary	94.0	3.8	1.7	0.5	100.0	470
More than secondary	98.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	101
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	89.3	7.3	3.4	0.0	100.0	206
Second	91.0	6.1	2.9	0.0	100.0	235
Middle	92.9	5.5	1.6	0.0	100.0	298
Fourth	93.8	4.5	0.7	1.0	100.0	282
Highest	96.6	1.7	1.1	0.6	100.0	366
Total 15-49	93.2	4.7	1.8	0.4	100.0	1,388
50-64	89.8	2.9	6.8	0.5	100.0	339
Total men 15-64	92.5	4.3	2.8	0.4	100.0	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

[1] "Currently employed" is defined as having done work in the past seven days. Includes persons who did not work in the past seven days but who are regularly employed and were absent from work for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reason.

14.6 KNOWLEDGE OF CONTRACEPTION

Table 14.6 shows that knowledge of family planning methods is virtually universal among all ever-married men and currently married men in Maldives. Almost all currently married men age 15-49 interviewed in the MDHS know at least one modern family planning method (99 percent). The male condom is the most widely recognized method (99 percent). More than 90 percent of men are also aware of the pill (94 percent) and female sterilization (93 percent), and 87-88 percent know about male sterilization and injectables. Almost eight in ten married men have heard of at least one traditional method of contraception. The mean number of methods known by men is 7.7.

Table 14.6 Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Percentage of all ever married men and currently married men age 15-49 who know any contraceptive method, by specific method, Maldives 2009

Method	All ever-married men	Currently married men
Any method	98.9	99.0
Any modern method	98.9	99.0
Female sterilization	92.1	93.2
Male sterilization	85.5	86.5
Pill	93.9	94.4
IUD	80.5	81.1
Injectables	88.1	88.4
Implants	58.8	59.7
Male condom	98.4	98.7
Emergency contraception	33.9	34.4
Any traditional method	76.2	76.8
Rhythm	67.9	68.6
Withdrawal	65.3	65.7
Folk method	2.4	2.0
Mean number of methods known by respondents 15-49	7.7	7.7
Number of respondents	1,388	1,312
Mean number of methods known by respondents 15-64	7.5	7.5
Number of respondents	1,727	1,634

14.7 IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN

In the 2009 MDHS, each ever-married man was asked to choose, regardless of his current situation, the number of children he would have if he could start anew. Overall, 16 percent of respondents did not give a response to the question, 28 percent stated that their ideal number of children is two, 21 percent said that they wanted three children, and 18 percent wanted to have four children.

Table 14.7 shows that the number of living children and ideal family size are correlated; men who have a small number of children more often than other men want a small number of children. As parity increases, the ideal number of children also increases. Whereas men who have six or more children want to have 7.2 children, men with no children only want to have 2.6 children.

Table 14.7 Ideal number of children

Percent distribution of ever-married men 15-49 by ideal number of children, and mean ideal number of children for all ever-married men and for currently married men, according to number of living children, Maldives 2009

Ideal number of children	Number of living children[1]							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
0	0.0	0.3	1.3	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.8	0.8
1	3.1	3.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.4
2	57.5	38.9	35.4	11.3	4.9	0.4	2.4	27.7
3	18.5	29.7	24.2	23.9	10.1	10.7	4.7	20.9
4	8.8	11.7	18.7	27.5	39.8	17.4	12.1	17.9
5	2.4	3.9	6.5	12.6	12.1	39.4	2.3	8.1
6+	2.7	0.2	1.9	3.3	6.2	18.7	41.3	7.1
Non-numeric responses	7.0	12.0	12.0	19.2	25.0	13.5	36.3	16.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	176	386	286	187	131	81	142	1,388
Mean ideal number children for:[2]								
Ever-married men 15-49	2.6	2.7	3.0	3.7	4.1	5.2	7.2	3.5
Number	164	340	251	151	98	70	90	1,164
Currently married men 15-49	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.7	4.2	5.2	7.1	3.5
Number	140	329	242	140	90	67	85	1,092
Mean ideal number children for men 15-64:[2]								
Ever-married men 15-64	2.6	2.7	3.1	3.6	4.2	5.2	6.8	3.7
Number	167.5	345.2	265.3	171.4	117.9	88.5	177.4	1,341.0
Currently married men 15-64	2.5	2.7	3.1	3.6	4.3	5.2	6.7	3.7
Number	143.0	334.7	255.5	160.1	109.6	85.7	172.3	1,260.9

[1] The number of living children includes one additional child if respondent's wife is pregnant (or if any wife is pregnant for men with more than one current wife).
[2] Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

14.8 AIDS-RELATED KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIOUR

14.8.1 Awareness of HIV/AIDS

The 2009 MDHS respondents were asked whether they had heard of HIV or AIDS. Those who reported having heard of AIDS were asked a number of questions about whether and how HIV/AIDS could be avoided. Table 14.8 shows that awareness of AIDS is nearly universal (98 percent) among ever-married men age 15-49 in the Maldives. At least 95 percent of respondents have heard of AIDS in nearly all subgroups shown in the table.

Table 14.8 Knowledge of AIDS

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who have heard of AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Has heard of AIDS	Number of ever-married men
Age		
15-24	97.8	117
15-19	*	3
20-24	97.7	115
25-29	99.7	255
30-39	98.7	548
40-49	96.2	467
Marital status		
Married	98.2	1,312
Divorced/separated/ widowed	95.2	75
Residence		
Urban	97.7	527
Rural	98.2	860
Region		
Malé	97.7	527
North	97.4	178
North Central	98.6	196
Central	99.0	125
South Central	98.4	156
South	97.7	205
Education		
No formal education	95.6	311
Primary	97.7	470
Secondary	99.3	470
More than secondary	100.0	101
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	96.3	206
Second	98.7	235
Middle	97.8	298
Fourth	98.8	282
Highest	98.0	366
Total 15-49	98.0	1,388
50-64	91.6	339
Total men 15-64	96.7	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.8.2 Methods of HIV Prevention

AIDS prevention programmes focus their messages and efforts on three important aspects of behaviour: condom use, staying faithful to one partner, and delaying first sexual intercourse in young persons (i.e., abstinence). Table 14.9 shows the percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, agreed that specific actions would help an individual to avoid AIDS. More than eight in ten men recognize the use of condoms, abstaining from sex, and limiting sex to one partner who is not HIV positive as ways of avoiding AIDS. Three in four men recognize that using condoms and limiting sex to one partner who is not HIV positive are ways to prevent transmission of HIV.

Overall, differentials in the levels of knowledge of the various modes of prevention are small. Among the largest differentials are the differences in the proportions who recognize condom use as a method of preventing HIV transmission by education; 81 percent of men with no formal education say that the risk of HIV transmission can be reduced by using condoms compared with 91 percent of men with more than secondary education. However, the educational differentials are not uniform, and no clear pattern is observed with regard to knowledge of other prevention methods.

Table 14.9 Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse, by having one sex partner who is not infected and has no other partners, and by abstaining from sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Using condoms	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number of ever-married men
Age					
15-24	89.8	84.5	78.8	79.1	117
15-19	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	89.5	84.4	78.6	78.9	115
25-29	88.8	85.9	75.8	88.4	255
30-39	87.4	83.3	74.7	85.9	548
40-49	83.7	84.9	74.9	85.6	467
Marital status					
Married	86.8	84.3	75.2	86.1	1,312
Divorced/separated/ widowed	84.1	86.9	77.3	78.7	75
Residence					
Urban	89.0	82.2	74.6	85.8	527
Rural	85.1	85.8	75.7	85.6	860
Region					
Malé	89.0	82.2	74.6	85.8	527
North	83.3	78.7	70.5	82.7	178
North Central	83.2	94.2	80.5	87.8	196
Central	88.1	85.3	77.3	86.7	125
South Central	87.2	90.3	80.9	87.2	156
South	85.3	80.9	70.7	84.2	205
Education					
No formal education	81.1	84.9	73.4	84.9	311
Primary	86.8	80.8	72.7	85.8	470
Secondary	88.5	86.6	77.5	85.8	470
More than secondary	91.0	91.0	82.0	84.2	101
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	85.4	85.5	77.1	90.0	206
Second	84.6	85.3	73.9	84.9	235
Middle	85.9	84.1	76.4	81.9	298
Fourth	86.7	86.4	75.4	89.6	282
Highest	89.1	82.0	74.2	83.9	366
Total 15-49	86.6	84.4	75.3	85.7	1,388
50-64	72.6	79.0	62.7	80.2	339
Total men 15-64	83.9	83.4	72.8	84.6	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.8.3 Comprehensive Knowledge about HIV/AIDS

A person is considered to have comprehensive knowledge if she or he (1) knows that using condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one faithful, HIV-negative partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, (2) knows that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and (3) rejects the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention: that HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites or by sharing food with a person who has HIV or AIDS. Table 14.10 shows that the majority of ever-married men age 15-49 were aware that AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites (72 percent), by sharing food with a person who has AIDS (86 percent) or by witchcraft or other supernatural means (88 percent). Seventy-eight percent of men correctly reported that a healthy-looking person can be infected HIV.

The results show that 44 percent of ever-married men age 15-49 have a comprehensive knowledge of AIDS. Urban men, those who live in Malé and the South Central region, men age 30-39, men who are divorced/separated or widowed, men with more than secondary education, and men who live in the wealthiest households are more knowledgeable about AIDS than other men.

Table 14.10 Comprehensive knowledge about AIDS

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who say that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus and who, in response to prompted questions, correctly reject local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention, and the percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about AIDS by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of respondents who say that: A healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus	AIDS cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	AIDS cannot be transmitted by supernatural means	A person cannot become infected by sharing food with a person who has AIDS	Percentage who say that a healthy looking person can have the AIDS virus and who reject the two most common local misconceptions[1]	Percentage with a comprehensive knowledge about AIDS[2]	Number of men
Age							
15-24	71.9	65.2	82.3	70.3	46.9	40.3	117
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	71.9	65.1	82.3	70.0	47.1	40.7	115
25-29	81.2	73.5	90.2	90.0	55.2	42.1	255
30-39	81.3	78.1	89.8	90.5	60.6	48.3	548
40-49	73.7	66.6	86.6	82.2	46.9	39.7	467
Marital status							
Married	77.7	72.0	88.4	86.0	53.4	43.1	1,312
Divorced/separated/ widowed	81.5	76.7	83.9	83.8	60.7	52.2	75
Residence							
Urban	83.6	75.9	88.7	88.3	59.1	47.6	527
Rural	74.5	70.1	87.9	84.4	50.6	41.1	860
Region							
Malé	83.6	75.9	88.7	88.3	59.1	47.6	527
North	80.1	67.2	84.2	87.3	51.4	39.7	178
North Central	73.8	74.3	92.5	84.1	53.6	46.0	196
Central	74.8	73.0	94.0	81.3	55.3	46.8	125
South Central	83.1	69.8	87.6	83.6	56.5	48.1	156
South	63.7	66.9	83.0	84.9	39.6	28.9	205
Education							
No formal education	69.9	59.8	82.1	76.9	39.0	35.7	311
Primary	76.9	72.3	91.3	87.2	55.2	42.9	470
Secondary	80.9	76.9	88.6	88.2	57.3	45.2	470
More than secondary	90.3	87.0	88.0	92.0	73.4	58.7	101
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	77.1	62.0	83.6	78.7	45.7	39.7	206
Second	70.7	72.7	90.3	86.4	51.7	43.6	235
Middle	74.8	70.0	89.7	85.9	53.2	43.2	298
Fourth	83.1	77.7	86.4	86.4	56.3	43.5	282
Highest	81.7	75.5	89.6	89.3	58.3	46.1	366
Total 15-49	77.9	72.3	88.2	85.9	53.8	43.6	1,388
50-64	72.5	47.1	75.3	70.3	31.5	21.5	339
Total men 15-64	76.9	67.3	85.7	82.8	49.4	39.3	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Two most common local misconceptions are: people can get AIDS from mosquito bites and sharing food with a person who has AIDS.

[2] Comprehensive knowledge means knowing that consistent use of a condom during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting the AIDS virus, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have the AIDS virus, and rejecting the two most common local misconceptions about AIDS transmission or prevention.

14.8.4 Attitudes towards People Living with AIDS

In the MDHS, to assess the level of stigma, survey respondents who had heard of AIDS were asked (1) if they would be willing to care for a relative sick with AIDS in their own households, (2) if they would be willing to buy fresh vegetables from a market vendor who had the AIDS virus, (3) if they thought a female or a male teacher who has the AIDS virus but is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching, and (4) if they would want to keep a family member's infection with the AIDS virus a secret.

The results shown in Table 14.11 indicate that most ever-married men age 15-49 are willing to care for a relative with the AIDS virus at home (92 percent), and 86 percent will buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper infected with the AIDS virus. Two in three men would allow a female teacher or a male teacher with the AIDS virus to keep teaching (66 percent each). Three in four men said that they would not keep secret the status of a family member infected by the AIDS virus, and 43 percent of men expressed accepting attitudes on all five indicators, indicating that some degree of stigma is associated with HIV/AIDS within Maldivian society.

Table 14.11 Accepting attitudes towards those living with HIV/AIDS: Men

Among ever-married men age 15-49 who have heard of HIV/AIDS, percentage expressing specific accepting attitudes towards people with HIV/AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of respondents who: Are willing to care for a family member with the AIDS virus in the respondent's home	Would buy fresh vegetables from shopkeeper who has the AIDS virus	Say that a female teacher with the AIDS virus and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Say that a male teacher with the AIDS virus and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching	Would not want to keep secret that a family member got infected with the AIDS virus	Percentage expressing acceptance attitudes on all five indicators	Number of respondents who have heard of AIDS
Age							
15-24	93.6	79.4	58.8	58.8	81.5	38.6	115
15-19	81.6	84.4	66.0	66.0	100.0	66.0	3
20-24	93.8	79.3	58.6	58.6	81.1	38.0	112
25-29	92.0	88.5	67.5	66.7	73.4	45.2	254
30-39	93.4	90.5	72.7	71.6	74.0	46.7	541
40-49	91.2	79.7	60.6	61.1	77.5	38.9	449
Marital status							
Married/Living together	92.9	85.2	67.0	66.7	75.8	43.7	1,288
Divorced/separated/widowed	84.8	93.0	57.8	56.2	73.5	34.3	72
Residence							
Urban	93.3	87.4	66.2	66.2	70.5	42.0	515
Rural	91.9	84.6	66.8	66.1	78.9	43.9	845
Region							
Malé	93.3	87.4	66.2	66.2	70.5	42.0	515
North	93.0	86.5	69.0	67.6	83.7	48.9	174
North Central	93.3	83.1	67.4	67.4	76.5	43.5	193
Central	93.8	80.8	70.8	70.4	76.7	47.2	124
South Central	92.6	83.7	65.7	65.2	80.1	44.8	153
South	87.8	87.2	62.8	61.6	77.4	37.1	201
Education							
No education	89.8	74.6	58.0	58.3	83.3	36.7	298
Primary	91.8	88.2	68.6	67.3	79.2	47.1	460
Secondary	93.7	88.8	67.4	67.3	68.6	41.6	467
More than secondary	94.8	88.1	78.8	78.8	71.8	53.2	101
Unknown - Certificate	97.8	97.1	65.2	65.2	70.5	39.5	35
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	94.0	84.5	61.0	60.4	84.5	41.6	199
Second	90.8	85.3	69.7	68.7	78.4	45.8	232
Middle	92.3	85.0	68.5	67.9	75.6	44.2	292
Fourth	89.2	84.3	66.5	66.9	75.3	41.5	279
Highest	95.2	88.1	66.2	65.7	69.4	42.8	359
Total 15-49	92.4	85.6	66.6	66.1	75.7	43.2	1,360
50-64	87.8	66.1	52.2	52.1	83.2	36.6	311
Total men 15-64	91.6	82.0	63.9	63.5	77.1	41.9	1,670

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.8.5 Multiple sexual partners

Information on sexual behaviour is important in designing and monitoring intervention programmes to control the spread of HIV. The 2009 MDHS included questions about the respondent's sexual partners over his lifetime. Table 14.12 shows, among ever-married men age 15-49 years who had sexual intercourse, the percentage who have had more than one sexual partner during their lifetime. The table also shows the mean number of lifetime sexual partners among these men.

Thirty-six percent of men report having had sex with more than one partner in a lifetime. These men have on average 2.3 partners. The mean number of lifetime sexual partners increases with age from 1.7 among men age 15-24 to 2.9 among men age 40-49. The mean number of lifetime sexual partners is highest among men who are divorced, separated, or widowed (3.9). Urban men, men in the South, and men with no formal education have higher proportions of multiple partners compared with other men.

Table 14.12 Lifetime sexual partners

Among ever-married men who have ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage who had 2 or more sexual partners during their lifetime and the mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Among respondents who ever had sexual intercourse: Percentage who had 2+ partners	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men
Age			
15-24	22.0	1.7	98
15-19	*	*	2
20-24	22.0	1.8	96
25-29	29.9	2.0	219
30-39	31.2	2.2	463
40-49	48.4	2.9	388
Marital status			
Married	34.5	2.3	1,109
Divorced/separated/ widowed	62.3	3.9	59
Residence			
Urban	38.2	2.5	414
Rural	34.6	2.2	754
Region			
Malé	38.2	2.5	414
North	33.6	1.6	158
North Central	23.0	1.5	184
Central	26.1	1.7	110
South Central	38.0	3.2	134
South	50.8	3.3	169
Education			
No formal education	41.7	2.1	260
Primary	35.9	2.1	415
Secondary	35.8	2.9	380
More than secondary	21.5	2.0	82
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	33.2	2.3	180
Second	34.5	2.2	201
Middle	33.9	2.3	259
Fourth	41.0	1.9	244
Highest	36.0	2.8	283
Total 15-49	35.9	2.3	1,168
50-64	61.1	2.9	267
Total 15-64	40.6	2.4	1,435

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.8.6 Knowledge of Place for HIV Testing

Knowledge of HIV status helps HIV-negative individuals make specific decisions to reduce risk and increase safer sex practices so that they can remain disease free. For those who are HIV infected, knowledge of their status allows them to take action to protect their sexual partners, to access treatment, and to plan for the future.

To assess the awareness and coverage of HIV testing services, MDHS respondents were asked whether they knew a place where they could go to be tested. Table 14.13 presents the results of these questions. Overall, 84 percent of ever-married men age 15-49 know where to go to get an HIV test. This knowledge varies by the men's characteristics. Married men, men who live in urban areas, and Malé residents are more knowledgeable than other men about the source for HIV testing. Knowledge of place for HIV testing increases with increasing education and wealth status.

Table 14.13 Knowledge of place for HIV testing

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who know where to get an HIV test	Number of men
Age		
15-24	83.0	117
15-19	*	3
20-24	83.3	115
25-29	89.5	255
30-39	87.5	548
40-49	76.2	467
Marital status		
Married	84.1	1,312
Divorced/separated/ widowed	76.6	75
Residence		
Urban	91.9	527
Rural	78.7	860
Region		
Malé	91.9	527
North	75.3	178
North Central	80.5	196
Central	73.2	125
South Central	72.5	156
South	88.0	205
Education		
No formal education	67.8	311
Primary	83.5	470
Secondary	91.2	470
More than secondary	97.6	101
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	70.0	206
Second	76.3	235
Middle	83.5	298
Fourth	88.5	282
Highest	92.6	366
Total 15-49	83.7	1,388
50-64	67.2	339
Total men 15-64	80.4	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.9 SELF-REPORTING OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

In the 2009 MDHS, ever-married men were asked if they have had a disease they contracted through sexual contact in the past 12 months or if they have had symptoms associated with sexually transmitted infections (STIs): a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge from the penis or a genital sore or ulcer. Table 14.14 shows that 1 percent of ever-married men report having an STI and 1 percent of ever-married men age 15-49 report having STI symptoms. Men with more than secondary education report the highest infection rates (8 percent) followed by widowed, divorced, and separated men (5 percent).

Table 14.14 Self-reported prevalence of sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and STIs symptoms

Among ever-married men age 15-49 who ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage of men who reported having in the past 12 months: STI	Bad-smelling/ abnormal genital discharge	Genital sore/ulcer	STI/genital discharge/ sore or ulcer	Number of men who ever had sexual intercourse
Age					
15-24	0.9	2.3	1.3	3.2	117
15-19	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	0.9	2.4	1.4	3.3	115
25-29	1.4	0.2	1.1	1.7	255
30-39	1.6	1.1	0.2	2.6	548
40-49	1.0	1.1	0.7	2.5	467
Marital status					
Married	1.4	0.8	0.7	2.3	1,312
Divorced/separated/ widowed	0.0	5.1	0.0	5.1	75
Residence					
Urban	1.4	0.9	0.7	2.6	527
Rural	1.2	1.1	0.6	2.3	860
Region					
Malé	1.4	0.9	0.7	2.6	527
North	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	178
North Central	2.2	0.4	0.5	2.6	196
Central	0.0	1.8	0.7	2.5	125
South Central	1.7	0.5	0.5	2.2	156
South	1.8	2.1	0.3	3.3	205
Education					
No formal education	1.2	1.2	0.5	2.3	311
Primary	0.4	0.6	0.3	1.1	470
Secondary	1.3	1.7	0.6	2.8	470
More than secondary	6.1	0.0	2.5	7.9	101
Total 15-49	1.3	1.0	0.6	2.4	1,388
50-64	0.2	1.5	0.2	1.7	339
Total men 15-64	1.1	1.1	0.5	2.3	1,727

Note: Total includes 35 men with information missing on education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.10 PREVALENCE OF MEDICAL INJECTIONS

Non-sterile injections can pose a risk of infection with HIV and other diseases. To measure the potential risk of transmission of HIV associated with medical injections, respondents in the 2009 MDHS were asked if they had received an injection in the past 12 months, and if so, the number of injections. Overall, 35 percent of ever-married men age 15-49 reported having had a medical injection in the past 12 months (Table 14.15). On average, men received 2.2 injections over the 12-month period.

Respondents who had received an injection in the past 12 months were asked where they had obtained their last injection. Their responses are summarized in Figure 14.1. More than three in four men went to a public facility, and 22 percent went to a private medical facility. Among facilities in the public sector, the government health centre is the most often-used facility.

When asked whether the last injection used a new syringe taken from an unopened package, 93 percent of men confirmed this was the case (Table 14.15). Hygienic compliance was most often reported by men who were attended by a community health worker and private doctor. Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital shows a lower compliance for maintaining sterility of medical instruments than other public sector sources (data not shown).

Table 14.15 Prevalence of medical injections

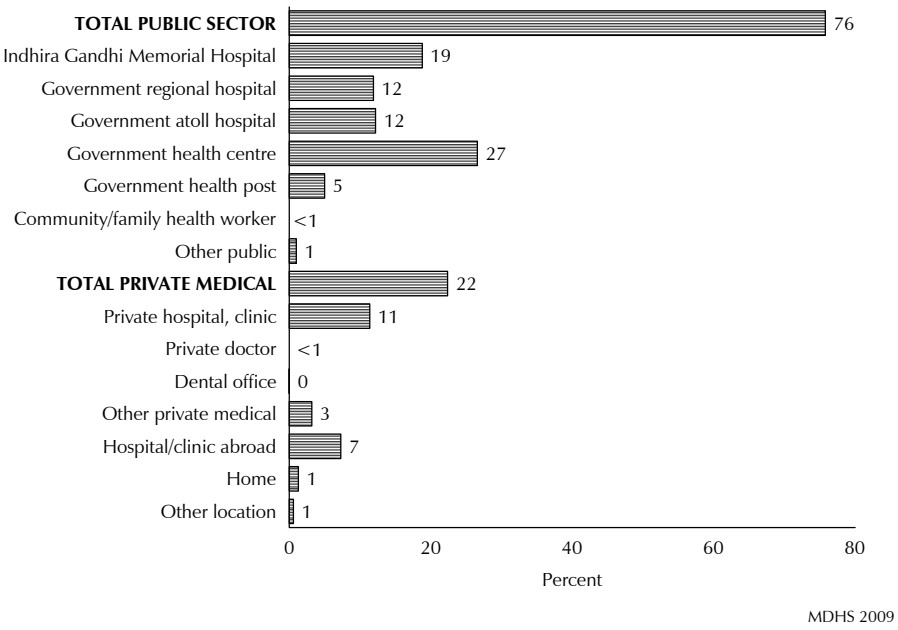
Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who received at least one medical injection in the past 12 months, the average number of medical injections per person in the past 12 months, and among those who received a medical injection, the percentage of last medical injections for which the syringe and needle were taken from a new, unopened package, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 12 months[1]	Average number of medical injections per person in the past 12 months	Number of ever-married men	For last injection, syringe and needle taken from a new, unopened package	Number of men receiving medical injections in the past 12 months
Age					
15-24	34.3	1.4	117	(95.6)	40
15-19	*	*	3	*	1
20-24	34.2	1.4	115	(95.4)	39
25-29	32.1	1.5	255	91.6	82
30-39	37.0	1.4	548	92.8	203
40-49	33.6	3.9	467	92.9	157
Residence					
Urban	30.9	2.4	527	89.9	163
Rural	37.0	2.2	860	94.4	319
Region					
Malé	30.9	2.4	527	89.9	163
North	38.6	2.2	178	96.9	69
North Central	34.9	2.3	196	92.5	68
Central	39.4	2.2	125	97.2	49
South Central	39.9	2.4	156	90.9	62
South	34.1	1.8	205	95.0	70
Education					
No formal education	34.4	4.1	311	92.7	107
Primary	35.1	2.5	470	94.3	165
Secondary	35.8	1.2	470	92.3	169
More than secondary	31.2	0.7	101	*	31
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	37.3	2.0	206	93.9	77
Second	40.9	2.6	235	93.6	96
Middle	34.3	1.8	298	97.2	102
Fourth	29.6	2.0	282	91.9	83
Highest	33.6	2.7	366	88.7	123
Total 15-49	34.7	2.2	1,388	92.9	482
50-64	35.1	2.6	1,727	92.3	607
Total 15-64	37.6	2.6	1,727	93.2	650

Note: Total includes 9 men with information missing on formal education level. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

[1] Medical injections are those given by a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, dentist, or other health worker.

Figure 14.1 Type of Facility Where Last Medical Injection Was Received



MDHS 2009

14.11 MEN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The 2009 MDHS also obtained information from ever-married men on several measures of women's status and empowerment. Specifically, men were asked questions about women's participation in specific household decisions, on their degree of acceptance of wife beating, and on their opinions about when a wife should be able to refuse sex with her husband.

14.11.1 Men's View of Women's Participation in Decision Making

To assess women's decision-making autonomy, information was collected on from men women's participation in decisions concerning four areas: a respondent's own health care, large household purchases, household purchases for daily needs, what to do with the money wife earns and how many children to have. Table 14.16 shows the distribution of currently married men age 15-49 by the person they think should have the final say in making specific decisions. The data show that, for household purchases for daily needs most men feel that wives should have a greater say, while one in ten men think that husbands should be the main decision maker. For the remaining decisions (major household purchases, what to do with the wife's income, and how many children a couple should have) a large proportion of men think that wives and husbands should make the decision together. In fact, 82 percent of men think that family size should be decided jointly by a husband and his wife.

Table 14.16 Women's participation in decision making according to men

Percent distribution of currently married men 15-49 by person who they think should have a greater say in making decisions about four kinds of issues, Maldives 2009

Decision	Wife	Wife and husband equally	Husband	Don't know/ depends	Missing	Total	Number of men
Major household purchases	27.9	52.4	18.7	0.6	0.4	100.0	1,312
Purchases of daily household needs	60.4	28.9	9.5	0.8	0.4	100.0	1,312
What to do with the money wife earns	33.7	48.7	5.1	11.7	0.8	100.0	1,312
How many children to have	3.3	82.2	7.9	5.9	0.7	100.0	1,312

Table 14.17 is presented to show the variations in married men's attitudes towards their wife's participation in specific household decisions. The results indicate that the majority of men (80 percent or higher) think that a wife, alone or jointly with her husband, should have a say in each of the four decisions. This is particularly true for purchasing daily household needs. Overall, 61 percent of married men age 15-64 agree that a wife should participate in all four of the specified decisions, and very few (4 percent) say that they should not participate in any of the decisions.

There are small variations across subgroups of men. Interestingly, the degree of independence a woman should have in making household decisions, as perceived by men, declines with increasing age and wealth status. However, men with more than secondary education more often say that a wife should be involved in all the specified decisions than men with less education.

Table 14.17 Men's attitude towards wives' participation in decision making

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who think a wife should have the greater say alone or equal say with her husband on specific kinds of decisions, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Making major household purchases	Making purchases for daily household needs	What to do with the money the wife earns	How many children to have	All four decisions	None of the four decisions	Number of currently married men
Age							
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	81.9	93.2	89.5	96.9	71.8	0.7	108
25-29	79.7	87.2	86.6	86.6	62.0	2.3	238
30-34	84.2	89.2	84.0	86.6	65.1	2.9	260
35-39	76.4	88.9	77.0	82.2	57.4	6.2	265
40-44	79.8	90.3	82.8	86.4	61.2	2.1	232
45-49	81.0	89.1	78.5	80.0	57.0	5.1	207
Employment (past 12 months)							
Not employed	71.0	74.7	100.0	95.3	71.0	0.0	21
Employed for cash	80.7	89.8	82.5	85.7	61.7	3.2	1,284
Number of living children							
0	76.4	88.0	88.1	90.0	64.0	3.4	204
1-2	82.2	88.1	81.7	84.8	61.1	3.2	621
3-4	79.8	92.7	85.6	85.2	63.4	2.2	280
5+	79.3	89.3	74.8	83.6	58.3	6.0	207
Residence							
Urban	83.0	88.3	80.2	84.8	60.5	3.2	491
Rural	78.7	89.9	83.8	85.9	62.2	3.6	821
Region							
Malé	83.0	88.3	80.2	84.8	60.5	3.2	491
North	78.1	95.6	85.4	84.4	59.3	0.0	168
North Central	63.9	80.3	78.7	79.3	53.0	10.0	191
Central	80.4	91.1	89.8	88.1	67.8	2.5	121
South Central	84.0	88.6	77.9	86.8	62.4	4.1	152
South	89.0	94.7	88.4	92.0	70.4	0.7	189
Education							
No education	79.7	89.3	84.1	83.0	59.7	4.4	303
Primary	77.6	89.0	80.8	85.5	59.0	3.1	436
Secondary	80.2	88.2	82.0	88.2	64.2	3.6	443
More than secondary	97.5	97.2	85.9	88.4	73.3	0.0	96
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	81.9	95.0	84.3	88.8	67.5	1.2	195
Second	77.3	88.0	84.0	83.3	58.7	4.2	216
Middle	78.2	89.7	82.3	87.1	63.7	4.5	290
Fourth	81.5	90.4	86.4	84.3	62.6	4.0	270
Highest	82.3	85.6	77.4	84.6	57.4	3.0	341
Total 15-49	80.3	89.3	82.4	85.5	61.6	3.5	1,312
50-64	79.6	90.5	80.4	80.3	57.2	4.2	321
Total men 15-64	80.2	89.5	82.0	84.5	60.7	3.6	1,634

Note: Total includes 9 men with information missing on employment. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

14.11.2 Attitudes towards Wife Beating

To assess a women's degree of acceptance of wife beating, the 2009 MDHS asked ever-married men, 'Sometimes a husband is annoyed or angered by things that his wife does. In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations?' The five situations presented to men for their opinion were: she burns the food, she argues with him, she goes out without telling him, she neglects the children, and she refuses to have sex with him. The first five columns in Table 14.8 show how men's acceptance of wife beating varies in each situation. The last column shows the percentage of ever-married men who feel that a husband is justified in beating his wife for at least one of the specified reasons.

Table 14.18 Attitude towards wife beating

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she: Burns the food	Argues with him	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the children	Refuses to have sexual intercourse with him	Percentage who agree with at least one specified reason	Number
Age							
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	1.0	8.0	2.0	11.4	1.8	14.9	115
25-29	1.0	6.1	2.2	7.4	2.9	12.4	255
30-34	2.5	9.2	4.6	9.3	4.4	12.8	276
35-39	3.0	10.0	5.9	9.8	7.4	15.1	272
40-44	0.0	6.5	6.3	10.0	2.8	16.8	243
45-49	4.4	8.4	7.8	12.3	6.1	14.6	224
Employment (past 12 months)							
Not employed	0.0	8.6	0.0	8.6	0.0	8.6	25
Employed for cash	2.1	8.1	5.1	9.9	4.6	14.5	1,355
Marital status							
Married	2.0	8.4	5.1	9.8	4.5	14.5	1,312
Divorced/separated/widowed	3.0	4.0	4.4	10.5	3.4	11.5	75
Number of living children							
0	1.0	5.9	2.2	7.7	2.8	12.4	229
1-2	1.9	8.7	4.5	9.9	4.7	14.4	641
3-4	1.9	7.8	4.5	8.3	5.1	13.3	301
5+	3.7	9.4	10.2	14.0	4.7	17.6	216
Residence							
Urban	2.7	7.9	3.9	7.9	5.5	12.8	527
Rural	1.7	8.2	5.7	11.0	3.8	15.3	860
Region							
Malé	2.7	7.9	3.9	7.9	5.5	12.8	527
North	1.6	9.2	8.1	15.8	6.2	20.0	178
North Central	2.4	9.7	7.7	10.6	3.5	17.5	196
Central	1.1	6.6	3.4	8.9	3.1	12.6	125
South Central	2.7	12.6	6.2	13.3	5.5	20.4	156
South	0.5	3.7	2.7	6.7	1.4	7.0	205
Education							
No formal education	2.3	9.3	8.6	15.2	3.6	18.5	311
Primary	3.2	8.5	6.1	9.4	5.6	13.8	470
Secondary	1.4	7.0	2.2	7.3	4.2	13.0	470
More than secondary	0.0	8.0	1.0	5.3	2.6	8.0	101
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	1.1	8.6	5.6	12.3	4.1	15.8	206
Second	2.9	9.2	4.9	11.3	3.7	15.4	235
Middle	1.2	7.1	7.0	9.5	3.6	14.1	298
Fourth	2.2	9.7	3.6	10.5	4.7	14.6	282
Highest	2.6	6.8	4.3	7.3	5.7	12.9	366
Total 15-49	2.1	8.1	5.0	9.8	4.5	14.3	1,388
50-64	3.2	7.0	7.0	9.3	6.2	11.5	339
Total men 15-64	2.3	7.9	5.4	9.7	4.8	13.8	1,727

Note: Total includes 9 men with information missing on employment and 35 men with information missing on formal education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.
Medical injections are those given by a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, dentist, or other health worker

As shown in Table 14.18, very small percentages of ever-married men age 15-49 agree to each of the reasons justifying a husband beating his wife. Men most often agree that a husband has the right to beat his wife if she neglects the children (10 percent). Agreement with other reasons justifying a husband to beat his wife is 2 percent if she burns the food, 8 percent if the wife argues with her husband, 5 percent if she goes out without telling him, and 5 percent if she refuses to have sexual intercourse with him.

The likelihood that a man justifies wife beating in at least one of the specified situations varies across age groups. Men with five or more living children have the highest rates of agreement with at least one reason justifying wife beating compared with men with 1-2 living children (18 percent compared with 12 percent). Residence appears to influence men's attitudes towards wife beating. Men in rural areas agree with at least one reason justifying wife beating more often than men in urban areas. The proportions of men who agree with at least one reason for a husband to beat his wife are highest in the North and South Central regions (20 percent each) and lowest in the South region (7 percent). Education and wealth quintile have a negative relationship with men's agreement with any reason for a husband to hit or beat his wife.

14.11.3 Attitudes towards Refusing Sexual Intercourse with Husband

The extent of control women have over when and with whom they have sexual intercourse is an indicator of women's empowerment and has implications for demographic and health outcomes. In the 2009 MDHS, ever-married men were asked whether a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband under three circumstances: she knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease (STD); she is tired or not in the mood; and she knows her husband has sex with other women.

Table 14.19 shows the percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing sexual intercourse with a husband in three specific circumstances. Most men (88 percent or higher) agree with each of the specified reasons for a wife to withhold sexual intercourse from her husband. Overall, 81 percent of men agree with all of the specified reasons for a wife to refuse sexual intercourse with her husband, and 3 percent agree with none of the reasons.

Male agreement with any of the specified reasons for a wife to refuse sexual intercourse with her husband does not vary substantially and shows no uniform pattern.

Table 14.19 Attitude towards refusing sexual intercourse with husband

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who believe that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband in specific circumstances, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Wife is justified in refusing intercourse with her husband if she: Knows husband has a sexually transmitted disease	Knows husband has intercourse with other women	Is tired or not in the mood	Percentage who agree with all of the specified reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the specified reasons	Number of ever-married men
Age						
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	3
20-24	90.9	86.1	91.4	77.5	2.3	115
25-29	96.0	84.5	91.1	79.6	2.2	255
30-34	96.3	92.3	91.3	85.3	2.0	276
35-39	90.1	87.3	89.6	79.0	4.2	272
40-44	96.0	89.1	94.7	84.7	1.1	243
45-49	88.1	87.5	88.4	77.8	5.4	224
Employment (past 12 months)						
Not employed	*	*	*	*	*	25
Employed for cash	93.6	88.3	91.5	81.4	2.5	1,355
Marital status						
Married	93.6	88.2	91.3	81.4	2.6	1,312
Divorced/separated/widowed	87.5	85.1	87.8	75.0	7.3	75
Number of living children						
0	94.9	85.7	90.7	79.0	2.0	229
1-2	93.5	88.6	91.8	83.1	3.1	641
3-4	91.9	90.1	88.7	79.9	3.1	301
5+	92.5	85.7	92.6	78.7	2.9	216
Residence						
Urban	94.4	89.1	92.7	84.6	3.1	527
Rural	92.5	87.3	90.1	78.8	2.8	860
Region						
Malé	94.4	89.1	92.7	84.6	3.1	527
North	91.9	86.7	91.5	78.1	2.3	178
North Central	96.2	89.1	94.3	84.1	0.5	196
Central	94.7	84.8	89.1	76.1	2.2	125
South Central	94.4	91.3	87.2	81.9	3.1	156
South	86.7	84.5	87.7	73.8	5.3	205
Education						
No formal education	90.4	87.3	90.2	77.8	3.6	311
Primary	94.4	89.4	91.6	82.8	2.4	470
Secondary	92.9	87.3	91.0	80.8	3.4	470
More than secondary	99.3	87.1	92.5	83.4	0.7	101
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	89.7	85.0	88.5	74.6	4.2	206
Second	91.9	87.6	92.9	82.0	4.2	235
Middle	96.0	91.2	89.5	81.7	0.4	298
Fourth	91.8	87.7	90.8	80.0	2.4	282
Highest	95.0	87.5	92.9	84.3	3.7	366
Total 15-49	93.2	88.0	91.1	81.0	2.9	1,388
50-64	94.0	88.2	89.3	81.3	3.8	339
Total men 15-64	93.4	88.0	90.7	81.1	3.1	1,727

Note: Total includes 8 men with information missing on employment and 40 men with information missing on formal education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

Table 14.20 shows the percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who think that a husband has the right to take certain actions when his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse with him when he wants her to. The four specified actions are: get angry and reprimand her, refuse her financial support, use force to have sexual intercourse, or have sexual intercourse with another woman. Overall, less than 1 percent of men agree that a man has the right to take all four of the specified actions if his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse with him, while 75 percent think that a man does not have the right to take any of the actions. Looking at specific actions, the highest proportion (20 percent) is for men who think that a husband has a right to get angry and reprimand his wife.

Table 14.20 Men's attitude towards a husband's rights when his wife refuses to have sexual intercourse

Percentage of ever-married men age 15-49 who consider that a husband has the right to certain behaviours when a woman refuses to have sex with him when he wants her to, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	When a woman refuses to have sex with her husband, he has the right to:				Percentage who agree with all of the specified reasons	Percentage who agree with none of the specified reasons	Number of ever-married men
	Get angry and reprimand her	Refuse her financial support	Use force to have sex	Have sex with another woman			
Age							
15-19	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
20-24	18.2	6.1	0.8	1.5	0.0	78.0	132
25-29	15.3	8.1	1.6	2.8	0.0	78.6	248
30-34	21.0	11.1	3.3	2.2	0.7	75.3	271
35-39	23.5	15.9	3.6	3.6	0.8	70.5	251
40-44	19.5	9.7	2.1	3.4	0.4	76.7	236
45-49	20.9	10.7	4.4	5.3	0.4	73.3	225
Employment (past 12 months)							
Not employed	*	*	*	*	*	*	22
Employed for cash	20.3	10.8	2.9	3.3	0.4	74.8	1,337
Marital status							
Married	19.7	10.3	2.9	3.1	0.5	75.7	1,306
Divorced/separated/widowed	25.8	19.4	1.6	4.8	0.0	62.9	62
Number of living children							
0	20.4	8.1	0.5	3.3	0.0	75.8	211
1-2	17.4	9.9	3.4	2.2	0.3	77.2	597
3-4	24.0	12.9	1.5	4.2	0.6	71.9	334
5+	20.4	11.9	5.8	4.4	0.9	73.9	226
Residence							
Urban	20.6	9.9	0.9	5.8	0.9	74.0	223
Rural	19.8	10.8	3.2	2.7	0.3	75.4	1,145
Region							
Malé	20.6	9.9	0.9	5.8	0.9	74.0	223
North	25.9	15.2	5.1	3.8	0.6	70.3	158
North Central	14.8	7.8	1.7	3.0	0.4	80.9	230
Central	23.2	12.2	3.5	1.6	0.4	72.0	254
South Central	19.1	12.7	4.0	4.0	0.0	73.2	299
South	17.6	6.4	2.0	1.0	0.5	80.4	204
Education							
No education	21.1	10.4	3.9	4.5	0.6	75.5	355
Primary	21.4	12.6	3.4	2.8	0.8	72.8	500
Secondary	19.5	9.0	1.5	2.7	0.0	76.3	410
More than secondary	9.5	7.9	0.0	1.6	0.0	82.5	63
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	20.8	13.3	4.2	2.7	0.4	72.3	264
Second	22.6	11.8	4.0	3.4	0.3	73.7	323
Middle	18.7	9.3	2.5	2.8	0.5	77.3	396
Fourth	17.5	9.6	1.8	3.5	0.4	75.4	228
Highest	19.7	8.9	0.6	4.5	0.6	77.1	157
Total 15-49	20.0	10.7	2.9	3.2	0.4	75.1	1,368
50-64	24.8	8.9	5.6	3.6	1.7	71.3	359
Total men 15-64	21.0	10.3	3.4	3.3	0.7	74.3	1,727

Note: Total includes 9 men with information missing on employment and 40 men with information missing on formal education level. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 cases and has been suppressed.

YOUTH-RELATED ISSUES 15

15.1 INTRODUCTION

One in four Maldivians belongs to the 15-24 age group. In number, they increased from 45,000 in 1995 to more than 75,000 in 2006 (MPND, 2006). In the immediate future, a steady increase in the number of persons entering the labour market and beginning their reproductive years can be expected. This group needs services to facilitate a successful transition to adulthood, including those services that specifically address reproductive and sexual health.

Half of the households selected for the ever-married sample of women of the 2009 MDHS were selected for the male and young adults survey. In these households, all never-married women and never-married men age 15-24, who were either usual residents of the household or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey, were eligible to be interviewed. The MDHS was limited to Maldivian citizens; non-Maldivians were included in the survey only if they were the spouse, son, or daughter of a Maldivian.

