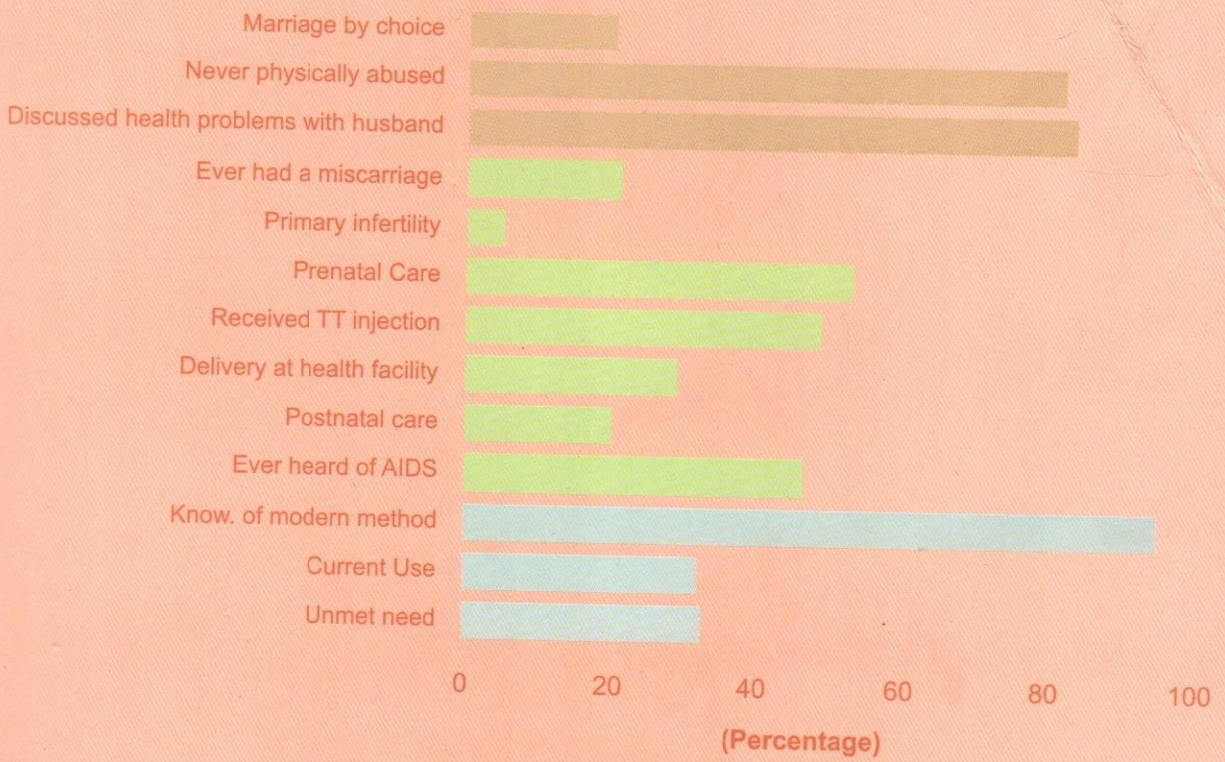
STATUS OF WOMEN, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SURVEY

Main Report



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF POPULATION STUDIES
ISLAMABAD 2007

STATUS OF WOMEN, REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING SURVEY

Main Report

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF POPULATION STUDIES
ISLAMABAD 2007

Publisher: National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS),
Islamabad, 2007

Printed by: Crystal Printers, Islamabad. Ph: 051-2874466

CONTENTS

TABLES

FIGURES

FOREWORD

The Status that women enjoy in a society is an important indicator of civility and level of socio-economic development. In the past few years the government of Pakistan has taken several significant steps to elevate the status of women in Pakistani society. One such salient step is augmentation of political representation of women in Pakistani legislatures and the Senate. There are 71 women in the National Assembly out of a total of 342 members. In the provincial assemblies there are 128 women out of a total of 728 members. In the Senate of Pakistan, there are 28 women out of 100. It merits attention that all parliamentary committees must have a minimum of 20 percent of women representation and 20 percent of such committee's be chaired by women. In the Local government 33 percent seats are reserved for women. Today women occupy 36,191 seats in the local government out of a total of 96,900. In addition the government has also fixed a 10 percent women quota in the Federal Civil Services of Pakistan. More recently recruitment of women in Military and Police has also gained visibility. These are important steps but how do they measure up with socio-cultural and economic realities of status of women in Pakistani society?