Table 15.1 Results of the household and individual interviews

Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence (unweighted), Maldives 2009

Result	Residence		
	Urban	Rural	Total
Households selected for youth survey			
Households selected	601	3,162	3,763
Households occupied	566	3,012	3,578
Households interviewed	481	2,758	3,239
Household response rate[1]	85.0	91.6	90.5
Interviews with women 15-24			
Number of respondents	333	1,191	1,524
Number of eligible women interviewed	260	953	1,213
Eligible women response rate[2]	78.1	80.0	79.6
Interviews with men 15-24			
Number of respondents	349	1,332	1,681
Number of eligible men interviewed	210	817	1,027
Eligible men response rate[2]	60.2	61.3	61.1

[1] Households interviewed/households occupied
[2] Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

The objective for involving the youth in the survey was to assess their knowledge and attitudes regarding issues of reproductive health, marriage and childbearing, sexual activity, and HIV/AIDS. The survey also collected information on tobacco, alcohol, and drug use. Prior to conducting these interviews, informed consent was obtained from the youth. For those who were under 18 years of age consent was obtained first from the youth's parents or guardians.

A total of 3,205 never-married women and men age 15-24 (youth) were identified as eligible for individual interview. Interviews were completed with 2,240 youth, comprising 1,213 women and 1,027 men. The response rate was higher for female youth (80 percent) than for male youth (61 percent). For both women and men, the response rate was slightly higher in rural than in urban areas.

15.2 RESPONDENT'S CHARACTERISTICS

This section provides information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the young adult respondents in this survey. The main background characteristics that are used in subsequent chapters to distinguish subgroups of young adults by their knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour in the area of reproductive health are age, residence (urban-rural), and level of education. As shown in Table 15.2, the number of never-married women and men age 15-24 who have no formal education is fewer than 25, which prevents any estimates about this group from appearing in subsequent tables.

There are more females than males in the sample; 54 percent and 46 percent, respectively. Seventy-three percent of the women and 69 percent of the men are in the younger age group (15-19). Respondents are more often found in rural areas (58 percent) than in urban areas (42 percent). Most of the respondents have a secondary or higher education (95 percent of women and 90 percent of men).

Table 15.2 Background characteristics of respondents

Percent distribution of never-married women and men age 15-24 by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Weighted percent	Weighted	Unweighted	Weighted percent	Weighted	Unweighted
Age						
15	12.7	154	160	10.6	108	116
16	16.8	203	225	18.7	192	195
17	16.4	198	193	13.5	139	145
18	14.6	177	182	15.8	162	147
19	12.5	151	149	10.3	106	115
15-19	72.8	883	909	68.9	707	718
20	8.5	103	95	9.7	100	91
21	8.2	99	93	7.9	82	80
22	5.5	66	59	6.9	71	70
23	3.3	40	38	3.7	38	41
24	1.7	21	19	2.9	29	27
20-24	27.2	330	304	31.1	320	309
Residence						
Urban	41.9	508	260	42.2	433	210
Rural	58.1	705	953	57.8	594	817
Education						
No formal education	0.4	5	6	0.2	2	4
Primary	3.7	45	60	9.6	99	122
Secondary	89.0	1,080	1,088	87.4	897	875
More than secondary	5.6	68	47	2.1	21	18
Total	100.0	1,213	1,213	100.0	1,027	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education.

15.3 CURRENT ACTIVITY

In Table 15.3, young, never-married women and men are distinguished by the type of activity they were involved in during the seven days before the survey (i.e., going to school, holding a job, going to school and holding a job, or neither going to school nor holding a job). Thirty-six percent of never-married women age 15-24 and one in three never-married men age 15-24 attend school only, and one in three women and 39 percent of men work only. A small percentage of women and men go to school as well as hold a job (4 percent of women and 8 percent of men, respectively). A sizable proportion of women and men are neither attending school nor working (27 percent of women and 20 percent of men).

As expected, the youngest respondents have the highest rates of school attendance, whereas the oldest respondents have the highest rates of working. Urban respondents are less often in school and more often at work than rural respondents.

Better-educated women have higher rates of school attendance, while women with less education have higher rates of working. Among men, there is no clear pattern in the realtionship between level of education and school attendance. Better-educated men work less. The rate of women attending school while holding a job increases with increasing education level. Men show the opposite pattern.

The proportion of women who are neither attending school nor working decreases with increasing education level; 36 percent of women with a primary education have stopped school and do not work compared with only 13 percent of women with more than secondary education. Men show the opposite pattern: 9 percent of men with primary education are neither attending school nor working, while the corresponding proportion for men with secondary education is 21 percent.

Table 15.3 Current activity

Percent distribution of never-married women and men age 15-24 by current activity, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Current activity: Attending school only	Working only	Attending school and working	Neither attending school nor working	Other	Total	Number
			WOMEN				
Age							
15-19	46.2	23.4	3.8	26.5	0.1	100.0	883
20-24	8.2	56.9	5.6	29.2	0.0	100.0	330
Residence							
Urban	29.7	35.1	6.1	29.1	0.0	100.0	508
Rural	40.3	30.6	3.0	25.9	0.1	100.0	705
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	5
Primary	46.3	16.5	0.0	35.8	1.4	100.0	45
Secondary	36.5	32.0	3.6	27.9	0.0	100.0	1,080
More than secondary	(26.5)	(41.3)	(19.4)	(12.8)	(0.0)	100.0	68
Total	35.9	32.5	4.3	27.3	0.1	100.0	1,213
			MEN				
Age							
15-19	44.8	24.3	9.8	20.5	0.5	100.0	707
20-24	6.6	70.3	4.5	18.6	0.1	100.0	320
Residence							
Urban	22.6	42.9	8.9	25.1	0.4	100.0	433
Rural	40.4	35.5	7.6	16.1	0.4	100.0	594
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	2
Primary	29.5	50.1	11.0	9.4	0.0	100.0	99
Secondary	33.9	37.1	7.9	20.7	0.4	100.0	897
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	21
Total	32.9	38.6	8.2	19.9	0.4	100.0	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

15.4 MEDIA EXPOSURE

Table 15.4 shows that television is the most popular mass media among young people age 15-24; 98 percent of women and 96 percent of men report watching television at least once a week. Printed materials are the least popular (38 percent of women and 39 percent of men). Women more often than men listen to the radio at least once a week. However, use of the Internet is more popular among young men than among young women. Twelve percent of women and 15 percent of men are exposed at least once a week to the four media: radio, television, printed materials, and the Internet.

In general, for both women and men, those who are older, those living in urban areas, and those who have completed secondary education have the most exposure to the media.

Table 15. 4 Exposure to mass media

Percentage of never-married women and men age 15-24 who usually read a newspaper at least once a week, watch TV at least once a week, listen to the radio at least once a week, and use the Internet at least once a week, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Exposure to mass media						Number
	Reads newspaper/ magazine at least once a week	Watches TV at least once a week	Listens to a radio at least once a week	Uses the internet at least once a week	All four media	No media	
			WOMEN				
Age							
15-19	35.4	97.9	69.9	36.2	9.9	0.6	883
20-24	46.3	97.6	62.9	51.6	18.5	0.0	330
Residence							
Urban	45.7	97.2	54.8	62.6	18.7	0.0	508
Rural	33.1	98.3	77.6	24.3	7.5	0.8	705
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
Primary	30.4	95.5	71.2	10.0	2.7	2.9	45
Secondary	37.3	98.0	68.6	38.3	11.2	0.4	1,080
More than secondary	(57.2)	(96.4)	(56.7)	(90.6)	(32.2)	(0.0)	68
Total	38.3	97.8	68.0	40.3	12.2	0.4	1,213
			MEN				
Age							
15-19	35.7	96.7	54.8	53.9	11.1	0.4	707
20-24	47.1	94.3	54.7	68.4	23.6	0.6	320
Residence							
Urban	56.5	92.7	43.3	84.5	23.2	0.4	433
Rural	26.6	98.4	63.1	39.3	9.0	0.5	594
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
Primary	17.1	98.0	66.3	24.6	6.5	0.4	99
Secondary	40.3	95.8	54.0	61.7	15.4	0.5	897
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	21
Total	39.2	96.0	54.8	58.4	15.0	0.5	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

15.5 KNOWLEDGE OF THE FERTILE PERIOD

Correct knowledge of a woman's monthly reproductive cycle and the specific days when a woman is most likely to conceive leads to the success of the practice of periodic abstinence as a family planning method. Basic knowledge of the mechanisms of human reproduction is important. In the 2009 MDHS, all never-married respondents age 15-24 were asked about their knowledge of a woman's fertile period in the menstrual cycle. First, they were asked whether there are certain days from one menstrual period to the next when a woman is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual relations. Those who responded positively to this question were further asked when this time is; whether it is just before her period begins, during her period, right after her period has ended, or halfway between periods.

Data in Table 15.5 show that knowledge about the fertile period is deficient in young women as well as young men; more than half of the respondents age 15-19 cannot respond to the question (51 percent among women and 53 percent among men). Only 16 percent of women and 11 percent of men gave the correct response, that a woman has the greatest chance of becoming pregnant halfway between her periods. Older respondents are more knowledgeable about the fertile period than younger respondents. Only 8 percent of men age 15-19 gave the correct answer.

Table 15.5 Knowledge of the fertile period

Percent distribution of never-married women and men age 15-24 who know that there are certain days in a woman's menstrual cycle when she is more likely to become pregnant, by perceived fertile period, according to age, Maldives 2009

	Women			Men		
Perceived fertile period	15-19	20-24	Total	15-19	20-24	Total
Just before period	6.4	5.1	6.1	3.9	4.3	4.0
During period	0.4	0.9	0.5	3.9	2.3	3.4
Right after period	15.2	26.3	18.3	12.1	20.1	14.6
Halfway between periods	14.7	19.4	16.0	8.2	16.9	10.9
At any time	8.3	9.6	8.6	14.3	13.2	14.0
Other	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Don't know, missing	54.9	38.7	50.5	57.5	43.3	53.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	883	330	1,213	707	320	1,027

15.6 KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILY PLANNING METHODS

In the 2009 MDHS data on knowledge of family planning methods were obtained by first asking the respondent to name the ways that a couple can delay or avoid a pregnancy. If the respondent did not spontaneously mention a particular contraceptive method, the interviewer probed by describing a method and asking the respondent if she or he recognized it. Descriptions were included in the questionnaire for ten modern family planning methods: female sterilization, male sterilization, the pill, the intrauterine device (IUD), injectables, implants, condom, periodic abstinence, withdrawal, and emergency contraception.

Data in Table 15.6 indicate that knowledge of contraceptive methods is widespread among never-married young adults in Maldives; more than 90 percent of young women and men have heard of a method of family planning. Knowledge about contraceptive methods is equal among women and men (94 percent and 93 percent, respectively). Almost all never-married young adults who have heard of at least one contraceptive method have heard of modern methods. Knowledge of traditional methods is limited (44 percent of women and 51 percent of men). On average, never-married women and men know about 5.5 methods.

The most commonly known methods among unmarried women age 15-24 are male condoms (86 percent), followed closely by female sterilization (85 percent). As expected, for unmarried men age 15-24, the most commonly known method is condoms (91 percent). Knowledge of the pill and female sterilization among men is also high (74 percent each). The least familiar family planning method among young women is emergency contraception (27 percent), possibly because it was only introduced in 2007. For men, the least known family planning method is implants (27 percent), also because it was only introduced in 2006 and only available in Malé. Implants were cited by 37 percent of women.

Higher proportions of never-married women and men age 20-24 have heard of family planning methods compared with their younger counterparts (age 15-19). For example, knowledge of modern contraceptive methods among never-married women age 15-19 is 93 percent, compared with 96 percent for never-married women age 20-24.

Table 15.6 Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Percentage of never-married women and men age 15-24 who know specific contraceptive methods by age, Maldives 2009

	Women			Men		
Contraceptive method	15-19	20-24	Total	15-19	20-24	Total
Any method	92.6	96.0	93.5	92.0	95.4	93.1
Any modern method	92.6	96.0	93.5	92.0	95.4	93.1
Female sterilization	82.6	90.6	84.8	69.2	84.5	73.9
Male sterilization	50.3	64.8	54.2	53.7	70.2	58.9
Pill	75.3	85.7	78.2	69.7	83.4	73.9
IUD	42.4	60.5	47.3	35.6	55.0	41.7
Injectables	64.2	75.4	67.2	56.5	71.9	61.3
Implants	31.4	51.6	36.9	22.8	36.0	26.9
Male condom	83.2	92.6	85.8	88.7	94.8	90.6
Emergency contraception	25.0	32.8	27.1	25.9	37.0	29.3
Any traditional method	38.6	59.5	44.2	46.4	62.1	51.3
Rhythm	30.7	51.0	36.2	31.6	38.9	33.8
Withdrawal	24.3	39.6	28.4	37.5	54.7	42.8
Folk method	1.7	3.6	2.2	2.1	4.2	2.7
Number	883	330	1,213	707	320	1,027
Mean number of methods known	5.1	6.5	5.5	4.9	6.3	5.4

15.7 DECISION ABOUT MARRIAGE

In the 2009 MDHS, never-married women and men age 15-24 were asked who is going to choose the person they are going to marry: their parents, themselves, or their parents together with them. These findings are presented in Table 15.7.

Data in the table show that higher proportions of women compared with men say that they and their parents jointly are the primary decision-makers about their future husband (59 and 38 percent, respectively). On the other hand, more men than women say that they themselves will decide whom they will marry (58 and 36 percent, respectively). This may be because men do not need parental consent for marriage. Although parents still play a role in determining their future spouse, few respondents report that their parents alone will mainly decide whom their future spouse will be (4 percent for women and 3 percent for men).

Women age 15-19 in higher proportions than women age 20-24 say that they, together with their parents, are going to make the decision about whom they will marry (61 percent compared with 51 percent). Men show a similar pattern (40 percent and 35 percent, respectively).

The involvement of parents in making the decision about a future partner varies by the respondent's residence and education; more urban respondents than rural residents say that they themselves will make a decision on whom to marry. Although a women's education does not have a strong relationship with her attitude about who will make the decision about a marriage partner, men with secondary education more often than men with primary education say that they want to make the decision themselves.

Table 15.7 Decision on whom to marry

Percent distribution of never-married women and men age 15-24 by who makes the decision on whom the respondent will marry, according to background characteristics, Maldives, 2009

Background characteristic	Decision-maker					Total	Number
	Mainly parents	Mainly self	Parents and self jointly	Other	Don't know/ missing		
			WOMEN				
Age							
15-19	4.4	32.9	61.4	0.7	0.6	100.0	883
20-24	3.7	45.5	50.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	330
Residence							
Urban	3.4	41.0	54.0	0.9	0.7	100.0	508
Rural	4.8	32.9	61.8	0.2	0.3	100.0	705
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	5
Primary	9.5	36.5	54.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	45
Secondary	4.2	36.8	57.9	0.6	0.5	100.0	1,080
More than secondary	(0.0)	(32.8)	(67.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	68
Total	4.2	36.3	58.5	0.5	0.5	100.0	1,213
			MEN				
Age							
15-19	3.5	56.0	39.7	0.1	0.6	100.0	707
20-24	3.1	61.4	34.7	0.6	0.2	100.0	320
Residence							
Urban	2.1	62.9	34.7	0.0	0.4	100.0	433
Rural	4.3	53.9	40.6	0.5	0.6	100.0	594
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	2
Primary	2.2	50.6	47.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	99
Secondary	3.7	58.0	37.6	0.3	0.4	100.0	897
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	21
Total	3.4	57.7	38.1	0.3	0.5	100.0	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

15.8 DECISION ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN

The 2009 MDHS respondents were also asked, 'Who do you think should mainly decide how many children a couple should have, the husband, the wife, or both together?' Table 15.8 presents the findings. Overall, nearly all respondents say that husband and wife together should make the decision on the number of children they are going to have (97 percent of women and 97 percent of men).

Individual decision-making on number of children is not popular among either women or men. For instance, only 2 percent each of women and men think that a husband alone should decide the number of children. Similarly, less than 1 percent each of women and men think that a wife alone should decide the number of children.

There is little variation across age groups and residence. However, the variation is notable across education levels. The proportion of never-married women and men who say that husband and wife jointly should decide on the number of children that they will have increases with their education level. For instance, this opinion is expressed by 92 percent of women with primary education compared with 97 percent of women with more than secondary education.

Table 15.8 Decision on number of children

Percent distribution of never-married women and men age 15-24 by who they think should make the decision on the number of children to have, according to background characteristics, Maldives, 2009

Background characteristic	Decision-maker					Total	Number
	Mainly husband	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Other	Don't know/ missing		
			WOMEN				
Age							
15-19	1.4	0.5	96.8	0.4	0.9	100.0	883
20-24	2.6	1.5	95.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	330
Residence							
Urban	1.8	1.2	95.9	0.0	1.1	100.0	508
Rural	1.7	0.5	97.0	0.5	0.3	100.0	705
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	5
Primary	6.3	1.4	92.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	45
Secondary	1.5	0.6	96.8	0.4	0.7	100.0	1,080
More than secondary	(0.0)	(3.4)	(96.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	68
Total	1.7	0.8	96.6	0.3	0.6	100.0	1,213
			MEN				
Age							
15-19	1.7	1.1	96.3	0.3	0.6	100.0	707
20-24	1.3	0.4	98.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	320
Residence							
Urban	0.3	0.3	99.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	433
Rural	2.5	1.2	95.3	0.4	0.6	100.0	594
Education							
No formal education	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	2
Primary	5.9	2.4	90.3	0.0	1.4	100.0	99
Secondary	1.2	0.7	97.6	0.2	0.3	100.0	897
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	21
Total	1.6	0.9	96.8	0.2	0.5	100.0	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

15.9 DISCUSSION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

One of the objectives of the 2009 MDHS was to find out the sources from which young adults in Maldives obtained information on reproductive health. In the survey, respondents were asked whether they had discussed with anyone issues related to human reproduction and sexuality. Table 15.9 shows that one in four women (25 percent) and 22 percent of men had not talked about reproductive health and sexuality with anyone.

Among those who talked, respondents more often talked with friends of the same sex; 57 percent of female respondents talked with their female friends and 66 percent of male respondents talked with their male friends. In addition to friends, the majority of the women who discussed reproductive health issues more often talked with persons of the same sex (e.g., mothers or sisters). Men, on the other hand, are more open to talking about reproductive health with persons of the opposite sex, such as female friends or girlfriends (34-35 percent each).

Table 15.9 Discussion of reproductive health

Percentage of never-married youth age 15-24 by person with whom they talked about reproductive health, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Discuss reproductive health with: Mother	Father	Brother	Sister	Male friend	Female friend	Boyfriend/ girlfriend	Female teacher	Male teacher	Health provider	No one	Number
						WOMEN						
Age												
15-19	24.6	0.6	1.7	32.1	6.0	53.8	12.9	34.9	12.2	17.3	27.4	883
20-24	22.3	1.6	1.4	44.0	12.5	66.2	40.6	40.6	16.0	29.7	19.9	330
Residence												
Urban	31.5	1.7	2.3	47.8	11.9	63.5	26.2	37.2	13.9	21.3	19.4	508
Rural	18.5	0.3	1.2	26.4	4.8	52.6	16.2	35.9	12.7	20.2	29.6	705
Education												
No education	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5
Primary	12.9	1.3	0.0	21.5	2.3	50.4	13.9	26.8	7.8	22.0	36.3	45
Secondary	23.3	0.9	1.6	33.7	7.0	55.8	18.8	35.5	12.7	19.4	25.8	1,080
More than secondary	(40.9)	(0.0)	(4.1)	(70.5)	(24.7)	(86.3)	(52.3)	(59.4)	(28.5)	(41.1)	(4.6)	68
Total	23.9	0.9	1.7	35.3	7.8	57.2	20.4	36.4	13.2	20.6	25.3	1,213
						MEN						
Age												
15-19	3.3	2.3	11.5	3.9	60.8	26.8	24.1	20.0	31.2	8.3	25.1	707
20-24	1.5	1.3	11.3	4.7	78.1	49.9	58.3	16.6	29.3	21.8	15.0	320
Residence												
Urban	4.1	1.7	14.9	6.3	71.8	43.6	46.7	25.3	30.9	15.9	16.1	433
Rural	1.7	2.2	8.9	2.6	62.0	27.0	26.1	14.3	30.4	10.1	26.1	594
Education												
No education	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
Primary	3.6	2.7	7.3	2.9	61.6	25.3	25.8	9.3	20.1	13.3	27.6	99
Secondary	2.4	1.9	11.5	4.2	66.7	34.5	35.7	19.8	31.8	11.7	21.0	897
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	21
Total	2.7	2.0	11.5	4.2	66.1	34.0	34.8	19.0	30.6	12.5	21.9	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

The role of teachers in imparting knowledge about reproductive health is significant. Both men and women talked with teachers of the same sex more often than they talked with teachers of the opposite sex. More than one-third of young, never-married women reported talking with a female teacher while 13 percent had talked to a male teacher. Among young, never-married men, 31 percent had talked with a male teacher, and 19 percent had talked with a female teacher.

Health service providers play a less significant role as a source of information on reproductive health (21 percent for women and 13 percent for men). Overall, for both women and men, the younger, rural, and less educated respondents discussed reproductive health less often than other respondents.

15.10 USE OF TOBACCO

Tobacco smoking is associated with major health problems. Information about smoking behaviour can be used to predict the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, and cancer (Truelsen and Bonita, 2002). An understanding of the full impact of tobacco use on a population's health requires data on frequency or level of exposure to tobacco smoke, duration of exposure, and quantity or magnitude of exposure. Data for female youth are not presented because fewer than 25 women reported to smoke. Table 15.10 provides information on smoking behaviour among young men.

Table 15.10 Cigarette smoking

Percentage of never-married men age 15-24 who are currently smoking by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Percent	Number
Age		
15-19	19.8	707
20-24	42.0	320
Residence		
Urban	22.7	433
Rural	29.6	594
Education		
No formal education	*	2
Primary	39.8	99
Secondary	25.4	897
More than secondary	*	21
Total	26.7	1,027

Note: Total includes 8 men with information missing on level of education. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Comparison across subgroups of men reveals that smoking is more common among older men, rural men, and less educated men.

15.11 KNOWLEDGE OF AIDS

Table 15.11 shows the percentages of never-married women and men age 15-24 who have heard of AIDS. Overall, 96 percent each of women and men say that they have heard of AIDS. Older respondents, those who live in urban areas, and those with higher education report higher rates of having heard of AIDS.

Table 15.11 Knowledge of AIDS

Percentage of never-married women and men age 15-24 by who have heard of AIDS, by background characteristics, Maldives, 2009

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Has heard of AIDS	Number	Has heard of AIDS	Number
Age				
15-19	95.1	883	95.0	707
20-24	97.2	330	98.5	320
Ever had sexual intercourse				
Yes	100.0	43	98.6	101
No	97.3	586	97.3	466
Residence				
Urban	99.6	508	99.3	433
Rural	92.8	705	93.7	594
Education				
No formal education	*	5	*	2
Primary	83.3	45	88.7	99
Secondary	96.1	1,080	96.7	897
More than secondary	(100.0)	68	*	21
Total	95.7	1,213	96.1	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

15.12 Knowledge of HIV Prevention Methods

HIV is mainly transmitted through heterosexual contact between an infected partner and an uninfected partner. Consequently, HIV prevention programs focus their messages and efforts on three important aspects of behaviour: use of condoms, limiting the number of sexual partners or staying faithful to one partner, and delaying sexual debut for young persons (abstinence). To ascertain whether the programs have effectively communicated these messages, MDHS respondents were asked specific questions about whether it is possible to reduce the chances of getting HIV by using a condom at every sexual encounter, limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner, and abstaining from sex.

Table 15.12 shows the levels of knowledge of various HIV prevention methods by background characteristics. Six in ten never-married women age 15-24 and 76 percent of never-married men age 15-24 know that using condoms can reduce the risk of contracting HIV. This knowledge is higher for respondents in urban areas and those with higher education.

More than three in four young, never-married women and men say that limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner can prevent them from getting the AIDS virus (78 percent and 77 percent, respectively). Fifty-one percent of women and 62 percent of men say that using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner can reduce the risk of getting HIV. Additionally, 73 percent of women and 78 percent of men say that not having sexual intercourse at all can reduce the risk of contracting HIV. Knowledge for all four prevention methods is highest among those age 20-24 and those with a high level of education.

Table 15.12 Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

Percentage of never-married youth 15-25 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse, by having one uninfected sex partner who has no other partners, and by abstaining from sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Women					Men				
Background characteristic	Using condoms	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number	Using condoms	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner	Abstaining from sexual intercourse	Number
Age										
15-19	55.2	76.5	47.1	71.6	883	71.7	72.8	56.6	75.3	707
20-24	68.8	81.9	61.2	77.6	330	85.0	86.2	74.8	84.7	320
Ever had sexual intercourse										
Yes	77.2	85.7	68.0	84.6	43	89.5	83.9	75.3	85.5	101
No	63.4	84.0	57.5	75.7	586	81.3	81.7	68.7	82.7	466
Residence										
Urban	65.9	77.4	53.4	75.7	508	87.8	79.7	71.5	84.0	433
Rural	53.9	78.4	49.1	71.4	705	67.1	75.0	55.6	74.1	594
Education										
No formal education	*	*	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	2
Primary	49.2	61.5	34.7	61.2	45	63.9	68.4	49.6	71.6	99
Secondary	57.8	78.8	50.6	73.0	1,080	76.5	77.5	62.9	78.3	897
More than secondary	(86.6)	(82.3)	(68.9)	(84.2)	68	*	*	*	*	21
Total	58.9	78.0	50.9	73.2	1,213	75.8	77.0	62.3	78.3	1,027

Note: Total includes 15 women and 8 men with information missing on level of education. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that an estimate is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

WOMEN'S OTHER HEALTH ISSUES 16

Respondents in the 2009 MDHS individual interviews were asked a series of questions designed to obtain information on knowledge, attitudes, and personal experiences regarding a variety of adult health issues: tuberculosis, tobacco use, exercise, diabetes, hypertension, heart attack, and stroke.

16.1 KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES REGARDING TUBERCULOSIS

Respondents were asked if they had ever heard of tuberculosis (TB), knew how TB was spread, and believed the disease was curable. Additionally, respondents were asked whether or not they would want other people to know if a family member had TB.

Table 16.1 shows that knowledge of TB among women in Maldives is almost universal (96 percent, with small variations across background characteristics. Among ever-married women, knowledge of TB increases slightly with educational attainment. For example, 95 percent of women with no formal education have heard of TB compared with 99 percent of women with more than secondary education.

Table 16.1 Knowledge and attitude concerning tuberculosis

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), and among women who have heard of TB, the percentage who know that TB is spread through the air by coughing, the percentage who believe that TB can be cured, and the percentage who would want to keep secret that a family member has TB, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

	Among all respondents		Among respondents who have heard of TB, the percentage who			
Background characteristic	Percentage who have heard of TB	Number of ever-married women	Percentage who report that TB is spread through the air by coughing	Percentage who believe that TB can be cured	Percentage who would want a family member's TB kept secret	Number of women who have heard of TB
Age						
15-19	94.3	119	49.4	72.9	5.4	112
20-24	95.3	1,268	60.8	89.6	6.7	1,208
25-29	97.2	1,539	76.0	94.3	8.5	1,496
30-34	96.9	1,287	79.2	96.8	8.1	1,246
35-39	96.3	1,185	79.1	97.1	6.6	1,140
40-44	95.8	1,013	74.1	98.8	7.2	970
45-49	94.9	721	75.0	96.6	5.5	684
Residence						
Urban	95.8	2,368	80.4	95.3	8.6	2,268
Rural	96.3	4,763	70.3	94.7	6.6	4,589
Region						
Malé	95.8	2,368	80.4	95.3	8.6	2,268
North	96.1	1,067	71.7	96.6	5.4	1,025
North Central	97.8	1,038	63.9	94.4	8.3	1,015
Central	97.2	615	74.3	93.0	6.7	598
South Central	96.9	853	77.6	96.6	6.8	827
South	94.5	1,190	67.2	92.9	6.0	1,124
Education						
No formal education	95.0	1,668	72.5	97.5	6.0	1,585
Primary	95.2	2,464	73.9	95.1	6.6	2,346
Secondary	97.4	2,584	72.2	92.9	7.9	2,516
More than secondary	99.4	333	84.9	95.8	11.0	331
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	95.5	1,300	68.7	95.0	5.4	1,241
Second	96.6	1,396	71.1	94.5	5.7	1,349
Middle	96.5	1,488	71.9	95.6	7.5	1,436
Fourth	96.4	1,447	74.6	94.0	8.9	1,395
Highest	95.7	1,499	80.9	95.3	8.5	1,435
Total	96.2	7,131	73.6	94.9	7.3	6,858

Note: Total includes 79 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.

Three in four women (74 percent) who have heard of TB correctly say that TB is spread through the air when coughing or sneezing. Correct knowledge of how TB is spread generally increases with age. Knowledge varies across regions, ranging from 64 percent in the North Central region to 80 percent in Malé for women. Knowledge of the way TB is spread generally increases with educational attainment Sixty-nine percent of women in the lowest wealth quintile have correct knowledge compared with 81 percent of women in the highest wealth quintile.

Overall, 95 percent of women believe that TB can be cured. Belief in the possibility that TB can be cured varies only by age. More than 95 percent of women age 30-49 believe that TB can be cured compared with 73 percent of women age 15-19.

Wanting to keep a family member's illness a secret is a sign of stigma against persons with TB. Only 7 percent of women and men in Maldives say they would want to keep secret a family member's TB illness. Women living in urban areas and women with more than secondary education are slightly more likely to want to keep the illness a secret.

Table 16.2 provides additional information on the modes by which women in Maldives believe TB can be transmitted. Among women who have heard of TB, 74 percent of women say TB is spread through the air by coughing, 43 percent say that TB is spread by sharing utensils, 10 percent say that TB is spread by touching a person with the disease; and 13 percent of women say that TB is spread through food.

Table 16.2 Knowledge of TB transmission modes

Among ever-married women age 15-49 who heard of tuberculosis, the percentage who cite specific TB transmission modes, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	TB modes of transmission									Number of women
	Through air when coughing	By sharing utensils	By touching a person with TB	Through food	Through sexual contact	Through mosquito bites	Through blood contact/ trans-fusions	Other	Don't know	
Age										
15-19	49.4	23.0	11.3	9.1	7.3	3.6	2.4	0.0	42.8	112
20-24	60.8	26.3	6.9	7.6	4.6	1.6	0.7	1.7	27.1	1,208
25-29	76.0	36.1	7.9	10.7	2.9	1.2	0.7	1.6	15.6	1,496
30-34	79.2	43.8	9.6	12.2	2.7	0.8	1.0	1.4	12.0	1,246
35-39	79.1	50.0	12.6	16.6	2.9	1.6	1.0	1.1	8.4	1,140
40-44	74.1	55.9	12.8	19.6	4.5	2.0	0.5	1.5	7.7	970
45-49	75.0	58.8	13.6	18.6	4.1	1.7	0.0	0.4	8.4	684
Residence										
Urban	80.4	44.1	9.7	13.5	2.3	1.4	0.7	1.4	10.6	2,268
Rural	70.3	42.4	10.4	13.4	4.2	1.5	0.8	1.3	16.3	4,589
Region										
Malé	80.4	44.1	9.7	13.5	2.3	1.4	0.7	1.4	10.6	2,268
North	71.7	42.1	9.9	3.9	3.2	0.9	0.5	1.0	14.9	1,025
North Central	63.9	44.0	13.3	20.6	4.9	1.4	0.9	0.9	19.7	1,015
Central	74.3	43.1	9.4	12.1	3.7	1.6	0.8	1.3	15.8	598
South Central	77.6	43.1	12.1	17.6	5.7	2.8	0.5	2.0	11.3	827
South	67.2	40.1	7.4	13.2	3.7	1.2	1.1	1.4	18.3	1,124
Education										
No formal education	72.5	54.7	12.3	16.9	4.7	1.3	0.4	1.0	10.1	1,585
Primary	73.9	43.1	10.8	13.2	3.0	0.9	0.9	1.3	14.8	2,346
Secondary	72.2	35.0	8.2	11.4	3.7	2.2	0.8	1.6	17.6	2,516
More than secondary	84.9	44.1	8.3	14.4	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.4	9.3	331
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	68.7	41.7	9.4	11.1	4.3	0.8	0.6	1.2	17.0	1,241
Second	71.1	43.2	11.1	13.8	4.0	2.2	0.8	1.6	15.9	1,349
Middle	71.9	43.3	10.6	14.7	4.5	1.6	0.9	0.9	15.6	1,436
Fourth	74.6	42.0	8.7	13.4	3.4	0.9	0.4	1.4	14.8	1,395
Highest	80.9	44.3	10.8	13.9	1.8	1.8	0.9	1.7	9.2	1,435
Total	73.6	42.9	10.1	13.4	3.6	1.5	0.7	1.3	14.4	6,858

Note: Total includes 79 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.

16.2 USE OF TOBACCO

Tobacco leaves are used in various ways. They are dried and rolled into cigarettes and cigars for smoking, shredded and inserted into pipes (also for smoking), and finely pulverised for inhalation as snuff. Smoking has been shown to have significant adverse health effects, including an increased risk of respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses, both for the individual smoker and for other people exposed to second-hand, or environmental, tobacco smoke (WHO, 2002). Information on women's use of tobacco was collected during the 2009 MDHS. Table 16.3 shows that 91 percent of women do not use tobacco. Among women who use tobacco, 2 percent smoke cigarettes and 7 percent use other forms of tobacco. Tobacco use varies by background characteristics. For example, older women are much more likely to use tobacco than younger women. Tobacco use increases from 1 percent among women age 15-19 to 25 percent among women age 45-49. Tobacco use is also more common among women in the Central region, women with no formal education and women in the lowest wealth quintile than among other women. Less than 5 percent of women who are pregnant or breastfeeding report using cigarettes or other tobacco.

Table 16.3 Use of tobacco

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who smoke cigarettes or a pipe or use other tobacco products, according to background characteristics and maternity status, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Cigarettes	Other tobacco	Does not use tobacco	Number of women
Age				
15-19	0.6	0.8	98.6	119
20-24	0.9	0.7	98.3	1,268
25-29	1.0	0.9	98.1	1,539
30-34	2.4	4.2	93.7	1,287
35-39	2.7	8.8	88.7	1,185
40-44	3.7	.15.0	81.3	1,013
45-49	4.7	20.7	74.9	721
Residence				
Urban	3.3	3.9	92.7	2,368
Rural	1.7	8.2	90.3	4,763
Region				
Malé	3.3	3.9	92.7	2,368
North	0.9	6.6	92.6	1,067
North Central	0.6	9.8	89.6	1,038
Central	6.6	4.7	89.3	615
South Central	1.7	14.0	84.8	853
South	1.1	5.8	93.1	1,190
Education				
No formal education	3.8	18.3	78.1	1,668
Primary	2.4	6.7	91.1	2,464
Secondary	1.1	0.3	98.5	2,584
More than secondary	3.4	0.0	96.6	333
Maternity status				
Pregnant	.1.0	2.6	96.7	522
Breastfeeding (not pregnant)	1.0	3.3	95.6	1,674
Neither	2.8	8.4	88.9	4,935
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	2.3	12.4	85.6	1,300
Second	1.7	9.2	89.3	1,396
Middle	1.8	5.5	92.7	1,488
Fourth	2.1	4.5	93.2	1,447
Highest	3.4	3.0	93.7	1,499
Total	2.3	6.8	91.1	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing

16.3 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Table 16.4 shows that 61 percent of women did not walk, run, or engage in any physical activity for at least 20 minutes in the week before the survey. Among women who did engage in physical activity, 21 percent did it for five to seven days, 6 percent for three to four days, and 7 percent for one to two days. Physical activity increases with age. Urban women and women in Malé are engaged in physical activity more often than women in other areas. Women with the highest education and wealth status are engaged in physical activity more often than other women.

Table 16.4 Physical activity

Percent distribution of ever-married women 15-49, who walked, ran, or engaged in other physical activity for at least 20 minutes in the week before the survey, by number of days engaged in physical activity, according to background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Number of days engaged in physical activity						Total	Number of women
	0	1-2	3-4	5-7	Don't know	Missing		
Age								
15-19	75.8	14.3	2.5	4.0	2.7	0.7	100.0	119
20-24	68.7	7.0	5.4	13.2	5.6	0.1	100.0	1,268
25-29	67.4	7.0	5.1	15.6	4.9	0.0	100.0	1,539
30-34	55.8	5.9	8.3	22.5	7.5	0.0	100.0	1,287
35-39	59.7	4.4	5.1	24.6	6.2	0.0	100.0	1,185
40-44	51.9	8.2	5.8	28.3	5.3	0.5	100.0	1,013
45-49	53.6	6.4	5.6	28.6	5.6	0.1	100.0	721
Residence								
Urban	50.6	7.8	7.4	21.9	12.0	0.2	100.0	2,368
Rural	65.9	6.0	5.0	20.3	2.7	0.1	100.0	4,763
Region								
Malé	50.6	7.8	7.4	21.9	12.0	0.2	100.0	2,368
North	66.3	6.9	4.0	20.0	2.8	0.1	100.0	1,067
North Central	71.1	5.9	6.8	15.6	0.6	0.0	100.0	1,038
Central	72.6	5.6	5.7	15.0	1.0	0.1	100.0	615
South Central	63.6	4.6	4.3	21.3	6.0	0.1	100.0	853
South	59.1	6.5	4.7	26.7	3.0	0.1	100.0	1,190
Education								
No formal education	59.7	5.4	5.2	25.4	4.1	0.2	100.0	1,668
Primary	60.5	5.5	5.9	22.0	5.9	0.1	100.0	2,464
Secondary	63.2	7.9	5.9	16.6	6.3	0.1	100.0	2,584
More than secondary	52.4	10.4	6.6	22.0	8.7	0.0	100.0	333
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	66.7	5.6	4.1	21.7	1.9	0.1	100.0	1,300
Second	66.9	5.9	5.3	18.6	3.2	0.1	100.0	1,396
Middle	64.5	5.9	4.4	21.9	3.3	0.1	100.0	1,488
Fourth	56.3	6.9	8.8	21.0	6.8	0.2	100.0	1,447
Highest	50.8	8.6	6.3	21.0	13.1	0.2	100.0	1,499
Total	60.8	6.6	5.8	20.8	5.8	0.1	100.0	7,131

Note: Total includes 81 cases for which information on woman's formal education level is missing.

16.4 BLOOD PRESSURE, DIABETES, HEART ATTACK, AND STROKE

The MDHS also includes information collected about the respondents' experience with blood pressure, diabetes, heart attack, and stroke. Four percent of the ever-married women age 15-49 interviewed in the MDHS reported that they had been diagnosed with high blood pressure.

Table 16.5 shows that among women who had been diagnosed with high blood pressure, more than half (56 percent) took medication and 82 percent cut down on salt consumption to lower blood pressure. Efforts to lower blood

Table 16.5 Actions taken to lower blood pressure

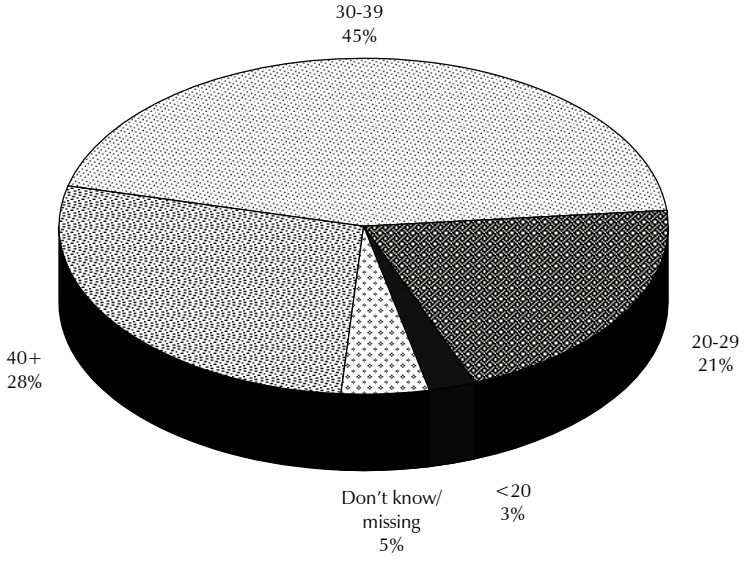
Percent distribution of ever-married women age 15-49 who were told by a doctor or health professional on two or more visits that she had high blood pressure, by various actions to treat the illness, Maldives 2009

Actions taken to lower blood pressure	Percent
Taking prescribed medication	56.0
Controlling weight/losing weight	72.3
Cutting down on salt in diet	81.8
Exercising	52.0
Stopped smoking	50.2
Number	280

pressure included control or loss of weight (72 percent), exercise (52 percent), and smoking cessation (50 percent).

Three percent of the MDHS respondents reported that they had been diagnosed with diabetes. Figure 16.1 shows that 45 percent of women were first diagnosed with diabetes when they were age 30-39, 28 percent were diagnosed at age 40 or later, and 21 percent were diagnosed at age 20-29.

Figure 16.1 Age When First Diagnosed with Diabetes



MDHS 2009

In the MDHS, women who had been diagnosed with diabetes were asked whether they were taking medication to treat the disease. Table 16.6 shows that 10 percent of the women reported taking insulin and 47 percent took pills to lower their blood sugar.

Two percent of women indicated that they have been told by a doctor or other health professional that they had had a heart attack or myocardial infarction at some point prior to the survey, and 2 percent have been told that they have had a stroke (data not shown).

Table 16.6 Actions taken to lower diabetes

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who are taking insulin and the percentage taking pills to lower blood sugar, Maldives 2009

Actions taken to lower blood sugar	Percent
Taking insulin	10.1
Taking pills	46.6
Number	239

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SAMPLE IMPLEMENTATION

Appendix A

Table A.1 Sample implementation: Women

Percent distribution of households and eligible women by results of the household and individual interviews, and household, eligible women and overall response rates, according to urban-rural residence and region, Maldives 2009

	Residence		Region						
Result	Urban	Rural	Malé	North	North Central	Central	South Central	South	Total
Selected households									
Completed (C)	78.5	87.1	78.5	84.4	88.5	89.8	89.3	83.1	85.7
Household present but no competent respondent at home HP)	8.2	4.4	8.2	5.9	2.7	2.6	3.6	7.5	5.0
Postponed (P)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Refused (R)	5.8	3.2	5.8	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.2	5.0	3.6
Dwelling not found (DNF)	1.7	0.4	1.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.6
Household absent (HA)	1.6	2.7	1.6	3.2	2.8	2.7	3.2	1.8	2.6
Dwelling vacant/address not a dwelling (DV)	2.2	1.4	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.5
Dwelling destroyed (DD)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
Other (O)	1.9	0.7	1.9	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of sampled households	1,202	6,313	1,202	1,092	1,289	1,132	1,512	1,288	7,515
Household response rate (HRR)[1]	83.4	91.6	83.4	90.1	93.9	94.2	93.6	85.9	90.3
Eligible women									
Completed (EWC)	78.9	86.5	78.9	85.6	91.4	85.9	87.9	80.7	85.3
Not at home (EWNH)	8.9	6.0	8.9	7.3	2.2	5.9	6.1	8.5	6.4
Postponed (EWP)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Refused (EWR)	11.0	5.8	11.0	5.7	5.7	6.2	4.0	8.2	6.6
Partly completed (EWPC)	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
Incapacitated (EWI)	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.8
Other (EWO)	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	1,320	7,042	1,320	1,121	1,378	1,501	1,755	1,287	8,362
Eligible women response rate (EWRR)[2]	78.9	86.5	78.9	85.6	91.4	85.9	87.9	80.7	85.3
Overall response rate (ORR)[3]	65.8	79.2	65.8	77.2	85.8	80.9	82.3	69.3	77.0

[1] Using the number of households falling into specific response categories, the household response rate (HRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * C}{C + HP + P + R + DNF}$$

[2] Using the number of eligible women falling into specific response categories, the eligible woman response rate (EWRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * EWC}{EWC + EWNH + EWP + EWR + EWPC + EWI + EWO}$$

[3] The overall response rate (ORR) is calculated as:

$$ORR = HRR * EWRR/100$$

Table A.2 Sample implementation: Men

Percent distribution of households and eligible men by results of the household and individual interviews, and household, eligible men and overall response rates, according to urban-rural residence and region, Maldives 2009

	Residence		Region						
Result	Urban	Rural	Malé	North	North Central	Central	South Central	South	Total
Selected households									
Completed (C)	77.0	87.0	77.0	83.5	87.7	90.1	89.3	83.8	85.4
Household present but no competent respondent at home (HP)	9.3	4.3	9.3	6.0	2.6	2.3	3.0	7.8	5.1
Postponed (P)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
Refused (R)	6.2	3.3	6.2	3.1	3.6	2.8	2.1	5.0	3.8
Dwelling not found (DNF)	1.7	0.3	1.7	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.5
Household absent (HA)	1.8	2.8	1.8	3.3	2.8	2.7	3.8	1.4	2.7
Dwelling vacant/address not a dwelling (DV)	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.6	2.5	1.4	0.8	0.8	1.6
Dwelling destroyed (DD)	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
Other (O)	2.2	0.5	2.2	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of sampled households	601	3,151	601	546	644	563	757	641	3,752
Household response rate (HRR)[1]	81.8	91.6	81.8	89.4	93.2	94.6	94.2	86.2	90.0
Eligible men									
Completed (EMC)	47.3	54.9	47.3	52.9	56.7	51.7	57.0	56.1	53.6
Not at home (EMNH)	36.6	25.8	36.6	34.5	18.1	23.9	28.2	26.0	27.8
Postponed (EMP)	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Refused (EMR)	14.2	15.4	14.2	9.2	23.7	18.1	11.2	14.0	15.2
Partly completed (EMPC)	0.2	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.5
Incapacitated (EMI)	0.5	1.3	0.5	1.7	0.4	1.7	1.8	0.9	1.2
Other (EMO)	0.7	2.0	0.7	0.7	1.2	3.8	1.4	2.6	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	579	2,645	579	403	515	602	660	465	3,224
Eligible men response rate (EMRR)[2]	47.3	54.9	47.3	52.9	56.7	51.7	57.0	56.1	53.6
Overall response rate (ORR)[3]	38.7	50.3	38.7	47.3	52.9	48.9	53.6	48.4	48.2

[1] Using the number of households falling into specific response categories, the household response rate (HRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * C}{C + HP + P + R + DNF}$$

[2] Using the number of eligible women falling into specific response categories, the eligible woman response rate (EWRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * EWC}{EWC + EWNH + EWP + EWR + EWPC + EWI + EWO}$$

[3] The overall response rate (ORR) is calculated as:

$$ORR = HRR * EWRR/100$$

ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERRORS

Appendix B

The estimates from a sample survey are affected by two types of errors: nonsampling errors and sampling errors. Nonsampling errors are the results of mistakes made in implementing data collection and data processing, such as failure to locate and interview the correct household, misunderstanding of the questions on the part of either the interviewer or the respondent, and data entry errors. Although numerous efforts were made during the implementation of the Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2009 (2009 MDHS) to minimize this type of error, nonsampling errors are impossible to avoid and difficult to evaluate statistically.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, can be evaluated statistically. The sample of respondents selected in the 2009 MDHS is only one of many samples that could have been selected from the same population, using the same design and expected size. Each of these samples would yield results that differ somewhat from the results of the actual sample selected. Sampling errors are a measure of the variability between all possible samples. Although the degree of variability is not known exactly, it can be estimated from the survey results.

A sampling error is usually measured in terms of the *standard error* for a particular statistic (mean, percentage, etc.), which is the square root of the variance. The standard error can be used to calculate confidence intervals within which the true value for the population can reasonably be assumed to fall. For example, for any given statistic calculated from a sample survey, the value of that statistic will fall within a range of plus or minus two times the standard error of that statistic in 95 percent of all possible samples of identical size and design.

If the sample of respondents had been selected as a simple random sample, it would have been possible to use straightforward formulas for calculating sampling errors. However, the 2009 MDHS sample is the result of a multistage stratified design, and, consequently, it was necessary to use more complex formulae. The computer software used to calculate sampling errors for the 2009 MDHS is a Macro SAS procedure. This procedure used the Taylor linearization method of variance estimation for survey estimates that are means or proportions. The Jackknife repeated replication method is used for variance estimation of more complex statistics such as fertility and mortality rates.

The Taylor linearization method treats any percentage or average as a ratio estimate, $r = y/x$, where y represents the total sample value for variable y, and x represents the total number of cases in the group or subgroup under consideration. The variance of r is computed using the formula given below, with the standard error being the square root of the variance:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1-f}{x^2}\sum_{h=1}^{H}\left[\frac{m_h}{m_h-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m_h} z_{hi}^2 - \frac{z_h^2}{m_h}\right)\right]$$

in which

$$z_{hi} = y_{hi} - rx_{hi} \text{ , and } z_h = y_h - rx_h$$

where h represents the stratum which varies from 1 to H,
m_h is the total number of clusters selected in the h^{th} stratum,
y_{hi} is the sum of the weighted values of variable y in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum,
x_{hi} is the sum of the weighted number of cases in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum, and
f is the overall sampling fraction, which is so small that it is ignored.

The Jackknife repeated replication method derives estimates of complex rates from each of several replications of the parent sample and calculates standard errors for these estimates using simple formulae. Each replication considers *all but one* clusters in the calculation of the estimates. Pseudo-independent replications are thus created. In the 2009 MDHS, there were 270 non-empty clusters. Hence, 270 replications were created. The variance of a rate *r* is calculated as follows:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1}{k(k-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{k} (r_i - r)^2$$

in which

$$r_i = kr - (k-1)r_{(i)}$$

where r is the estimate computed from the full sample of 270 clusters,
$r_{(i)}$ is the estimate computed from the reduced sample of 269 clusters (i^{th} cluster excluded), and
k is the total number of clusters.

In addition to the standard error, the design effect (DEFT) for each estimate is calculated, which is defined as the ratio between the standard error using the given sample design and the standard error that would result if a simple random sample had been used. A DEFT value of 1.0 indicates that the sample design is as efficient as a simple random sample, while a value greater than 1.0 indicates the increase in the sampling error is due to the use of a more complex and less statistically efficient design. The relative standard error and confidence limits for the estimates are also calculated.

Sampling errors for the 2009 MDHS are calculated for selected variables considered to be of primary interest. The results are presented in this appendix for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas, for the three geographical regions, and for each of the six geographical/administrative regions. For each variable, the type of statistic (mean, proportion, or rate) and the base population are given in Table B.1. Tables B.2 through B.10 present the value of the statistic (R), its standard error (SE), the number of unweighted (N) and weighted (WN) cases, the design effect (DEFT), the relative standard error (SE/R), and the 95 percent confidence limits (R±2SE) for each variable. The DEFT is considered undefined when the standard error considering simple random sample is zero (when the estimate is close to 0 or 1). In the case of the total fertility rate, the number of unweighted cases is not relevant, as there is no known unweighted value for woman-years of exposure to child-bearing.

The confidence interval (e.g., as calculated for *children ever born to women aged 40-49*) can be interpreted as follows: the overall average from the national sample is 4.985 and its standard error is 0.080. Therefore, to obtain the 95 percent confidence limits, one adds and subtracts twice the standard error to the sample estimate, i.e., 4.985±2×0.080. There is a high probability (95 percent) that the *true* average number of children ever born to all women aged 40 to 49 is between 4.824 and 5.146.

For the total sample, the value of the DEFT, averaged over all variables, is 1.276. This means that, due to multistage clustering of the sample, the average standard error is increased by a factor of 1.276 over that in an equivalent simple random sample.

Table B.1 List of selected variables for sampling errors, Maldives 2009

Variable	Estimate	Base population
Urban residence	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
No education	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Secondary education or higher	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Net attendance ratio	Ratio	Household population 6-12 years
Currently married/in union	Proportion	All women 15-49
Married before age 20	Proportion	All women 20-49
Currently pregnant	Proportion	All women 15-49
Children ever born	Mean	All women 15-49
Children surviving	Mean	All women 15-49
Children ever born to women age 40-49	Mean	All women 40-49
Knows any contraceptive method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Knows a modern method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Ever used any contraceptive method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using any method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using a modern method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using a traditional method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using pill	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using IUD	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using condoms	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using injectables	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using female sterilization	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using withdrawal	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using periodic abstinence	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Using public sector source	Proportion	Current users of modern method
Want no more children	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Ideal family size	Mean	Ever-married women 15-49
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	Proportion	Women with a live birth in past five years
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	Proportion	Births occurring 1-59 months before survey
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	Proportion	Children under 5
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	Proportion	Children under 5 with diarrhoea in past 2 weeks
Taken to a health provider	Proportion	Children under 5 with diarrhoea in past 2 weeks
Vaccination card seen	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Received BCG vaccination	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Received measles vaccination	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Received all basic vaccinations	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Height-for-age (-2SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who are measured
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who are measured
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who are measured
BMI <18.5	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49 who were measured
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Knows about limiting partners to prevent AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	Rate	Women-years of exposure to childbearing
Neonatal mortality rate[1]	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Post-neonatal mortality rate[1]	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Infant mortality rate[1]	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Child mortality rate[1]	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Under-five mortality rate[1]	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality

[1] The mortality rates are calculated for 5 years and 10 years before the survey for the national sample and the domain samples, respectively.

Table B.2 Sampling errors for National sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.332	0.012	7131	7131	2.140	0.036	0.308	0.356
No education	0.234	0.006	7131	7131	1.177	0.025	0.222	0.246
Secondary education or higher	0.409	0.008	7131	7131	1.402	0.020	0.393	0.425
Net attendance ratio	0.825	0.006	5777	5504	1.179	0.007	0.814	0.837
Currently married/in union	0.626	0.021	10591	10388	1.130	0.033	0.584	0.668
Married before age 20	0.496	0.008	8294	8232	1.262	0.016	0.480	0.511
Currently pregnant	0.050	0.003	10591	10388	1.150	0.058	0.044	0.056
Children ever born	1.845	0.064	10591	10388	1.081	0.035	1.716	1.974
Children surviving	1.738	0.060	10591	10388	1.073	0.035	1.618	1.858
Children ever born to women age 40-49	4.985	0.080	1768	1762	1.369	0.016	4.824	5.146
Knows any contraceptive method	0.993	0.001	6558	6500	1.284	0.001	0.990	0.996
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.001	6558	6500	1.267	0.001	0.990	0.995
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.602	0.010	6558	6500	1.672	0.017	0.581	0.622
Currently using any method	0.347	0.008	6558	6500	1.369	0.023	0.331	0.363
Currently using a modern method	0.270	0.007	6558	6500	1.354	0.028	0.255	0.285
Currently using a traditional method	0.078	0.004	6558	6500	1.291	0.055	0.069	0.086
Currently using pill	0.046	0.003	6558	6500	1.273	0.071	0.040	0.053
Currently using IUD	0.008	0.002	6558	6500	1.351	0.182	0.005	0.011
Currently using condoms	0.093	0.004	6558	6500	1.253	0.048	0.084	0.102
Currently using injectables	0.012	0.002	6558	6500	1.311	0.146	0.009	0.016
Currently using female sterilization	0.101	0.005	6558	6500	1.297	0.048	0.091	0.110
Currently using withdrawal	0.042	0.003	6558	6500	1.281	0.075	0.036	0.049
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.034	0.003	6558	6500	1.287	0.084	0.029	0.040
Used public sector source	0.631	0.013	1871	1809	1.160	0.021	0.605	0.657
Want no more children	0.478	0.007	6558	6500	1.202	0.016	0.463	0.493
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.215	0.007	6558	6500	1.303	0.031	0.202	0.228
Ideal family size	3.127	0.024	6112	6185	1.421	0.008	3.080	3.174
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.821	0.008	3263	3190	1.251	0.010	0.804	0.838
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.948	0.006	3817	3736	1.546	0.006	0.936	0.960
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.044	0.005	3761	3682	1.381	0.108	0.035	0.054
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.570	0.053	188	163	1.330	0.093	0.464	0.675
Taken to a health provider	0.836	0.033	188	163	1.103	0.039	0.770	0.902
Vaccination card seen	0.890	0.015	843	822	1.344	0.017	0.860	0.920
Received BCG vaccination	0.994	0.003	843	822	1.135	0.003	0.987	1.000
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.979	0.006	843	822	1.127	0.006	0.967	0.990
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.970	0.008	843	822	1.293	0.008	0.955	0.986
Received measles vaccination	0.945	0.010	843	822	1.205	0.011	0.925	0.965
Received all basic vaccinations	0.929	0.011	843	822	1.231	0.012	0.906	0.952
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.189	0.010	2577	2513	1.283	0.054	0.168	0.209
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.106	0.007	2577	2513	1.062	0.063	0.093	0.120
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.173	0.009	2577	2513	1.133	0.051	0.155	0.191
BMI <18.5	0.075	0.005	5144	5173	1.273	0.062	0.065	0.084
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.969	0.003	7131	7131	1.321	0.003	0.963	0.974
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.793	0.006	7131	7131	1.322	0.008	0.780	0.805
Knows about limiting partners	0.918	0.005	7131	7131	1.504	0.005	0.908	0.928
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.415	0.009	7131	7131	1.474	0.021	0.398	0.432
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.542	0.058	na	31085	1.141	0.023	2.427	2.657
Neonatal mortality (past 0-4 years)	10.154	2.243	3836	3756	1.311	0.221	5.667	14.640
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-4 years)	4.022	1.049	3829	3749	0.987	0.261	1.925	6.120
Infant mortality (past 0-4 years)	14.176	2.442	3837	3757	1.222	0.172	9.293	19.059
Child mortality (past 0-4 years)	2.817	0.788	3524	3462	0.844	0.280	1.241	4.392
Under-five mortality (past 0-4 years)	16.953	2.566	3844	3762	1.176	0.151	11.821	22.084

na = Not applicable

Table B.3 Sampling errors for Urban sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	1.000	0.000	1041	2368	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
No education	0.122	0.009	1041	2368	0.928	0.077	0.103	0.141
Secondary education or higher	0.581	0.017	1041	2368	1.123	0.030	0.547	0.616
Net attendance ratio	0.827	0.016	637	1349	1.072	0.020	0.794	0.860
Currently married/in union	0.551	0.078	1717	3851	0.925	0.142	0.394	0.708
Married before age 20	0.394	0.016	1313	2961	1.140	0.041	0.362	0.426
Currently pregnant	0.036	0.007	1717	3851	0.947	0.187	0.022	0.049
Children ever born	1.335	0.192	1717	3851	0.915	0.144	0.950	1.720
Children surviving	1.283	0.185	1717	3851	0.913	0.144	0.914	1.653
Children ever born to women age 40-49	3.747	0.135	259	595	1.052	0.036	3.477	4.018
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.003	935	2122	1.089	0.003	0.989	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.003	935	2122	1.055	0.003	0.988	0.999
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.567	0.022	935	2122	1.357	0.039	0.523	0.611
Currently using any method	0.336	0.017	935	2122	1.088	0.050	0.303	0.370
Currently using a modern method	0.256	0.015	935	2122	1.039	0.058	0.227	0.286
Currently using a traditional method	0.080	0.008	935	2122	0.928	0.103	0.063	0.096
Currently using pill	0.018	0.004	935	2122	0.984	0.239	0.009	0.026
Currently using IUD	0.014	0.004	935	2122	1.053	0.289	0.006	0.022
Currently using condoms	0.101	0.008	935	2122	0.857	0.084	0.084	0.118
Currently using injectables	0.007	0.003	935	2122	1.093	0.431	0.001	0.013
Currently using female sterilization	0.101	0.010	935	2122	1.051	0.103	0.080	0.121
Currently using withdrawal	0.031	0.005	935	2122	0.956	0.175	0.020	0.042
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.047	0.007	935	2122	0.989	0.146	0.033	0.061
Used public sector source	0.396	0.030	255	570	0.985	0.076	0.336	0.457
Want no more children	0.479	0.015	935	2122	0.923	0.032	0.448	0.509
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.184	0.013	935	2122	1.029	0.071	0.158	0.210
Ideal family size	2.808	0.046	936	2128	1.113	0.016	2.716	2.900
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.844	0.019	423	964	1.053	0.022	0.807	0.881
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.990	0.004	494	1123	0.984	0.004	0.981	0.999
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.037	0.012	487	1106	1.315	0.326	0.013	0.061
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.546	0.167	17	41	1.339	0.306	0.211	0.881
Taken to a health provider	0.939	0.062	17	41	1.088	0.066	0.815	1.063
Vaccination card seen	0.852	0.038	108	243	1.056	0.045	0.776	0.929
Received BCG vaccination	1.000	0.000	108	243	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.982	0.012	108	243	0.934	0.012	0.958	1.006
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.957	0.021	108	243	1.054	0.022	0.915	0.999
Received measles vaccination	0.935	0.027	108	243	1.007	0.029	0.881	0.989
Received all basic vaccinations	0.914	0.029	108	243	0.983	0.032	0.856	0.973
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.157	0.019	349	721	0.957	0.121	0.119	0.194
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.072	0.014	349	721	0.995	0.199	0.043	0.100
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.109	0.017	349	721	0.948	0.153	0.076	0.143
BMI <18.5	0.053	0.008	728	1657	0.945	0.148	0.037	0.069
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.975	0.005	1041	2368	1.053	0.005	0.965	0.985
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.824	0.012	1041	2368	1.052	0.015	0.800	0.849
Knows about limiting partners	0.929	0.010	1041	2368	1.287	0.011	0.909	0.950
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.508	0.020	1041	2368	1.264	0.039	0.469	0.547
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.128	0.110	na	11276	0.961	0.052	1.907	2.348
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	19.642	6.573	877	2016	1.047	0.335	6.497	32.788
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	3.305	1.880	872	2003	0.943	0.569	0.000	7.066
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	22.948	7.564	877	2016	1.147	0.330	7.819	38.076
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	0.503	0.504	808	1866	na	1.003	0.000	1.511
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	23.439	7.546	877	2016	1.147	0.322	8.346	38.531

na = Not applicable

Table B.4 Sampling errors for Rural sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	6090	4763	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.290	0.007	6090	4763	1.169	0.023	0.276	0.303
Secondary education or higher	0.324	0.009	6090	4763	1.539	0.029	0.305	0.342
Net attendance ratio	0.825	0.006	5140	4155	1.119	0.007	0.813	0.836
Currently married/in union	0.648	0.022	8659	6754	1.035	0.034	0.604	0.693
Married before age 20	0.552	0.009	6760	5283	1.250	0.017	0.533	0.570
Currently pregnant	0.057	0.003	8659	6754	1.136	0.061	0.050	0.064
Children ever born	2.077	0.076	8659	6754	1.019	0.037	1.925	2.228
Children surviving	1.941	0.071	8659	6754	1.017	0.036	1.800	2.083
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.614	0.087	1504	1168	1.376	0.015	5.441	5.787
Knows any contraceptive method	0.993	0.001	5623	4378	1.252	0.001	0.990	0.995
Knows a modern method	0.992	0.001	5623	4378	1.236	0.001	0.989	0.995
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.618	0.010	5623	4378	1.582	0.017	0.598	0.639
Currently using any method	0.353	0.009	5623	4378	1.357	0.025	0.335	0.370
Currently using a modern method	0.276	0.008	5623	4378	1.389	0.030	0.260	0.293
Currently using a traditional method	0.076	0.005	5623	4378	1.392	0.064	0.067	0.086
Currently using pill	0.060	0.004	5623	4378	1.357	0.071	0.052	0.069
Currently using IUD	0.006	0.001	5623	4378	1.096	0.196	0.003	0.008
Currently using condoms	0.089	0.005	5623	4378	1.393	0.059	0.078	0.099
Currently using injectables	0.015	0.002	5623	4378	1.364	0.149	0.010	0.019
Currently using female sterilization	0.101	0.005	5623	4378	1.271	0.051	0.090	0.111
Currently using withdrawal	0.048	0.004	5623	4378	1.370	0.082	0.040	0.056
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.028	0.003	5623	4378	1.270	0.099	0.023	0.034
Used public sector source	0.739	0.013	1616	1239	1.182	0.017	0.713	0.765
Want no more children	0.477	0.008	5623	4378	1.236	0.017	0.461	0.494
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.230	0.007	5623	4378	1.298	0.032	0.216	0.245
Ideal family size	3.295	0.026	5176	4057	1.475	0.008	3.243	3.347
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.811	0.009	2840	2227	1.229	0.011	0.793	0.829
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.930	0.008	3323	2613	1.735	0.009	0.914	0.947
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.048	0.005	3274	2576	1.202	0.095	0.039	0.057
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.577	0.045	171	123	1.119	0.078	0.488	0.667
Taken to a health provider	0.801	0.035	171	123	1.079	0.044	0.730	0.872
Vaccination card seen	0.906	0.013	735	579	1.254	0.015	0.879	0.933
Received BCG vaccination	0.991	0.005	735	579	1.283	0.005	0.982	1.000
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.977	0.006	735	579	1.149	0.006	0.965	0.990
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.976	0.007	735	579	1.156	0.007	0.963	0.989
Received measles vaccination	0.950	0.009	735	579	1.068	0.009	0.932	0.967
Received all basic vaccinations	0.935	0.011	735	579	1.181	0.011	0.913	0.956
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.201	0.012	2228	1792	1.356	0.058	0.178	0.225
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.120	0.007	2228	1792	1.051	0.061	0.105	0.135
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.199	0.010	2228	1792	1.166	0.051	0.179	0.219
BMI <18.5	0.085	0.006	4416	3516	1.356	0.066	0.074	0.096
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.966	0.003	6090	4763	1.369	0.003	0.959	0.972
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.777	0.007	6090	4763	1.363	0.009	0.762	0.791
Knows about limiting partners	0.912	0.005	6090	4763	1.460	0.006	0.901	0.923
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.369	0.008	6090	4763	1.337	0.022	0.352	0.386
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.764	0.062	na	20239	0.967	0.022	2.640	2.888
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	14.844	1.814	6334	5039	1.140	0.122	11.216	18.472
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	7.576	1.174	6337	5044	1.043	0.155	5.228	9.923
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	22.420	2.125	6337	5040	1.069	0.095	18.169	26.671
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	6.104	1.050	6149	4892	0.997	0.172	4.005	8.203
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	28.387	2.334	6348	5050	1.046	0.082	23.719	33.055

na = Not applicable

Table B.5 Sampling errors for Malé sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	1.000	0.000	1041	2368	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
No education	0.122	0.009	1041	2368	0.928	0.077	0.103	0.141
Secondary education or higher	0.581	0.017	1041	2368	1.123	0.030	0.547	0.616
Net attendance ratio	0.827	0.016	637	1349	1.072	0.020	0.794	0.860
Currently married/in union	0.551	0.078	1717	3851	0.925	0.142	0.394	0.708
Married before age 20	0.394	0.016	1313	2961	1.140	0.041	0.362	0.426
Currently pregnant	0.036	0.007	1717	3851	0.947	0.187	0.022	0.049
Children ever born	1.335	0.192	1717	3851	0.915	0.144	0.950	1.720
Children surviving	1.283	0.185	1717	3851	0.913	0.144	0.914	1.653
Children ever born to women age 40-49	3.747	0.135	259	595	1.052	0.036	3.477	4.018
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.003	935	2122	1.089	0.003	0.989	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.003	935	2122	1.055	0.003	0.988	0.999
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.567	0.022	935	2122	1.357	0.039	0.523	0.611
Currently using any method	0.336	0.017	935	2122	1.088	0.050	0.303	0.370
Currently using a modern method	0.256	0.015	935	2122	1.039	0.058	0.227	0.286
Currently using a traditional method	0.080	0.008	935	2122	0.928	0.103	0.063	0.096
Currently using pill	0.018	0.004	935	2122	0.984	0.239	0.009	0.026
Currently using IUD	0.014	0.004	935	2122	1.053	0.289	0.006	0.022
Currently using condoms	0.101	0.008	935	2122	0.857	0.084	0.084	0.118
Currently using injectables	0.007	0.003	935	2122	1.093	0.431	0.001	0.013
Currently using female sterilization	0.101	0.010	935	2122	1.051	0.103	0.080	0.121
Currently using withdrawal	0.031	0.005	935	2122	0.956	0.175	0.020	0.042
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.047	0.007	935	2122	0.989	0.146	0.033	0.061
Used public sector source	0.396	0.030	255	570	0.985	0.076	0.336	0.457
Want no more children	0.479	0.015	935	2122	0.923	0.032	0.448	0.509
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.184	0.013	935	2122	1.029	0.071	0.158	0.210
Ideal family size	2.808	0.046	936	2128	1.113	0.016	2.716	2.900
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.844	0.019	423	964	1.053	0.022	0.807	0.881
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.990	0.004	494	1123	0.984	0.004	0.981	0.999
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.037	0.012	487	1106	1.315	0.326	0.013	0.061
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.546	0.167	17	41	1.339	0.306	0.211	0.881
Taken to a health provider	0.939	0.062	17	41	1.088	0.066	0.815	1.063
Vaccination card seen	0.852	0.038	108	243	1.056	0.045	0.776	0.929
Received BCG vaccination	1.000	0.000	108	243	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.982	0.012	108	243	0.934	0.012	0.958	1.006
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.957	0.021	108	243	1.054	0.022	0.915	0.999
Received measles vaccination	0.935	0.027	108	243	1.007	0.029	0.881	0.989
Received all basic vaccinations	0.914	0.029	108	243	0.983	0.032	0.856	0.973
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.157	0.019	349	721	0.957	0.121	0.119	0.194
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.072	0.014	349	721	0.995	0.199	0.043	0.100
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.109	0.017	349	721	0.948	0.153	0.076	0.143
BMI <18.5	0.053	0.008	728	1657	0.945	0.148	0.037	0.069
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.975	0.005	1041	2368	1.053	0.005	0.965	0.985
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.824	0.012	1041	2368	1.052	0.015	0.800	0.849
Knows about limiting partners	0.929	0.010	1041	2368	1.287	0.011	0.909	0.950
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.508	0.020	1041	2368	1.264	0.039	0.469	0.547
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.128	0.110	na	11276	0.961	0.052	1.907	2.348
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	19.642	6.573	877	2016	1.047	0.335	6.497	32.788
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	3.305	1.880	872	2003	0.943	0.569	0.000	7.066
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	22.948	7.564	877	2016	1.147	0.330	7.819	38.076
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	0.503	0.504	808	1866	na	1.003	0.000	1.511
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	23.439	7.546	877	2016	1.147	0.322	8.346	38.531

na = Not applicable

Table B.6 Sampling errors for North sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	960	1067	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.296	0.018	960	1067	1.190	0.059	0.261	0.331
Secondary education or higher	0.295	0.024	960	1067	1.636	0.082	0.246	0.343
Net attendance ratio	0.842	0.013	862	968	1.080	0.015	0.816	0.867
Currently married/in union	0.621	0.058	1473	1623	1.016	0.093	0.506	0.737
Married before age 20	0.495	0.028	1124	1244	1.070	0.057	0.438	0.552
Currently pregnant	0.059	0.009	1473	1623	1.136	0.154	0.041	0.077
Children ever born	1.852	0.188	1473	1623	1.026	0.102	1.475	2.228
Children surviving	1.749	0.179	1473	1623	1.037	0.103	1.390	2.108
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.529	0.189	221	245	1.188	0.034	5.151	5.908
Knows any contraceptive method	0.991	0.004	909	1009	1.157	0.004	0.984	0.998
Knows a modern method	0.991	0.004	909	1009	1.157	0.004	0.984	0.998
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.659	0.024	909	1009	1.527	0.036	0.611	0.707
Currently using any method	0.394	0.023	909	1009	1.416	0.058	0.348	0.440
Currently using a modern method	0.282	0.024	909	1009	1.573	0.083	0.235	0.330
Currently using a traditional method	0.112	0.015	909	1009	1.437	0.135	0.082	0.142
Currently using pill	0.065	0.009	909	1009	1.158	0.146	0.046	0.084
Currently using IUD	0.009	0.003	909	1009	0.934	0.317	0.003	0.015
Currently using condoms	0.125	0.016	909	1009	1.471	0.129	0.092	0.157
Currently using injectables	0.024	0.007	909	1009	1.427	0.303	0.009	0.038
Currently using female sterilization	0.057	0.008	909	1009	0.979	0.133	0.042	0.072
Currently using withdrawal	0.067	0.012	909	1009	1.424	0.177	0.043	0.090
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.045	0.009	909	1009	1.243	0.190	0.028	0.062
Used public sector source	0.729	0.033	258	289	1.179	0.045	0.664	0.795
Want no more children	0.462	0.018	909	1009	1.088	0.039	0.426	0.498
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.250	0.016	909	1009	1.118	0.064	0.218	0.282
Ideal family size	3.218	0.071	798	890	1.636	0.022	3.076	3.360
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.790	0.024	440	489	1.247	0.031	0.741	0.839
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.911	0.017	518	578	1.291	0.019	0.877	0.944
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.053	0.012	514	575	1.227	0.231	0.028	0.077
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.615	0.068	26	30	0.727	0.111	0.479	0.751
Taken to a health provider	0.887	0.053	26	30	0.877	0.060	0.781	0.994
Vaccination card seen	0.978	0.012	129	145	0.932	0.012	0.954	1.002
Received BCG vaccination	0.990	0.009	129	145	1.089	0.009	0.972	1.009
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.984	0.011	129	145	1.013	0.011	0.961	1.006
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.990	0.009	129	145	1.089	0.009	0.972	1.009
Received measles vaccination	0.940	0.019	129	145	0.912	0.020	0.902	0.978
Received all basic vaccinations	0.940	0.019	129	145	0.912	0.020	0.902	0.978
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.157	0.019	350	387	0.970	0.124	0.118	0.196
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.118	0.019	350	387	1.125	0.165	0.079	0.157
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.184	0.027	350	387	1.286	0.145	0.130	0.237
BMI <18.5	0.113	0.016	724	809	1.352	0.141	0.081	0.144
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.950	0.010	960	1067	1.378	0.010	0.931	0.969
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.748	0.019	960	1067	1.359	0.025	0.710	0.786
Knows about limiting partners	0.909	0.011	960	1067	1.171	0.012	0.887	0.931
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.351	0.018	960	1067	1.199	0.053	0.314	0.388
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.683	0.152	na	4869	0.930	0.057	2.379	2.987
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	9.766	4.516	1004	1124	1.387	0.462	0.733	18.799
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	3.139	1.850	1010	1131	1.045	0.589	0.000	6.838
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	12.905	4.619	1005	1125	1.237	0.358	3.666	22.143
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	7.712	2.484	990	1106	0.856	0.322	2.744	12.680
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	20.517	4.953	1009	1130	1.127	0.241	10.612	30.423

na = Not applicable

Table B.7 Sampling errors for North Central sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	1259	1038	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.352	0.016	1259	1038	1.177	0.045	0.320	0.383
Secondary education or higher	0.295	0.016	1259	1038	1.259	0.055	0.263	0.328
Net attendance ratio	0.835	0.011	1054	938	1.022	0.013	0.814	0.857
Currently married/in union	0.644	0.046	1763	1501	0.983	0.071	0.553	0.736
Married before age 20	0.532	0.015	1423	1171	1.142	0.028	0.502	0.561
Currently pregnant	0.061	0.007	1763	1501	1.027	0.119	0.046	0.075
Children ever born	2.070	0.142	1763	1501	0.877	0.069	1.786	2.354
Children surviving	1.950	0.130	1763	1501	0.852	0.066	1.690	2.209
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.684	0.157	343	280	1.227	0.028	5.371	5.997
Knows any contraceptive method	0.995	0.002	1173	967	1.104	0.002	0.990	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.995	0.002	1173	967	1.104	0.002	0.990	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.654	0.020	1173	967	1.460	0.031	0.613	0.694
Currently using any method	0.374	0.017	1173	967	1.201	0.045	0.340	0.408
Currently using a modern method	0.283	0.016	1173	967	1.197	0.056	0.251	0.314
Currently using a traditional method	0.092	0.010	1173	967	1.212	0.112	0.071	0.112
Currently using pill	0.075	0.011	1173	967	1.487	0.153	0.052	0.098
Currently using IUD	0.003	0.002	1173	967	1.505	0.796	0.000	0.008
Currently using condoms	0.080	0.010	1173	967	1.229	0.122	0.061	0.100
Currently using injectables	0.019	0.004	1173	967	1.022	0.215	0.011	0.027
Currently using female sterilization	0.103	0.010	1173	967	1.102	0.095	0.084	0.123
Currently using withdrawal	0.058	0.008	1173	967	1.205	0.142	0.042	0.075
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.033	0.005	1173	967	0.895	0.141	0.024	0.043
Used public sector source	0.787	0.024	341	280	1.060	0.030	0.740	0.834
Want no more children	0.473	0.014	1173	967	0.966	0.030	0.445	0.502
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.199	0.015	1173	967	1.295	0.076	0.169	0.229
Ideal family size	3.305	0.062	1055	867	1.550	0.019	3.181	3.429
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.798	0.018	558	466	1.069	0.023	0.762	0.835
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.889	0.027	647	539	2.024	0.031	0.834	0.944
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.030	0.007	636	530	1.044	0.233	0.016	0.044
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.424	0.123	20	16	1.091	0.290	0.178	0.669
Taken to a health provider	0.759	0.118	20	16	1.210	0.155	0.523	0.994
Vaccination card seen	0.961	0.019	129	105	1.105	0.020	0.923	0.999
Received BCG vaccination	1.000	0.000	129	105	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	1.000	0.000	129	105	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.993	0.007	129	105	0.936	0.007	0.979	1.007
Received measles vaccination	0.962	0.016	129	105	0.960	0.017	0.929	0.994
Received all basic vaccinations	0.955	0.017	129	105	0.925	0.018	0.921	0.989
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.227	0.025	604	543	1.474	0.112	0.177	0.278
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.145	0.012	604	543	0.838	0.084	0.121	0.169
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.244	0.018	604	543	0.981	0.072	0.208	0.279
BMI <18.5	0.082	0.010	1095	903	1.212	0.122	0.062	0.102
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.978	0.004	1259	1038	0.965	0.004	0.970	0.986
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.731	0.017	1259	1038	1.389	0.024	0.697	0.766
Knows about limiting partners	0.939	0.007	1259	1038	1.013	0.007	0.926	0.953
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.347	0.019	1259	1038	1.420	0.055	0.309	0.385
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.530	0.133	na	4503	0.835	0.053	2.264	2.797
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	17.440	3.538	1286	1074	0.936	0.203	10.364	24.517
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	6.576	2.140	1286	1075	0.942	0.325	2.295	10.857
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	24.017	3.788	1286	1074	0.888	0.158	16.440	31.593
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	5.734	2.006	1255	1048	0.965	0.350	1.722	9.745
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	29.613	4.449	1289	1076	0.957	0.150	20.714	38.511

na = Not applicable

Table B.8 Sampling errors for Central sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	1290	615	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.279	0.014	1290	615	1.113	0.050	0.252	0.307
Secondary education or higher	0.299	0.025	1290	615	1.970	0.084	0.249	0.349
Net attendance ratio	0.806	0.014	987	493	1.194	0.017	0.778	0.833
Currently married/in union	0.666	0.061	1842	845	0.946	0.092	0.544	0.788
Married before age 20	0.652	0.016	1357	649	1.282	0.024	0.620	0.684
Currently pregnant	0.063	0.009	1842	845	1.153	0.143	0.045	0.081
Children ever born	2.151	0.190	1842	845	0.870	0.088	1.772	2.531
Children surviving	2.001	0.176	1842	845	0.869	0.088	1.650	2.353
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.893	0.163	288	132	1.190	0.028	5.567	6.219
Knows any contraceptive method	0.996	0.002	1186	563	1.045	0.002	0.992	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.996	0.002	1186	563	1.045	0.002	0.992	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.709	0.022	1186	563	1.692	0.031	0.664	0.754
Currently using any method	0.420	0.016	1186	563	1.117	0.038	0.388	0.452
Currently using a modern method	0.331	0.016	1186	563	1.172	0.048	0.299	0.363
Currently using a traditional method	0.089	0.010	1186	563	1.164	0.108	0.069	0.108
Currently using pill	0.054	0.008	1186	563	1.230	0.149	0.038	0.070
Currently using IUD	0.004	0.002	1186	563	0.975	0.458	0.000	0.007
Currently using condoms	0.114	0.012	1186	563	1.274	0.103	0.091	0.138
Currently using injectables	0.007	0.003	1186	563	1.229	0.439	0.001	0.012
Currently using female sterilization	0.137	0.014	1186	563	1.430	0.104	0.108	0.166
Currently using withdrawal	0.061	0.009	1186	563	1.312	0.150	0.043	0.079
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.026	0.006	1186	563	1.305	0.232	0.014	0.038
Used public sector source	0.630	0.023	405	192	0.970	0.037	0.584	0.677
Want no more children	0.474	0.013	1186	563	0.926	0.028	0.447	0.501
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.242	0.013	1186	563	1.078	0.055	0.215	0.269
Ideal family size	3.371	0.064	1088	518	1.553	0.019	3.243	3.500
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.772	0.030	612	293	1.744	0.038	0.713	0.831
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.895	0.031	716	343	2.380	0.035	0.832	0.958
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.078	0.012	708	339	1.157	0.149	0.055	0.102
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.569	0.084	56	27	1.261	0.148	0.401	0.737
Taken to a health provider	0.726	0.071	56	27	1.187	0.098	0.584	0.868
Vaccination card seen	0.882	0.031	170	82	1.274	0.036	0.820	0.945
Received BCG vaccination	0.986	0.010	170	82	1.112	0.010	0.967	1.006
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.943	0.019	170	82	1.062	0.020	0.905	0.980
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.923	0.025	170	82	1.229	0.027	0.873	0.973
Received measles vaccination	0.925	0.018	170	82	0.895	0.019	0.889	0.961
Received all basic vaccinations	0.878	0.035	170	82	1.416	0.040	0.807	0.949
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.209	0.029	492	235	1.557	0.141	0.150	0.267
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.141	0.019	492	235	1.233	0.134	0.103	0.179
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.180	0.021	492	235	1.147	0.116	0.138	0.222
BMI <18.5	0.069	0.012	930	440	1.399	0.169	0.046	0.092
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.977	0.004	1290	615	1.012	0.004	0.969	0.986
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.819	0.014	1290	615	1.335	0.017	0.790	0.847
Knows about limiting partners	0.910	0.013	1290	615	1.576	0.014	0.885	0.935
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.421	0.018	1290	615	1.314	0.043	0.385	0.457
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.819	0.135	na	2485	0.961	0.048	2.550	3.089
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	18.637	4.701	1311	640	1.149	0.252	9.235	28.040
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	11.400	2.893	1310	638	0.953	0.254	5.613	17.186
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	30.037	5.814	1311	640	1.124	0.194	18.410	41.665
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	3.958	1.984	1262	621	1.161	0.501	0.000	7.925
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	33.876	6.428	1311	640	1.168	0.190	21.021	46.732

na = Not applicable

Table B.9 Sampling errors for South Central sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	1543	853	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.309	0.012	1543	853	1.049	0.040	0.284	0.333
Secondary education or higher	0.316	0.020	1543	853	1.659	0.062	0.277	0.356
Net attendance ratio	0.838	0.009	1257	706	0.907	0.011	0.820	0.856
Currently married/in union	0.707	0.037	1983	1116	1.110	0.052	0.633	0.780
Married before age 20	0.580	0.017	1675	926	1.410	0.029	0.546	0.613
Currently pregnant	0.053	0.006	1983	1116	1.049	0.107	0.042	0.065
Children ever born	2.243	0.136	1983	1116	1.134	0.061	1.971	2.515
Children surviving	2.079	0.124	1983	1116	1.123	0.060	1.830	2.328
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.370	0.140	400	222	1.209	0.026	5.089	5.651
Knows any contraceptive method	0.993	0.002	1437	789	1.088	0.002	0.988	0.998
Knows a modern method	0.992	0.002	1437	789	1.013	0.002	0.987	0.997
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.579	0.023	1437	789	1.777	0.040	0.532	0.625
Currently using any method	0.317	0.015	1437	789	1.184	0.046	0.288	0.346
Currently using a modern method	0.250	0.013	1437	789	1.169	0.053	0.223	0.277
Currently using a traditional method	0.067	0.008	1437	789	1.177	0.116	0.051	0.082
Currently using pill	0.069	0.009	1437	789	1.273	0.123	0.052	0.086
Currently using IUD	0.005	0.002	1437	789	1.144	0.408	0.001	0.010
Currently using condoms	0.074	0.009	1437	789	1.341	0.126	0.055	0.092
Currently using injectables	0.009	0.003	1437	789	1.067	0.300	0.004	0.014
Currently using female sterilization	0.086	0.009	1437	789	1.265	0.109	0.067	0.104
Currently using withdrawal	0.045	0.006	1437	789	1.116	0.136	0.033	0.057
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.022	0.004	1437	789	1.159	0.203	0.013	0.031
Used public sector source	0.790	0.026	379	200	1.232	0.033	0.739	0.842
Want no more children	0.492	0.015	1437	789	1.143	0.031	0.462	0.523
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.231	0.013	1437	789	1.189	0.057	0.204	0.257
Ideal family size	3.357	0.052	1336	756	1.456	0.015	3.254	3.461
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.798	0.016	720	390	1.078	0.021	0.765	0.830
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.966	0.006	836	453	0.881	0.006	0.954	0.977
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.053	0.011	817	442	1.382	0.207	0.031	0.076
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.661	0.105	40	24	1.446	0.159	0.451	0.871
Taken to a health provider	0.831	0.077	40	24	1.331	0.092	0.678	0.984
Vaccination card seen	0.900	0.024	184	104	1.109	0.027	0.851	0.948
Received BCG vaccination	0.990	0.010	184	104	1.385	0.010	0.969	1.010
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.990	0.010	184	104	1.385	0.010	0.969	1.010
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.981	0.013	184	104	1.307	0.013	0.954	1.007
Received measles vaccination	0.961	0.016	184	104	1.108	0.016	0.930	0.992
Received all basic vaccinations	0.952	0.017	184	104	1.112	0.018	0.917	0.987
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.209	0.020	455	280	1.066	0.094	0.169	0.248
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.102	0.015	455	280	1.065	0.147	0.072	0.132
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.199	0.018	455	280	0.992	0.092	0.162	0.235
BMI <18.5	0.086	0.009	998	604	1.090	0.108	0.067	0.104
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.970	0.006	1543	853	1.445	0.007	0.957	0.982
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.794	0.014	1543	853	1.374	0.018	0.765	0.822
Knows about limiting partners	0.891	0.015	1543	853	1.852	0.017	0.861	0.920
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.419	0.016	1543	853	1.289	0.039	0.386	0.451
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.962	0.136	na	3348	1.062	0.046	2.689	3.235
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	22.766	3.878	1570	864	0.978	0.170	15.010	30.522
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	9.716	3.352	1570	864	1.319	0.345	3.011	16.421
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	32.482	5.938	1572	864	1.257	0.183	20.605	44.359
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	9.069	2.764	1533	846	1.087	0.305	3.540	14.598
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	41.257	6.364	1575	867	1.154	0.154	28.528	53.985

na = Not applicable

Table B.10 Sampling errors for South sample, Maldives 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
Urban residence	0.000	0.000	1038	1190	na	na	0.000	0.000
No education	0.221	0.013	1038	1190	0.993	0.058	0.196	0.247
Secondary education or higher	0.392	0.019	1038	1190	1.246	0.048	0.354	0.429
Net attendance ratio	0.800	0.014	980	1050	1.115	0.017	0.772	0.827
Currently married/in union	0.614	0.061	1577	1711	0.884	0.099	0.492	0.736
Married before age 20	0.553	0.016	1130	1293	1.141	0.030	0.520	0.586
Currently pregnant	0.050	0.007	1577	1711	0.956	0.145	0.035	0.064
Children ever born	2.099	0.222	1577	1711	0.900	0.106	1.655	2.544
Children surviving	1.950	0.206	1577	1711	0.901	0.106	1.537	2.362
Children ever born to women age 40-49	5.677	0.241	252	289	1.402	0.043	5.194	6.160
Knows any contraceptive method	0.990	0.004	918	1051	1.157	0.004	0.982	0.997
Knows a modern method	0.990	0.004	918	1051	1.157	0.004	0.982	0.997
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.528	0.022	918	1051	1.341	0.042	0.483	0.572
Currently using any method	0.284	0.019	918	1051	1.250	0.066	0.247	0.322
Currently using a modern method	0.255	0.017	918	1051	1.195	0.068	0.220	0.289
Currently using a traditional method	0.030	0.008	918	1051	1.465	0.277	0.013	0.046
Currently using pill	0.039	0.008	918	1051	1.226	0.202	0.023	0.054
Currently using IUD	0.005	0.002	918	1051	0.789	0.367	0.001	0.009
Currently using condoms	0.060	0.008	918	1051	0.992	0.129	0.045	0.076
Currently using injectables	0.011	0.004	918	1051	1.120	0.350	0.003	0.019
Currently using female sterilization	0.132	0.014	918	1051	1.296	0.110	0.103	0.161
Currently using withdrawal	0.015	0.006	918	1051	1.380	0.365	0.004	0.027
Currently using periodic abstinence	0.013	0.006	918	1051	1.455	0.411	0.002	0.025
Used public sector source	0.740	0.031	233	278	1.073	0.042	0.679	0.802
Want no more children	0.485	0.023	918	1051	1.384	0.047	0.440	0.531
Want to delay birth at least 2 years	0.234	0.018	918	1051	1.317	0.079	0.198	0.271
Ideal family size	3.268	0.040	899	1025	0.968	0.012	3.188	3.348
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.868	0.015	510	589	1.005	0.017	0.838	0.898
Mothers received medical assistance at delivery	0.973	0.008	606	700	1.061	0.008	0.957	0.988
Had diarrhoea in the past 2 weeks	0.038	0.008	599	691	0.984	0.213	0.022	0.054
Treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS)	0.561	0.116	29	26	1.048	0.206	0.330	0.793
Taken to a health provider	0.778	0.088	29	26	0.901	0.113	0.602	0.954
Vaccination card seen	0.810	0.045	123	142	1.270	0.055	0.721	0.900
Received BCG vaccination	0.988	0.013	123	142	1.278	0.013	0.962	1.013
Received DPT vaccination (3 doses)	0.965	0.019	123	142	1.137	0.020	0.927	1.003
Received polio vaccination (3 doses)	0.975	0.017	123	142	1.211	0.017	0.941	1.009
Received measles vaccination	0.957	0.021	123	142	1.161	0.022	0.914	0.999
Received all basic vaccinations	0.934	0.028	123	142	1.253	0.030	0.878	0.990
Height-for-age (-2SD)	0.199	0.031	327	346	1.372	0.154	0.138	0.260
Weight-for-height (-2SD)	0.084	0.016	327	346	1.027	0.195	0.051	0.117
Weight-for-age (-2SD)	0.159	0.025	327	346	1.197	0.157	0.109	0.209
BMI <18.5	0.067	0.012	669	761	1.238	0.180	0.043	0.091
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	0.960	0.007	1038	1190	1.185	0.008	0.945	0.974
Knows about condoms to prevent AIDS	0.808	0.013	1038	1190	1.070	0.016	0.782	0.834
Knows about limiting partners	0.907	0.013	1038	1190	1.437	0.014	0.881	0.933
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.343	0.018	1038	1190	1.220	0.053	0.307	0.379
Total fertility rate (past 3 years)	2.926	0.132	na	5133	0.875	0.045	2.662	3.190
Neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	10.108	3.480	1163	1336	1.209	0.344	3.147	17.068
Post-neonatal mortality (past 0-9 years)	8.928	2.733	1161	1337	0.942	0.306	3.462	14.394
Infant mortality (past 0-9 years)	19.035	3.954	1163	1336	0.942	0.208	11.127	26.943
Child mortality (past 0-9 years)	4.044	2.084	1109	1271	0.898	0.515	0.000	8.213
Under-five mortality (past 0-9 years)	23.002	4.271	1164	1337	0.892	0.186	14.460	31.545

na = Not applicable

DATA QUALITY TABLES

Appendix C

Table C.1 Household age distribution

Single-year age distribution of the de facto household population by sex (weighted), Maldives 2009