In 2003, the National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS) with funding from UNFPA was tasked to conduct a survey on the Status of Women, Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey (SWRHFPS). It is a nationally representative survey. The Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS) provided the sample for the survey consisting of 449 primary sampling areas across the four provinces of Pakistan from which 9980 households were selected as the secondary sampling units. The sample was designed to provide estimates at national, provincial, major urban, urban and rural basis. The FBS also provided listings of the Primary Sampling Areas and its field staff assisted in the identification of the sampled households. A total of 64,382 people including 33,127 male and 31,256 female were enumerated in 9,400 households where interviews were successfully held. The overall average household size of 6.9 persons per household and a sex ratio of 106 male per 100 female were observed. Of the total household male population aged 10 years and above, around 51 percent were never married, 46 percent were currently married and the rest were widowed or divorced. Among female population of the corresponding age, comparatively lower proportion (42.4 percent) of women were never married, 51 percent were currently married and 6 percent were widowed and a negligible proportion of 0.6 percent were either divorced or separated.

The SWRHFPS report provides some fresh and disquieting evidence on the status of women in Pakistan. The report lists a number of measurable and quantifiable indicators on the basis of which it proposes to determine the status of women. The report makes a smooth reading and is divided into eight chapters. Each chapter gives concise description and substantive evidence and tables. Personally I have found chapter 4 *Respondents Characteristics and Indicators of Status of Women* as most interesting, informative, analytical and insightful. The report is a mirror reflection of Pakistani society's values and ground realities and in that sense persuasively conveys that women have social prestige and power only in the confines of the household beyond which they have little or no role, hence their status is inconsequential. For conceptual clarity the salient aspects of the report can be classified in four categories:

1 Familial
2 Reproductive Health (RH)
3 Socio-cultural
4 Education, Property and Employability

Familial

The report conveys that in the familial roles, i.e. management of household and family affairs, the women command greatest respect and highest status. For example, the currently married women were asked if they enjoyed full confidence of their husbands and in-laws in daily affairs at the household level. Do the husband or in-laws listen to them and believe in them; respect and regard their decisions? The majority of women (65 percent) reported that they were always listened to and believed in. On who decides what is to be cooked in the house? The report says overwhelmingly women decide what is to be cooked in the house (45 percent). In the rural areas the proportion is even higher (50 percent) compared to urban centers (40 percent). The NWFP women have a more decisive role (57 percent) in choosing what is to be cooked compared to women in Punjab (47 percent). Who handles the money in household affairs? The report says predominantly women; once it was the exclusive control of men but according to this survey, it is not any more. Though there are regional variations, in NWFP and Baluchistan almost 60 percent women report that their husbands handle money while in Punjab only 31 percent say their husbands handle money. Who takes care of the children and older members of the family? The answer is no surprise, 60 percent of the women says they do. Who decides the selection of daughter/son in law or on buying gifts for marriage? On such issues consultation and joint decision making according to survey is a positive emerging trend.

Reproductive health (RH)

In this age of globalization and technological change the survey discomfortingly reports that 71 percent of the women had delivered their last baby at home and only 28 percent could avail public or private hospital facility for delivery. According to the survey report prenatal check ups and antenatal care during the last pregnancy remain areas where a lot still needs to be done. Over 50 percent of the women report that they did not have any tetanus toxoid injection during the last pregnancy. The survey report also notes that the wide gap between the level of awareness on family planning and usage of contraceptives deserves policy maker's attention. The report strongly suggests that decline in fertility levels and improvement in contraceptive use is a function of level of education among women.

Socio-cultural

The report brings to attention two dominant socio cultural realities affecting the place of choice and autonomy among women. First, the survey report reinforces that marriages are not only arranged but overwhelmingly decided by the parents and relatives. Second that cousin marriage is almost a norm in Pakistani culture; 64 percent of all marriages are between first and second cousins. Pakistan has the distinction of having one of the highest rates of consanguineous marriages in the world. In situations of adversity or dispute resolution a majority of women sought refuge and protection from parents. Understandably in such situations women rely more on family rather than community. Women mobility is considerably constrained; their free movement is confined to the house or vicinity. Majority (70 percent)

reported that they could travel to another city or village only in the company of an adult. Given these confines, the formation and development of socially responsive community remains weak.

Education, property and employability

The report draws attention to dismal condition of education among women. The survey reports that 68% of ever-married women have no education. In Baluchistan and NWFP the situation is more desperate and alarming where 88 percent and 79 percent of women respectively report having no education. The property ownership situation is even bleaker; the survey reports that 95 percent of women do not own any property. Without education and property ownership; what kind of status could women have? More importantly, with such a high level of uneducated women how will the future generations of Pakistan be in the middle of 21st Century? Yet, what is significant and encouraging that despite the lack of education, a substantial number of women (42 percent)) showed interest in availing credit schemes to establish their own enterprise. The motivation and desire for economic betterment does exit, availability of opportunities and appropriate policy interventions could improve their self confidence and status.