	Women		Men	
Age	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	485	2.3	518	2.7
1	458	2.2	453	2.4
2	383	1.8	377	2.0
3	384	1.8	386	2.0
4	351	1.7	381	2.0
5	359	1.7	361	1.9
6	304	1.4	309	1.6
7	348	1.7	373	2.0
8	380	1.8	417	2.2
9	420	2.0	427	2.3
10	363	1.7	387	2.0
11	407	1.9	404	2.1
12	468	2.2	502	2.6
13	493	2.4	532	2.8
14	496	2.4	517	2.7
15	474	2.3	444	2.3
16	521	2.5	545	2.9
17	549	2.6	494	2.6
18	562	2.7	521	2.7
19	535	2.5	445	2.3
20	510	2.4	391	2.1
21	481	2.3	363	1.9
22	522	2.5	385	2.0
23	514	2.4	336	1.8
24	444	2.1	306	1.6
25	458	2.2	331	1.7
26	422	2.0	293	1.5
27	376	1.8	308	1.6
28	389	1.9	301	1.6
29	375	1.8	258	1.4
30	369	1.8	331	1.7
31	284	1.4	179	0.9
32	386	1.8	245	1.3
33	283	1.3	215	1.1
34	262	1.3	226	1.2
35	318	1.5	231	1.2
36	301	1.4	216	1.1
37	315	1.5	201	1.1
38	291	1.4	225	1.2
39	229	1.1	224	1.2
40	283	1.3	247	1.3
41	171	0.8	138	0.7
42	248	1.2	202	1.1
43	238	1.1	170	0.9
44	213	1.0	136	0.7
45	189	0.9	207	1.1
46	184	0.9	131	0.7
47	195	0.9	144	0.8
48	171	0.8	209	1.1
49	103	0.5	154	0.8
50	262	1.3	214	1.1
51	152	0.7	94	0.5
52	165	0.8	123	0.7
53	130	0.6	116	0.6
54	86	0.4	102	0.5
55	121	0.6	134	0.7
56	89	0.4	90	0.5
57	73	0.3	56	0.3
58	90	0.4	92	0.5
59	65	0.3	73	0.4
60	71	0.3	59	0.3
61	44	0.2	48	0.3
62	54	0.3	63	0.3
63	89	0.4	79	0.4
64	53	0.3	52	0.3
65	204	1.0	200	1.1
66	79	0.4	89	0.5
67	103	0.5	115	0.6
68	60	0.3	67	0.4
69	38	0.2	37	0.2
70+	440	2.1	602	3.2
Don't know	17	0.1	58	0.3
Total	20,977	100.0	18,965	100.0

Table C.2.1 Age distribution of eligible and interviewed women

De facto household population of women age 10-54, interviewed women age 15-49, and percentage of eligible women who were interviewed (weighted), by five-year age groups, Maldives 2009

Age group	Household population of women age 10-54	Ever-married women age 10-54	Interviewed women age 15-49		Percentage of eligible women interviewed
			Number	Percent	
10-14	2,228	0	na	na	na
15-19	2,641	140	119	1.7	85.0
20-24	2,470	1,517	1,270	18.3	83.7
25-29	2,020	1,800	1,482	21.4	82.4
30-34	1,585	1,503	1,223	17.6	81.4
35-39	1,454	1,420	1,191	17.2	83.9
40-44	1,154	1,139	982	14.2	86.2
45-49	843	829	671	9.7	80.9
50-54	796	787	na	na	na
15-49	12,167	8,347	6,938	100.0	83.1

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Weights for both household population of women and interviewed women are household weights. Age is based on the household schedule.
na = Not applicable

Table C.2.2 Age distribution of eligible and interviewed men

De facto household population of men age 10-64, interviewed men age 15-59 and percent of eligible men who were interviewed (weighted), Maldives 2009

Age group	Household population of men age 10-64	Ever-married women age 10-64	Interviewed men age 15-59		Percentage of eligible men interviewed
			Number	Percent	
10-14	1,141	0	na	na	na
15-19	1,251	5	3	0.2	59.4
20-24	898	248	129	7.5	52.0
25-29	719	526	251	14.5	47.7
30-34	573	535	290	16.8	54.2
35-39	526	509	260	15.0	51.1
40-44	442	430	228	13.2	52.9
45-49	392	388	217	12.6	56.0
50-54	309	308	154	8.9	49.9
55-59	210	208	119	6.9	57.3
60-64	139	139	na	na	na
15-59	5,320	3,156	1,727	100.0	54.7

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Weights for both household population of women and interviewed women are household weights. Age is based on the household schedule.
na = Not applicable

Table C.3 Completeness of reporting

Percentage of observations missing information for selected demographic and health questions (weighted), Maldives 2009

Subject	Reference group	Percentage with information missing	Number of cases
Birth date	Births in past 15 years		
Month only		4.29	10,618
Month and year		1.48	10,618
Age at death	Dead children born in past 15 years	0.60	349
Age/date at first union[1]	Ever-married women age 15-49	0.97	7,131
	Ever-married men age 15-49	2.96	1,727
Respondent's education	All women age 15-49	0.00	7,131
	All men age 15-49	0.00	1,727
Diarrhoea in past 2 weeks	Living children age 0-59 months	0.13	3,682
Anthropometry	From Household Questionnaire Living children age 0-59 months		
Height		31.76	4,217
Weight		26.47	4,217
Height or weight		32.05	4,217

[1] Both year and age missing

Table C.4 Births by calendar years

Number of births, percentage with complete birth date, sex ratio at birth, and calendar year ratio by calendar year, according to living (L), dead (D), and total (T) children (weighted), Maldives 2009

Calendar year	Number of births			Percentage with complete birth date[1]			Sex ratio at birth[2]			Calendar year ratio[3]		
	Living	Dead	Total	Living	Dead	Total	Living	Dead	Total	Living	Dead	Total
2009	259	3	261	)9.8	100.0	99.8	92.1	0.0	90.3	na	na	na
2008	840	11	850	)0.0	89.8	99.9	103.0	40.0	101.9	na	na	na
2007	812	8	820	)9.9	100.0	99.9	101.0	581.7	102.3	107.1	80.4	106.7
2006	677	9	685	)9.9	89.6	99.8	94.7	304.1	95.9	93.1	98.1	93.1
2005	643	10	652	)9.9	100.0	99.9	102.5	330.1	104.1	97.8	72.2	97.3
2004	638	18	656	)9.7	81.4	99.2	118.9	207.4	120.6	103.4	158.1	104.4
2003	591	13	605	)9.8	61.7	98.9	97.9	212.8	99.5	95.6	59.5	94.4
2002	599	27	626	)5.9	65.2	94.6	107.3	136.2	108.4	99.1	134.0	100.2
2001	618	27	644	)6.3	41.6	94.0	107.1	196.8	109.7	93.7	100.1	94.0
2000	719	26	745	)3.7	42.2	91.9	103.3	52.6	101.0	114.7	84.8	113.3
2005-2009	3,230	39	3,269	)9.9	95.0	99.9	99.7	148.1	100.2	na	na	na
2000-2004	3,164	111	3,276	)7.0	56.3	95.6	106.7	133.1	107.5	na	na	na
1995-1999	3,377	173	3,550	)1.3	40.6	88.8	102.7	101.2	102.7	na	na	na
1990-1994	3,716	230	3,946	35.9	27.7	82.5	99.1	110.8	99.8	na	na	na
<1989	4,568	558	5,126	'4.8	18.5	68.7	108.3	122.9	109.7	na	na	na
All	18,055	1,111	19,166	38.5	30.4	85.2	103.5	118.4	104.3	na	na	na

na = Not applicable
[1] Both year and month of birth given
[2] (Bm/Bf)x100, where Bm and Bf are the numbers of male and female births, respectively
[3] [2Bx/(Bx-1+Bx+1)]x100, where Bx is the number of births in calendar year x

Table C.5 Reporting of age at death in days

Distribution of reported deaths under one month of age by age at death in days and the percentage of neonatal deaths reported to occur at ages 0-6 days, for five-year periods of birth preceding the survey (weighted), Maldives 2009

Age at death (days)	Number of years preceding the survey				Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	0-19
<1	20	43	46	45	154
1	9	9	8	16	43
2	1	5	3	4	13
3	2	6	6	12	26
4	1	0	7	6	14
5	2	0	2	5	8
6	1	0	1	0	2
7	0	2	3	11	17
8	0	1	3	2	5
9	0	0	2	2	4
10	0	1	1	1	3
11	2	0	0	2	3
12	0	0	1	0	1
13	1	0	0	1	2
14	0	3	0	2	5
15	0	2	1	2	5
16	0	0	0	3	3
17	0	0	0	2	2
19	0	1	0	0	1
20	0	0	2	1	3
21	0	0	0	1	2
23	0	0	0	0	0
24	0	1	1	0	2
25	0	0	0	3	3
28	0	0	1	0	1
31+	1	0	1	0	2
Total 0-30	38	73	90	120	321
Percent early neonatal[1]	92.6	85.7	82.1	73.2	80.8

[1] ≤6 days / ≤30 days

Table C.6 Reporting of age at death in months

Distribution of reported deaths under two years of age by age at death in months and the percentage of infant deaths reported to occur at age under one month, for five-year periods of birth preceding the survey, Maldives 2009

Age at death (months)	Number of years preceding the survey 0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	Total 0-19
<1[a]	38	73	90	120	321
1	5	3	7	8	22
2	0	4	5	4	13
3	3	1	8	12	24
4	1	3	3	3	9
5	0	2	2	5	10
6	1	1	1	7	10
7	0	5	2	5	11
8	0	3	3	1	6
9	2	3	3	5	13
10	1	0	1	2	3
11	1	3	3	1	8
12	0	1	1	3	5
13	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	1	0	1	1
18	0	0	3	4	7
19	0	0	2	0	3
20	0	0	0	1	1
21	0	0	0	1	1
23	0	1	0	0	1
1 year	0	1	9	5	16
Total 0-11	52	101	127	171	450
Percent neonatal[1]	73.4	72.9	70.8	70.4	71.4

[1] Under one month / under one year

[a] Includes deaths under one month reported in days

Table C.7 Nutritional status of children based on NCHS/CDC/WHO International Reference Population

Percentage of children under five years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, Maldives 2009

Background characteristic	Height-for-age			Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age				Number of children
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD[1]	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	
Age in months												
<6	2.3	10.4	(0.4)	0.8	4.8	6.2	0.1	0.3	4.7	3.5	(0.2)	223
6-8	5.5	14.8	(0.7)	0.9	6.9	5.4	(0.1)	2.2	7.1	3.1	(0.7)	156
9-11	8.8	23.9	(1.1)	1.1	12.5	4.4	(0.4)	4.2	26.2	1.9	(1.2)	155
12-17	6.8	25.3	(1.2)	0.9	6.4	3.9	(0.4)	2.4	24.8	1.8	(1.1)	267
18-23	8.2	26.3	(1.2)	1.8	9.0	5.5	(0.5)	1.7	19.6	2.6	(1.0)	261
24-35	4.1	14.2	(0.7)	0.9	10.5	2.5	(0.8)	5.2	28.1	1.7	(1.1)	474
36-47	3.7	14.5	(0.7)	1.2	9.3	5.5	(0.7)	3.7	23.8	3.2	(1.0)	497
48-59	3.3	13.3	(0.7)	0.2	10.8	5.0	(0.6)	2.6	21.1	2.9	(0.9)	478
Sex												
Male	5.8	16.8	(0.8)	1.0	9.3	4.7	(0.5)	2.7	20.3	2.5	(1.0)	1,270
Female	3.7	16.8	(0.8)	0.8	9.0	4.7	(0.5)	3.5	22.0	2.7	(0.9)	1,242
Birth interval in months[2]												
First birth[3]	3.8	15.1	(0.7)	1.1	7.8	5.9	(0.4)	2.5	15.8	3.5	(0.8)	951
<24	6.5	19.3	(1.0)	1.1	10.2	2.8	(0.7)	4.7	28.3	2.2	(1.3)	174
24-47	4.6	18.5	(0.9)	0.8	8.3	4.0	(0.5)	2.6	21.3	1.2	(1.0)	399
48+	3.8	15.2	(0.8)	0.5	11.7	3.6	(0.7)	3.1	24.7	2.2	(1.0)	758
Size at birth[2,4]												
Very small	14.5	31.6	(1.6)	1.7	14.4	4.7	(0.6)	10.1	41.5	0.0	(1.6)	87
Small	5.0	25.1	(1.2)	3.1	14.3	1.5	(0.9)	4.7	32.4	0.7	(1.5)	213
Average or larger	3.6	14.4	(0.7)	0.6	8.6	4.9	(0.5)	2.4	18.5	2.9	(0.9)	1,977
Missing	0.0	0.0	(1.1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(0.7)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(1.3)	1
Mother's interview status												
Interviewed	4.1	16.0	(0.8)	0.8	9.4	4.5	(0.5)	2.9	20.7	2.6	(0.9)	2,282
Not interviewed but in household	12.4	26.2	(1.1)	2.2	6.8	6.5	(0.5)	4.9	27.6	2.7	(1.1)	202
Not interviewed, and not in the household	3.1	11.1	(0.9)	0.0	7.3	0.0	(0.5)	3.1	16.1	2.9	(1.0)	28
Mother's nutritional status[5]												
Thin (BMI<18.5)	5.5	20.1	(1.1)	1.9	13.8	1.8	(1.0)	5.4	29.9	0.0	(1.5)	185
Normal (BMI 18.5-24.9)	3.7	16.2	(0.8)	1.0	9.4	3.3	(0.6)	2.6	21.2	1.7	(1.0)	1,170
Overweight/ obese (BMI ≥25)	5.5	16.0	(0.8)	0.7	8.2	6.3	(0.4)	2.8	19.0	3.8	(0.8)	959
Missing	7.3	21.6	(0.8)	0.3	8.1	9.6	(0.2)	4.1	21.8	3.8	(0.7)	154
Residence												
Urban	3.5	14.2	(0.6)	0.0	5.9	5.5	(0.3)	0.7	13.2	2.5	(0.7)	722
Rural	5.3	17.9	(0.9)	1.3	10.4	4.3	(0.6)	4.0	24.4	2.6	(1.1)	1,791
Region												
Malé	3.5	14.2	(0.6)	0.0	5.9	5.5	(0.3)	0.7	13.2	2.5	(0.7)	722
North	3.7	14.1	(0.8)	0.5	9.4	4.3	(0.6)	2.6	22.5	3.6	(1.0)	387
North Central	6.5	21.0	(1.0)	1.8	13.3	2.4	(0.8)	5.1	29.1	1.7	(1.3)	542
Central	6.8	18.7	(0.8)	1.8	10.9	4.7	(0.6)	4.7	20.8	1.5	(1.0)	235
South Central	5.7	17.8	(0.9)	0.8	9.0	4.9	(0.5)	3.6	23.0	2.8	(1.0)	281
South	3.9	16.7	(0.8)	1.5	8.0	6.8	(0.4)	3.8	22.7	3.6	(0.8)	346
Mother's education[6]												
No education	7.1	22.3	(1.1)	0.2	12.8	4.9	(0.7)	4.2	31.8	3.3	(1.3)	321
Primary	5.4	18.5	(0.9)	1.5	10.9	4.2	(0.7)	4.4	25.1	1.5	(1.1)	939
Secondary	3.7	14.8	(0.7)	0.8	6.8	4.7	(0.4)	2.0	16.0	2.8	(0.8)	1,085
More than secondary	4.8	10.3	(0.3)	0.0	8.3	8.5	(0.3)	0.0	11.1	6.2	(0.5)	115
Unknown - Certificate	6.3	6.3	(0.2)	0.0	3.6	3.1	(0.3)	0.0	11.6	6.4	(0.4)	24
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	5.9	20.0	(1.0)	1.4	11.3	4.1	(0.7)	5.2	27.3	2.4	(1.2)	509
Second	5.7	20.3	(1.0)	1.2	9.6	4.2	(0.5)	4.4	24.3	2.1	(1.1)	532
Middle	4.5	14.8	(0.8)	1.1	11.5	3.3	(0.7)	3.0	24.8	2.3	(1.0)	517
Fourth	4.0	13.5	(0.6)	0.4	5.8	5.8	(0.3)	1.9	15.2	3.9	(0.6)	477
Highest	3.6	14.9	(0.6)	0.3	7.2	6.1	(0.4)	0.4	13.1	2.4	(0.7)	477
Total	4.8	16.8	(0.8)	0.9	9.1	4.7	(0.5)	3.1	21.2	2.6	(1.0)	2,512

Note: Table is based on children who slept in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the NCHS/CDC/WHO Child Growth Standards. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurement of both height and weight.

[1] Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the International Reference Population median

[2] Excludes children whose mothers were not interviewed

[3] First born twins (triplets, etc.) are counted as first births because they do not have a previous birth interval

[4] Includes children whose mothers are deceased

[5] Excludes children whose mothers were not weighed and measured. Mother's nutritional status in terms of BMI (Body Mass Index) is presented in Table 11.10

[6] For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the Household Questionnaire

PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE 2009 MALDIVES DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

Appendix ***D***

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QUESTIONNAIRES

Appendix ***E***

17 December 2008

2008 MALDIVES DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE

IDENTIFICATION

ISLAND NAME .....

HOUSEHOLD NAME .....

NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD .....

CLUSTER NUMBER ☞ .....

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER ☞ .....

ATOLL ☞ .....

SUBSAMPLE: 1. EVER-MARRIED MEN 2. YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT ☞ .....

INTERVIEWER VISITS

	1	2	3	FINAL VISIT
DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	Day ☐☐ Month ☐☐ Year 2 0 0 ☐
INTERVIEWER'S NAME	.....	.....	.....	INT. NUMBER ☐☐☐
RESULT*	☐	☐	☐	RESULT ☐
NEXT VISIT: DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐		TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ☐
TIME	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐		

*RESULT CODES:

1 COMPLETED
2 NO HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AT HOME OR NO COMPETENT RESPONDENT
3 ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD ABSENT FOR EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME
4 POSTPONED
5 REFUSED
6 DWELLING VACANT OR ADDRESS NOT A DWELLING
7 DWELLING DESTROYED
8 DWELLING NOT FOUND
9 OTHER_____
(specify)

TOTAL PERSONS IN THE HOUSEHOLD ..... ☞ ☐☐

TOTAL ELIGIBLE EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ..... ☞ ☐☐

TOTAL ELIGIBLE EVER-MARRIED MEN ..... ☞ ☐☐

TOTAL ELIGIBLE NEVER-MARRIED YOUTH ..... ☞ ☐☐

LINE NO. OF RESPONDENT TO HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE ☞ ☐☐

SUPERVISOR	FIELD EDITOR	OFFICE EDITOR	KEYED BY	VERIFIED BY
NAME	NAME			
ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐
DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐	DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐			

SECTION 1 : GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction and Consent

Hello. My name is _____ and I am working with Ministry of Health. We are conducting a national survey about various health issues. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. The survey usually takes between 10 and 15 minutes to complete.

As part of the survey we would first like to ask some questions about your household. All of the answers you give will be confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than the members of our survey team. Participation in the survey is completely voluntary. If we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question; or you can stop the interview at any time. However, we hope you will participate in the survey since your views are important.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

Signature of interviewer:_____ Date: _____

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED 1 RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED 2 ☞ END

RECORD THE TIME. HOUR ☐☐ : MINUTES ☐☐

②

			01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	1	LINE NUMBER ☞							
USUAL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS	2	Please give me the names of the persons who usually live in your household and guests who stayed here last night, starting with the head of the household. AFTER LISTING THE NAMES AND RECORDING THE RELATIONSHIP AND SEX FOR EACH PERSON, ASK QUESTIONS 2A-2C TO BE SURE THAT THE LISTING IS COMPLETE. THEN ASK QUESTIONS 5-54 FOR EACH PERSON AS APPROPRIATE.							
RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HH	3	What is the relationship of (NAME) to the head of the household? SEE CODES BELOW.	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
SEX	4	Is (NAME) male or female? MALE 1 FEMALE 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
RESIDENCE	5	Does (NAME) usually live here? YES 1 NO 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
	6	Did (NAME) stay here last night? YES 1 NO 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
	6A	Is (NAME) a Maldivian? YES 1 NO 2	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7	1 2 GO TO 7
	6B	Is (NAME) married to a Maldivian or is (NAME)a son or daughter of a Maldivian? YES 1 NO 2	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON	1 2 GO TO NEXT PERSON
AGE	7	How old is (NAME) ?	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
IF AGE 15 OR OLDER		**MARITAL STATUS**							
	8	What is (NAME's) current marital status? 1 = MARRIED 3 = WIDOWED 2 = DIVORCED/ SEPARATED 4 = NEVER-MARRIED	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
		ELIGIBLE FOR INTERVIEW ☞							
	9	EVER-MARRIED WOMEN 15-49 CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF ALL EVER-MARRIED WOMEN AGE 15-49	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	10	EVER-MARRIED MEN 15-64 CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF ALL EVER-MARRIED MEN AGE 15-64	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	11	NEVER-MARRIED WOMEN AND MEN 15-24 CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF ALL NEVER-MARRIED WOMEN AND MEN AGE 15-24	01	02	03	04	05	06	07

TICK HERE IF CONTINUATION SHEET USED ☐

2A) Just to make sure that I have a complete listing. Are there any other persons such as small children or infants that we have not listed?

2B) Are there any other people who may not be members of your family, such as domestic servants, lodgers, or friends who usually live here?

2C) Are there any guests or temporary visitors staying here, or anyone else who stayed here last night, who have not been listed?

YES ☐ ☞ ADD TO TABLE NO ☐

YES ☐ ☞ ADD TO TABLE NO ☐

YES ☐ ☞ ADD TO TABLE NO ☐

CODES FOR Q. 3: RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD ☞

01 = HEAD
02 = WIFE OR HUSBAND
03 = SON OR DAUGHTER
04 = SON-IN-LAW OR DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
05 = GRANDCHILD
06 = PARENT
07 = PARENT-IN-LAW
08 = BROTHER OR SISTER
09 = BROTHER OR SISTER-IN-LAW
10 = AUNT/UNCLE
11 = NIECE/NEPHEW BY BLOOD
12 = NIECE/NEPHEW BY MARRIAGE
13 = OTHER RELATIVE
14 = ADOPTED/FOSTER/STEPCHILD
15 = NOT RELATED
98 = DON'T KNOW

		LINE NUMBER ☞	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
IF AGE 0-5 YEARS	12	**ELIGIBLE FOR HEIGHT AND WEIGHT** CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AGE 0-5 ☞	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
IF AGE 0-17 YEARS		**SURVIVORSHIP AND RESIDENCE OF BIOLOGICAL PARENTS**							
	13	Is (NAME)'s natural mother alive? YES 1 NO 2 ☞ DK 8	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15	1 2 8 GO TO 15
	14	Does (NAME)'s natural mother usually live in this household or was she a guest last night? IF YES : What is her name? RECORD MOTHER'S LINE NUMBER ☞ IF NO: RECORD '00' MOTHER'S LINE NUMBER ☞	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
	15	Is (NAME)'s natural father alive? YES 1 NO 2 ☞ DK 8	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17	1 2 8 GO TO 17
	16	Does (NAME)'s natural father usually live in this household or was he a guest last night? IF YES : What is his name? RECORD FATHER'S LINE NUMBER ☞ IF NO: RECORD '00' FATHER'S LINE NUMBER ☞	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐

	LINE NUMBER ☞		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
IF AGE 0-4 YEARS		**BIRTH REGISTRATION**							
	17	Does (NAME) have a birth certificate?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		IF NO, PROBE: Has (NAME)'s birth ever been registered with the civil authority?	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		1 = YES, HAS CERTIFICATE 2 = NO CERTIFICATE BUT REGISTERED 3 = NO CERTIFICATE AND NOT REGISTERED 8 = DON'T KNOW ☞	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
			8	8	8	8	8	8	8
IF AGE 5 YEARS OR OLDER		**EVER ATTENDED SCHOOL**							
	18	Has (NAME) ever attended school? YES 1 NO 2 ☞	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24
	19	What is the highest level of school (NAME) has attended? LEVEL ☞							
		SEE CODES BELOW							
		What is the highest grade (NAME) completed at that level? GRADE							
		SEE CODES BELOW							
IF AGE 5 - 24 YEARS		**CURRENT/RECENT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**							
	20	Did (NAME) attend school or preschool at any time during this school year, that is, during 2008? YES 1 NO 2 ☞	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22	1 2 → GO TO 22
	21	During this school year, what level and grade [is/was] (NAME) attending? LEVEL ☞							
		SEE CODES BELOW	GRADE						
	22	Did (NAME) attend school or preschool at any time during the previous school year, that is, during 2007? YES 1 NO 2 ☞	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24	1 2 → GO TO 24
	23	During the 2007 school year, what level and grade did (NAME) attend? LEVEL ☞							
		SEE CODES BELOW	GRADE						

CODES FOR Qs. 19, 21, AND 23: EDUCATION ☞

LEVEL

00 = NON-FORMAL EDUCATION
01 = PRESCHOOL
02 = PRIMARY
03 = 'O' LEVEL
04 = 'A' LEVEL
05 = DIPLOMA
06 = FIRST DEGREE
07 = MASTER'S CERTIFICATE/ABOVE
08 = CERTIFICATE
98 = DON'T KNOW

GRADE

00 = LESS THAN 1 YEAR COMPLETED (USE '00' FOR Q. 19 ONLY. THIS CODE IS NOT ALLOWED FOR QS. 21 AND 23)

98 = DON'T KNOW

IF AGE 5 YEARS OR OLDER

LINE NUMBER ☞		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
DISABILITY								
24	Does (NAME) have any difficulty seeing (even when (he/she) is wearing glasses or contact lenses)?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can see only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can(he/she) not see at all? → (No problem with seeing 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Not see at all 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
25	Does (NAME) have any difficulty hearing (even when (he/she) is using a hearing aid?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can hear only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can (he/she) not hear at all? → (No problem with hearing 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Not hear at all 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
26	Does (NAME) have any difficulty communicating (for example understanding others or others understanding (him/her)) because of a physical, mental or emotional condition?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can communicate only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can (he/she) not communicate at all? → (No problem with communication 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Cannot communicate at all 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
27	Does (NAME) have any difficulty with remembering or concentrating?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can remember or concentrate only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can (he/she) not remember or concentrate at all? → (No problem with remembering or concentrating 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Cannot remember or concentrate at all 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
28	Does (NAME) have any physical condition that makes it difficult for (him/her) to walk or climbing steps?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can walk or climb steps only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can (he/she) not walk or climb steps at all? → (No problem with walking or climbing steps 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Cannot walk or climb steps at all 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
29	Does (NAME) have any physical condition that makes it difficult for (him/her) (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	IF YES: Would you say that (he/she) can wash all over or dress only with some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or can (he/she) not wash or dress at all? → (No problem with washing all over or dressing 1; Some difficulty 2; Lot of difficulty 3; Cannot wash all over or dress 4) ☞	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4

			LINE NUMBER ☞	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
IF AGE 2-9 YEARS	IF AGE 2-14 YEARS		**YOUNG CHILD DISABILITY** The following questions relate to young children and should be asked of the child's parent or primary caretaker. RECORD THE LINE NUMBER OF THE PERSON PROVIDING THE INFORMATION IN QUESTIONS 30-54 ☞	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
			CHILD'S CARETAKER							
		30	Compared with other children, does or did (NAME) have any serious delay in sitting, standing, or walking? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		31	Compared with other children, does (NAME) have difficulty seeing,either in the daytime or at night? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		32	Does (NAME) appear to have difficulty hearing (uses hearing aid,hears with difficulty or is completely deaf? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		33	When you tell (NAME) to do something, does he/she seem to understand what you are saying? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		34	Does (NAME) have difficulty in walking or moving his/her arms, or does he/she have weakness and/or stiffness in the arms or legs? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		35	Does (NAME) sometimes have fits, become rigid, or lose consciousness? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		36	Does (NAME) learn to do things like other children of his/her age? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		37	Does (NAME) speak at all (Can he/she make him or herself understood in words; can say any recognizable words)? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
	IF AGE 3-9 YEARS	38	Is (NAME)'s speech in any way different from normal (not clear enough to be understood by people other than the immediate family)? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
	IF AGE 2 YEARS	39	Can (NAME) name at least one object (for example, an animal, a toy, a cup, a spoon)? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
		40	Compared with other children of the same age, does (NAME) appear in any way mentally backward, dull or slow? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2

		LINE NUMBER ☞	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
IF AGE 3-4 YEARS		**EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMME**							
	41	Does (NAME) attend any organized learning or early childhood education programme, such as a private or government facility including kindergarten or community childcare? YES 1 / NO 2 ☞ / DK 8	1 2 8	1 2 8	1 2 8	1 2 8	1 2 8	1 2 8	1 2 8
IF AGE 0 - 4 YEARS		**SUPPORT FOR EARLY LEARNING**							
	42A	In the past 3 days, did you or any household member over 15 years of age engage in any of the following activities with (NAME)? IF YES: Who engaged in the activity with the child - the child's mother, father or another adult member of the household including the caretaker/respondent)? RECORD ALL MENTIONED FOLLOWING CODES ☞ MOTHER A / FATHER B / OTHER ADULT C / NO ONE Y ☜							
	42B	Read books or look at picture books with (NAME)?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y
	43	Tell stories to (NAME)?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y
	44	Sing songs with (NAME)?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y
	45	Take (NAME) outside the home, compound, yard or enclosure?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y
	46	Play with (NAME)?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y
	47	Spend time with (NAME) naming, counting,and/ or drawing things?	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y	A B C Y

IF AGE 5-14 YEARS

LINE NUMBER ☞		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
CHILDREN'S WORK Now I would like to ask you about work that children in this household do.								
48	During the past week, did (NAME) do any kind of work for someone who is not a member of this household? IF YES: For pay in cash or kind? YES FOR PAY (IN CASH/KIND) 1 YES, UNPAID 2 ☞ NO 3	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50	1 2 3 GO TO 50
49	Since last (DAY OF THE WEEK), about how many hours did he/she do this work for someone who is not a member of this household? IF MORE THAN ONE JOB, INCLUDE ALL HOURS IN ALL JOBS.	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51	☐☐ GO TO 51
50	At any time during the past year, did (NAME) do any kind of work for someone who is not a member of this household? IF YES: For pay in cash or kind? YES FOR PAY (IN CASH/KIND) 1 YES, UNPAID 2 ☞ NO 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3
51	During the past week, did (NAME) help with household chores such as shopping, collecting firewood, cleaning, fetching water, or caring for children? YES 1 NO 2 ☞	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53	1 2 GO TO 53
52	Since last (DAY OF THE WEEK), about how many hours did he/she spend doing these chores?	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
53	During the past week, did (NAME) do any other family work (on the farm or in a business, or selling goods in the street)? YES 1 NO 2 ☞	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE	1 2 NEXT LINE
54	Since last (DAY OF THE WEEK), about how many hours did he/she spend doing this work?	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
101	What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household?	PIPED WATER PIPED INTO DWELLING ..... 11 PIPED TO YARD/PLOT ..... 12 PUBLIC TAP/STANDPIPE ..... 13 TUBE WELL OR BOREHOLE ..... 21 DUG WELL PROTECTED WELL ..... 31 UNPROTECTED WELL ..... 32 RAINWATER TANK IN COMPOUND ..... 41 PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY TANK ..... 42 BOTTLED WATER ..... 91 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→106 →103 →103
102	What is the main source of water used by your household for other purposes such as cooking and handwashing?	PIPED WATER PIPED INTO DWELLING ..... 11 PIPED TO YARD/PLOT ..... 12 PUBLIC TAP/STANDPIPE ..... 13 TUBE WELL OR BOREHOLE ..... 21 DUG WELL PROTECTED WELL ..... 31 UNPROTECTED WELL ..... 32 RAINWATER TANK IN COMPOUND ..... 41 PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY TANK ..... 42 BOTTLED WATER ..... 91 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→106 →106
103	Where is that water source located?	IN OWN DWELLING ..... 1 IN OWN YARD/PLOT ..... 2 ELSEWHERE 3	→106
104	How long does it take to go there, get water, and come back?	MINUTES ..... ☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	
105	Who usually goes to this source to fetch the water for your household?	ADULT WOMAN ..... 1 ADULT MAN ..... 2 FEMALE CHILD UNDER 15 YEARS OLD ..... 3 MALE CHILD UNDER 15 YEARS OLD ..... 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
106	Do you do anything to the water to make it safer to drink?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→108

10

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
107	What do you usually do to make the water safer to drink? Anything else? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	BOIL ..... A ADD BLEACH/CHLORINE ..... B STRAIN THROUGH A CLOTH ..... C USE WATER FILTER ..... D SOLAR DISINFECTION ..... E LET IT STAND AND SETTLE ..... F OTHER _____ (SPECIFY) X DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
108	During the past six months, has your household ever experienced a shortage in drinking water?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
109	What kind of toilet facility do members of your household usually use?	FLUSH OR POUR FLUSH TOILET FLUSH TO PIPED SEWER SYSTEM ..... 11 FLUSH TO SEPTIC TANK ..... 12 FLUSH TO PIT ..... 13 FLUSH TO SOMEWHERE ELSE ..... 14 FLUSH, DON'T KNOW WHERE ..... 15 PIT LATRINE VENTILATED IMPROVED PIT LATRINE ..... 21 PIT LATRINE WITH SLAB ..... 22 PIT LATRINE WITHOUT SLAB/OPEN PIT ..... 23 NO FACILITY/BEACH ..... 61 OTHER _____ (SPECIFY) 96	→ 112
110	Do you share this toilet facility with other households?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 112
111	How many households use this toilet facility?	NO. OF HOUSEHOLDS IF LESS THAN 10 .... 0 ☐ 10 OR MORE HOUSEHOLDS ..... 95 DON'T KNOW 98	
112	Does your household have: Electricity? A radio? A television? Satellite/cable TV connection? A computer? Internet connection? A mobile telephone? A non-mobile telephone? A refrigerator? Air conditioner? Washing machine?	YES NO ELECTRICITY ..... 1 2 RADIO ..... 1 2 TELEVISION ..... 1 2 SATELLITE/CABLE TV CONNECTION 1 2 COMPUTER ..... 1 2 INTERNET CONNECTION ..... 1 2 MOBILE TELEPHONE ..... 1 2 NON-MOBILE TELEPHONE ..... 1 2 REFRIGERATOR ..... 1 2 AIR CONDITIONER ..... 1 2 WASHING MACHINE 1 2	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
113	What type of fuel does your household mainly use for cooking?	ELECTRICITY ..... 01 LPG ..... 02 BIOGAS ..... 04 KEROSENE ..... 05 WOOD ..... 08 NO FOOD COOKED IN HOUSEHOLD ..... 95 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→ 116 → 118
114	In this household, is food cooked on an open fire, an open stove or a closed stove?	OPEN FIRE ..... 1 OPEN STOVE ..... 2 CLOSED STOVE WITH CHIMNEY ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	→ 116
115	Does this (fire/stove) have a chimney, a hood, or neither of these?	CHIMNEY ..... 1 HOOD ..... 2 NEITHER 3	
116	Is the cooking usually done in the house, in a separate building, or outdoors?	IN THE HOUSE ..... 1 IN A SEPARATE BUILDING ..... 2 OUTDOORS ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	→ 118
117	Do you have a separate room which is used as a kitchen?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
118	MAIN MATERIAL OF THE FLOOR REC0RD OBSERVATION.	NATURAL FLOOR SAND ..... 11 RUDIMENTARY FLOOR WOOD PLANKS ..... 21 FINISHED FLOOR CEMENT/SLAKE LIME ..... 31 TILES ..... 32 CONCRETE SHEET ..... 33 DURABLE WOOD ..... 34 CARPET ..... 35 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
119	MAIN MATERIAL OF THE ROOF RECORD OBSERVATION.	NATURAL ROOFING NO ROOF ..... 11 THATCH ..... 12 FINISHED ROOFING GALVANIZED SHEETS ..... 31 ROOFING TILES ..... 32 CONCRETE SHEETS ..... 33 WOOD ..... 34 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
120	MAIN MATERIAL OF THE EXTERIOR WALLS. RECORD OBSERVATION	NATURAL WALLS NO WALLS ..... 11 RUDIMENTARY WALLS THATCH AND STICK ..... 21 FINISHED WALLS WITH BRICKS, CEMENT AND LIME ..... 31 BRICKS UNPLASTERED ..... 32 THIN PLYWOOD/WOOD STICKS ..... 33 GALVANIZED TIN SHEETS ..... 34 DURABLE WOOD/SHEETS ..... 35 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
121	How many rooms in this household are used for sleeping?	ROOMS ..... ☐☐	
122	Does any member of this household own: A watch? A bicycle? A motorcycle or motor scooter? A car or truck? A pickup/lorry? A fishing boat? Any other boat?	YES NO WATCH ..... 1 2 BICYCLE ..... 1 2 MOTORCYCLE OR MOTOR SCOOTER 1 2 CAR OR TRUCK ..... 1 2 PICKUP/LORRY ..... 1 2 FISHING BOAT ..... 1 2 ANY OTHER BOAT 1 2	
123	Does any member of this household have a bank account?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
124	Were members of your household displaced due to the tsunami?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 127
125	Were they displaced on this island or to another island?	ON THIS ISLAND ..... 1 TO ANOTHER ISLAND 2	
126	Which type of shelters or houses are they living in now? Are they living in temporary shelters or in their own damaged house or their own but renovated/repaired houses or reconstructed new houses or are they living with host families?	TEMPORARY SHELTER ..... 1 OLD DAMAGED HOUSE ..... 2 OWN RENOVATED/REPAIRED HOUSE ..... 3 RECONSTRUCTED NEW HOUSE ..... 4 LIVING WITH HOST FAMILIES 5	
127	Due to the tsunami, did your household provide shelter to another family or household?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 129
128	For how many people did this household provide shelter? DO NOT INCLUDE USUAL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD	NUMBER SHELTERED ..... ☐☐	
129	How many members of this household received benefits after the tsunami?	NUMBER WHO RECEIVED BENEFITS ☐☐	

HEALTH EXPENDITURES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
201	Were any members of this household currently covered by a health welfare plan or assistance at any time in the past year? IF YES: How many household members were covered by a plan?	NUMBER OF HH MEMBERS COVERED ☐☐ NO ONE ..... 00 DON'T KNOW 98	→ 203
202	To what type(s)of health welfare plan/assistance does (did) the household member(s) belong? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	GOVERNMENT/OFFICIAL STATE ENTERPRISE A PRIVATE EMPLOYER ..... B SOCIAL SECURITY/ WORKER COMPENSATION C UC CARD ..... D PRIVATE SELF-PURCHASED INSURANCE E OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
202A	In total, how much do members of your household pay for the insurance premiums/contributions to the plan per month?	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
203	During the past year, did any member of your household die?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 205
204	Before their death, was (were) the person(s) hospitalized at any time during the past year?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
205	Were any (other) persons who lived in this household hospitalized at any time during the past year?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
206	CHECK 204 AND 205: ADMITTED IN THE HOSPITAL ATLEAST ONCE CODE 1 (YES) IN QS. 204 AND/OR 205 ☐	WAS NOT ADMITTED IN THE HOSPITAL ☐ CODE 2 (NO) IN BOTH QS. 204 AND 205	→ 212
207	In total, how many separate times were members of your household hospitalized during the past year(including any times that the person(s) who died were hospitalized)?	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOSPITALIZATIONS ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
208	Now I am going to ask some questions about how much your household paid in total for (all of) the(se) hospital stays. Please include the amount charged by the hospital itself as well as any fees paid directly to the doctors or other health workers who provided care in the hospital and the costs for any laboratory tests, other medical tests or procedures, and medications during the hospital stay. PLEASE EXCLUDE ANY COSTS WHICH WERE PAID BY A HEALTH WELFARE PLAN/ASSISTANCE. Try to be as exact as possible. If you are not sure, however, please give me your best estimate of the total amount that was paid for (all of) the(se) hospital stay(s).		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
209	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE/ ASSISTANCE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the hospital stay(s) excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan/assistance? NO ONE HAS HEALTH WELFARE/ ASSISTANCE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the hospital stay(s) ?	TOTAL ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 9999998	
210	Was (were) the hospital(s) on this island?	YES, ON THIS ISLAND 1 NO, ON ANOTHER ISLAND 2 NO, ABROAD 3	→212
211	In total, how much did your household pay for travel costs that were incurred due to the(se) hospital stays? Please include the cost of transporting the patient(s) to and from this island to the hospital and transport and accommodation costs for other household members who may have accompanied the patients(s).	TOTAL ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
212	Now I would like to ask you some questions about any health care expenses that your household has had during the past month. In answering these questions, please do not include expenses relating to a hospital stay.		
213	Did anyone in your household visit a health care provider during the past month for treatment of any illness or injury or for preventative care (e.g., an immunization or antenatal care)?	YES 1 NO 2	→301
214	In total, how many visits did members of your household make to a health care provider during the past month?	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
215	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) visit(s) excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan? NO HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) visit(s) ?	TOTAL ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
216	We would also like to know about other health care costs your household may have had during the past month, e.g., for laboratory tests, other medical tests or procedures, or prescription drugs. Please tell me about such costs only if they were paid for separately and not included in the fee for the provider visit(s) that you have just told me about. Do not include any expenses associated with a hospital stay or expenses that were paid by a health welfare plan		
217	Did any member of your household have laboratory test(s) done?	YES 1 NO 2	→220
218	In total, how many times did members of your household have laboratory tests during the past month?	TOTAL NUMBER OF TIMES ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
219	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) lab test(s) excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan? NO HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) lab test(s)) ?	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
220	Did any member of your household have any other medical tests, e.g., an X-ray during the past month?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→223
221	In total, how many times did members of your household have other medical tests during the past month?	TOTAL NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
222	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) test(s) excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan? NO HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) test(s)) ?	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
223	Did any member of your household obtain prescription drugs during the past month?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→226
224	In total, how many times did members of your household have prescriptions filled during the past month?	TOTAL NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
225	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) prescription drugs excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan? NO HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) prescription drugs?	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	
226	Did any member of your household obtain non-prescription (over-the-counter) drugs during the last month?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→229
227	In total, how many times did members of your household obtain non-prescription (over-the-counter) drugs during the past month?	TOTAL NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
228	CHECK 201: HAS HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) non-prescription drugs excluding any costs that may have been covered by a health welfare plan? NO HEALTH WELFARE ☐ → How much in total was your household charged for the(se) non-prescription drugs?	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
229	CHECK 213, 217, 220, 223, AND 226: HAD SOME TYPE OF HEALTH CARE SERVICE ☐ NO HEALTH CARE SERVICES ☐ → 301		
230	Did members of your household obtain all of these health care services on this island, on another island, or abroad during the past month?	YES, ON THIS ISLAND ..... 1 NO, ON ANOTHER ISLAND ..... 2 NO, ABROAD 3	→ 301
231	In total, how much did members of your household pay for the transportation and accommodation they used in going for health care services on other islands? Please include the transport and accommodation costs for other household members who may have accompanied the persons who were receiving these services.	TOTAL ..... ☐☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 99998	

17

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR OLDER ADULTS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS			
301	CHECK QUESTIONS 5 AND 7 IN THE HOUSEHOLD SCHEDULE AT LEAST ONE USUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AGE 65 OR OLDER ☐ → CHECK QUESTIONS 1, 2, 5 AND 7. RECORD THE NAME(S) AND LINE NUMBER(S) OF ALL USUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AGE 65 AND OLDER AT THE TOP OF THE TABLE BELOW. IF THERE ARE MORE THAN THREE OLDER ADULTS, USE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE. ALL USUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS UNDER AGE 65 ☐ → 317			
303	LINE NUMBER FROM QUESTION 1 ☞	OLDER ADULT 1 LINE NUMBER ☐☐	OLDER ADULT 2 LINE NUMBER ☐☐	OLDER ADULT 3 LINE NUMBER ☐☐
304	NAME FROM QUESTION 2 ☞	NAME_____	NAME_____	NAME_____
305	We are interested in learning about the types of care and support that adults age 65 and older are receiving in order to improve programs for the elderly. BEGIN WITH THE FIRST OLDER ADULT LISTED IN QUESTION 304 AND ASK ALL RELEVANT QUESTIONS BEFORE GOING ON TO THE NEXT OLDER ADULT.			
306	How would you describe (NAME)'s level of physical activity? Is he/she usually not active at all, somewhat active, moderately active or very active?	NOT ACTIVE AT ALL 1 SOMEWHAT 2 MODERATELY 3 VERY 4	NOT ACTIVE AT ALL 1 SOMEWHAT 2 MODERATELY 3 VERY 4	NOT ACTIVE AT ALL 1 SOMEWHAT 2 MODERATELY 3 VERY 4
307	Does (NAME) require assistance with personal care like bathing, dressing, and eating? IF YES: Does he/she need help always, most of the time, only sometimes?	ALWAYS 1 MOST OF THE TIME 2 SOMETIMES 3 NEVER 4	ALWAYS 1 MOST OF THE TIME 2 SOMETIMES 3 NEVER 4	ALWAYS 1 MOST OF THE TIME 2 SOMETIMES 3 NEVER 4
308	Does (NAME) need medical care, e.g., giving medications or changing dressings?	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2
309	Does (NAME) need help with household activities like cooking, doing laundry and cleaning?	YES 1 NO 2 NOT APPLICABLE 3	YES 1 NO 2 NOT APPLICABLE 3	YES 1 NO 2 NOT APPLICABLE 3
310	Does (NAME) need help to go outside the house?	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2
311	Does (NAME) need to be watched over because he/she may hurt him/herself or others?	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2	YES 1 NO 2
312	CHECK 306-311:	PERSON NEEDS SOME TYPE OF SUPPORT ☐ NO SUPPORT NEEDED ☐ → (SKIP TO 314)	PERSON NEEDS SOME TYPE OF SUPPORT ☐ NO SUPPORT NEEDED ☐ → (SKIP TO 314)	PERSON NEEDS SOME TYPE OF SUPPORT ☐ NO SUPPORT NEEDED ☐ → (SKIP TO 314)

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES		
	LINE NUMBER FROM COLUMN 1	OLDER ADULT 1 LINE NUMBER	OLDER ADULT 2 LINE NUMBER	OLDER ADULT 3 LINE NUMBER
	NAME FROM COLUMN 2	NAME	NAME	NAME
313	Does your household pay someone to come in and help care for (NAME)?	YES ... 1 NO ... 2	YES ... 1 NO ... 2	YES ... 1 NO ... 2
314	Is (NAME) receiving any regular income? IF YES: From where does (NAME) receive income? RECORD ALL MENTIONED	EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER A PENSION ... B INVESTMENT ... C SOCIAL WELFARE ... D RELATIVES ... E OTHER ___ X (SPECIFY) NO REGULAR INCOME Y (SKIP TO 316) DON'T KNOW ... Z	EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER A PENSION ... B INVESTMENT ... C SOCIAL WELFARE ... D RELATIVES ... E OTHER ___ X (SPECIFY) NO REGULAR INCOME Y (SKIP TO 316) DON'T KNOW ... Z	EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYER A PENSION ... B INVESTMENT ... C SOCIAL WELFARE ... D RELATIVES ... E OTHER ___ X (SPECIFY) NO REGULAR INCOME Y (SKIP TO 316) DON'T KNOW ... Z
315	Is (NAME)'s income adequate for his/her needs or does your household provide additional support?	INCOME ADEQUATE ... 1 INCOME INADEQUATE/ HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 2 OTHER HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 3 NOBODY HELPS ... 4	INCOME ADEQUATE ... 1 INCOME INADEQUATE/ HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 2 OTHER HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 3 NOBODY HELPS ... 4	INCOME ADEQUATE ... 1 INCOME INADEQUATE/ HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 2 OTHER HOUSEHOLD HELPS ... 3 NOBODY HELPS ... 4
316		GO BACK TO 306 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE PERSONS, GO TO 317.	GO BACK TO 306 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE PERSONS, GO TO 317.	GO BACK TO 306 IN NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR, IF NO MORE PERSONS, GO TO 317.

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES
317	Are any members of your household providing care and assistance on a regular basis to elderly persons living elsewhere? (such as personal care, medical care, help with household activities, going out)	YES ... 1 NO ... 2
318	Is this household providing financial assistance on a regular basis to elderly persons living elsewhere?	YES ... 1 NO ... 2
319	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR : MINS

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASURMENTS

CHILDREN AGE 0-5

401 CHECK COLUMN 12. RECORD THE LINE NUMBER AND AGE FOR ALL ELIGIBLE CHILDREN 0-5 YEARS IN QUESTION 402. IF MORE THAN FIVE CHILDREN, USE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE(S). A FINAL OUTCOME MUST BE RECORDED FOR THE WEIGHT AND HEIGHT MEASUREMENT IN 408.

		CHILD 1	CHILD 2	CHILD 3	CHILD 4	CHILD 5
402	LINE NUMBER FROM COLUMN 12 NAME FROM COLUMN 2	LINE NO. ..... ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ..... ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ..... ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ..... ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ..... ☐☐ NAME .....
403	IF MOTHER INTERVIEWED, COPY MONTH AND YEAR FROM BIRTH HISTORY AND ASK DAY; IF MOTHER NOT INTERVIEWED, ASK: What is (NAME'S) birth date?	DAY ..... ☐☐ MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	DAY ..... ☐☐ MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	DAY ..... ☐☐ MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	DAY ..... ☐☐ MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	DAY ..... ☐☐ MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐
404	CHECK 403: CHILD BORN IN JANUARY 2003 OR LATER?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 403 FOR NEXT CHILD OR, IF NO MORE, GO TO 410)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 403 FOR NEXT CHILD OR, IF NO MORE, GO TO 410)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 403 FOR NEXT CHILD OR, IF NO MORE, GO TO 410)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 403 FOR NEXT CHILD OR, IF NO MORE, GO TO 410)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 403 FOR NEXT CHILD OR, IF NO MORE, GO TO 410)
405	WEIGHT IN KILOGRAMS	KG. ..... ☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ..... ☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ..... ☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ..... ☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ..... ☐☐.☐
406	HEIGHT IN CENTIMETERS	CM. ..... ☐☐☐.☐ CM.	CM. ..... ☐☐☐.☐ CM.	CM. ..... ☐☐☐.☐ CM.	CM. ..... ☐☐☐.☐ CM.	CM. ..... ☐☐☐.☐
407	MEASURED LYING DOWN OR STANDING UP?	LYING DOWN ..... 1 STANDING UP 2	LYING DOWN ..... 1 STANDING UP 2	LYING DOWN ..... 1 STANDING UP 2	LYING DOWN ..... 1 STANDING UP 2	LYING DOWN ..... 1 STANDING UP 2
408	RESULT OF WEIGHT AND HEIGHT MEASUREMENT	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6
409		GO BACK TO 403 IN NEXT COLUMN IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE OR IN THE FIRST COLUMN OF THE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE(S); IF NO MORE CHILDREN, GO TO 410.				

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT MEASURMENTS

EVER-MARRIED WOMEN 15-49

410 CHECK COLUMN 9. RECORD THE LINE NUMBER AND NAME FOR ALL ELIGIBLE WOMEN IN 411. IF THERE ARE MORE THAN FIVE WOMEN, USE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE(S). A FINAL OUTCOME MUST BE RECORDED FOR THE WEIGHT AND HEIGHT MEASUREMENT IN 414.

		WOMAN 1	WOMAN 2	WOMAN 3	WOMAN 4	WOMAN 5
411	LINE NUMBER (COLUMN 9) NAME (COLUMN 2)	LINE NO. ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ☐☐ NAME	LINE NO. ☐☐ NAME .....
412	WEIGHT IN KILOGRAMS	KG. ☐☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ☐☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ☐☐☐.☐ KG.	KG. ☐☐☐.☐ KG.	☐☐☐.☐
413	HEIGHT IN CENTIMETERS	CM. ☐☐☐.☐ CM.	☐☐☐.☐ CM.	☐☐☐.☐ CM.	☐☐☐.☐ CM.	☐☐☐.☐
414	RESULT OF WEIGHT AND HEIGHT MEASUREMENT	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6	MEASURED ..... 1 NOT PRESENT ..... 2 REFUSED ..... 3 OTHER 6
415		GO BACK TO 412 IN NEXT COLUMN IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE OR IN THE FIRST COLUMNS OF ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE(S); IF NO MORE WOMEN, GO TO 501.				

17 December 2008

2008 MALDIVES DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
EVER-MARRIED WOMEN'S QUESTIONNAIRE

IDENTIFICATION

ISLAND NAME .....

HOUSEHOLD NAME .....

NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD .....

CLUSTER NUMBER ☞ .....

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER ☞ .....

ATOLL ☞ .....

NAME AND LINE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE WOMAN .....

INTERVIEWER VISITS

	1	2	3	FINAL VISIT
DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	Day ☐☐ Month ☐☐ Year 2 0 0 ☐
INTERVIEWER'S NAME	.....	.....	.....	INT. NUMBER ☐☐☐
RESULT*	☐	☐	☐	RESULT ☐
NEXT VISIT: DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐		TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ☐
TIME	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐		

*RESULT CODES:

1 COMPLETED
2 NOT AT HOME
3 POSTPONED
4 REFUSED
5 PARTLY COMPLETED
6 INCAPACITATED
7 OTHER_____
(SPECIFY)

SUPERVISOR	FIELD EDITOR	OFFICE EDITOR	KEYED BY	VERIFIED BY
NAME	NAME			
ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐
DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐	DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐			

1

SECTION 1 : RESPONDENT'S BACKGROUND

Introduction and Consent

INFORMED CONSENT

Hello. My name is _____ and I am working with the Ministry of Health. We are conducting a national survey that asks women, men and youth about various health issues. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. This information will help the government to plan health services. The survey usually takes between 30 and 60 minutes to complete. Whatever information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than members of our survey team.

Participation in this survey is voluntary, and if we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question; or you can stop the interview at any time. However, we hope that you will participate in this survey since your views are important.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

Signature of interviewer:_____ Date: _____

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED 1 ↓ RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED 2 ☞ END

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
101	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR ☐☐ : MINUTES ☐☐	
102	In what month and year were you born?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW YEAR 9998	
103	How old were you at your last birthday? COMPARE AND CORRECT 102 AND/OR 103 IF INCONSISTENT.	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
104	What is your current marital status?	MARRIED ..... 1 WIDOWED ..... 2 DIVORCED ..... 3 SEPARATED 4	
105	Have you ever attended school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 108

2

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
106	What is the highest level of school you attended?	NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ..... 00 PRESCHOOL ..... 01 PRIMARY ..... 02 'O' LEVEL ..... 03 'A' LEVEL ..... 04 DIPLOMA ..... 05 FIRST DEGREE ..... 06 MASTER'S CERTIFICATE/ABOVE ..... 07 CERTIFICATE 08	
107	What is the highest (grade/form/year) you completed at that level?	GRADE/FORM/YEAR ..... ☐☐	
108	Do you read a newspaper or magazine almost everyday, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL ..... 4 CANNOT READ 5	→110
109	Do you use the internet almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
110	Do you listen to the radio almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
111	Do you watch television almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	

SECTION 2. REPRODUCTION

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
201	Now I would like to ask about all the births you have had during your life. Have you ever given birth?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 206
202	Do you have any sons or daughters to whom you have given birth who are now living with you?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 204
203	How many sons live with you? And how many daughters live with you? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	SONS AT HOME ..... DAUGHTERS AT HOME	
204	Do you have any sons or daughters to whom you have given birth who are alive but do not live with you?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→206
205	How many sons are alive but do not live with you? And how many daughters are alive but do not live with you? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	SONS ELSEWHERE ..... DAUGHTERS ELSEWHERE	
206	Have you ever given birth to a boy or girl who was born alive but later died? IF NO, PROBE: Any baby who cried or showed signs of life but did not survive?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→208
207	How many boys have died? How many girls have died? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	BOYS DEAD ..... GIRLS DEAD	
208	SUM ANSWERS TO 203, 205, AND 207, AND ENTER TOTAL. IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	TOTAL BIRTHS	
209	CHECK 208: Just to make sure that I have this right: you have had in TOTAL _____ births during your life. Is that correct? YES ↓ NO ↓ PROBE AND CORRECT 201-208 AS NECESSARY.		
210	CHECK 208: ONE OR MORE BIRTHS ↓ NO BIRTHS → 226		

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211 Now I would like to record the names of all your births, whether still alive or not, starting with the first one you had.

RECORD NAMES OF ALL BIRTHS IN 212. RECORD TWINS AND TRIPLETS ON SEPARATE LINES.
(IF THERE ARE MORE THAN 12 BIRTHS, USE AN ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE, STARTING WITH THE SECOND COLUMN).

	LINE NUMBER		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
212	What name was given to your (first/next) baby?	(NAME)							
213	Were any of these births twins?	SINGLE MULTIPLE	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
214	Is (NAME) a boy or a girl?	BOY GIRL	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
215	In what month and year was (NAME) born? PROBE: What is his/her birthday?	MONTH YEAR	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐
216	Is (NAME) still alive?	YES NO	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220
217	IF ALIVE: How old was (NAME) at his/her last birthday? RECORD AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS.	AGE IN YEARS	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
218	IF ALIVE: Is (NAME) living with you?	YES NO	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
219	IF ALIVE: RECORD HOUSEHOLD LINE NUMBER OF CHILD (RECORD '00' IF CHILD NOT LISTED IN HOUSEHOLD).	LINE NUMBER	☐☐ (NEXT BIRTH)	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221
220	IF DEAD: How old was (NAME) when he/she died? IF '1 YEAR', PROBE: How many months old was (NAME)? RECORD DAYS IF LESS THAN 1 MONTH; MONTHS IF LESS THAN TWO YEARS; OR YEARS	DAYS MONTHS YEARS	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐
221	Were there any other live births between (NAME OF PREVI BIRTH) and (NAME),including any children who died after b	YES NO		1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH

	LINE NUMBER		08	09	10	11	12	13	14
212	What name was given to your next baby?	(NAME) ☞							
213	Were any of these births twins?	SINGLE MULTIPLE ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
214	Is (NAME) a boy or a girl?	BOY GIRL ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
215	In what month and year was (NAME) born? PROBE: What is his/her birthday?	MONTH ☞ YEAR	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐	☐☐ ☐☐☐☐
216	Is (NAME) still alive?	YES NO ☞	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220	1 2 → GO TO 220
217	IF ALIVE: How old was (NAME) at his/her last birthday? RECORD AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS.	AGE IN YEARS ☞	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐	☐☐
218	IF ALIVE: Is (NAME) living with you?	YES NO ☞	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
219	IF ALIVE: RECORD HOUSEHOLD LINE NUMBER OF CHILD (RECORD '00' IF CHILD NOT LISTED IN HOUSEHOLD).	LINE NUMBER ☞	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221	☐☐ → GO TO 221
220	IF DEAD: How old was (NAME) when he/she died? IF '1 YEAR', PROBE: How many months old was (NAME)? RECORD DAYS IF LESS THAN 1 MONTH; MONTHS IF LESS THAN TWO YEARS; OR YEARS	DAYS MONTHS ☞ YEARS	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐	1 ☐☐ 2 ☐☐ 3 ☐☐
221	Were there any other live births between (NAME OF PREVIOUS BIRTH) and (NAME),including any children who died after birth?	YES NO ☞	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH	1 → ADD BIRTH 2 → NEXT BIRTH

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
222	Have you had any live births since the birth of (NAME OF LAST BIRTH)? IF YES, RECORD BIRTH(S) IN TABLE.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
223	COMPARE 208 WITH NUMBER OF BIRTHS IN BIRTH HISTORY AND MARK: NUMBERS ARE SAME ☐ ↓ NUMBERS ARE DIFFERENT ☐ → (PROBE AND RECONCILE) CHECK: FOR EACH BIRTH: YEAR OF BIRTH IS RECORDED ..... ☐ FOR EACH BIRTH SINCE JANUARY 2003: MONTH AND YEAR OF BIRTH ARE RECORDED ☐ FOR EACH LIVING CHILD: CURRENT AGE IS RECORDED ..... ☐ FOR EACH DEAD CHILD: AGE AT DEATH IS RECORDED ..... ☐ FOR AGE AT DEATH 12 MONTHS OR 1 YEAR: PROBE TO DETERMINE EXACT NUMBER OF MONTHS. ☐		
224	CHECK 215 AND ENTER THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS IN 2003 OR LATER. IF NONE, RECORD '00' AND SKIP TO 226	☐☐	
225	FOR EACH BIRTH SINCE JANUARY 2003, ENTER 'B' IN THE MONTH OF BIRTH IN THE FIRST COLUMN OF CALENDAR. WRITE THE NAME OF THE CHILD TO THE LEFT OF THE 'B' CODE. FOR EACH BIRTH, ASK THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THE PREGNANCY LASTED AND RECORD 'P' IN EACH OF THE PRECEDING MONTHS ACCORDING TO THE DURATION OF PREGNANCY. (NOTE: THE NUMBER OF 'P's MUST BE ONE LESS THAN THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THAT THE PREGNANCY LASTED).	**C**	
226	Are you pregnant now?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 UNSURE 8	→ 229
227	How many months pregnant are you? RECORD NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS. ENTER 'P's IN THE CALENDAR, BEGINNING WITH THE MONTH OF INTERVIEW AND EARLIER MONTHS TO EQUAL THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS.	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ **C**	
228	At the time you became pregnant, did you want to become pregnant then, did you want to wait until later, or did you not want to have any (more) children at all?	THEN ..... 1 LATER ..... 2 NOT AT ALL 3	
229	Have you ever had a pregnancy that miscarried, was aborted, or ended in a stillbirth?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→237
230	When did the last such pregnancy end?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	
231	CHECK 230: LAST PREGNANCY ENDED IN JANUARY 2003 OR LATER ☐ ↓ LAST PREGNANCY ENDED BEFORE JANUARY 2003 ☐ → 237		
232	How many months pregnant were you when the last such pregnancy ended? RECORD NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS. ENTER 'T' IN THE CALENDAR, IN THE MONTH THAT THE PREGNANCY TERMINATED AND 'P' FOR THE REMAINING NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS.	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ **C**	
233	Since January 2003, have you had any other pregnancies that did not result in a live birth?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→235

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
234	ASK THE DATE AND THE DURATION OF PREGNANCY FOR EACH EARLIER NON-LIVE BIRTH PREGNANCY BACK TO JANUARY 2003. ENTER 'T' IN THE CALENDAR IN THE MONTH THAT EACH PREGNANCY TERMINATED AND 'P' FOR THE REMAINING NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS.	**C**	
235	Did you have any miscarriages, abortions, or stillbirths that ended before 2003?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→237
236	When did the last such pregnancy that terminated before 2003 end?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐	
237	When did your last menstrual period start? _____ (DATE, IF GIVEN)	DAYS AGO ..... 1 ☐☐ WEEKS AGO ..... 2 ☐☐ MONTHS AGO ..... 3 ☐☐ YEARS AGO ..... 4 ☐☐ IN MENOPAUSE/HAS HAD HYSTERECTOMY 994 BEFORE LAST BIRTH ..... 995 NEVER MENSTRUATED 996	
238	From one menstrual period to the next, are there certain days when a woman is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual relations?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 301
239	Is this time just before her period begins, during her period, right after her period has ended, or halfway between two periods?	JUST BEFORE HER PERIOD BEGINS ..... 1 DURING HER PERIOD ..... 2 RIGHT AFTER HER PERIOD HAS ENDED ..... 3 HALFWAY BETWEEN TWO PERIODS ..... 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 8	

SECTION 3. CONTRACEPTION

301	Now I would like to talk about family planning - the various ways or methods that a couple can use to delay or avoid a pregnancy. Which ways or methods have you heard about? FOR METHODS NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY, ASK: Have you ever heard of (METHOD)? CIRCLE CODE 1 IN 301 FOR EACH METHOD MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. THEN PROCEED DOWN COLUMN 301, READING THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF EACH METHOD NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. CIRCLE CODE 1 IF METHOD IS RECOGNIZED, AND CODE 2 IF NOT RECOGNIZED. THEN FOR EACH METHOD WITH CODE 1 CIRCLED IN 301, ASK 302.		302 Have you ever used (METHOD)?
01	FEMALE STERILIZATION Women can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	Have you ever had an operation to avoid having any more children? YES ..... 1 NO 2
02	MALE STERILIZATION Men can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	Have you ever had a partner who had an operation to avoid having any more children? YES ..... 1 NO 2
03	PILL Women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
04	IUD Women can have a loop or coil placed inside them by a doctor or a nurse.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
05	INJECTABLES Women can have an injection by a health provider that stops them from becoming pregnant for one or more months.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
06	IMPLANTS Women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by adoctor or nurse which can prevent pregnancy for one or more years.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
07	CONDOM Men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
08	RHYTHM METHOD Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid pregnancy by not having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is most likely to get pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
09	WITHDRAWAL Men can be careful and pull out before climax.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
10	EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION As an emergency measure after unprotected sexual intercourse, women can take special pills at any time within 5 days to prevent pregnancy.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
11	Have you heard of any other ways or methods that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy?	YES ..... 1 _____ (SPECIFY) _____ (SPECIFY) NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 YES ..... 1 NO 2

303 CHECK 302:

NOT A SINGLE "YES" (NEVER USED) ☐

AT LEAST ONE "YES" (EVER USED) ☐ → 307

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
304	Have you ever used anything or tried in any way to delay or avoid getting pregnant?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→306
305	ENTER '0' IN COLUMN 1 OF THE CALENDAR IN EACH BLANK MONTH.		→331
306	What have you used or done? CORRECT 302 AND 303 (AND 301 IF NECESSARY)		
307	Now I would like to ask you about the first time that you did something or used a method to avoid getting pregnant. How many living children did you have at that time, if any? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ..... ☐☐	
308	CHECK 302 (01): WOMAN NOT STERILIZED ☐ WOMAN STERILIZED ☐		→311A
309	CHECK 226: NOT PREGNANT OR UNSURE ☐ PREGNANT ☐		→320
310	Are you currently doing something or using any method to delay or avoid getting pregnant?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→320
311 311A	Which method are you using? CIRCLE ALL MENTIONED. IF MORE THAN ONE METHOD MENTIONED, FOLLOW SKIP INSTRUCTION FOR HIGHEST METHOD IN LIST. CIRCLE 'A' FOR FEMALE STERILIZATION.	FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... A MALE STERILIZATION ..... B PILL ..... C IUD ..... D INJECTABLES ..... E IMPLANTS ..... F CONDOM ..... G DIAPHRAGM ..... H FOAM/JELLY ..... I RHYTHM METHOD ..... J WITHDRAWAL ..... K OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	→314 →313 →313 →317A
312	How many (pill cycles/condoms) did you get the last time?	NUMBER ..... ☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	
313	The last time you obtained (HIGHEST METHOD ON LIST IN 311), how much did you pay in total, including the cost of the method and any consultation you may have had?	COST ..... ☐☐☐☐ FREE ..... 9995 DON'T KNOW 9998	→317A

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
314	In what facility did the sterilization take place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 11 GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 12 GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 13 GOVT. HEALTH CENTER 14 OTHER PUBLIC 16 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC 21 PRIVATE DOCTOR'S OFFICE 23 OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL 26 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 98	
315	CHECK 311/311A: CODE 'A' CIRCLED ☐ → Before your sterilization operation, were you told that you would not be able to have any (more) children because of the operation? CODE 'A' NOT CIRCLED ☐ → Before the sterilization operation, was your husband/ partner told that he would not be able to have any (more) children because of the operation?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
316	How much did you/your husband pay in total for the sterilization, including any consultation you/he may have had?	COST ☐☐☐☐ FREE 9995 DON'T KNOW 9998	
317	In what month and year was the sterilization performed?	MONTH ☐☐	
317A	Since what month and year have you been using (CURRENT METHOD) without stopping? PROBE: For how long have you been using (CURRENT METHOD) now without stopping?	YEAR ☐☐☐☐	
318	CHECK 317/317A, 215 AND 230: ANY BIRTH OR PREGNANCY TERMINATION AFTER MONTH AND YEAR OF START OF USE OF CONTRACEPTION IN 317/317A? YES ☐ → NO ☐ → GO BACK TO 317/317A, PROBE AND RECORD MONTH AND YEAR AT START OF CONTINUOS USE OF CURRENT METHOD (MUST BE AFTER LAST BIRTH OR PREGNANCY TERMINATION).		

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
319	CHECK 317/317A: YEAR IS 2003 OR LATER ☐ → ENTER CODE FOR METHOD USED IN MONTH OF INTERVIEW IN THE CALENDER AND IN EACH MONTH BACK TO THE DATE STARTED USING. YEAR IS 2002 OR EARLIER ☐ → ENTER CODE FOR METHOD USED IN MONTH OF INTERVIEW IN THE CALENDAR AND EACH MONTH BACK TO JANUARY 2003. **C** THEN SKIP TO → 329		
320	I would like to ask you some questions about the times you or your husband may have used a method to avoid getting pregnant during the last few years. **C** COLUMN 1- SEGMENTS OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE SINCE JANUARY 2003. USE CALENDER TO PROBE FOR EARLIER PERIODS OF USE AND NON-USE, STARTING WITH MOST RECENT USE, BACK TO JANUARY 2003. USE NAMES OF CHILDREN, DATES OF BIRTH, AND PERIODS OF PREGNANCY AS REFERENCE POINTS. RECORD PERIODS OF USE AND NON-USE IN COLUMN 1 OF THE CALENDAR. FOR EACH MONTH IN WHICH A METHOD WAS USED, ENTER THE CODE FOR THE METHOD; ENTER '0' IN THOSE MONTHS WHEN NO METHOD WAS USED. ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS FOR COLUMN 1 * When was the last time you used a method? Which method was that? * When did you start using that method? How long after the birth of (NAME)? * How long did you use the method then? COLUMN 2- REASON FOR DISCONTINUATION FOR EACH PERIOD OF USE, ASK WHY SHE STOPPED USING THE METHOD AND RECORD THE REASON FOR DISCONTINUATION IN COLUMN 2 OF THE CALENDAR IN THE MONTH IN WHICH THE SEGMENT OF USE WAS TERMINATED. IF A PREGNANCY FOLLOWED, ASK IF SHE BECAME PREGNANT UNINTENTIONALLY WHILE USING THE METHOD OR WHETHER SHE DELIBERATELY STOPPED USING THE METHOD TO GET PREGNANT. THE NUMBER OF CODES ENTERED IN COLUMN 2 MUST BE THE SAME AS THE NUMBER OF COMPLETE SEGMENTS OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE IN COLUMN 1. ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS FOR COLUMN 2 * Why did you stop using the (method)? * Did you become pregnant while using (method), or did you stop to get pregnant, or stop for some other reason? **C**		
321	CHECK 311/311A: CIRCLE METHOD CODE: IF MORE THAN ONE METHOD CODE CIRCLED IN 311/311A, CIRCLE CODE FOR HIGHEST METHOD IN LIST.	NO CODE CIRCLED ..... 00 → 331 FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... 01 → 324 MALE STERILIZATION ..... 02 → 324 PILL ..... 03 IUD ..... 04 INJECTABLES ..... 05 IMPLANTS ..... 06 CONDOM ..... 07 DIAPHRAGM ..... 08 FOAM/JELLY ..... 09 RHYTHM METHOD ..... 10 → 322A WITHDRAWAL ..... 11 → 331 OTHER METHOD ..... 96 → 331	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
322	Where did you obtain (CURRENT METHOD) when you started using it?	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 11 GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 12 GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 13 GOVT. HEALTH CENTER 14 GOVT. HEALTH POST 15 COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER 16 OTHER PUBLIC 17 (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC 21 PHARMACY 22 PRIVATE DOCTOR 23 OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL 26 (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP 31 FRIEND/RELATIVE 33 OTHER 96 (SPECIFY)	
322A	Where did you learn how to use the rhythm method? IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. (NAME OF PLACE)		
323	CHECK 311/311A: CIRCLE METHOD CODE: IF MORE THAN ONE METHOD CODE CIRCLED IN 311/311A, CIRCLE CODE FOR HIGHEST METHOD IN LIST.	PILL 03 IUD 04 INJECTABLES 05 IMPLANTS 06 CONDOM 07 DIAPHRAGM 08 FOAM/JELLY 09 RHYTHM METHOD 10	→330 →327 →327 →333
324	You obtained (CURRENT METHOD FROM 321) from (SOURCE OF METHOD FROM 314 OR 322) in (DATE FROM 317/317A). At that time, were you told about side effects or problems you might have with the method?	YES 1 NO 2	→326
325	Were you ever told by a health provider or community health/family planning worker about side effects or problems you might have with the method?	YES 1 NO 2	→327
326	Were you told what to do if you experienced side effects or problems?	YES 1 NO 2	
327	CHECK 324: CODE '1' CIRCLED ☐ → At that time, were you told about other methods of family planning that you could use? CODE '1' NOT CIRCLED ☐ → When you obtained (CURRENT METHOD FROM 321) from (SOURCE OF METHOD FROM 314 OR 322) were you told about other methods of family planning that you could use?	YES 1 NO 2	→329

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
328	Were you ever told by a health or family planning worker about other methods of family planning that you could use?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
329	CHECK 311/311A: CIRCLE METHOD CODE: IF MORE THAN ONE METHOD CODE CIRCLED IN 311/311A, CIRCLE CODE FOR HIGHEST METHOD IN LIST.	FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... 01 MALE STERILIZATION ..... 02 PILL ..... 03 IUD ..... 04 INJECTABLES ..... 05 IMPLANTS ..... 06 CONDOM ..... 07 DIAPHRAGM ..... 08 FOAM/JELLY ..... 09 RHYTHM METHOD ..... 10 WITHDRAWAL ..... 11 OTHER METHOD 96	→ 333 → 333
330	Where did you obtain (CURRENT METHOD) the last time? PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ..... 11 GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... 12 GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... 13 GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... 14 GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... 15 COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... 16 OTHER PUBLIC 17 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... 21 PHARMACY ..... 22 PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... 23 OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL 26 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... 31 FRIEND/RELATIVE ..... 33 OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY)	→ 333
331	Do you know of a place where you can obtain a method of family planning?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 333

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
332	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... H PHARMACY ..... I PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... L FRIEND/RELATIVE ..... M OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
333	In the last 12 months, were you visited by a fieldworker who talked to you about family planning?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
334	In the last 12 months, have you visited a health facility for care for yourself (or your children)?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→401
335	Did any staff member at the health facility speak to you about family planning methods?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	

SECTION 4. PREGNANCY AND POSTNATAL CARE

401 CHECK 224:

ONE OR MORE BIRTHS IN 2003 OR LATER ☐ → (continue)

NO BIRTHS IN 2003 OR LATER ☐ → 576

402 CHECK 215: ENTER IN THE TABLE THE LINE NUMBER, NAME, AND SURVIVAL STATUS OF EACH BIRTH IN 2003 OR LATER. ASK THE QUESTIONS ABOUT ALL OF THESE BIRTHS. BEGIN WITH THE LAST BIRTH. (IF THERE ARE MORE THAN 3 BIRTHS, USE LAST 2 COLUMNS OF ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES).

Now I would like to ask you some questions about the health of all your children born in the last five years. (We will talk about each separately).

		LAST BIRTH	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH
403	LINE NUMBER FROM 212	LINE NO. ☐☐	☐☐	LINE NO. ☐☐
404	FROM 212 AND 216	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐
405	At the time you became pregnant with (NAME), did you want to become pregnant then, did you want to wait until later, or did you not want to have any (more) children at all?	THEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 407) ◄ LATER ..... 2 NOT AT ALL ..... 3 (SKIP TO 407) ◄	THEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 426) ◄ LATER ..... 2 NOT AT ALL ..... 3 (SKIP TO 426) ◄	THEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 426) ◄ LATER ..... 2 NOT AT ALL ..... 3 (SKIP TO 426) ◄
406	How much longer would you have liked to wait?	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998
407	Did you see anyone for antenatal care for this pregnancy? IF YES: Whom did you see? Anyone else? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF PERSON AND RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... A DOCTOR ..... B NURSE/MIDWIFE/ COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... C OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... D OTHER ..... E (SPECIFY) ..... X NO ONE ..... Y (SKIP TO 414) ◄		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
408	Where did you receive antenatal care for this pregnancy? Anywhere else? PROBE TO IDENTIFY TYPE(S) OF SOURCE(S) AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	HOME YOUR HOME ..... A OTHER HOME ..... B PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL C GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... D GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL E GVT. HEALTH CENTER F GVT. HEALTH POST G OTHER PUBLIC H _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC I OTHER PRIVATE MED. J _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)		
409	How many months pregnant were you when you first received antenatal care for this pregnancy?	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98		
410	How many times did you receive antenatal care during this pregnancy?	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98		
411	As part of your antenatal care during this pregnancy, were any of the following done at least once? Were you weighed? Was your blood pressure measured? Did you give a urine sample? Did you give a blood sample? Was a sonogram done? Were you counseled about HIV/AIDS?	YES NO WEIGHT ..... 1 2 BP ..... 1 2 URINE ..... 1 2 BLOOD ..... 1 2 SONOGRAM ..... 1 2 COUNSELED ON HIV/AIDS 1 2		
412	During (any of) your antenatal care visit(s), were you told about the signs of pregnancy complications?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 414) ◄ DON'T KNOW 8		
413	Were you told where to go if you had any of these complications?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
414	During this pregnancy, were you given an injection in the arm to prevent the baby from getting tetanus, that is, convulsions after birth?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 417) DON'T KNOW 8		
415	During this pregnancy, how many times did you get this tetanus injection?	TIMES ..... ☐ DON'T KNOW 8		
416	CHECK 415:	2 OR MORE TIMES ☐ → (SKIP TO 421) OTHER ☐ →		
417	At any time before this pregnancy, did you receive any tetanus injections, either to protect yourself or another baby?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 421) DON'T KNOW 8		
418	Before this pregnancy, how many other times did you receive a tetanus injection? IF 7 OR MORE TIMES, RECORD '7'.	TIMES ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 8		
419	In what month and year did you receive the last tetanus injection before this pregnancy?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ DK MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ☐☐☐☐ (SKIP TO 421) DK YEAR 9998		
420	How many years ago did you receive that tetanus injection?	YEARS AGO ..... ☐☐		
421	During this pregnancy, were you given or did you buy any iron tablets or iron syrup?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 423) DON'T KNOW 8		
422	During the whole pregnancy, for how many days did you take the tablets or syrup? IF ANSWER IS NOT NUMERIC, PROBE FOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF DAYS.	DAYS ..... ☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998		
423	During this pregnancy, did you take any drug for intestinal worms?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME ______	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME ______	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ______
424	During this pregnancy, did you have difficulty with your vision during daylight?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8		
425	During this pregnancy, did you suffer from night blindness?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8		
426	When (NAME) was born, was he/she very large, larger than average, average, smaller than average, or very small?	VERY LARGE ..... 1 LARGER THAN AVERAGE ..... 2 AVERAGE ..... 3 SMALLER THAN AVERAGE ..... 4 VERY SMALL ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	VERY LARGE ..... 1 LARGER THAN AVERAGE ..... 2 AVERAGE ..... 3 SMALLER THAN AVERAGE ..... 4 VERY SMALL ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	VERY LARGE ..... 1 LARGER THAN AVERAGE ..... 2 AVERAGE ..... 3 SMALLER THAN AVERAGE ..... 4 VERY SMALL ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8
427	Was (NAME) weighed at birth?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 429) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 429) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 429) DON'T KNOW 8
428	How much did (NAME) weigh? RECORD WEIGHT IN KILOGRAMS FROM HEALTH CARD, IF AVAILABLE.	KG FROM CARD 1 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] KG FROM RECALL 2 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 99.998	KG FROM CARD 1 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] KG FROM RECALL 2 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 99.998	KG FROM CARD 1 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] KG FROM RECALL 2 [ ].[ ][ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 99.998
429	Who assisted with the delivery of (NAME)? Anyone else? PROBE FOR THE TYPE(S) OF PERSON(S) AND RECORD ALL MENTIONED. IF RESPONDENT SAYS NO ONE ASSISTED, PROBE TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ADULTS WERE PRESENT AT THE DELIVERY.	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... A DOCTOR ..... B NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... C COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... D OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... E RELATIVE/FRIEND ..... F OTHER ______ X (SPECIFY) NO ONE Y	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... A DOCTOR ..... B NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... C COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... D OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... E RELATIVE/FRIEND ..... F OTHER ______ X (SPECIFY) NO ONE Y	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... A DOCTOR ..... B NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... C COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... D OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... E RELATIVE/FRIEND ..... F OTHER ______ X (SPECIFY) NO ONE Y

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
430	Where did you give birth to (NAME)? PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	HOME YOUR HOME ..... 11 (SKIP TO 437) OTHER HOME ..... 12 PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ..... 21 GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... 22 GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... 23 GVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... 24 GVT. HEALTH POST ..... 25 OTHER PUBLIC 26 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC 31 OTHER PRIVATE MED. 36 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY) (SKIP TO 437)	HOME YOUR HOME ..... 11 (SKIP TO 437) OTHER HOME ..... 12 PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 21 GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 22 GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 23 GVT. HEALTH CENTER 24 GVT. HEALTH POST 25 OTHER PUBLIC 26 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC 31 OTHER PRIVATE MED. 36 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY) (SKIP TO 438)	HOME YOUR HOME ..... 11 (SKIP TO 437) OTHER HOME ..... 12 PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 21 GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 22 GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 23 GVT. HEALTH CENTER 24 GVT. HEALTH POST 25 OTHER PUBLIC 26 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC 31 OTHER PRIVATE MED. 36 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY) (SKIP TO 438)
431	How long after (NAME) was delivered did you stay there? IF LESS THAN ONE DAY, RECORD HOURS. IF LESS THAN ONE WEEK, RECORD DAYS.	HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998	HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998
432	Was (NAME) delivered by caesarean section?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
433	Before you were discharged after (NAME) was born, did any health care provider check on your health?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 436)	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 449) NO 2	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 449) NO 2
434	How long after delivery did the first check take place? IF LESS THAN ONE DAY, RECORD HOURS. IF LESS THAN ONE WEEK, RECORD DAYS.	HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
435	Who checked on your health at that time? PROBE FOR MOST QUALIFIED PERSON.	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... 11 DOCTOR ..... 12 NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... 13 COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... 14 OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... 21 OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY) (SKIP TO 447)		
436	After you were discharged did any health care provider or a traditional birth attendant check on your health?	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 439) NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 447)	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 449) NO 2	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 449) NO 2
437	Why didn't you deliver in a health facility? PROBE: Any other reason? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	COST TOO MUCH ..... A FACILITY NOT OPEN ..... B TOO FAR/NO TRANSPORTATION ..... C DON'T TRUST FACILITY/ POOR QUALITY SERVICE ..... D NO FEMALE PROVIDER AT FACILITY ..... E HUSBAND/FAMILY DID NOT ALLOW ..... F NOT NECESSARY ..... G NOT CUSTOMARY ..... H OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)		
438	After (NAME) was born, did any health care provider or a traditional birth attendant check on your health?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 443)	YES ..... 1 NO 2	YES ..... 1 NO 2
439	How long after delivery did the first check take place? IF LESS THAN ONE DAY, RECORD HOURS. IF LESS THAN ONE WEEK, RECORD DAYS.	HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
440	Who checked on your health at that time? PROBE FOR MOST QUALIFIED PERSON.	HEALTH PERSONNEL GYNECOLOGIST ..... 11 DOCTOR ..... 12 NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... 13 COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... 14 OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... 21 OTHER 96 (SPECIFY)		
441	Where did this first check take place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. (NAME OF PLACE)	HOME YOUR HOME ..... 11 OTHER HOME ..... 12 PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 21 GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... 22 GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 23 GVT. HEALTH CENTER 24 GVT. HEALTH POST 25 OTHER PUBLIC 26 (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC 31 OTHER PRIVATE MED. 36 (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 (SPECIFY)		
442	CHECK 436:	ASKED ☐ NOT ASKED ☐ (SKIP TO 447)		
443	In the two months after (NAME) was born, did any health care provider or a traditional birth attendant check on his/her health?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 447) DON'T KNOW 8		
444	How many hours, days, or weeks after the birth of (NAME) did the first check take place? IF LESS THAN ONE DAY, RECORD HOURS. IF LESS THAN ONE WEEK, RECORD DAYS.	HRS AFTER BIRTH ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS AFTER BIRTH ..... 2 ☐☐ WEEKS AFTER BIRTH ..... 3 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 998		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
445	Who checked on (NAME)'s health at that time? PROBE FOR MOST QUALIFIED PERSON.	HEALTH PERSONNEL PEDIATRICIAN ..... 11 DOCTOR ..... 12 NURSE/MIDWIFE ..... 13 COMMUNITY/ FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... 14 OTHER PERSON TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT ..... 21 OTHER 96 (SPECIFY)		
446	Where did this first check of (NAME) take place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. (NAME OF PLACE)	HOME YOUR HOME ..... 11 OTHER HOME ..... 12 PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 21 GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... 22 GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 23 GVT. HEALTH CENTER 24 GVT. HEALTH POST 25 OTHER PUBLIC 26 (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC 31 OTHER PRIVATE MED. 36 (SPECIFY) OTHER 96 (SPECIFY)		
447	In the first two months after delivery, did you receive a vitamin A dose (like this/any of these)? SHOW COMMON TYPES OF AMPULES/CAPSULES/SYRUPS.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8		
448	Has your menstrual period returned since the birth of (NAME)?	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 450) ↵ NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 451) ↵		
449	Did your period return between the birth of (NAME) and your next pregnancy?		YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 453) ↵	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 453) ↵

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
450	For how many months after the birth of (NAME) did you not have a period?	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98
451	CHECK 226: IS RESPONDENT PREGNANT?	NOT PREGNANT ☐ PREGNANT OR UNSURE ☐ (SKIP TO 453)		
452	Have you begun to have sexual intercourse again since the birth of (NAME)?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 454)		
453	For how many months after the birth of (NAME) did you not have sexual intercourse?	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98
454	Did you ever breastfeed (NAME)?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 461)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 461)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 461)
455	How long after birth did you first put (NAME) to the breast? IF LESS THAN 1 HOUR, RECORD '00' HOURS. IF LESS THAN 24 HOURS, RECORD HOURS. OTHERWISE, RECORD DAYS.	IMMEDIATELY ..... 000 HOURS ..... 1 ☐☐ DAYS ..... 2 ☐☐		
456	In the first three days after delivery, was (NAME) given anything to drink other than breast milk?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 458)		
457	What was (NAME) given to drink? Anything else? RECORD ALL LIQUIDS MENTIONED.	MILK (OTHER THAN BREAST MILK) ..... A PLAIN WATER ..... B SUGAR OR GLUCOSE WATER ..... C GRIPE WATER ..... D SUGAR-SALT-WATER SOLUTION ..... E FRUIT JUICE ..... F INFANT FORMULA ..... G TEA/INFUSIONS ..... H HONEY ..... I OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)		
458	CHECK 404: IS CHILD LIVING?	LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐ (SKIP TO 460)		

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
459	Are you still breastfeeding (NAME)?	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 462) ↵ NO 2		
460	For how many months did you breastfeed (NAME)?	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ STILL BF ..... 95 DON'T KNOW 98	MONTHS ..... ☐☐ STILL BF ..... 95 DON'T KNOW 98
461	CHECK 404: IS CHILD LIVING?	LIVING ☐ (SKIP TO 464) DEAD ☐ (GO BACK TO 405 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 501)	LIVING ☐ (SKIP TO 464) DEAD ☐ (GO BACK TO 405 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 501)	LIVING ☐ (SKIP TO 464) DEAD ☐ (GO TO 405 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE, OR IF NO MORE BIRTH, GO TO 501)
462	How many times did you breastfeed last night between sunset and sunrise? IF ANSWER IS NOT NUMERIC, PROBE FOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER.	NUMBER OF NIGHT TIME FEEDINGS ☐☐		
463	How many times did you breastfeed yesterday during the daylight hours? IF ANSWER IS NOT NUMERIC, PROBE FOR APPROXIMATE NUMBER.	NUMBER OF DAYLIGHT FEEDINGS ☐☐		
464	Did (NAME) drink anything from a bottle with a nipple yesterday or last night?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
465		GO BACK TO 405 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 501.	GO BACK TO 405 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 501.	GO BACK TO 405 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 501.