The analysis, findings and recommendations provide food for thought that could fill the gap between policy makers' worldview and the ground reality. Mr. Mehboob Sultan as Project Director and Team Leader has done a commendable job; he and his associates must be congratulated in finally taking the report out. At NIPS our expectation is that the intellectuals, policy makers, opinion builders, civil society advocates and community and national political leaders will view the findings of this report as a timely counsel to boost the status of women and plan for investing in the future of Pakistani youth.

Saeed Shafqat, PhD
Executive Director
(May, 2007)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Status of Women, Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey was conducted to assess and update reproductive health, family planning and status of women indicators in Pakistan. The survey was undertaken with the financial support of the UNFPA under GOP-UNFPA 6th and 7th Country Support Programmes. The Federal Bureau of Statistics provided the sampling frame and household listing of the sampled areas across Pakistan.

Conducting the fieldwork was a huge task carried out by 21 teams each consisting of a supervisor and three female interviewers. Their dedication and relentless efforts during the fieldwork is appreciated. The overall field operations were coordinated by the Principal Investigator who was engaged specifically for the project.

The survey was undertaken in several stages: formulating the core team for the survey, designing the questionnaire, translating it into regional languages, pre-testing and finalising it after thorough discussion in several meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee. The contribution of the members of the Technical Advisory Committee is acknowledged with gratitude.

The survey passed through several hiccups of financial crunches and administrative shake-ups which delayed fieldwork, data entry and analysis. However, the survey findings were timely provided to policymakers and used for planning purposes. The initial preparatory work and the operational activities during field survey were ably supervised by Mr. Feroze Hayat, Principal Investigator of the project. His contribution in finalizing the research protocols, training of supervisors and interviewers at Karachi and monitoring field activities is thankfully acknowledged.

Ms. Aysha Sheraz and Ms. Rabia Ahmed Syed took up as principal trainers at the Islamabad camp, whereas, Mr. Badaruddin Tanveer held the responsibility of training of field staff at Lahore. Ms. Rabia also very competently managed the responsibilities of the Office Coordinator and vigilantly tracked the shuttling of questionnaires between the computer section and the office editors. Field coordination was carried out by Mr. Badaruddin Tanveer, Mr. Niaz Muhammad, Mr. Asad Bhatti and Qari Mueenuddin. Their contribution is acknowledged and appreciated.

Data processing was the sole responsibility of Mr. Faateh ud Din Ahmad. He and his data processing team comprising of Mr. Tariq Khan, Mr. Takasar Amin, Mr. Amjad Javed and Mr. Zahir deserve special commendation for this arduous job which was accomplished with professional zeal and competence. Mr. Asif Amin provided logistic and administrative support during the training and assisted the Office Coordinator in questionnaire-management. His contribution is duly acknowledged and appreciated.

Special thanks are due to Syed Mubashir Ali for reviewing the draft of the report and providing technical input and critique.

Last but not least, I am grateful to Dr. Saeed Shafqat for reviewing the draft of the report and providing useful suggestions for improvement. I am also especially indebted for his support, guidance and persuasion that resulted in rebuilding of the whole report which was lost due to computer hard-disk crash.

Mehboob Sultan
Project Director

Summary of Findings

The Status of Women, Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey (SWRHFPS) is a nationally representative survey of 8718 ever married women age 15-49. The main purpose of the survey is to provide policymakers and programme managers with detailed information on indicators of fertility, family planning, reproductive health of women, status of women, fertility preferences and desire for children. The survey was undertaken with financial support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) under GOP-UNFPA 6th and 7th Country Support Programme. This is the fourth major survey on demographic and health related aspects of Pakistani women, undertaken by the National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS). Earlier surveys are Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey 1990-91, Pakistan Fertility and Family Planning Survey 1996-97, Pakistan Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey 2000-01.

Reproductive health:

Information on reproductive health indicators include prenatal care, protection of last birth with tetanus toxoid injections, place of last delivery, pregnancies assisted by health professionals, postnatal care received, infertility and awareness about AIDS transmission. It was found that 52 percent women received antenatal care during their last pregnancy and only one-third mothers received prenatal checkups form doctors while 15 percent women usually visited other health professionals such as Nurse, Family Welfare Worker, Lady Health Worker, and Village Based Family Planning Worker. Antenatal care is positively correlated with mother's education and urban residence. Eighty-nine percent women with above secondary education received antenatal care as compared to 24 percent for women with no education. Similarly, women from major urban areas are more likely (68 percent) to receive prenatal care from medical doctors compared to their rural counterparts (27 percent).