SECTION 5. CHILD IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH AND CHILD'S AND WOMAN'S NUTRITION

501 ENTER IN THE TABLE THE LINE NUMBER, NAME, AND SURVIVAL STATUS OF EACH BIRTH IN 2003 OR LATER.
ASK THE QUESTIONS ABOUT ALL OF THESE BIRTHS. BEGIN WITH THE LAST BIRTH.
(IF THERE ARE MORE THAN 3 BIRTHS, USE LAST 2 COLUMNS OF ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES).

		LAST BIRTH	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH
502	LINE NUMBER FROM 212	LINE NO. ☐☐	LINE NO. ☐☐	LINE NO. ☐☐
503	FROM 212 AND 216	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐ (GO TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573).	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐ (GO TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573).	NAME ..... LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐ (GO TO 503 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE, OR IF NO MORE BIRTH, GO TO 573).
504	Do you have a card where (NAME'S) vaccinations are written down? IF YES: May I see it please?	YES, SEEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 506) YES, NOT SEEN ..... 2 (SKIP TO 508) NO CARD 3	YES, SEEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 506) YES, NOT SEEN ..... 2 (SKIP TO 508) NO CARD 3	YES, SEEN ..... 1 (SKIP TO 506) YES, NOT SEEN ..... 2 (SKIP TO 508) NO CARD 3
505	Did you ever have a vaccination card for (NAME)?	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 508) NO 2	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 508) NO 2	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 508) NO 2

506 (1) COPY VACCINATION DATE FOR EACH VACCINE FROM THE CARD.
(2) WRITE '44' IN 'DAY' COLUMN IF CARD SHOWS THAT A VACCINATION WAS GIVEN, BUT NO DATE IS RECORDED.
(3) IF MORE THAN TWO VITAMIN 'A' DOSES, RECORD DATES FOR MOST RECENT AND SECOND MOST RECENT DOSES.

	LAST BIRTH			NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH			SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH		
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	DAY	MONTH	YEAR
BCG				BCG			BCG		
POLIO 0 (POLIO GIVEN AT BIRTH)				PO			PO		
POLIO 1				P1			P1		
POLIO 2				P2			P2		
POLIO 3				P3			P3		
DPT 1				D1			D1		
DPT 2				D2			D2		
DPT 3				D3			D3		
HepB 1				H1			H1		
HepB 2				H2			H2		
HepB 3				H3			H3		
MEASLES				MEA			MEA		
VITAMIN A (MOST RECENT)				VITA			VITA		
VITAMIN A (2ND MOST RECENT)				VITA			VITA		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ....
506A	CHECK 506:	BCG TO MEASLES ALL RECORDED ☐ (GO TO 512) OTHER ☐	BCG TO MEASLES ALL RECORDED ☐ (GO TO 512) OTHER ☐	BCG TO MEASLES ALL RECORDED ☐ (GO TO 512) OTHER ☐
507	Has (NAME) received any vaccinations that are not recorded on this card? RECORD 'YES' ONLY IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS BCG, POLIO 0-3, DPT 1-3, AND/OR MEASLES VACCINES.	YES ..... 1 (PROBE FOR VACCINATIONS AND WRITE '66' IN THE CORRESPONDING DAY COLUMN IN 506) (SKIP TO 512) NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)	YES ..... 1 (PROBE FOR VACCINATIONS AND WRITE '66' IN THE CORRESPONDING DAY COLUMN IN 506) (SKIP TO 512) NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)	YES ..... 1 (PROBE FOR VACCINATIONS AND WRITE '66' IN THE CORRESPONDING DAY COLUMN IN 506) (SKIP TO 512) NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)
508	Did (NAME) ever receive any vaccinations to prevent him/her from getting diseases, including vaccinations received in a national immunization campaign?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 512)
509	Please tell me if (NAME) received any of the following vaccinations:			
509A	A BCG vaccination against tuberculosis, that is, an injection in the arm or shoulder that usually causes a scar?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
509B	Polio vaccine, that is, drops in the mouth?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509E)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509E)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509E)
509C	Was the first polio vaccine received in the first two weeks after birth or later?	FIRST 2 WEEKS ..... 1 LATER 2	FIRST 2 WEEKS ..... 1 LATER 2	FIRST 2 WEEKS ..... 1 LATER 2
509D	How many times was the polio vaccine received?	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐
509E	A DPT vaccination, that is, an injection given in the thigh or buttocks, sometimes at the same time as polio drops?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509G)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509G)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 509G)
509F	How many times was a DPT vaccination received?	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
509G	A Hepatitis B vaccination, that is, an injection given in the thigh or buttocks, sometimes at the same time as DPT and polio drops?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 509J) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 509J) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 509J) DON'T KNOW 8
509H	How many times was a Hep B vaccination received?	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐	NUMBER OF TIMES ..... ☐
509J	A measles injection or an MMR injection - that is, a shot in the arm at the age of 9 months or older - to prevent him/her from getting measles?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
512	CHECK 506: DATE SHOWN FOR VITAMIN 'A' DOSE	DATE FOR MOST RECENT VITAMIN 'A' DOSE ☐ OTHER ☐ (SKIP TO 514)	DATE FOR MOST RECENT VITAMIN 'A' DOSE ☐ OTHER ☐ (SKIP TO 514)	DATE FOR MOST RECENT VITAMIN 'A' DOSE ☐ OTHER ☐ (SKIP TO 514)
513	According to (NAME)'s health card, he/she received a vitamin 'A' dose (like this/any of these) in (MONTH AND YEAR OF MOST RECENT DOSE FROM CARD). Has (NAME) received another vitamin 'A' dose since then? SHOW COMMON TYPES OF AMPULES/CAPSULES/SYRUPS.	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 515) NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 515) NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 (SKIP TO 515) NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8
514	Has (NAME) ever received a vitamin 'A' dose (like this/any of these)? SHOW COMMON TYPES OF AMPULES/CAPSULES/SYRUPS.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 517) DON'T KNOW 8
515	Did (NAME) receive a vitamin 'A' dose within the last six months?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
517	Has (NAME) taken any drug for intestinal worms in the last six months?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
518	Has (NAME) had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 533) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 533) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 533) DON'T KNOW 8
519	When (NAME) had diarrhea, was there any blood in the stools?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ....
520	Now I would like to know how much (NAME) was given to drink during the diarrhea (including breastmilk). Was he/she given less than usual to drink, about the same amount, or more than usual to drink? IF LESS, PROBE: Was he/she given much less than usual to drink or somewhat less?	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK .... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK .... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK .... 5 DON'T KNOW 8
521	When (NAME) had diarrhea, was he/she given less than usual to eat, about the same amount, more than usual, or nothing to eat? IF LESS, PROBE: Was he/she given much less than usual to eat or somewhat less?	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 STOPPED FOOD .... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD .... 6 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 STOPPED FOOD .... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD .... 6 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS .... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS .... 2 ABOUT THE SAME .... 3 MORE .... 4 STOPPED FOOD .... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD .... 6 DON'T KNOW 8
522	Did you seek advice or treatment for the diarrhea from any source?	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 527) ↵	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 527) ↵	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 527) ↵
523	Where did you seek advice or treatment? Anywhere else? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. ________ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL .... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL .... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER .... D GVT. HEALTH POST .... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER .... F OTHER PUBLIC G ________ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ________ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP .... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER .... K OTHER X ________ (SPECIFY)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL .... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL .... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER .... D GVT. HEALTH POST .... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER .... F OTHER PUBLIC G ________ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ________ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP .... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER .... K OTHER X ________ (SPECIFY)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL .... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL .... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER .... D GVT. HEALTH POST .... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER .... F OTHER PUBLIC G ________ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ________ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP .... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER .... K OTHER X ________ (SPECIFY)
524	CHECK 523:	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ↓ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 526)	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ↓ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 526)	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ↓ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 526)

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ....
525	Where did you first seek advice or treatment? USE LETTER CODE FROM 523.	FIRST PLACE .... ☐	FIRST PLACE .... ☐	FIRST PLACE .... ☐
526	How many days after the diarrhea began did you first seek advice or treatment for (NAME)? IF THE SAME DAY, RECORD '00'.	DAYS .... ☐☐	DAYS .... ☐☐	DAYS .... ☐☐
527	Does (NAME) still have diarrhea?	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
528	Was he/she given any of the following to drink at any time since he/she started having the diarrhea: a) A fluid made from a special ORS packet? b) A pre-packaged ORS liquid? c) A government-recommended homemade fluid?	YES NO DK FLUID FROM ORS PKT .... 1 2 8 ORS LQD .... 1 2 8 HOMEMADE FLUID 1 2 8	YES NO DK FLUID FROM ORS PKT .... 1 2 8 ORS LQD .... 1 2 8 HOMEMADE FLUID 1 2 8	YES NO DK FLUID FROM ORS PKT .... 1 2 8 ORS LQD .... 1 2 8 HOMEMADE FLUID 1 2 8
529	Was anything (else) given to treat the diarrhea?	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 533) ← DON'T KNOW 8	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 533) ← DON'T KNOW 8	YES .... 1 NO .... 2 (SKIP TO 533) ← DON'T KNOW 8
530	what (else) was given to treat the diarrhea? Anything else? RECORD ALL TREATMENTS GIVEN.	PILL OR SYRUP ANTIBIOTIC .... A ANTIMOTILITY .... B ZINC .... C OTHER(NOT ANTI-BIOTIC,ANTIMOTILITY, OR ZINC) .... D UNKNOWN PILL OR SYRUP .... E INJECTION ANTIBIOTIC .... F NON-ANTIBIOTIC .... G UNKNOWN INJECTION .... H (IV) INTRAVENOUS .... I HOME REMEDY/ HERBAL MEDICINE .... J OTHER X (SPECIFY)	PILL OR SYRUP ANTIBIOTIC .... A ANTIMOTILITY .... B ZINC .... C OTHER(NOT ANTI-BIOTIC,ANTIMOTILITY, OR ZINC) .... D UNKNOWN PILL OR SYRUP .... E INJECTION ANTIBIOTIC .... F NON-ANTIBIOTIC .... G UNKNOWN INJECTION .... H (IV) INTRAVENOUS .... I HOME REMEDY/ HERBAL MEDICINE .... J OTHER X (SPECIFY)	PILL OR SYRUP ANTIBIOTIC .... A ANTIMOTILITY .... B ZINC .... C OTHER(NOT ANTI-BIOTIC,ANTIMOTILITY, OR ZINC) .... D UNKNOWN PILL OR SYRUP .... E INJECTION ANTIBIOTIC .... F NON-ANTIBIOTIC .... G UNKNOWN INJECTION .... H (IV) INTRAVENOUS .... I HOME REMEDY/ HERBAL MEDICINE .... J OTHER X (SPECIFY)
531	CHECK 530: GIVEN ZINC?	CODE 'C' CIRCLED ☐ ↓ CODE 'C' NOT CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 533)	CODE 'C' CIRCLED ☐ ↓ CODE 'C' NOT CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 533)	CODE 'C' CIRCLED ☐ ↓ CODE 'C' NOT CIRCLED ☐ ↓ (SKIP TO 533)

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ....
532	How many times was (NAME) given zinc?	TIMES ..... [ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 98	TIMES ..... [ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 98	TIMES ..... [ ][ ] DON'T KNOW 98
533	Has (NAME) been ill with a fever at any time in the last 2 weeks?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8
534	Has (NAME) had an illness with a cough at any time in the last 2 weeks?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 537) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 537) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 537) DON'T KNOW 8
535	When (NAME) had an illness with a cough, did he/she breathe faster than usual with short, rapid breaths or have difficulty breathing?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 538) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 538) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 538) DON'T KNOW 8
536	Was the fast or difficult breathing due to a problem in the chest or to a blocked or runny nose?	CHEST ONLY ..... 1 NOSE ONLY ..... 2 BOTH ..... 3 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 538)	CHEST ONLY ..... 1 NOSE ONLY ..... 2 BOTH ..... 3 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 538)	CHEST ONLY ..... 1 NOSE ONLY ..... 2 BOTH ..... 3 OTHER 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... 8 (SKIP TO 538)
537	CHECK 533: HAD FEVER?	YES [ ] NO OR DK [ ] (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)	YES [ ] NO OR DK [ ] (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)	YES [ ] NO OR DK [ ] (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)
538	Now I would like to know how much (NAME) was given to drink (including breastmilk) during the illness with a (fever/cough). Was he/she given less than usual to drink, about the same amount, or more than usual to drink? IF LESS PROBE: Was he/she given much less than usual to drink or somewhat less?	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 NOTHING TO DRINK ..... 5 DON'T KNOW 8
539	When (NAME) had a (fever/cough), was he/she given less than usual to eat, about the same amount, more than usual, or nothing to eat? IF LESS PROBE: Was he/she given much less than usual to eat or somewhat less?	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 STOPPED FOOD ..... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD ..... 6 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 STOPPED FOOD ..... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD ..... 6 DON'T KNOW 8	MUCH LESS ..... 1 SOMEWHAT LESS ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 MORE ..... 4 STOPPED FOOD ..... 5 NEVER GAVE FOOD ..... 6 DON'T KNOW 8

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME ....
540	Did you seek advice or treatment for the illness from any source?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 545)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 545)	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (SKIP TO 545)
541	Where did you seek advice or treatment? Anywhere else? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF A HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. ______ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ..... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER ... D GVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... F OTHER PUBLIC G ______ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ______ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER ..... K OTHER X ______ (SPECIFY)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ..... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER ... D GVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... F OTHER PUBLIC G ______ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ______ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER ..... K OTHER X ______ (SPECIFY)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ..... A GVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GVT. HEALTH CENTER ... D GVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER ..... F OTHER PUBLIC G ______ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MED. SECTOR PVT. HOSPITAL/CLINIC H OTHER PRIVATE MED. I ______ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... J TRADITIONAL PRACTITIONER ..... K OTHER X ______ (SPECIFY)
542	CHECK 541:	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ (SKIP TO 544)	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ (SKIP TO 544)	TWO OR MORE CODES CIRCLED ☐ ONLY ONE CODE CIRCLED ☐ (SKIP TO 544)
543	Where did you first seek advice or treatment? USE LETTER CODE FROM 541.	FIRST PLACE ..... ☐	FIRST PLACE ..... ☐	FIRST PLACE ..... ☐
544	How many days after the illness began did you first seek advice or treatment for (NAME)? IF THE SAME DAY, RECORD '00'.	DAYS ..... ☐☐	DAYS ..... ☐☐	DAYS ..... ☐☐
545	Is (NAME) still sick with a (fever/ cough)?	FEVER ONLY ..... 1 COUGH ONLY ..... 2 BOTH FEVER AND COUGH ..... 3 NO, NEITHER ..... 4 DON'T KNOW 8	FEVER ONLY ..... 1 COUGH ONLY ..... 2 BOTH FEVER AND COUGH ..... 3 NO, NEITHER ..... 4 DON'T KNOW 8	FEVER ONLY ..... 1 COUGH ONLY ..... 2 BOTH FEVER AND COUGH ..... 3 NO, NEITHER ..... 4 DON'T KNOW 8

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	LAST BIRTH NAME	NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH NAME	SECOND-FROM LAST BIRTH NAME .....
546	At any time during the illness, did (NAME) take any drugs for the illness?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573) DON'T KNOW 8	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 (GO TO 503 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573) DON'T KNOW 8
547	What drugs did (NAME) take? Any other drugs? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	ANTIBIOTIC DRUGS PILL/SYRUP ..... A INJECTION ..... B OTHER DRUGS X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... Z	ANTIBIOTIC DRUGS PILL/SYRUP ..... A INJECTION ..... B OTHER DRUGS X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... Z	ANTIBIOTIC DRUGS PILL/SYRUP ..... A INJECTION ..... B OTHER DRUGS X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... Z
548	CHECK 547: CODE 'A' CIRCLED?	YES ☐ NO ☐ (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)	YES ☐ NO ☐ (GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)	YES ☐ NO ☐ (GO TO 503 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573)
549	Did you already have (NAME OF DRUG FROM 547) at home when the child became ill?	HAD ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME ..... 1 NO ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME 2	HAD ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME ..... 1 NO ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME 2	HAD ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME ..... 1 NO ANTIBIOTIC PILL/SYRUP AT HOME 2
572		GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573.	GO BACK TO 503 IN NEXT COLUMN; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573.	GO TO 503 IN NEXT-TO-LAST COLUMN OF NEW QUESTIONNAIRE; OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 573.

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
573	CHECK 215 AND 218, ALL ROWS: NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN IN 2005 OR LATER LIVING WITH THE RESPONDENT ONE OR MORE ☐ → RECORD NAME OF YOUNGEST CHILD LIVING WITH HER (AND CONTINUE WITH 574) _____ (NAME) NONE ☐ → 576		
574	The last time (NAME FROM 573) passed stools, what was done to dispose of the stools?	CHILD USED TOILET OR LATRINE ..... 01 PUT/RINSED INTO TOILET OR LATRINE ..... 02 PUT/RINSED INTO DRAIN OR DITCH ..... 03 THROWN INTO GARBAGE ..... 04 BURIED ..... 05 LEFT IN THE OPEN ..... 06 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
575	CHECK 528(a) AND 528(b), ALL COLUMNS: NO CHILD RECEIVED FLUID FROM ORS PACKET OR PRE-PACKAGED ORS LIQUID ☐ ANY CHILD RECEIVED FLUID FROM ORS PACKET OR PRE-PACKAGED ORS LIQUID ☐ → 577		
576	Have you ever heard of a special product called LONU packet or a pre-packaged ORS liquid you can get for the treatment of diarrhea?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
577	CHECK 215 AND 218, ALL ROWS: NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN IN 2005 OR LATER LIVING WITH THE RESPONDENT ONE OR MORE ☐ → RECORD NAME OF YOUNGEST CHILD LIVING WITH HER (AND CONTINUE WITH 578) _____ (NAME) NONE ☐ → 601		
578	Now I would like to ask you about liquids or foods (NAME FROM 577) had yesterday during the day or at night. Did (NAME FROM 577) (drink/eat): Plain water? Commercially produced infant formula? Any (BRAND NAME OF COMMERCIALLY FORTIFIED BABY FOOD. E.G., Cerelac)? Any (other) porridge or gruel?	YES NO DK PLAIN WATER ..... 1 2 8 FORMULA ..... 1 2 8 FORTIFIED BABY CEREAL ..... 1 2 8 OTHER PORRIDGE/GRUEL 1 2 8	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
579	Now I would like to ask you about (other) liquids or foods that (NAME FROM 577) and you may have had yesterday during the day or at night. I am interested in whether your child and you had the item even if it was combined with other foods.		

Did (NAME FROM 577) / you drink (eat):		CHILD			MOTHER		
		YES	NO	DK	YES	NO	DK
a) Milk such as tinned, powdered, or fresh animal milk?	(a)	1	2	8	1	2	8
b)Tea or coffee?	(b)	1	2	8	1	2	8
c) Any other liquids?	(c)	1	2	8	1	2	8
d) Bread, rice, noodles, or other foods made from grains?	(d)	1	2	8	1	2	8
e) Pumpkin, carrots, squash or sweet potatoes that are yellow or orange inside?	(e)	1	2	8	1	2	8
f) White potatoes, white yams, manioc, cassava, or any other foods made from roots?	(f)	1	2	8	1	2	8
g) Any dark green, leafy vegetables?	(g)	1	2	8	1	2	8
h) Ripe mangoes or papayas?	(h)	1	2	8	1	2	8
i) Any other fruits or vegetables?	(i)	1	2	8	1	2	8
j) Liver, kidney, heart or other organ meats?	(j)	1	2	8	1	2	8
k) Any meat, such as beef, pork, lamb, goat, chicken, or duck?	(k)	1	2	8	1	2	8
l) Eggs?	(l)	1	2	8	1	2	8
m) Fresh or dried fish or shellfish?	(m)	1	2	8	1	2	8
n) Any foods made from beans, peas, lentils or nuts?	(n)	1	2	8	1	2	8
o) Cheese, yogurt or other milk products?	(o)	1	2	8	1	2	8
p) Any oil, fats, or butter, or foods made with any of these?	(p)	1	2	8	1	2	8
q) Any sugary foods such as chocolates, sweets, candies, pastries, cakes, or biscuits?	(q)	1	2	8	1	2	8
r) Any other solid or semi-solid food?	(r)	1	2	8	1	2	8

580	CHECK 578 (LAST 2 CATEGORIES: BABY CEREAL OR OTHER PORRIDGE/GRUEL) AND 579 (CATEGORIES d THROUGH r FOR CHILD):		
	AT LEAST ONE "YES" ☐	NOT A SINGLE "YES" ☐ →	601
581	How many times did (NAME FROM 577) eat solid, semisolid, or soft foods yesterday during the day or at night? IF 7 OR MORE TIMES, RECORD '7'.	NUMBER OF TIMES ☐ DON'T KNOW 8	

SECTION 6. MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ACTIVITY

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
601	CHECK 104: MARITAL STATUS CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/ SEPARATED ☐		→ 607
602	Is you husband living with you now or is he staying elsewhere?	LIVING WITH HER ..... 1 STAYING ELSEWHERE 2	
603	RECORD THE HUSBAND'S NAME AND LINE NUMBER FROM THE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE. IF HE IS NOT LISTED IN THE HOUSEHOLD, RECORD '00'.	NAME _____ LINE NO. ..... ☐☐	
607	Have you been married only once or more than once?	ONLY ONCE ..... 1 MORE THAN ONCE 2	
608	CHECK 607: MARRIED ONLY ONCE ☐ ↓ In what month and year did you start living together with your husband? MARRIED MORE THAN ONCE ☐ ↓ Now I would like to ask about your first husband. In what month and year did you start living together with your first husband?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW YEAR 9998	→ 609B
609	How old were you when you started living together with your (first) husband?	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
609B	CHECK FOR THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS. BEFORE CONTINUING, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE PRIVACY.		
609C	Now I need to ask you some questions about sexual activity in order to gain a better understanding of some important life issues. How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the very first time?	NEVER HAD INTERCOURSE ..... 00 AGE IN YEARS ..... ☐☐ FIRST TIME WHEN STARTED LIVING WITH (FIRST) HUSBAND 95	
610	Do you know of a place where a person can get condoms?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 701

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
611	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER D GOVT. HEALTH POST E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC H PHARMACY I PRIVATE DOCTOR J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP L FRIEND/RELATIVE M OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	
612	If you wanted to, could you yourself get a condom?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW/UNSURE 8	

SECTION 7. FERTILITY PREFERENCES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
701	CHECK 311/311A: NEITHER STERILIZED ☐ ↓ HE OR SHE STERILIZED ☐ → 708		
702	CHECK 226: NOT PREGNANT OR UNSURE ☐ ↓ Now I have some questions about the future. Would you like to have (a/another) child, or would you prefer not to have any (more) children? PREGNANT ☐ ↓ Now I have some questions about the future. After the child you are expecting now, would you like to have another child, or would you prefer not have any more children?	HAVE (A/ANOTHER) CHILD ..... 1 NO MORE/NONE ..... 2 → 704 SAYS SHE CAN'T GET PREGNANT ..... 3 → 708 UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW AND PREGNANT ..... 4 → 705 UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW AND NOT PREGNANT OR UNSURE ..... 5 → 704	
703	CHECK 226: NOT PREGNANT OR UNSURE ☐ ↓ How long would you like to wait from now before the birth of (a/another) child? PREGNANT ☐ ↓ After the birth of the child you are expecting now, how long would you like to wait before the birth of another child?	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ SOON/NOW ..... 993 SAYS SHE CAN'T GET PREGNANT ..... 994 → 708 AFTER MARRIAGE ..... 995 OTHER _____ 996 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 998	
704	CHECK 310: USING A CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD? NOT ASKED ☐ ↓ NO, NOT CURRENTLY USING ☐ ↓ YES, CURRENTLY USING ☐ → 708		
705	Do you think you will use a contraceptive method to delay or avoid pregnancy at any time in the future?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 → 707 DON'T KNOW ..... 8 → 708	
706	Which contraceptive method would you prefer to use?	FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... 01 MALE STERILIZATION ..... 02 PILL ..... 03 IUD ..... 04 INJECTABLES ..... 05 IMPLANTS ..... 06 CONDOM ..... 07 DIAPHRAGM ..... 08 FOAM/JELLY ..... 09 RHYTHM METHOD ..... 10 WITHDRAWAL ..... 11 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY) UNSURE 98	→ 708

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
707	What is the main reason that you think you will not use a contraceptive method at any time in the future?	NOT MARRIED ..... 11 FERTILITY-RELATED REASONS INFREQUENT SEX/NO SEX ..... 22 MENOPAUSAL/HYSTERECTOMY ..... 23 SUBFECUND/INFECUND ..... 24 WANTS AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE ..... 26 OPPOSITION TO USE RESPONDENT OPPOSED ..... 31 HUSBAND OPPOSED ..... 32 OTHERS OPPOSED ..... 33 RELIGIOUS PROHIBITION ..... 34 LACK OF KNOWLEDGE KNOWS NO METHOD ..... 41 KNOWS NO SOURCE ..... 42 METHOD-RELATED REASONS HEALTH CONCERNS ..... 51 FEAR OF SIDE EFFECTS ..... 52 LACK OF ACCESS/TOO FAR ..... 53 COSTS TOO MUCH ..... 54 INCONVENIENT TO USE ..... 55 INTERFERES WITH BODY'S NORMAL PROCESSES ..... 56 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 98	
708	CHECK 216: HAS LIVING CHILDREN → If you could go back to the time you did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be? NO LIVING CHILDREN → If you could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be? PROBE FOR A NUMERIC RESPONSE.	NONE ..... 00 → 710 NUMBER ..... ☐☐ OTHER _____ 96 → 710 (SPECIFY)	
709	How many of these children would you like to be boys, how many would you like to be girls and for how many would the sex not matter?	BOYS GIRLS EITHER NUMBER ..... ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
710	In the last few months have you: Heard about family planning on the radio? Seen about family planning on the television? Read about family planning in a newspaper or magazine?	YES NO RADIO ..... 1 2 TELEVISION ..... 1 2 NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE 1 2	
711	CHECK 311/311A: CODE B,G, OR K CIRCLED ☐ → 713 NO CODE CIRCLED ☐ → 715 OTHER ☐		

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
712	Does your husband know that you are using a method of family planning?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
713	Would you say that using contraception is mainly your decision, mainly your husband's decision, or did you both decide together?	MAINLY RESPONDENT ..... 1 MAINLY HUSBAND ..... 2 JOINT DECISION ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
714	CHECK 311/311A: NEITHER STERILIZED ☐ ↓ HE OR SHE STERILIZED ☐ → 801		
715	Does your husband want the same number of children that you want, or does he want more or fewer than you want?	SAME NUMBER ..... 1 MORE CHILDREN ..... 2 FEWER CHILDREN ..... 3 DON'T KNOW 8	

SECTION 8. HUSBAND'S BACKGROUND AND WOMAN'S WORK

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
801	CHECK 104: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/ SEPARATED ☐ → 803		
802	How old was your husband on his last birthday?	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ☐☐	
803	Did your (last) husband ever attend school?	YES 1 NO 2	→806
804	What was the highest level of school he attended: primary, secondary, or higher?	NON-FORMAL 0 PRIMARY 1 'O' LEVEL 2 'A' LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA 4 FIRST DEGREE 5 MASTER'S CERTIFICATE/ABOVE 6 CERTIFICATE 7 DON'T KNOW 8	→806
805	What was the highest (grade/form/year) he completed at that level?	GRADE ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
806	CHECK 801: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ What is your husband's occupation? That is, what kind of work does he mainly do? WIDOWED/ DIVORCED/ SEPARATED ☐ ↓ What was your (last) husband's occupation? That is, what kind of work did he mainly do?	☐☐ _____ _____ _____	
807	Aside from your own housework, have you done any work in the last seven days?	YES 1 NO 2	→811
808	As you know, some women take up jobs for which they are paid in cash or kind. Others sell things, have a small business or work on the family farm or in the family business. In the last seven days, have you done any of these things or any other work?	YES 1 NO 2	→811
809	Although you did not work in the last seven days, do you have any job or business from which you were absent for leave, illness, vacation, maternity leave or any other such reason?	YES 1 NO 2	→811
810	Have you done any work in the last 12 months?	YES 1 NO 2	→816
811	What is your occupation, that is, what kind of work do you mainly do?	☐☐ _____ _____ _____	
812	Do you do this work for government, for a private company, for someone else, for a member of your family, or are you self-employed?	FOR GOVERNMENT 1 FOR PRIVATE COMPANY 2 FOR SOMEONE ELSE 3 FOR FAMILY MEMBER 4 SELF-EMPLOYED 5	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
813	Do you usually work at home or away from home?	HOME ..... 1 AWAY 2	
814	Do you usually work throughout the year, or do you work seasonally, or only once in a while?	THROUGHOUT THE YEAR ..... 1 SEASONALLY/PART OF THE YEAR ..... 2 ONCE IN A WHILE 3	
815	Are you paid in cash or kind for this work or are you not paid at all?	CASH ONLY ..... 1 CASH AND KIND ..... 2 IN KIND ONLY ..... 3 NOT PAID 4	
816	CHECK 104: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/ SEPARATED ☐ →		825
817	CHECK 815: CODE 1 OR 2 CIRCLED ☐ OTHER ☐ →		820
818	Who usually decides how the money you earn will be used: mainly you, mainly your husband, or you and your husband jointly?	RESPONDENT ..... 1 HUSBAND ..... 2 RESPONDENT AND HUSBAND JOINTLY ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
819	Would you say that the money that you earn is more than what your husband earns, less than what he earns, or about the same?	MORE THAN HIM ..... 1 LESS THAN HIM ..... 2 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 3 HUSBAND DOESN'T BRING IN ANY MONEY ..... 4 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 821
820	Who usually decides how your husband's earnings will be used: you, your husband, or you and your husband jointly?	RESPONDENT ..... 1 HUSBAND ..... 2 RESPONDENT AND HUSBAND JOINTLY ..... 3 HUSBAND HAS NO EARNINGS ..... 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
821	Who usually makes decisions about health care for yourself: you, your husband, you and your husband jointly, or someone else?	RESPONDENT = 1 HUSBAND = 2 RESPONDENT AND HUSBAND JOINTLY = 3 SOMEONE ELSE = 4 OTHER = 6 1 2 3 4 6	
822	Who usually makes decisions about making major household purchases?	1 2 3 4 6	
823	Who usually makes decisions about making purchases for daily household needs?	1 2 3 4 6	
824	Who usually makes decisions about visits to your family or relatives?	1 2 3 4 6	
825	Sometimes a husband is annoyed or angered by things that his wife does. In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations: If she goes out without telling him? If she neglects the children? If she argues with him? If she refuses to have sex with him? If she burns the food?	YES NO DK GOES OUT ..... 1 2 8 NEGLECTS CHILDREN ..... 1 2 8 ARGUES ..... 1 2 8 REFUSES SEX ..... 1 2 8 BURNS FOOD 1 2 8	

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SECTION 9. HIV/AIDS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
901	Now I would like to talk about something else. Have you ever heard of an illness called AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 916
902	Can people reduce their chances of getting the AIDS virus by having just one uninfected sex partner who has no other sex partners?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
903	Can people get the AIDS virus from mosquito bites?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
904	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by using a condom every time they have sex?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
905	Can people get the AIDS virus by sharing food with a person who has AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
906	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by not having sexual intercourse at all?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
907	Can people get the AIDS virus because of witchcraft or other supernatural means?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
908	Is it possible for a healthy-looking person to have the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
909	Can the virus that causes AIDS be transmitted from a mother to her baby: During pregnancy? During delivery? By Breastfeeding?	YES NO DK DURING PREGNANCY ..... 1 2 8 DURING DELIVERY ..... 1 2 8 BREASTFEEDING 1 2 8	
910	Do you know of a place where people can go to get tested for the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 912

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
911	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E GOVT. VCT SITE ..... F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC/ PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... H PHARMACY ..... I OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL J _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	
912	Would you buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor if you knew that this person had the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
913	If a member of your family got infected with the AIDS virus, would you want it to remain a secret or not?	YES, REMAIN A SECRET ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
914	If a member of your family became sick with AIDS, would you be willing to care for her or him in your own household?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
915	In your opinion, if a female teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should she be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED ..... 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED ..... 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
915A	In your opinion, if a male teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should he be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED ..... 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED ..... 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
916	CHECK 701: HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Apart from AIDS, have you heard about other infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact? NOT HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Have you heard about infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 918

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
917	Now I would like to ask you some questions about your health in the last 12 months. During the last 12 months, have you had a disease which you got through sexual contact?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
918	Sometimes women experience a bad smelling abnormal genital discharge. During the last 12 months, have you had a bad smelling abnormal genital discharge?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
919	Sometimes women have a genital sore or a ulcer. During the last 12 months, have you had a genital sore or ulcer?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
920	CHECK 917,918, and 919: HAS HAD AN INFECTION (ANY 'YES') ☐ ↓ HAS NOT HAD AN INFECTION OR DOES NOT KNOW ☐ → 1001		
921	The last time you had (PROBLEM FROM 917 / 918 / 919), did you seek any kind of advice or treatment?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 → 1001	
922	Where did you go? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... H PHARMACY ..... I PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... L OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	

SECTION 10. OTHER HEALTH ISSUES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
1001	Have you ever heard of an illness called tuberculosis or TB?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→1005
1002	How does tuberculosis spread from one person to another? PROBE: Any other ways? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	THROUGH THE AIR WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING ..... A THROUGH SHARING UTENSILS ..... B THROUGH TOUCHING A PERSON WITH TB ..... C THROUGH FOOD ..... D THROUGH SEXUAL CONTACT ..... E THROUGH MOSQUITO BITES ..... F OTHER _____ (SPECIFY) X DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
1003	Can tuberculosis be cured?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
1004	If a member of your family got tuberculosis, would you want it to remain a secret or not?	YES, REMAIN A SECRET ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/DEPENDS 8	
1005	Now I would like to ask you some other questions relating to health matters. Have you had an injection for any reason in the last 12 months? IF YES: How many injections have you had? IF NUMBER OF INJECTIONS IS GREATER THAN 90, OR DAILY FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE, RECORD '90'. IF NON-NUMERIC ANSWER, PROBE TO GET AN ESTIMATE.	NUMBER OF INJECTIONS ..... ☐☐ NONE 00	→1009
1006	Among these injections, how many were administered by a doctor, a nurse, a pharmacist, a dentist, or any other health worker? IF NUMBER OF INJECTIONS IS GREATER THAN 90, OR DAILY FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE, RECORD '90'. IF NON-NUMERIC ANSWER, PROBE TO GET AN ESTIMATE.	NUMBER OF INJECTIONS ..... ☐☐ NONE 00	→1009

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
1007	The last time you had an injection given to you by a health worker, where did you go to get the injection? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 11 GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 12 GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 13 GOVT. HEALTH CENTER 14 GOVT. HEALTH POST 15 COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER 16 OTHER PUBLIC 17 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC 21 PRIVATE DOCTOR 22 DENTAL OFFICE/CLINIC 23 PHARMACY 24 OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL 26 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER PLACE AT HOME 31 OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY)	
1008	Did the person who gave you that injection take the syringe and needle from a new, unopened package?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
1009	On how many days this week, did you walk, run, or engage in other various physical activity for at least 20 minutes? IF NONE RECORD '00'.	NUMBER OF DAYS ☐☐ DON'T KNOW / UNSURE 98	
1010	Do you currently smoke cigarettes?	YES 1 NO 2	→1012
1011	In the last 24 hours, how many cigarettes did you smoke?	CIGARETTES ☐☐	
1012	Do you currently smoke or use any other type of tobacco?	YES 1 NO 2	→1014
1013	What (other) type of tobacco do you currently smoke or use? RECORD ALL MENTIONED	HOOKA A BIDI B CIGAR C PIPE D CHEWING TOBACCO E SNUFF F OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES			SKIP
			BIG PROBLEM	NOT A BIG PROBLEM	
1014	Many different factors can prevent women from getting medical advice or treatment for themselves. When you are sick and want to get medical advice or treatment, is each of the following a big problem or not?				
	Getting permission to go?	PERMISSION TO GO	1	2	
	Getting money needed for treatment?	GETTING MONEY	1	2	
	The distance to the health facility?	DISTANCE	1	2	
	Having to take transport?	TAKING TRANSPORT	1	2	
	Not wanting to go alone?	GO ALONE	1	2	
	Concern that there may not be a female health provider?	NO FEMALE PROVIDER	1	2	
	Concern that there may not be any health provider?	NO PROVIDER	1	2	
	Concern that there may be no drugs available?	NO DRUGS	1	2	

SECTION 11. BLOOD PRESSURE, DIABETES, HEART ATTACK AND STROKE

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
1101	Have you ever heard of an illness called high blood pressure or hypertension?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→1105
1102	(Other than during pregnancy) Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you had hypertension or high blood pressure?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→1105
1103	Were you told on 2 or more different visits that you had hypertension or high blood pressure?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→1105
1104	To lower your hypertension or high blood pressure, are you now:	YES NO N/A	
	a. taking prescribed medicine?	TAKE MEDICINE 1 2 3	
	b. controlling your weight or losing weight?	CONTROL WEIGHT 1 2 3	
	c. cutting down on salt in your diet?	CUT DOWN SALT 1 2 3	
	d. exercising?	EXERCISE 1 2 3	
	e. stopping smoking?	STOP SMOKING 1 2 3	
1105	Have you ever heard of an illness called diabetes or high sugar?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→1110
1106	(Other than during pregnancy) Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that you had diabetes?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE 8	→1110
1107	How old were you when you were FIRST told by a doctor or health professional that you had diabetes?	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
1108	Are you taking insulin at this time?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→1110
1109	Are you taking pills to lower your blood sugar?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
1110	Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor or other health professional with heart attack or myocardial infarction?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
1111	Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor or other health professional with a stroke?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
		HOUR MINS	
1112	RECORD THE TIME	☐☐:☐☐	

INTERVIEWER'S OBSERVATIONS

TO BE FILLED IN AFTER COMPLETING INTERVIEW

COMMENTS ABOUT RESPONDENT:

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

ANY OTHER COMMENTS:

SUPERVISOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF SUPERVISOR: DATE:

EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF EDITOR: DATE:

CALENDAR

INSTRUCTIONS

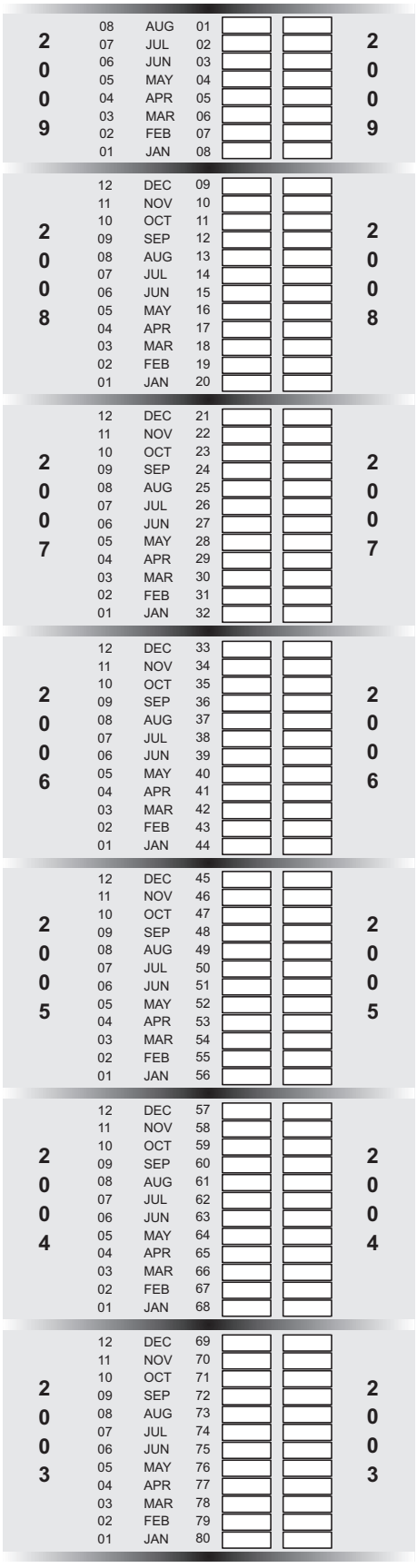
COL.1 BIRTHS, PREGNANCIES, CONTRACEPTIVE USE

B BIRTHS
P PREGNANCIES
T TERMINATIONS

0 NO METHOD
1 FEMALE STERILIZATION
2 MALE STERILIZATION
3 PILL
4 IUD
5 INJECTABLES
6 IMPLANTS
7 CONDOM
8 DIAPHRAGM
9 FOAM OR JELLY
J RHYTHM METHOD
K WITHDRAWAL
X OTHER _____
(SPECIFY)

COL.2 DISCONTINUATION OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE

0 INFREQUENT SEX / HUSBAND AWAY
1 BECAME PREGNANT WHILE USING
2 WANTED TO BECOME PREGNANT
3 HUSBAND DISAPPROVED
4 WANTED MORE EFFECTIVE METHOD
5 HEALTH CONCERNS
6 SIDE EFFECTS
7 LACK OF ACCESS / TOO FAR
8 COST TOO MUCH
9 INCONVENIENT TO USE
F FATALISTIC
A DIFFICULT TO GET PREGNANT / MENOPAUSAL
D MARITAL SEPARATION
X OTHER _____
(SPECIFY)
Z DON'T KNOW



17 December 2008

2008 MALDIVES DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
EVER-MARRIED MEN'S QUESTIONNAIRE

IDENTIFICATION

ISLAND NAME .....

HOUSEHOLD NAME .....

NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD .....

CLUSTER NUMBER ☞ .....

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER ☞ .....

ATOLL ☞ .....

NAME AND LINE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE MAN .....

INTERVIEWER VISITS

	1	2	3	FINAL VISIT
DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	Day ☐☐ Month ☐☐ Year 2 0 0 ☐
INTERVIEWER'S NAME	.....	.....	.....	INT. NUMBER ☐☐☐
RESULT*	☐	☐	☐	RESULT ☐
NEXT VISIT: DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐		TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ☐
TIME	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐		

*RESULT CODES:

1 COMPLETED
2 NOT AT HOME
3 POSTPONED
4 REFUSED
5 PARTLY COMPLETED
6 INCAPACITATED
7 OTHER_____
(specify)

SUPERVISOR	FIELD EDITOR	OFFICE EDITOR	KEYED BY	VERIFIED BY
NAME	NAME	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐
ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐			
DATE ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐	DATE ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐			

1

SECTION 1 : RESPONDENT'S BACKGROUND

Introduction and Consent

INFORMED CONSENT

Hello. My name is _____ and I am working with the Ministry of Health. We are conducting a national survey that asks women, men and youth about various health issues. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. This information will help the government to plan health services. The survey usually takes between 15 and 20 minutes to complete. Whatever information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than members of our survey team.

Participation in this survey is voluntary, and if we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question; or you can stop the interview at any time. However, we hope that you will participate in this survey since your views are important.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

Signature of interviewer:_____ Date: _____

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED 1 RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED 2 ☞ END

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
101	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR ☐☐ : MINUTES ☐☐	
102	In what month and year were you born?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW YEAR 9998	
103	How old were you at your last birthday? COMPARE AND CORRECT 102 AND/OR 103 IF INCONSISTENT.	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
104	What is your current marital status?	MARRIED ..... 1 WIDOWED ..... 2 DIVORCED ..... 3 SEPARATED 4	
105	Have you ever attended school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→108

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
106	What is the highest level of school you attended?	NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ..... 00 PRESCHOOL ..... 01 PRIMARY ..... 02 'O' LEVEL ..... 03 'A' LEVEL ..... 04 DIPLOMA ..... 05 FIRST DEGREE ..... 06 MASTER'S CERTIFICATE/ABOVE ..... 07 CERTIFICATE 08	
107	What is the highest (grade/form/year) you completed at that level?	GRADE/FORM/YEAR ..... ☐☐	
108	Do you read a newspaper or magazine almost everyday, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL ..... 4 CANNOT READ 5	→110
109	Do you use the internet almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
110	Do you listen to the radio almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
111	Do you watch television almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	

SECTION 2. REPRODUCTION

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
201	Now I would like to ask about any children you have had during your life. I am interested in all of the children that are biologically yours, even if they are not living with you now. Have you ever fathered any children with any woman?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 206
202	Do you have any sons or daughters that you have fathered who are now living with you?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 204
203	How many sons live with you? And how many daughters live with you? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	SONS AT HOME ..... DAUGHTERS AT HOME	
204	Do you have any sons or daughters that you have fathered who are alive but do not live with you?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 206
205	How many sons are alive but do not live with you? And how many daughters are alive but do not live with you? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	SONS ELSEWHERE ..... DAUGHTERS ELSEWHERE	
206	Have you ever fathered a son or a daughter who was born alive but later died? IF NO, PROBE: Any baby who cried or showed signs of life but did not survive?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 208
207	How many boys have died? How many girls have died? IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	BOYS DEAD ..... GIRLS DEAD	
208	SUM ANSWERS TO 203, 205, AND 207, AND ENTER TOTAL. IF NONE, RECORD '00'.	TOTAL CHILDREN	
209	CHECK 208: HAS HAD MORE THAN ONE CHILD ↓	HAS HAD ONLY ONE CHILD → 212 HAS NOT HAD ANY CHILDREN → 301	
210	Did all of the children you have fathered have the same biological mother?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 212
211	In all, how many women have you fathered children with?	NUMBER OF WOMEN	
212	How old were you when your (first) child was born?	AGE IN YEARS	
213	CHECK 203 AND 205: AT LEAST ONE LIVING CHILD ↓	NO LIVING CHILDREN → 301	
214	How many years old is your (youngest) child?	AGE IN YEARS	
215	CHECK 214: (YOUNGEST) CHILD IS AGE 0-3 YEARS ↓	(YOUNGEST) CHILD IS 4 YEARS OR OLDER → 301	

④

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
216	What is the name of your (youngest) child? WRITE NAME OF (YOUNGEST) CHILD _____ (NAME OF (YOUNGEST) CHILD)		
217	When (NAME)'s mother was pregnant with (NAME), did she have any antenatal check-ups?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 219
218	Were you ever present during any of those antenatal check-ups?	PRESENT ..... 1 NOT PRESENT 2	
219	Was (NAME) born in a hospital or health facility?	HOSPITAL/HEALTH FACILITY ..... 1 OTHER 2	→ 221
220	What was the main reason why (NAME)'s mother did not deliver in a hospital or health facility?	COST TOO MUCH ..... 01 FACILITY CLOSED ..... 02 TOO FAR/NO TRANSPORTATION ..... 03 DON'T TRUST FACILITY/POOR QUALITY SERVICE ..... 04 NO FEMALE PROVIDER ..... 05 NOT THE FIRST CHILD ..... 06 CHILD'S MOTHER DID NOT THINK IT WAS NECESSARY ..... 07 HE DID NOT THINK IT WAS NECESSARY ..... 08 FAMILY DID NOT THINK IT WAS NECESSARY ..... 09 OTHER _____ (SPECIFY) 96 DON'T KNOW 98	
221	When a child has diarrhea, how much should he or she be given to drink: more than usual, the same amount as usual, less than usual, or should he or she not be given anything to drink at all?	MORE THAN USUAL ..... 1 ABOUT THE SAME ..... 2 LESS THAN USUAL ..... 3 NOTHING TO DRINK ..... 4 DON'T KNOW 8	

SECTION 3. CONTRACEPTION

301	Now I would like to talk about family planning - the various ways or methods that a couple can use to delay or avoid a pregnancy. Which ways or methods have you heard about? FOR METHODS NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY, ASK: Have you ever heard of (METHOD)? CIRCLE CODE 1 IN 301 FOR EACH METHOD MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. THEN PROCEED DOWN COLUMN 301, READING THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF EACH METHOD NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. CIRCLE CODE 1 IF METHOD IS RECOGNIZED, AND CODE 2 IF NOT RECOGNIZED. THEN, FOR METHODS 02,07,10 AND 11, ASK 302 IF 301 HAS CODE 1 CIRCLED.		302 Have you ever used (METHOD)?
01	FEMALE STERILIZATION Women can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
02	MALE STERILIZATION Men can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 →	Have you ever had an operation to avoid having any more children? YES ..... 1 NO 2
03	PILL Women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
04	IUD Women can have a loop or coil placed inside them by a doctor or a nurse.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
05	INJECTABLES Women can have an injection by a health provider that stops them from becoming pregnant for one or more months.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
06	IMPLANTS Women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by a doctor or nurse which can prevent pregnancy for one or more years.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
07	CONDOM Men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 →	YES ..... 1 NO 2
08	RHYTHM METHOD Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid pregnancy by not having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is most likely to get pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 →	YES ..... 1 NO 2
09	WITHDRAWAL Men can be careful and pull out before climax.	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 →	YES ..... 1 NO 2
10	EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION As an emergency measure after sexual intercourse, women can take special pills at any time within 5 days to prevent pregnancy.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
11	Have you heard of any other ways or methods that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy?	YES ..... 1 _____ (SPECIFY) _____ (SPECIFY) NO 2	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
303	In the last few months have you: Heard about family planning on the radio? Seen about family planning on the television? Read about family planning in a newspaper or magazine?	YES NO RADIO ..... 1 2 TELEVISION ..... 1 2 NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE 1 2	
304	In the last few months, have you discussed the practice of family planning with a health worker or health professional?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
305	Now I would like to ask you about a woman's risk of pregnancy. From one menstrual period to the next, are there certain days when a woman is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual relations?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 307
306	Is this time just before her period begins, during her period, right after her period has ended, or halfway between two periods?	JUST BEFORE HER PERIOD BEGINS ..... 1 DURING HER PERIOD ..... 2 RIGHT AFTER HER PERIOD HAS ENDED ..... 3 HALFWAY BETWEEN TWO PERIODS ..... 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 8	
307	Do you think that a woman who is breastfeeding her baby can become pregnant?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DEPENDS ..... 3 DON'T KNOW 8	
308	I will now read you some statements about contraception. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each one. a) Contraception is women's business and a man should not have to worry about it. b) Women who use contraception may become promiscuous.	AGREE DISAGREE DK CONTRACEPTION WOMAN'S BUSINESS ..... 1 2 8 WOMAN MAY BECOME PROMISCUOUS 1 2 8	
309	CHECK 301 (07) KNOWS MALE CONDOM YES ☐ NO ☐ → 401		
310	Do you know of a place where a person can get condoms?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 401
311	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... H PHARMACY ..... I PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... L FRIEND/RELATIVE ..... M OTHER X (SPECIFY)	

7

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
312	If you wanted to, could you yourself get a condom?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	

SECTION 4. MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ACTIVITY

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
401	CHECK 104: MARITAL STATUS: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/SEPARATED ☐ → 407		
402	Is your wife living with you now or is she staying elsewhere?	LIVING WITH HIM ..... 1 STAYING ELSEWHERE 2	
403	RECORD THE WIFE'S NAME AND LINE NUMBER FROM THE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE. IF SHE IS NOT LISTED IN THE HOUSEHOLD, RECORD '00'.	NAME _____ LINE NUMBER ..... ☐☐	
407	Have you been married only once or more than once?	ONLY ONCE ..... 1 MORE THAN ONCE 2	→ 408A
408	In what month and year did you start living with your wife?	MONTH ..... ☐☐	
408A	Now I would like to ask a question about your first wife. In what month and year did you start living with your first wife?	DON'T KNOW MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW YEAR 9998	→ 410
409	How old were you when you first started living with her?	AGE IN YEARS ..... ☐☐	
410	CHECK FOR THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS. BEFORE CONTINUING, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE PRIVACY.		
411	Now I would like to ask you some questions about sexual activity in order to gain a better understanding of some important life issues. How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the very first time?	AGE IN YEARS ..... ☐☐ FIRST TIME WHEN STARTED LIVING WITH (FIRST) WIFE 95	
412	When was the last time you had sexual intercourse? IF LESS THAN 12 MONTHS, ANSWER MUST BE RECORDED IN DAYS, WEEKS OR MONTHS. IF 12 MONTHS (ONE YEAR) OR MORE, ANSWER MUST BE RECORDED IN YEARS.	DAYS AGO ..... 1 ☐☐ WEEKS AGO ..... 2 ☐☐ MONTHS AGO ..... 3 ☐☐ YEARS AGO ..... 4 ☐☐	
413	In total, with how many different people have you had sexual intercourse in your lifetime? IF NON-NUMERIC ANSWER, PROBE TO GET AN ESTIMATE. IF NUMBER IS GREATER THAN 95, WRITE '95'.	NUMBER OF PARTNERS IN LIFETIME ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
414	CHECK 104: MARITAL STATUS: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/SEPARATED ☐ → 501		
415	CHECK 302: MAN NOT STERILIZED ☐ ↓ MAN STERILIZED ☐ → 501		
416	The last time you had sex did you or your wife use any method to avoid or prevent a pregnancy?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 501
417	What method did you or your wife use? PROBE: Did you or your wife use any other method to prevent a pregnancy? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... A PILL ..... B IUD ..... C INJECTABLES ..... D IMPLANTS ..... E CONDOM ..... F DIAPHRAGM ..... G FOAM/JELLY ..... H RHYTHM METHOD ..... I WITHDRAWAL ..... J OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	

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SECTION 5. FERTILITY PREFERENCES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
501	CHECK 104: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓	WIDOWED/DIVORCED/SEPARATED ☐ →	→ 508
502	CHECK 302: MAN NOT STERILIZED ☐ ↓	MAN STERILIZED ☐ →	→ 508
503	Is your wife (Are any of your wives) currently pregnant?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
504	CHECK 503: (NO) WIFE PREGNANT OR DON'T KNOW ☐ ↓ Now I have some questions about the future. Would you like to have (a/another) child, or would you prefer not to have any (more) children? WIFE(WIVES) PREGNANT ☐ ↓ Now I have some questions about the future. After the child(ren) you and your wife(wives) are expecting now, would you like to have another child, or would you prefer not to have any more children?	HAVE (A/ANOTHER) CHILD ..... 1 NO MORE/NONE ..... 2 COUPLE INFECUND ..... 3 WIFE (WIVES) STERILIZED ..... 4 UNDECIDED/DON'T KNOW 8	→ 508
506	CHECK 503: (NO) WIFE PREGNANT OR DON'T KNOW ☐ ↓ How long would you like to wait from now before the birth of (a/another) child? WIFE(WIVES) PREGNANT ☐ ↓ After the birth of the child you are expecting now, how long would you like to wait before the birth of another child?	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ SOON/NOW ..... 993 COUPLE INFECUND ..... 994 OTHER 996 _____ (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 998	→ 508
508	CHECK 203 AND 205: HAS LIVING CHILDREN ☐ ↓ If you could go back to the time you did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be? NO LIVING CHILDREN ☐ ↓ If you could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be? PROBE FOR A NUMERIC RESPONSE.	NONE ..... 00 NUMBER ..... ☐☐ OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY)	→ 601 → 601
509	How many of these children would you like to be boys, how many would you like to be girls and for how many would the sex not matter?	BOYS GIRLS EITHER NUMBER ..... ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY)	

SECTION 6. EMPLOYMENT AND GENDER ROLES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
601	Have you done any work in the last seven days?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 604
602	Although you did not work in the last seven days, do you have any job or business from which you were absent for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reason?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 604
603	Have you done any work in the last 12 months?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 611
604	What is your occupation, that is, what kind of work do you mainly do?	_____ ☐☐ _____ _____	
605	Do you do this work for government, for a private company, for someone else, for a member of your family, or are you self-employed?	FOR GOVERNMENT ..... 1 FOR PRIVATE COMPANY ..... 2 FOR SOMEONE ELSE ..... 3 FOR FAMILY MEMBER ..... 4 SELF-EMPLOYED 5	
606	Do you usually work throughout the year, or do you work seasonally, or only once in a while?	THROUGHOUT THE YEAR ..... 1 SEASONALLY/PART OF THE YEAR ..... 2 ONCE IN A WHILE 3	
607	Are you paid in cash or kind for this work or are you not paid at all?	CASH ONLY ..... 1 CASH AND KIND ..... 2 IN KIND ONLY ..... 3 NOT PAID 4	
608	CHECK 104: CURRENTLY MARRIED ☐ ↓ WIDOWED/DIVORCED/SEPARATED ☐ → 611		
609	CHECK 607: CODE 1 OR 2 CIRCLED ☐ ↓ OTHER ☐ → 611		
610	Who usually decides how the money you earn will be used: mainly you, mainly your (wife(wives)), or you and your (wife(wives)) jointly?	RESPONDENT ..... 1 WIFE (WIVES) ..... 2 RESPONDENT AND WIFE (WIVES) JOINTLY ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	

611 In a couple, who do you think should have the greater say in each of the following decisions: the husband, the wife or both equally:

		HUSBAND	WIFE	BOTH EQUALLY	DON'T KNOW/ DEPENDS
a) Making major household purchases?	a)	1	2	3	8
b) Making purchases for daily household needs?	b)	1	2	3	8
c) Deciding about visits to the wife's family or relatives?	c)	1	2	3	8
d) Deciding what to do with the money she earns for her work?	d)	1	2	3	8
e) Deciding how many children to have?	e)	1	2	3	8

12

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
612	I will now read you some statements about pregnancy. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with them. a) Childbearing is a woman's concern and there is no need for the father to get involved. b) It is crucial for the mother's and child's health that a woman have assistance from a doctor or nurse at delivery.	AG-REE / DIS-AGREE / DK CHILDBEARING WOMAN'S CONCERN ..... 1 2 8 DOCTOR/NURSE'S ASSISTANCE CRUCIAL 1 2 8	
615	Sometimes a husband is annoyed or angered by things that his wife does. In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations: If she goes out without telling him? If she neglects the children? If she argues with him? If she refuses to have sex with him? If she burns the food?	YES / NO / DK GOES OUT ..... 1 2 8 NEGL. CHILDREN ..... 1 2 8 ARGUES ..... 1 2 8 REFUSES SEX ..... 1 2 8 BURNS FOOD 1 2 8	
616	Do you think that if a woman refuses to have sex with her husband when he wants her to, he has the right to... a) Get angry and reprimand her? b) Refuse to give her money or other means of support? c) Use force and have sex with her even is she doesn't want to? d) Go ahead and have sex with another woman?	YES / NO / DK DEPENDS GET ANGRY ..... 1 2 8 NO SUPPORT ..... 1 2 8 USE FORCE ..... 1 2 8 SEX WITH OTHER WOMAN 1 2 8	

SECTION 7. HIV/AIDS and STIs

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
701	Now I would like to talk about something else. Have you ever heard of an illness called AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 716
702	Can people reduce their chances of getting the AIDS virus by having just one uninfected sex partner who has no other sex partners?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
703	Can people get the AIDS virus from mosquito bites?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
704	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by using a condom every time they have sex?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
705	Can people get the AIDS virus by sharing food with a person who has AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
706	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by not having sexual intercourse at all?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
707	Can people get the AIDS virus because of witchcraft or other supernatural means?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
708	Is it possible for a healthy-looking person to have the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
709	Can the virus that causes AIDS be transmitted from a mother to her baby: During pregnancy? During delivery? By breastfeeding?	YES NO DK DURING PREGNANCY ..... 1 2 8 DURING DELIVERY ..... 1 2 8 BREASTFEEDING 1 2 8	
710	Do you know of a place where people can go to get tested for the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 712

14

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
711	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER D GOVT. HEALTH POST E GOVT. VCT SITE F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC/ PRIVATE DOCTOR H PHARMACY I OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL J _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	
712	Would you buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor if you knew that this person has the AIDS virus?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
713	If a member of your family got infected with the AIDS virus, would you want it to remain a secret or not?	YES, REMAIN A SECRET 1 NO 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
714	If a member of your family became sick with AIDS, would you be willing to care for her or him in your own household?	YES 1 NO 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
715	In your opinion, if a female teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should she be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
715A	In your opinion, if a male teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should he be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
716	CHECK 701: HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Apart from AIDS, have you heard about other infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact? NOT HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Have you heard about infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact?	YES 1 NO 2 → 718	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
717	Now I would like to ask you some questions about your health in the last 12 months. During the last 12 months, have you had a disease which you got through sexual contact?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
718	Sometimes men experience an abnormal discharge from their penis. During the last 12 months, have you had an abnormal discharge from your penis?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
719	Sometimes men have a sore or ulcer near their penis. During the last 12 months, have you had a sore or ulcer near your penis?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
720	CHECK 717, 718 AND 719: HAS HAD AN INFECTION (ANY 'YES') ☐ ↓ HAS NOT HAD AN INFECTION OR DOES NOT KNOW ☐ → 723		
721	The last time you had (PROBLEM FROM 717 / 718 / 719), did you seek any kind of advice or treatment?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 → 723	
722	Where did you go? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE(S))	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... H PHARMACY ..... I PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... L OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	
723	Husband and wives do not always agree in everything. If a wife knows her husband has a disease that she can get during sexual intercourse, is she justified in refusing to have sex with him?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
724	Is a wife justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she is tired or not in the mood?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
725	Is a wife justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she knows her husband has sex with other women?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	

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SECTION 8. OTHER HEALTH ISSUES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
801	Have you ever heard of an illness called tuberculosis or TB?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 805
802	How does tuberculosis spread from one person to another? PROBE: Any other ways? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	THROUGH THE AIR WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING ..... A THROUGH SHARING UTENSILS ..... B THROUGH TOUCHING A PERSON WITH TB ..... C THROUGH FOOD ..... D THROUGH SEXUAL CONTACT ..... E THROUGH MOSQUITO BITES ..... F OTHER _____ (SPECIFY) X DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
803	Can tuberculosis be cured?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
804	If a member of your family got tuberculosis, would you want it to remain a secret or not?	YES, REMAIN A SECRET ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
805	Now I would like to ask you some questions relating to health matters. Have you had an injection for any reason in the last 12 months? IF YES: How many injections have you had? IF NUMBER OF INJECTIONS IS GREATER THAN 90, OR DAILY FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE, RECORD '90'. IF NON-NUMERIC ANSWER, PROBE TO GET AN ESTIMATE.	NUMBER OF INJECTIONS ..... ☐☐ NONE 00	→ 809
806	Among these injections, how many were administered by a doctor, a nurse, a pharmacist, a dentist, or any other health worker? IF NUMBER OF INJECTIONS IS GREATER THAN 90, OR DAILY FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE, RECORD '90'. IF NON-NUMERIC ANSWER, PROBE TO GET AN ESTIMATE.	NUMBER OF INJECTIONS ..... ☐☐ NONE 00	→ 809

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
807	The last time you had an injection given to you by a health worker, where did you go to get the injection? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 11 GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL 12 GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL 13 GOVT. HEALTH CENTER 14 GOVT. HEALTH POST 15 COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER 16 OTHER PUBLIC 17 _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC 21 PRIVATE DOCTOR 22 DENTAL OFFICE/CLINIC 23 PHARMACY 24 OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL 26 _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER PLACE AT HOME 31 OTHER 96 _____ (SPECIFY)	
808	Did the person who gave you that injection take the syringe and needle from a new, unopened package?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
809	On how many days this week, did you walk, run, or engage in other vigorous physical activity for at lease 20 minutes? IF NONE RECORD '00'.	NUMBER OF DAYS ☐☐ DON'T KNOW / UNSURE 98	
810	Do you currently smoke cigarettes?	YES 1 NO 2	→ 812
811	In the last 24 hours, how many cigarettes did you smoke?	CIGARETTES ☐☐	
812	Do you currently smoke or use any other type of tobacco?	YES 1 NO 2	→ 901
813	What (other) type of tobacco do you currently smoke or use? RECORD ALL MENTIONED	HOOKA A BIDI B CIGAR C PIPE D CHEWING TOBACCO E SNUFF F OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	

18

SECTION 9. BLOOD PRESSURE, DIABETES, HEART ATTACK AND STROKE

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
901	Have you ever heard of an illness called high blood pressure or hypertension?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 905
902	Have you ever been told by a doctor or other health professional that you had hypertension or high blood pressure?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 905
903	Were you told on 2 or more different visits that you had hypertension or high blood pressure?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→ 905
904	To lower your hypertension or high blood pressure, are you now: a. taking prescribed medicine? b. controlling your weight or losing weight? c. cutting down on salt in your diet? d. exercising? e. stopping smoking?	YES NO DK TAKE MEDICINE ..... 1 2 8 CONTROL WEIGHT ..... 1 2 8 CUT DOWN SALT ..... 1 2 8 EXERCISE ..... 1 2 8 STOP SMOKING 1 2 8	
905	Have you ever heard of an illness called diabetes or high sugar?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 910
906	Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that you had diabetes?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW/UNSURE 8	→ 910
907	How old were you when you were FIRST told by a doctor or health professional that you had diabetes?	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
908	Are you taking insulin at this time?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 910
909	Are you taking pills to lower you blood sugar?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
910	Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor or other health professional with heart attack or myocardial infarction?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
911	Have you ever been diagnosed by a doctor or other health professional with a stroke?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
912	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR ☐☐ : MINS ☐☐	

19

INTERVIEWER'S OBSERVATIONS

TO BE FILLED IN AFTER COMPLETING INTERVIEW

COMMENTS ABOUT RESPONDENT:

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

ANY OTHER COMMENTS:

SUPERVISOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF SUPERVISOR: DATE:

EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF EDITOR: DATE:

20

17 December 2008

2008 MALDIVES DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY
YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT QUESTIONNAIRE

IDENTIFICATION

ISLAND NAME .....

HOUSEHOLD NAME .....

NAME OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD .....

CLUSTER NUMBER ☞ .....

HOUSEHOLD NUMBER ☞ .....

ATOLL ☞ .....

NAME AND LINE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT .....

SEX OF RESPONDENT: 1. MALE 2. FEMALE

INTERVIEWER VISITS

	1	2	3	FINAL VISIT
DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	Day ☐☐ Month ☐☐ Year 2 0 0 ☐
INTERVIEWER'S NAME	.....	.....	.....	INT. NUMBER ☐☐☐
RESULT*	☐	☐	☐	RESULT ☐
NEXT VISIT: DATE	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐	day ☐☐ month ☐☐ year 2 0 0 ☐		TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ☐
TIME	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐	Hr ☐☐ : Min ☐☐		

*RESULT CODES:

1 COMPLETED
2 NOT AT HOME
3 POSTPONED
4 REFUSED
5 PARTLY COMPLETED
6 INCAPACITATED
7 OTHER_____
(specify)

SUPERVISOR	FIELD EDITOR	OFFICE EDITOR	KEYED BY	VERIFIED BY
NAME	NAME			
ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐	ID CODE ☐☐☐
DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐	DATE ☐☐/☐☐/☐☐			

1

SECTION 1 : RESPONDENT'S BACKGROUND

Introduction and Consent

INFORMED CONSENT

Hello. My name is _____ and I am working with the Ministry of Health. We are conducting a national survey that asks women, men and youth about various health issues. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. This information will help the government to plan health services. The survey usually takes between 15 and 20 minutes to complete. Whatever information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than the members of our survey team.

Participation in this survey is voluntary, and if we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question; or you can stop the interview at any time. However, we hope that you will participate in this survey since your views are important.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

Signature of interviewer:_____ Date: _____

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED 1 RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED 2 ☞ END

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
101	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR ☐☐ : MINUTES ☐☐	
102	In what month and year were you born?	MONTH ..... ☐☐ DON'T KNOW MONTH ..... 98 YEAR ..... ☐☐☐☐ DON'T KNOW YEAR 9998	
103	How old were you at your last birthday? COMPARE AND CORRECT 102 AND/OR 103 IF INCONSISTENT.	AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS ..... ☐☐	
104	Have you ever attended school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→108

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
105	What is the highest level of school you attended?	NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ..... 00 PRESCHOOL ..... 01 PRIMARY ..... 02 'O' LEVEL ..... 03 'A' LEVEL ..... 04 DIPLOMA ..... 05 FIRST DEGREE ..... 06 MASTER'S CERTIFICATE/ABOVE ..... 07 CERTIFICATE 08	
106	What is the highest (grade/form/year) you completed at that level?	GRADE/FORM/YEAR ..... ☐☐	
107	Are you currently attending school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→109
108	What is the main reason you are not currently attending school?	GRADUATED AND DID NOT NEED ADDITIONAL SCHOOLING ..... 01 DID NOT PASS EXAMS ..... 02 DID NOT LIKE SCHOOL/DID NOT WANT TO CONTINUE ..... 03 CARING FOR SIBLINGS/OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS ..... 04 HELP WITH FAMILY BUSINESS ..... 05 NEEDED TO EARN MONEY ..... 06 SCHOOL NOT ACCESSIBLE/TOO FAR ..... 07 COULD NOT PAY SCHOOL FEES ..... 08 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
109	Have you done any work in the last seven days?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→111
110	Although you did not work in the last seven days, do you have any job or business from which you were absent for leave, illness, vacation, or any other such reason?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→111A →112
111 111A	During the past seven days, about how many hours did you work? How many hours do you usually work during a week?	HOURS WORKED ..... ☐☐ 95 HOURS OR MORE 95	→ 113
112	Have you done any work in the last 12 months?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→120
113	What is your occupation, that is, what kind of work do you mainly do?	☐☐ _____ _____ _____	
114	Do you do this work for government, for a private company, for someone else, for a member of your family, or are you self-employed?	FOR GOVERNMENT ..... 1 FOR PRIVATE COMPANY ..... 2 FOR SOMEONE ELSE ..... 3 FOR FAMILY MEMBER ..... 4 SELF-EMPLOYED 5	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
115	Do you usually work throughout the year, or do you work seasonally, or only once in a while?	THROUGHOUT THE YEAR ..... 1 SEASONALLY/PART OF THE YEAR ..... 2 ONCE IN A WHILE 3	
117	Are you paid in cash or kind for this work or are you not paid at all?	CASH ONLY ..... 1 CASH AND KIND ..... 2 IN KIND ONLY ..... 3 NOT PAID 4	→ 120
118	Do you use the money you earn to help with household expenses or do you keep all of it?	HELP WITH HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES ..... 1 KEEP ALL 2	→120
119	About how much of the money that you earn do you give for household expenses, less than half, about half, more than half, nearly all or all?	LESS THAN HALF ..... 1 ABOUT HALF ..... 2 MORE THAN HALF ..... 3 NEARLY ALL/ALL 4	
120	During this past week did you help with household chores such as house cleaning, washing, shopping, caring for children, or fetching water?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→122
121	During the past seven days, about how many hours did you spend helping with household chores?	HOURS WORKED ..... ☐☐ 95 HOURS OR MORE 95	
122	Do you read a newspaper or magazine almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL ..... 4 CANNOT READ 5	→124
123	Do you use the internet almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
124	Do you listen to the radio almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	
125	Do you watch television almost every day, at least once a week, less than once a week or not at all?	ALMOST EVERY DAY ..... 1 AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK ..... 2 LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK ..... 3 NOT AT ALL 4	

④

SECTION 2. KNOWLEDGE OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ISSUES

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
201	Now I would like to talk about some issues relating to reproductive health.		
202	CHECK 104: EVER ATTENDED SCHOOL ATTENDED SCHOOL ☐ ↓ NEVER ATTENDED SCHOOL ☐ → 204		
203	Were you ever taught about human reproduction and sexuality in school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
204	Do you think that young people should be taught about human reproduction and sexuality in school?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 206
205	At what age do you think youth should first be taught about human reproduction and sexuality in school?	AGE ..... ☐☐	
206	Have you ever seen or heard about anything relating to human reproduction and sexuality on:	YES NO	
	Television?	TELEVISION 1 2	
	Radio?	RADIO 1 2	
	Newspaper/Magazine?	NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE 1 2	
	Internet?	INTERNET 1 2	
207	Have you ever talked about anything relating to human reproduction and sexuality with any of the following persons:	YES NO	
	Mother?	MOTHER 1 2	
	Father?	FATHER 1 2	
	Brother?	BROTHER 1 2	
	Sister?	SISTER 1 2	
	Male Friend?	MALE FRIEND 1 2	
	Female Friend?	FEMALE FRIEND 1 2	
	Boyfriend / Girlfriend?	BOYFRIEND/GIRLFRIEND 1 2	
	Female Teacher?	FEMALE TEACHER 1 2	
	Male Teacher?	MALE TEACHER 1 2	
	Health Provider?	HEALTH PROVIDER 1 2	
208	Do you think that health providers should be more active in providing youth with information about human reproduction?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
209	Now I would like to ask you about a woman's risk of pregnancy. Do you think a girl can become pregnant the first time that she ever has sexual intercourse?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
210	From one menstrual period to the next, are there certain days when a women is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual relations?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	☐ → 212
211	Is this time just before her period begins, during her period, right after her period has ended, or halfway between two periods?	JUST BEFORE HER PERIOD BEGINS ..... 1 DURING HER PERIOD ..... 2 RIGHT AFTER HER PERIOD HAS ENDED ..... 3 HALFWAY BETWEEN TWO PERIODS ..... 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 8	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
212	Do you know about family planning, that is, the various ways or methods that a couple can use to delay or avoid a pregnancy. Which ways or methods have you heard about? FOR METHODS NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY, ASK: Have you ever heard of (METHOD)? CIRCLE CODE 1 FOR EACH METHOD MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. THEN PROCEED DOWN COLUMN, READING THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF EACH METHOD NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. CIRCLE CODE 1 IF METHOD IS RECOGNIZED, AND CODE 2 IF NOT RECOGNIZED.		
01	FEMALE STERILIZATION Women can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
02	MALE STERILIZATION Men can have an operation to avoid having any more children.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
03	PILL Women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
04	IUD Women can have a loop or coil placed inside them by a doctor or a nurse.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
05	INJECTABLES Women can have an injection by a health provider that stops them from becoming pregnant for one or more months.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
06	IMPLANTS Women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by a doctor or nurse which can prevent pregnancy for one or more years.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
07	CONDOM Men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
08	RHYTHM METHOD Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid pregnancy by not having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is most likely to get pregnant.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
09	WITHDRAWAL Men can be careful and pull out before climax.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
10	EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION As an emergency measure after sexual intercourse, women can take special pills at any time within 5 days to prevent pregnancy.	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
11	Have you heard of any other ways or methods that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy?	YES ..... 1 _____ (SPECIFY) _____ (SPECIFY) NO 2	
213	Would you say that using contraception should mainly be the woman's decision, mainly the man's decision, or they should both decide together?	MAINLY WOMAN ..... 1 MAINLY MAN ..... 2 JOINT DECISION ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
214	CHECK 212: KNOWS ONE OR MORE FAMILY PLANNING METHODS ☐ ↓ DOES NOT KNOW ANY FAMILY PLANNING METHOD ☐ → 301		

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
215	Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement. Contraceptive services should be available to unmarried couples.	AGREE ..... 1 DISAGREE ..... 2 IT DEPENDS ..... 3 DON'T KNOW 8	
216	If a couple wants to plan their family what contraceptive do you think is best for a couple to use?	FEMALE STERILIZATION ..... 01 MALE STERILIZATION ..... 02 PILL ..... 03 IUD ..... 04 INJECTABLES ..... 05 IMPLANTS ..... 06 CONDOM ..... 07 DIAPHRAGM ..... 08 FOAM/JELLY ..... 09 RHYTHM METHOD ..... 10 WITHDRAWAL ..... 11 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY) UNSURE 98	
217	Do you think you will use a contraceptive method to delay or avoid pregnancy at any time after you are married if your (wife/husband) agrees?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	→301 →301
218	What is the main reason that you think you will not use a contraceptive method at any time in the future?	FERTILITY-RELATED REASONS INFREQUENT SEX/NO SEX ..... 22 MENOPAUSAL/HYSTERECTOMY ..... 23 SUBFECUND/INFECUND ..... 24 WANTS AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE 26 OPPOSITION TO USE RESPONDENT OPPOSED ..... 31 HUSBAND MAY OPPOSE ..... 32 OTHERS OPPOSED ..... 33 RELIGIOUS PROHIBITION ..... 34 LACK OF KNOWLEDGE KNOWS NO METHOD ..... 41 KNOWS NO SOURCE ..... 42 METHOD-RELATED REASONS HEALTH CONCERNS ..... 51 FEAR OR SIDE EFFECTS ..... 52 LACK OF ACCESS/TOO FAR ..... 53 COSTS TOO MUCH ..... 54 INCONVENIENT TO USE ..... 55 INTERFERES WITH BODY'S NORMAL PROCESSES ..... 56 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW 98	

SECTION 3. ATTITUDES ABOUT MARRIAGE AND CHILDBEARING

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
301	Now I am going to ask some questions about marriage and childbearing. In your opinion, what is the best age for a girl to marry?	IDEAL AGE FOR A GIRL TO MARRY ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
302	In your opinion, what is the best age for a boy to marry?	IDEAL AGE FOR A BOY TO MARRY ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	
303	Who is going to choose the person you will marry, your parents, yourself, or will you decide together with your parents?	MAINLY PARENTS ..... 1 MAINLY RESPONDENT ..... 2 JOINT DECISION WITH PARENT ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
304	If you could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be? PROBE FOR A NUMERIC RESPONSE.	NONE ..... 00 →306 NUMBER ..... ☐☐ OTHER _____ 96 →306 (SPECIFY)	
305	How many of these children would you like to be boys, how many would you like to be girls and for how many would the sex not matter?	BOYS GIRLS EITHER NUMBER ..... ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
306	Who do you think should mainly decide how many children a couple should have, the husband, the wife, or both together?	MAINLY HUSBAND ..... 1 MAINLY WIFE ..... 2 JOINT DECISION ..... 3 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
307	Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following: Before they marry, a couple should date and spend some time alone together so they get to know each other well. After a couple marries, they should delay having their first child for at least one year.	AG-REE DIS-AGREE DK DATE/SPEND TIME ALONE TOGETHER ..... 1 2 8 DELAY FIRST BIRTH 1 2 8	
308	How long do you think a woman should wait after one birth before she has another birth?	MONTHS ..... 1 ☐☐ YEARS ..... 2 ☐☐ DON'T KNOW 98	

SECTION 4. SEXUAL ACTIVITY

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
401	CHECK 103: AGE 18 YEARS AND OLDER ☐ ↓ AGE 15 - 17 YEARS ☐ → 501		
402	Now I am going to ask you some questions about sexual relationships. Some of the questions will be personal. However, we promise that we will keep your answers confidential. Your responses will help us in understanding the situation of youth today in the Maldives and in planning youth health programs. Again your participation is voluntary. If we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question. CHECK FOR THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS. BEFORE CONTINUING, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE PRIVACY.		
403	Have you ever had sexual intercourse?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 411
404	How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the very first time?	AGE IN YEARS ..... ☐☐	
405	With how many different persons have you ever had sexual intercourse?	TOTAL NUMBER OF SEXUAL PARTNERS ..... ☐☐	
406	When did you last have sexual intercourse?	DAYS AGO ..... 1 ☐☐ WEEKS AGO ..... 2 ☐☐ MONTHS AGO ..... 3 ☐☐ YEARS AGO ..... 4 ☐☐	
407	The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use anything to prevent pregnancy?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 409
408	What method did you use?	PILL ..... 03 IUD ..... 04 INJECTABLES ..... 05 IMPLANTS ..... 06 CONDOM ..... 07 DIAPHRAGM ..... 08 FOAM/JELLY ..... 09 RHYTHM METHOD ..... 10 WITHDRAWAL ..... 11 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY) UNSURE 98	
409	Sometimes a woman becomes pregnant when she does not want to be. FEMALE ☐ ↓ In the past, have you ever become pregnant when you did not want to be? MALE ☐ ↓ In the past, has a woman with whom you were having sex ever become pregnant when you did not want her to be?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 411
410	What happened with the (last such) pregnancy?	PREGNANCY CONTINUED ..... 1 HAD ABORTION ..... 2 HAD MISCARRIAGE ..... 3 DON'T KNOW 8	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
411	Have any of your unmarried friends told you that they have initiated sexual activity?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
412	Do you agree or disagree with the following statements: It is becoming more common in the Maldives for couples to initiate sexual intercourse before marriage. Men still want their wives to be virgins at the time they marry.	AG-REE / DIS-AGREE / DK SEX BEFORE MARRIAGE MORE COMMON ..... 1 2 8 MEN WANT WIVES TO BE VIRGINS 1 2 8	

SECTION 5. HIV/AIDS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
501	Now I would like to talk about something else. Have you ever heard of an illness called AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 517
502	Can people reduce their chances of getting the AIDS virus by having just one uninfected sex partner who has no other sex partners?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
503	Can people get the AIDS virus from mosquito bites?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
504	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by using a condom every time they have sex?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
505	Can people get the AIDS virus by sharing food with a person who has AIDS?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
506	Can people reduce their chance of getting the AIDS virus by not having sexual intercourse at all?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
507	Can people get the AIDS virus because of witchcraft or other supernatural means?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
508	Is it possible for a healthy-looking person to have the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
509	Can the virus that causes AIDS be transmitted from a mother to her baby: During pregnancy? During delivery? By breastfeeding?	YES NO DK DURING PREGNANCY ..... 1 2 8 DURING DELIVERY ..... 1 2 8 BREASTFEEDING 1 2 8	
510	Do you know of a place where people can go to get tested for the AIDS virus?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 512

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
511	Where is that? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER D GOVT. HEALTH POST E GOVT. VCT SITE F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC/ PRIVATE DOCTOR H PHARMACY I OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL J _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	
512	Would you buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor if you knew that this person had the AIDS virus?	YES 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
513	If a member of your family got infected with the AIDS virus, would you want it to remain a secret or not?	YES, REMAIN A SECRET 1 NO 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
514	If a member of your family became sick with AIDS, would you be willing to care for her or him in your own household?	YES 1 NO 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
515	In your opinion, if a female teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should she be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
516	In your opinion, if a male teacher has the AIDS virus but is not sick, should he be allowed to continue teaching in the school?	SHOULD BE ALLOWED 1 SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED 2 DK/UNSURE/DEPENDS 8	
517	CHECK 501: HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Apart from AIDS, have you heard about other infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact? NOT HEARD ABOUT AIDS ☐ → Have you heard about infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact?	YES 1 NO 2 → 601	

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NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
518	What other sexually transmitted diseases have you heard about? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	SYPHILIS ..... A GONORRHEA ..... B HEPATITIS B ..... C HERPES SIMPLEX (HSV-2) ..... D OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW/REMEMBER THE NAME ..... Y DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
519	If a man has a sexually transmitted disease, what symptoms might he have? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	ABDOMINAL PAIN ..... A GENITAL DISCHARGE/DRIPPING ..... B FOUL SMELLING DISCHARGE ..... C BURNING ON URINATION ..... D REDNESS/INFLAMMATION IN THE GENITAL AREA E SWELLING IN THE GENITAL AREA ..... F GENITAL SORES/ULCERS ..... G GENITAL WARTS ..... H GENITAL ITCHING ..... I BLOOD IN URINE ..... J LOSS OF WEIGHT ..... K OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY) NO SYMPTOM ..... Y DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
520	If a woman has a sexually transmitted disease, what symptoms might she have? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	ABDOMINAL PAIN ..... A GENITAL DISCHARGE/DRIPPING ..... B FOUL SMELLING DISCHARGE ..... C BURNING ON URINATION ..... D REDNESS/INFLAMMATION IN THE GENITAL AREA E SWELLING IN THE GENITAL AREA ..... F GENITAL SORES/ULCERS ..... G GENITAL WARTS ..... H GENITAL ITCHING ..... I BLOOD IN URINE ..... J LOSS OF WEIGHT ..... K OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY) NO SYMPTOM ..... Y DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
521	Do you know where a person can go to get treatment if they think they have a sexually transmitted disease?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 601

13

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
522	Where can they go? Any other place? PROBE TO IDENTIFY EACH TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE(S). IF UNABLE TO DETERMINE IF HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER OR CLINIC IS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE MEDICAL, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. _____ (NAME OF PLACE)	PUBLIC SECTOR INDHIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL A GOVT. REGIONAL HOSPITAL ..... B GOVT. ATOLL HOSPITAL ..... C GOVT. HEALTH CENTER ..... D GOVT. HEALTH POST ..... E COMMUNITY/FAMILY HEALTH WORKER F OTHER PUBLIC G _____ (SPECIFY) PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR PRIVATE HOSPITAL/CLINIC ..... H PHARMACY ..... I PRIVATE DOCTOR ..... J OTHER PRIVATE MEDICAL K _____ (SPECIFY) OTHER SOURCE SHOP ..... L OTHER X _____ (SPECIFY)	

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SECTION 6. SMOKING, DRINKING AND DRUGS

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
601	Do you currently smoke cigarettes?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→605
602	In the last 24 hours, how many cigarettes did you smoke?	CIGARETTES ..... ☐☐	
603	Do you currently smoke or use any other type of tobacco?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→ 605
604	What (other) type of tobacco do you currently smoke or use? RECORD ALL MENTIONED	HOOKA ..... A BIDI ..... B CIGAR ..... C PIPE ..... D CHEWING TOBACCO ..... E SNUFF ..... F OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
605	Now I am going to ask you some questions about other behaviors in which youth sometimes engage. Your response will help us in understanding the situation of youth today in the Maldives and in planning youth health programs. Again your participation is voluntary. We promise to keep your answers confidential. If we should come to any question you don't want to answer, just let me know and I will go on to the next question. CHECK FOR THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS. BEFORE CONTINUING, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE PRIVACY.		
606	Have you ever drunk an alcohol-containing beverage?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	→609A
607	How old were you when you first drank an alcohol-containing beverage?	AGE ..... ☐☐	
608	In the last month, how many days did you drink an alcohol-containing beverage? RECORD '00' IF DID NOT DRINK DURING LAST MONTH.	NUMBER OF DAYS ..... ☐☐	
609A	There are other drugs like heroin that are used to get 'high'. Have you ever used heroin?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
609B	Have you ever used any other drugs that can be used to get high?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
609C	CHECK 609A AND 609B: USED HEROIN / OTHER DRUGS ☐ ↓ NEVER USED DRUGS ☐ → 613		
610	In what ways have you ingested heroin or other drugs? RECORD ALL MENTIONED	SMOKED ..... A INHALED ..... B INJECTED ..... C DRUNK/SWALLOWED ..... D OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
611	How old were you when you first ingested any drugs that are used to get high?	AGE ..... ☐☐	
612	In the last 3 months, on how many days did you use drugs? RECORD '00' IF DID NOT USE DRUGS DURING LAST THREE MONTHS	DID NOT USE DRUGS ..... 000 NUMBER OF DAYS ..... ☐☐☐	→ 613

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
612A	In the last 3 months, on how many occasions did you use drugs together with a family member, friend or someone else? RECORD '00' IF DID NOT USE DRUGS DURING LAST THREE MONTHS WITH ANYONE.	ALWAYS USED ALONE ..... 000 NUMBER OF OCCASIONS ..... ☐☐☐	
613	Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement. Drugs are easily available to young people in this community.	AGREE ..... 1 DISAGREE ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
614	CHECK 107: CURRENTLY ATTENDING SCHOOL ATTENDING SCHOOL ☐ ↓ NOT IN SCHOOL ☐ → 616		
615	Do you agree or disagree that: Drugs are easily available to young people in your school.	AGREE ..... 1 DISAGREE ..... 2 DON'T KNOW 8	
616	What are the reasons that youth in the Maldives are using drugs? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	UNEMPLOYED/NOT IN SCHOOL ..... A BORED ..... B INFLUENCED BY PEERS ..... C INFLUENCED BY MEDIA ..... D NOT SUPERVISED BY PARENTS ..... E OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW ..... Z	
617	RECORD THE TIME	HOUR MINS ☐☐:☐☐	

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INTERVIEWER'S OBSERVATIONS

TO BE FILLED IN AFTER COMPLETING INTERVIEW

COMMENTS ABOUT RESPONDENT:

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

ANY OTHER COMMENTS:

SUPERVISOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF SUPERVISOR: DATE:

EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF EDITOR: DATE:

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ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERRORS FOR SELECTED VARIABLES AT ATOLL-LEVEL

Appendix ***F***

Sampling errors for the 2009 MDHS are calculated for selected variables considered to be of primary interest. The results are presented in the national report for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas, for the three geographical regions, and for each of the 6 geographical/administrative regions. This report presents sampling errors for selected variables for each of the atolls. For each variable, the type of statistic (mean, proportion, or rate) and the base population are given in Table F,0.

The estimates from a sample survey are affected by two types of errors: non-sampling errors and sampling errors. Non-sampling errors are the results of mistakes made in implementing data collection and data processing, such as failure to locate and interview the correct household, misunderstanding of the questions on the part of either the interviewer or the respondent, and data entry errors. Although numerous efforts were made during the implementation of the Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2009 (2009 MDHS) to minimize this type of error, non-sampling errors are impossible to avoid and difficult to evaluate statistically.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, can be evaluated statistically. The sample of respondents selected in the 2009 MDHS is only one of many samples that could have been selected from the same population, using the same design and expected size. Each of these samples would yield results that differ somewhat from the results of the actual sample selected. Sampling errors are a measure of the variability between all possible samples. Although the degree of variability is not known exactly, it can be estimated from the survey results.

A sampling error is usually measured in terms of the *standard error* for a particular statistic (mean, percentage, etc.), which is the square root of the variance. The standard error can be used to calculate confidence intervals within which the true value for the population can reasonably be assumed to fall. For example, for any given statistic calculated from a sample survey, the value of that statistic will fall within a range of plus or minus two times the standard error of that statistic in 95 percent of all possible samples of identical size and design.

If the sample of respondents had been selected as a simple random sample, it would have been possible to use straightforward formulas for calculating sampling errors. However, the 2009 MDHS sample is the result of a multi-stage stratified design, and, consequently, it was necessary to use more complex formulae. The computer software used to calculate sampling errors for the 2009 MDHS is a Macro SAS procedure. This procedure used the Taylor linearization method of variance estimation for survey estimates that are means or proportions. The Jackknife repeated replication method is used for variance estimation of more complex statistics such as fertility and mortality rates.

The Taylor linearization method treats any percentage or average as a ratio estimate, $r = y/x$, where y represents the total sample value for variable y, and x represents the total number of cases in the group or subgroup under consideration. The variance of r is computed using the formula given below, with the standard error being the square root of the variance:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1-f}{x^2}\sum_{h=1}^{H}\left[\frac{m_h}{m_h-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m_h} z_{hi}^2 - \frac{z_h^2}{m_h}\right)\right]$$

in which

$$z_{hi} = y_{hi} - rx_{hi} \text{ , and } z_h = y_h - rx_h$$

where h represents the stratum which varies from 1 to H,
m_h is the total number of clusters selected in the h^{th} stratum,
y_{hi} is the sum of the weighted values of variable y in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum,
x_{hi} is the sum of the weighted number of cases in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum, and
f is the overall sampling fraction, which is so small that it is ignored.

The Jackknife repeated replication method derives estimates of complex rates from each of several replications of the parent sample, and calculates standard errors for these estimates using simple formulae. Each replication considers *all but one* clusters in the calculation of the estimates. Pseudo-independent replications are thus created. In the 2009 MDHS, there were 270 non-empty clusters. Hence, 270 replications were created. The variance of a rate r is calculated as follows:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1}{k(k-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{k} (r_i - r)^2$$

in which

$$r_i = kr - (k-1)r_{(i)}$$

where r is the estimate computed from the full sample of 270 clusters,
$r_{(i)}$ is the estimate computed from the reduced sample of 269 clusters (i^{th} cluster excluded), and
k is the total number of clusters.

In addition to the standard error, the design effect (DEFT) for each estimate is calculated, which is defined as the ratio between the standard error using the given sample design and the standard error that would result if a simple random sample had been used. A DEFT value of 1.0 indicates that the sample design is as efficient as a simple random sample, while a value greater than 1.0 indicates the increase in the sampling error due to the use of a more complex and less statistically efficient design. The relative standard error and confidence limits for the estimates are also calculated.

Tables F.1 through F.21 present the value of the statistic (R), its standard error (SE), the number of unweighted (N) and weighted (WN) cases, the design effect (DEFT), the relative standard error (SE/R), and the 95 percent confidence limits (R±2SE), for each variable. The DEFT is considered undefined when the standard error considering simple random sample is zero (when the estimate is close to 0 or 1).

The confidence interval (e.g., as calculated for *Fully immunized, Haa Dhaal atoll*, can be interpreted as follows: the overall percent from the Haa Dhaal sample is 89.5 and its standard error is 0.037. Therefore, to obtain the 95 percent confidence limits, one adds and subtracts twice the standard error to the sample estimate, i.e., 89.5±2×0.037. There is a high probability (95 percent) that the *true* proportion of children fully immunized in Haa Dhaal is between 82.1 percent and 96.9 percent.

For the total sample, the value of the DEFT, averaged over all variables, is 1.276. This means that, due to multi-stage clustering of the sample, the average standard error is increased by a factor of 1.276 over that in an equivalent simple random sample.

Table F.0 List of selected variables for sampling errors, atoll-level data, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Estimate	Base population
No education	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Secondary education or higher	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Currently married	Proportion	All women 15-49
Married before age 20	Proportion	All women 20-49
Currently pregnant	Proportion	All women 15-49
Children ever born	Mean	All women 15-49
Children surviving	Mean	All women 15-49
Knows any contraceptive method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Knows a modern method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Ever used any contraceptive method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using any method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Currently using a modern method	Proportion	Currently married women 15-49
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	Proportion	Women with a live birth in past five years
Fully immunized	Proportion	Children 12-23 months
Has heard about HIV/AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Knows about limiting partners to prevent HIV/AIDS	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	Proportion	Ever-married women 15-49

Table F.1 Sampling errors for Male sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.122	0.009	1041	2368	0.928	0.077	0.103	0.141
Secondary education or higher	0.581	0.017	1041	2368	1.123	0.030	0.547	0.616
Currently married	0.551	0.078	1717	3851	0.925	0.142	0.394	0.708
Married before age 20	0.394	0.016	1313	2961	1.140	0.041	0.362	0.426
Currently pregnant	0.036	0.007	1717	3851	0.947	0.187	0.022	0.049
Children ever born	1.335	0.192	1717	3851	0.915	0.144	0.950	1.720
Children surviving	1.283	0.185	1717	3851	0.913	0.144	0.914	1.653
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.003	935	2122	1.089	0.003	0.989	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.003	935	2122	1.055	0.003	0.988	0.999
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.567	0.022	935	2122	1.357	0.039	0.523	0.611
Currently using any method	0.336	0.017	935	2122	1.088	0.050	0.303	0.370
Currently using a modern method	0.256	0.015	935	2122	1.039	0.058	0.227	0.286
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.844	0.019	423	964	1.053	0.022	0.807	0.881
Fully immunized	0.914	0.029	108	243	0.983	0.032	0.856	0.973
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.975	0.005	1041	2368	1.053	0.005	0.965	0.985
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.824	0.012	1041	2368	1.052	0.015	0.800	0.849
Knows about limiting partners	0.929	0.010	1041	2368	1.287	0.011	0.909	0.950
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.508	0.020	1041	2368	1.264	0.039	0.469	0.547

Table F.2 Sampling errors for Haa Alif sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.122	0.009	1041	2368	0.928	0.077	0.103	0.141
Secondary education or higher	0.581	0.017	1041	2368	1.123	0.030	0.547	0.616
Currently married	0.551	0.078	1717	3851	0.925	0.142	0.394	0.708
Married before age 20	0.394	0.016	1313	2961	1.140	0.041	0.362	0.426
Currently pregnant	0.036	0.007	1717	3851	0.947	0.187	0.022	0.049
Children ever born	1.335	0.192	1717	3851	0.915	0.144	0.950	1.720
Children surviving	1.283	0.185	1717	3851	0.913	0.144	0.914	1.653
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.003	935	2122	1.089	0.003	0.989	1.000
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.003	935	2122	1.055	0.003	0.988	0.999
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.567	0.022	935	2122	1.357	0.039	0.523	0.611
Currently using any method	0.336	0.017	935	2122	1.088	0.050	0.303	0.370
Currently using a modern method	0.256	0.015	935	2122	1.039	0.058	0.227	0.286
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.844	0.019	423	964	1.053	0.022	0.807	0.881
Fully immunized	0.914	0.029	108	243	0.983	0.032	0.856	0.973
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.975	0.005	1041	2368	1.053	0.005	0.965	0.985
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.824	0.012	1041	2368	1.052	0.015	0.800	0.849
Knows about limiting partners	0.929	0.010	1041	2368	1.287	0.011	0.909	0.950
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.508	0.020	1041	2368	1.264	0.039	0.469	0.547

Table F.3 Sampling errors for Haa Dhaal sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.320	0.035	315	440	1.316	0.108	0.250	0.389
Secondary education or higher	0.297	0.048	315	440	1.842	0.160	0.202	0.393
Currently married	0.593	0.110	503	699	1.020	0.186	0.372	0.813
Married before age 20	0.534	0.036	364	508	1.369	0.067	0.462	0.606
Currently pregnant	0.052	0.016	503	699	1.172	0.308	0.020	0.084
Children ever born	1.809	0.332	503	699	0.946	0.184	1.145	2.473
Children surviving	1.719	0.319	503	699	0.959	0.186	1.080	2.358
Knows any contraceptive method	0.990	0.005	296	414	0.964	0.006	0.980	1.001
Knows a modern method	0.990	0.005	296	414	0.964	0.006	0.980	1.001
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.648	0.049	296	414	1.758	0.076	0.549	0.746
Currently using any method	0.413	0.050	296	414	1.723	0.120	0.314	0.513
Currently using a modern method	0.285	0.049	296	414	1.847	0.171	0.188	0.383
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.879	0.033	150	210	1.234	0.037	0.813	0.945
Fully immunized	0.895	0.037	47	66	0.829	0.041	0.821	0.969
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.959	0.019	315	440	1.670	0.019	0.922	0.997
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.784	0.033	315	440	1.413	0.042	0.718	0.850
Knows about limiting partners	0.907	0.022	315	440	1.350	0.024	0.863	0.951
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.371	0.038	315	440	1.406	0.104	0.294	0.447

Table F.4 Sampling errors for Shaviyani sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.269	0.025	338	300	1.027	0.092	0.219	0.318
Secondary education or higher	0.324	0.032	338	300	1.264	0.100	0.260	0.389
Currently married	0.668	0.077	490	437	0.992	0.115	0.515	0.821
Married before age 20	0.477	0.050	387	347	1.067	0.104	0.378	0.576
Currently pregnant	0.066	0.015	490	437	1.161	0.226	0.036	0.096
Children ever born	1.851	0.271	490	437	1.105	0.146	1.309	2.393
Children surviving	1.714	0.245	490	437	1.083	0.143	1.224	2.204
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.006	329	292	1.374	0.006	0.983	1.006
Knows a modern method	0.994	0.006	329	292	1.374	0.006	0.983	1.006
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.649	0.035	329	292	1.323	0.054	0.579	0.719
Currently using any method	0.332	0.026	329	292	1.003	0.079	0.280	0.384
Currently using a modern method	0.286	0.037	329	292	1.462	0.128	0.213	0.360
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.720	0.044	166	147	1.246	0.061	0.633	0.808
Fully immunized	0.958	0.026	49	44	0.899	0.027	0.907	1.009
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.959	0.014	338	300	1.298	0.015	0.930	0.987
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.740	0.020	338	300	0.855	0.028	0.699	0.781
Knows about limiting partners	0.913	0.017	338	300	1.090	0.018	0.880	0.947
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.352	0.021	338	300	0.813	0.060	0.310	0.395

Table F.5 Sampling errors for Noonu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.312	0.023	325	286	0.895	0.074	0.266	0.358
Secondary education or higher	0.319	0.036	325	286	1.405	0.114	0.246	0.392
Currently married	0.714	0.044	423	375	0.822	0.061	0.627	0.801
Married before age 20	0.590	0.035	347	305	1.366	0.059	0.521	0.660
Currently pregnant	0.042	0.008	423	375	0.778	0.188	0.026	0.058
Children ever born	2.083	0.122	423	375	0.610	0.059	1.840	2.327
Children surviving	1.971	0.104	423	375	0.552	0.053	1.763	2.179
Knows any contraceptive method	0.997	0.003	304	268	1.022	0.003	0.990	1.003
Knows a modern method	0.997	0.003	304	268	1.022	0.003	0.990	1.003
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.676	0.044	304	268	1.647	0.066	0.587	0.765
Currently using any method	0.434	0.034	304	268	1.185	0.078	0.367	0.502
Currently using a modern method	0.333	0.027	304	268	0.999	0.081	0.279	0.388
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.849	0.035	151	133	1.203	0.041	0.779	0.919
Fully immunized	1.000	0.000	35	31	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.991	0.005	325	286	0.908	0.005	0.981	1.000
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.672	0.043	325	286	1.635	0.064	0.587	0.758
Knows about limiting partners	0.966	0.010	325	286	0.992	0.010	0.946	0.986
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.317	0.036	325	286	1.385	0.113	0.245	0.389

na = Not applicable

Table F.6 Sampling errors for Raa sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.376	0.031	341	334	1.187	0.083	0.314	0.439
Secondary education or higher	0.285	0.026	341	334	1.049	0.090	0.234	0.337
Currently married	0.611	0.090	509	511	1.031	0.148	0.431	0.792
Married before age 20	0.525	0.025	392	384	0.965	0.047	0.475	0.574
Currently pregnant	0.071	0.013	509	511	0.850	0.180	0.045	0.096
Children ever born	2.148	0.302	509	511	0.917	0.141	1.544	2.753
Children surviving	1.991	0.274	509	511	0.897	0.138	1.444	2.539
Knows any contraceptive method	0.997	0.004	319	313	1.068	0.004	0.989	1.004
Knows a modern method	0.997	0.004	319	313	1.068	0.004	0.989	1.004
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.648	0.038	319	313	1.433	0.059	0.571	0.725
Currently using any method	0.378	0.033	319	313	1.231	0.089	0.311	0.445
Currently using a modern method	0.242	0.033	319	313	1.384	0.137	0.176	0.309
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.834	0.029	156	153	0.970	0.035	0.777	0.892
Fully immunized	0.936	0.040	31	30	0.909	0.043	0.855	1.016
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.980	0.007	341	334	0.893	0.007	0.966	0.993
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.727	0.031	341	334	1.283	0.043	0.665	0.789
Knows about limiting partners	0.945	0.014	341	334	1.155	0.015	0.916	0.973
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.308	0.034	341	334	1.355	0.110	0.240	0.376

Table F.7 Sampling errors for Baa sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.360	0.038	321	233	1.397	0.104	0.285	0.435
Secondary education or higher	0.286	0.038	321	233	1.507	0.133	0.210	0.362
Currently married	0.615	0.132	493	352	0.912	0.215	0.350	0.879
Married before age 20	0.351	0.088	493	352	1.043	0.250	0.176	0.526
Currently pregnant	0.063	0.020	493	352	1.191	0.317	0.023	0.103
Children ever born	1.939	0.467	493	352	0.988	0.241	1.004	2.874
Children surviving	1.856	0.454	493	352	1.002	0.244	0.949	2.763
Knows any contraceptive method	0.993	0.005	298	216	0.993	0.005	0.983	1.003
Knows a modern method	0.993	0.005	298	216	0.993	0.005	0.983	1.003
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.621	0.044	298	216	1.545	0.070	0.534	0.708
Currently using any method	0.299	0.032	298	216	1.222	0.109	0.234	0.364
Currently using a modern method	0.252	0.028	298	216	1.105	0.110	0.197	0.308
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.652	0.046	146	107	1.166	0.071	0.560	0.744
Fully immunized	0.966	0.034	32	23	1.056	0.035	0.899	1.034
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.963	0.011	321	233	1.022	0.011	0.941	0.984
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.740	0.028	321	233	1.141	0.038	0.684	0.796
Knows about limiting partners	0.912	0.012	321	233	0.734	0.013	0.889	0.935
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.393	0.026	321	233	0.942	0.065	0.341	0.444

Table F.8 Sampling errors for Lhaviyani sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.358	0.033	272	184	1.141	0.093	0.291	0.424
Secondary education or higher	0.289	0.023	272	184	0.824	0.079	0.243	0.334
Currently married	0.685	0.096	362	249	1.344	0.140	0.494	0.877
Married before age 20	0.542	0.053	318	216	1.192	0.097	0.437	0.648
Currently pregnant	0.069	0.020	362	249	1.329	0.290	0.029	0.108
Children ever born	2.189	0.348	362	249	1.321	0.159	1.494	2.884
Children surviving	2.074	0.325	362	249	1.309	0.156	1.425	2.723
Knows any contraceptive method	0.992	0.008	252	171	1.361	0.008	0.977	1.007
Knows a modern method	0.992	0.008	252	171	1.361	0.008	0.977	1.007
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.669	0.015	252	171	0.521	0.023	0.638	0.700
Currently using any method	0.368	0.028	252	171	0.906	0.075	0.312	0.423
Currently using a modern method	0.314	0.032	252	171	1.077	0.100	0.251	0.377
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.844	0.023	105	73	0.656	0.027	0.799	0.890
Fully immunized	0.905	0.046	31	21	0.868	0.050	0.814	0.996
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.975	0.011	272	184	1.134	0.011	0.954	0.997
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.821	0.026	272	184	1.101	0.031	0.769	0.872
Knows about limiting partners	0.923	0.019	272	184	1.162	0.020	0.886	0.961
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.404	0.056	272	184	1.880	0.139	0.292	0.517

Table F.9 Sampling errors for Kaafu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.234	0.021	359	255	0.930	0.089	0.192	0.275
Secondary education or higher	0.279	0.042	359	255	1.759	0.150	0.196	0.363
Currently married	0.643	0.065	499	359	0.905	0.101	0.513	0.774
Married before age 20	0.677	0.027	374	266	1.161	0.040	0.623	0.731
Currently pregnant	0.061	0.017	499	359	1.316	0.273	0.028	0.094
Children ever born	2.125	0.199	499	359	0.744	0.094	1.726	2.524
Children surviving	1.981	0.176	499	359	0.706	0.089	1.630	2.333
Knows any contraceptive method	0.997	0.003	325	231	1.038	0.003	0.990	1.003
Knows a modern method	0.997	0.003	325	231	1.038	0.003	0.990	1.003
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.687	0.038	325	231	1.481	0.056	0.610	0.763
Currently using any method	0.426	0.025	325	231	0.912	0.059	0.376	0.476
Currently using a modern method	0.336	0.027	325	231	1.039	0.081	0.282	0.391
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.773	0.068	164	114	2.044	0.088	0.637	0.909
Fully immunized	0.948	0.035	42	30	1.014	0.037	0.878	1.017
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.979	0.006	359	255	0.797	0.006	0.967	0.991
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.787	0.024	359	255	1.089	0.030	0.740	0.834
Knows about limiting partners	0.935	0.017	359	255	1.307	0.018	0.901	0.969
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.351	0.020	359	255	0.790	0.057	0.311	0.390

Table F.10 Sampling errors for Alif Alif sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.290	0.025	311	139	0.958	0.085	0.241	0.339
Secondary education or higher	0.284	0.048	311	139	1.858	0.168	0.189	0.380
Currently married	0.675	0.116	424	186	0.926	0.171	0.444	0.906
Married before age 20	0.684	0.039	323	145	1.522	0.056	0.607	0.761
Currently pregnant	0.069	0.015	424	186	0.838	0.216	0.039	0.099
Children ever born	2.235	0.398	424	186	0.915	0.178	1.440	3.031
Children surviving	2.029	0.368	424	186	0.935	0.181	1.293	2.765
Knows any contraceptive method	0.989	0.006	280	125	0.964	0.006	0.977	1.001
Knows a modern method	0.989	0.006	280	125	0.964	0.006	0.977	1.001
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.643	0.054	280	125	1.860	0.083	0.536	0.751
Currently using any method	0.371	0.036	280	125	1.230	0.096	0.300	0.442
Currently using a modern method	0.289	0.034	280	125	1.234	0.116	0.222	0.356
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.860	0.039	154	70	1.386	0.045	0.782	0.938
Fully immunized	0.909	0.035	44	20	0.808	0.039	0.839	0.979
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.961	0.011	311	139	1.003	0.012	0.938	0.983
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.793	0.030	311	139	1.293	0.038	0.733	0.852
Knows about limiting partners	0.889	0.016	311	139	0.896	0.018	0.857	0.921
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.433	0.034	311	139	1.209	0.079	0.365	0.501

Table F.11 Sampling errors for Alif Dhaal sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.325	0.027	384	197	1.127	0.083	0.271	0.379
Secondary education or higher	0.324	0.046	384	197	1.906	0.141	0.233	0.416
Currently married	0.719	0.068	502	255	0.941	0.095	0.583	0.855
Married before age 20	0.613	0.020	414	212	0.881	0.033	0.573	0.654
Currently pregnant	0.069	0.010	502	255	0.827	0.142	0.049	0.088
Children ever born	2.245	0.175	502	255	0.692	0.078	1.896	2.595
Children surviving	2.117	0.166	502	255	0.701	0.079	1.784	2.450
Knows any contraceptive method	1.000	0.000	358	183	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Knows a modern method	1.000	0.000	358	183	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.797	0.028	358	183	1.300	0.035	0.741	0.852
Currently using any method	0.448	0.028	358	183	1.066	0.063	0.392	0.504
Currently using a modern method	0.353	0.027	358	183	1.052	0.075	0.299	0.406
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.697	0.026	192	98	0.783	0.037	0.645	0.749
Fully immunized	0.780	0.082	57	30	1.505	0.106	0.615	0.944
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.989	0.007	384	197	1.360	0.007	0.974	1.003
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.885	0.022	384	197	1.333	0.025	0.842	0.929
Knows about limiting partners	0.889	0.032	384	197	1.966	0.036	0.826	0.953
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.508	0.038	384	197	1.470	0.074	0.433	0.583

na = Not applicable

Table F.12 Sampling errors for Vaavu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.331	0.038	236	25	1.240	0.115	0.255	0.407
Secondary education or higher	0.388	0.022	236	25	0.704	0.058	0.343	0.433
Currently married	0.733	0.078	307	32	0.901	0.106	0.577	0.888
Married before age 20	0.567	0.038	249	26	1.221	0.067	0.491	0.643
Currently pregnant	0.032	0.009	307	32	0.883	0.293	0.013	0.051
Children ever born	2.095	0.270	307	32	0.947	0.129	1.554	2.636
Children surviving	1.958	0.252	307	32	0.950	0.129	1.454	2.462
Knows any contraceptive method	1.000	0.000	223	23	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Knows a modern method	1.000	0.000	223	23	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.596	0.049	223	23	1.498	0.083	0.497	0.695
Currently using any method	0.394	0.034	223	23	1.045	0.087	0.326	0.463
Currently using a modern method	0.333	0.029	223	23	0.902	0.086	0.276	0.390
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.875	0.031	102	11	0.952	0.036	0.812	0.937
Fully immunized	0.957	0.036	27	3	0.923	0.038	0.885	1.029
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.956	0.017	236	25	1.263	0.018	0.922	0.990
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.762	0.047	236	25	1.668	0.061	0.669	0.855
Knows about limiting partners	0.927	0.020	236	25	1.182	0.022	0.886	0.967
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.395	0.034	236	25	1.057	0.085	0.327	0.462

na = Not applicable

Table F.13 Sampling errors for Meemu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.286	0.038	316	128	1.504	0.134	0.209	0.362
Secondary education or higher	0.332	0.031	316	128	1.156	0.092	0.271	0.393
Currently married	0.735	0.057	423	170	0.921	0.077	0.622	0.849
Married before age 20	0.444	0.046	347	141	1.705	0.103	0.353	0.535
Currently pregnant	0.054	0.014	423	170	1.186	0.257	0.026	0.081
Children ever born	1.929	0.186	423	170	0.939	0.097	1.557	2.302
Children surviving	1.820	0.171	423	170	0.916	0.094	1.478	2.162
Knows any contraceptive method	1.000	0.000	309	125	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Knows a modern method	1.000	0.000	309	125	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.747	0.041	309	125	1.664	0.055	0.664	0.830
Currently using any method	0.473	0.041	309	125	1.440	0.087	0.391	0.555
Currently using a modern method	0.315	0.038	309	125	1.425	0.120	0.239	0.391
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.949	0.022	145	58	1.200	0.023	0.905	0.993
Fully immunized	0.970	0.026	35	14	0.912	0.027	0.918	1.023
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.990	0.005	316	128	0.898	0.005	0.980	1.000
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.808	0.031	316	128	1.414	0.039	0.745	0.870
Knows about limiting partners	0.955	0.007	316	128	0.573	0.007	0.942	0.969
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.453	0.033	316	128	1.193	0.074	0.386	0.520

na = Not applicable

Table F.14 Sampling errors for Faafu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.287	0.034	337	100	1.376	0.118	0.219	0.355
Secondary education or higher	0.345	0.022	337	100	0.847	0.064	0.301	0.389
Currently married	0.644	0.076	493	145	1.126	0.118	0.492	0.796
Married before age 20	0.574	0.044	400	118	0.931	0.077	0.485	0.662
Currently pregnant	0.062	0.012	493	145	1.034	0.199	0.037	0.086
Children ever born	2.344	0.297	493	145	1.044	0.127	1.751	2.937
Children surviving	2.114	0.257	493	145	1.012	0.122	1.599	2.629
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.004	314	93	0.943	0.004	0.986	1.002
Knows a modern method	0.994	0.004	314	93	0.943	0.004	0.986	1.002
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.660	0.031	314	93	1.152	0.047	0.598	0.721
Currently using any method	0.427	0.032	314	93	1.156	0.076	0.363	0.492
Currently using a modern method	0.240	0.029	314	93	1.198	0.121	0.182	0.298
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.941	0.025	171	51	1.408	0.027	0.890	0.992
Fully immunized	0.945	0.043	37	11	1.137	0.045	0.860	1.030
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.978	0.011	337	100	1.376	0.011	0.956	1.000
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.762	0.022	337	100	0.935	0.029	0.719	0.805
Knows about limiting partners	0.931	0.016	337	100	1.176	0.017	0.899	0.964
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.402	0.037	337	100	1.370	0.091	0.329	0.476

Table F.15 Sampling errors for Dhaalu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.338	0.033	291	118	1.187	0.098	0.272	0.404
Secondary education or higher	0.305	0.029	291	118	1.060	0.094	0.247	0.362
Currently married	0.690	0.104	383	157	1.044	0.151	0.482	0.899
Married before age 20	0.599	0.029	323	131	1.073	0.049	0.541	0.658
Currently pregnant	0.063	0.014	383	157	0.918	0.223	0.035	0.091
Children ever born	2.201	0.337	383	157	0.975	0.153	1.528	2.875
Children surviving	2.028	0.310	383	157	0.975	0.153	1.408	2.648
Knows any contraceptive method	1.000	0.000	267	108	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Knows a modern method	1.000	0.000	267	108	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.628	0.049	267	108	1.647	0.078	0.530	0.726
Currently using any method	0.328	0.034	267	108	1.188	0.104	0.260	0.396
Currently using a modern method	0.294	0.031	267	108	1.116	0.106	0.232	0.356
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.865	0.026	131	53	0.855	0.030	0.813	0.916
Fully immunized	0.981	0.020	36	14	0.861	0.020	0.941	1.020
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.987	0.006	291	118	0.888	0.006	0.975	0.999
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.797	0.018	291	118	0.765	0.023	0.761	0.833
Knows about limiting partners	0.921	0.014	291	118	0.901	0.016	0.892	0.949
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.482	0.017	291	118	0.571	0.035	0.448	0.515

na = Not applicable

Table F.16 Sampling errors for Thaa sample, Madives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.338	0.022	293	211	0.810	0.066	0.293	0.382
Secondary education or higher	0.297	0.041	293	211	1.547	0.140	0.214	0.380
Currently married	0.731	0.057	374	270	0.923	0.078	0.617	0.846
Married before age 20	0.585	0.031	318	229	1.121	0.052	0.523	0.646
Currently pregnant	0.059	0.009	374	270	0.768	0.162	0.040	0.077
Children ever born	2.272	0.220	374	270	0.952	0.097	1.832	2.713
Children surviving	2.117	0.194	374	270	0.907	0.092	1.729	2.506
Knows any contraceptive method	1.000	0.000	273	197	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Knows a modern method	1.000	0.000	273	197	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.484	0.059	273	197	1.931	0.122	0.366	0.601
Currently using any method	0.232	0.035	273	197	1.368	0.151	0.162	0.302
Currently using a modern method	0.204	0.033	273	197	1.342	0.161	0.138	0.269
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.687	0.040	137	98	1.005	0.058	0.607	0.766
Fully immunized	0.967	0.034	32	23	1.058	0.035	0.900	1.034
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.993	0.004	293	211	0.949	0.004	0.985	1.002
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.818	0.033	293	211	1.441	0.040	0.753	0.883
Knows about limiting partners	0.823	0.050	293	211	2.215	0.061	0.723	0.922
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.399	0.022	293	211	0.763	0.055	0.355	0.442

na = Not applicable

Table F.17 Sampling errors for Lhaamu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.294	0.021	306	296	0.799	0.071	0.252	0.336
Secondary education or higher	0.318	0.044	306	296	1.661	0.140	0.229	0.407
Currently married	0.691	0.068	393	383	0.978	0.099	0.555	0.828
Married before age 20	0.613	0.036	327	317	1.349	0.058	0.541	0.684
Currently pregnant	0.041	0.011	393	383	1.041	0.273	0.019	0.064
Children ever born	2.291	0.273	393	383	1.026	0.119	1.745	2.836
Children surviving	2.129	0.254	393	383	1.028	0.119	1.622	2.636
Knows any contraceptive method	0.981	0.007	274	265	0.829	0.007	0.967	0.994
Knows a modern method	0.977	0.007	274	265	0.766	0.007	0.964	0.991
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.521	0.042	274	265	1.400	0.081	0.436	0.606
Currently using any method	0.263	0.019	274	265	0.728	0.074	0.224	0.302
Currently using a modern method	0.239	0.019	274	265	0.748	0.081	0.200	0.278
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.729	0.031	136	129	0.803	0.042	0.667	0.791
Fully immunized	0.929	0.036	44	42	0.911	0.038	0.858	1.000
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.934	0.017	306	296	1.201	0.018	0.900	0.968
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.780	0.029	306	296	1.216	0.037	0.722	0.837
Knows about limiting partners	0.886	0.022	306	296	1.217	0.025	0.841	0.930
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.398	0.039	306	296	1.393	0.098	0.320	0.476

Table F.18 Sampling errors for Gaaf Alif sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.232	0.026	284	198	1.039	0.113	0.179	0.284
Secondary education or higher	0.418	0.046	284	198	1.561	0.110	0.326	0.510
Currently married	0.667	0.057	380	265	0.896	0.086	0.553	0.782
Married before age 20	0.546	0.041	310	217	1.438	0.074	0.465	0.627
Currently pregnant	0.070	0.015	380	265	1.115	0.210	0.041	0.100
Children ever born	2.534	0.283	380	265	0.987	0.112	1.968	3.100
Children surviving	2.280	0.260	380	265	1.024	0.114	1.759	2.801
Knows any contraceptive method	0.992	0.006	254	177	0.986	0.006	0.981	1.003
Knows a modern method	0.992	0.006	254	177	0.986	0.006	0.981	1.003
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.410	0.022	254	177	0.707	0.053	0.366	0.454
Currently using any method	0.233	0.021	254	177	0.782	0.089	0.191	0.274
Currently using a modern method	0.217	0.024	254	177	0.928	0.111	0.169	0.266
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.807	0.032	152	107	0.996	0.039	0.743	0.871
Fully immunized	1.000	0.000	38	26	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.938	0.018	284	198	1.260	0.019	0.902	0.974
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.831	0.027	284	198	1.203	0.032	0.777	0.884
Knows about limiting partners	0.889	0.019	284	198	1.027	0.022	0.850	0.927
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.287	0.041	284	198	1.519	0.143	0.205	0.369

na = Not applicable

Table F.19 Sampling errors for Gaaf Dhaal sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.196	0.034	192	266	1.183	0.173	0.128	0.264
Secondary education or higher	0.370	0.025	192	266	0.705	0.067	0.321	0.419
Currently married	0.615	0.133	285	392	0.979	0.216	0.350	0.880
Married before age 20	0.636	0.041	207	287	1.233	0.064	0.555	0.718
Currently pregnant	0.028	0.006	285	392	0.609	0.208	0.016	0.040
Children ever born	2.213	0.485	285	392	0.936	0.219	1.243	3.183
Children surviving	2.076	0.458	285	392	0.944	0.221	1.160	2.991
Knows any contraceptive method	0.994	0.006	174	241	1.014	0.006	0.983	1.006
Knows a modern method	0.994	0.006	174	241	1.014	0.006	0.983	1.006
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.625	0.044	174	241	1.199	0.071	0.536	0.713
Currently using any method	0.425	0.045	174	241	1.206	0.107	0.334	0.516
Currently using a modern method	0.338	0.037	174	241	1.038	0.110	0.264	0.413
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.866	0.029	88	122	0.804	0.034	0.807	0.924
Fully immunized	0.950	0.054	19	26	1.077	0.057	0.841	1.058
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.957	0.015	192	266	1.028	0.016	0.927	0.987
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.860	0.029	192	266	1.167	0.034	0.802	0.919
Knows about limiting partners	0.932	0.025	192	266	1.351	0.026	0.883	0.982
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.360	0.037	192	266	1.063	0.103	0.286	0.434

Table F.20 Sampling errors for Gnaviyani sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.348	0.024	262	217	0.821	0.069	0.300	0.397
Secondary education or higher	0.382	0.033	262	217	1.101	0.087	0.316	0.449
Currently married	0.643	0.064	361	295	0.912	0.100	0.515	0.771
Married before age 20	0.645	0.029	272	225	1.054	0.046	0.586	0.703
Currently pregnant	0.076	0.019	361	295	1.156	0.246	0.039	0.114
Children ever born	2.062	0.270	361	295	1.033	0.131	1.522	2.603
Children surviving	1.949	0.244	361	295	0.989	0.125	1.461	2.436
Knows any contraceptive method	0.991	0.006	229	190	0.921	0.006	0.979	1.002
Knows a modern method	0.991	0.006	229	190	0.921	0.006	0.979	1.002
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.480	0.046	229	190	1.385	0.096	0.388	0.572
Currently using any method	0.212	0.038	229	190	1.397	0.179	0.137	0.288
Currently using a modern method	0.190	0.040	229	190	1.524	0.209	0.110	0.269
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.758	0.030	116	98	0.762	0.040	0.697	0.818
Fully immunized	1.000	0.000	26	22	na	0.000	1.000	1.000
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.965	0.016	262	217	1.418	0.017	0.933	0.997
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.819	0.013	262	217	0.558	0.016	0.792	0.846
Knows about limiting partners	0.925	0.016	262	217	1.000	0.018	0.892	0.958
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.438	0.030	262	217	0.984	0.069	0.377	0.498

na = Not applicable

Table F.21 Sampling errors for Seenu sample, Maldives DHS 2009

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases: Unweighted (N)	Number of cases: Weighted (WN)	Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits: R-2SE	Confidence limits: R+2SE
No education	0.176	0.016	300	509	0.725	0.091	0.144	0.208
Secondary education or higher	0.397	0.035	300	509	1.245	0.089	0.326	0.467
Currently married	0.639	0.086	405	694	1.078	0.135	0.466	0.811
Married before age 20	0.476	0.026	333	565	0.986	0.056	0.423	0.529
Currently pregnant	0.047	0.011	405	694	1.069	0.229	0.026	0.069
Children ever born	2.080	0.347	405	694	1.205	0.167	1.385	2.775
Children surviving	1.934	0.328	405	694	1.227	0.169	1.279	2.590
Knows any contraceptive method	0.985	0.008	261	443	1.073	0.008	0.969	1.001
Knows a modern method	0.985	0.008	261	443	1.073	0.008	0.969	1.001
Ever used any contraceptive method	0.542	0.041	261	443	1.313	0.075	0.461	0.623
Currently using any method	0.259	0.029	261	443	1.065	0.112	0.201	0.317
Currently using a modern method	0.252	0.029	261	443	1.075	0.115	0.194	0.310
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.935	0.024	154	263	1.213	0.026	0.886	0.983
Fully immunized	0.881	0.057	40	68	1.104	0.064	0.768	0.995
Heard about HIV/AIDS	0.967	0.011	300	509	1.114	0.012	0.944	0.990
Knows about condoms to prevent HIV/AIDS	0.767	0.023	300	509	0.921	0.029	0.722	0.812
Knows about limiting partners	0.894	0.025	300	509	1.401	0.028	0.844	0.944
Comprehensive knowledge on HIV transmission	0.314	0.030	300	509	1.115	0.095	0.255	0.374