Over half of women (51 percent) reported they did not receive any tetanus toxoid injection during their last pregnancy in the three years period prior to the survey, and another five percent received only one injection. The proportion of mothers who received two or more injections during their last pregnancy was about 44 percent.

The study found that 71 percent women had delivered their last babies at home and only 28 percent had delivered in government and private health facilities. Women with higher parity are more likely to deliver at home.

Only one in five women reported that she went for any postnatal checkups. Hardly any differentials were found on the basis of age of women at birth of the child. However, it was observed that women were more likely to visit for postpartum checkups on their first delivery (27 percent) as compared to subsequent deliveries.

The proportion of women with primary infertility was found a little over 6 percent in this survey. Variation in infertility is not marked among provinces. However, the lowest proportion of infertile women is found in the NWFP. On the other hand, infertility is higher in the rural areas of Pakistan.

Twenty-one percent ever-married women had experienced at least one or more spontaneous abortions whereas only about 2 percent admitted to have had one or more induced abortions in their life. Induced abortions may be under reported for obvious reason of disapproval by the religion and society.

Forty-six percent of ever married women had ever heard about AIDS. Among those who had heard, their major source was TV/Radio (41 percent), followed by relatives/ friends/neighbours (14 percent), husbands (13 percent), newspapers/posters/ pamphlets (9 percent) and medical personnel (5 percent). Educational attainment and urban residence have positive relationship with knowledge about AIDS.

Fertility:

Until recently, fertility rates had remained high with little evidence of any sustained decline. In recent years, however, fertility has begun to decline due to a rapid decline in the age at marriage and a modest increase in contraceptive use. The total fertility is estimated to have fallen from a level of 5.4 children in 1991 to the current level of 4.4. Important differentials of fertility include the degree of urbanisation and the level of women's education. The total fertility rate is estimated to be nearly one child lower in urban (3.3) than in rural areas (4.8). Women with at least some secondary or above schooling have a rate of 3.3, compared to a rate of 4.8 children for women with no education. There is a difference of about 2 children between total fertility and marital total fertility rate.

Family planning:

There is widespread disparity between women's knowledge and use of contraceptives in Pakistan. While 96 percent currently married women report knowing of at least one method of contraception, only 42 percent have ever used a method, and only 32 percent are currently doing so. Twenty-five percent are currently using a modern method and nearly 7 percent use a traditional method. The two most commonly methods are female sterilisation (7.5 percent) and the condom (6.4 percent). Despite the low level of contraceptive use, the gain over time has been significant. The use rate of contraception has doubled in small cities whereas it has increased more than five fold in rural areas since 1991. The contraceptive use among women with higher secondary education is 53 percent, and among women with no schooling it is 27 percent. Nearly half of women (48 percent) in major cities are current users of contraception compared to 26 percent in rural areas.

The public sector plays a major role in providing family planning services. About 64 percent users of modern methods obtain their methods from a government source compared with 36 percent who obtain their methods from a private source. Eighty-five percent of sterilized women and 80 percent of IUD users obtained services from the public sector. Condoms, however, were supplied primarily through the social marketing programme.

Singulate mean age at marriage:

The Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) for both sexes calculated from a number of Censuses and surveys conducted since 1951 indicate more or less steady rise in the SMAM among both men and women over the last 50 years. The SMAM for males has increased from 22.3 years in 1951 to 27.3 years in 2003 and for females from 16.9 in 1951 to 23.4 in 2003, though there are signs in the 1990s of a stabilisation of

marriage ages. While the SMAM has increased for both sexes over the last five decades, the gap between the SMAM for men and women has also narrowed to some extent.

Marriage by choice:

In Pakistan marriages are not only arranged but it is overwhelmingly the choice of parents and other relatives (80 percent). In 16 percent cases, girl's choice along with parents is also considered. Only 4.5 percent women reported that they married entirely on their own choice. Not much variation was found on the basis of urban-rural residence.

Ninety-five percent of the currently married women were contended with their married life. The proportion of such women was slightly higher for those who married with mutual consent of their parents (97 percent) compared with those who married entirely on their own choice (96 percent), or only with parents choice (94 percent). Variations on the basis of region and urban-rural residence were also small.

Consanguineous marriages:

Pakistan has one of the highest reported rates of consanguineous marriages in the world. Data on marriages between relatives reported in the SWRHFPS 2003 show that 64 percent of all marriages are between first and second cousins. First cousin marriages are more common on the father's side (31 percent), but over a fifth of marriages also occur to first cousins on the mother's side (21.1 percent). About 12 percent of marriages are between second cousins, and just over one-third of marriages occur between non-relatives (35.8 percent). Compared to 1990-91 the proportion of consanguineous marriages has slightly increased in 2003.

Educational attainment:

About 68 percent of ever-married women have no education at all and only six percent of women have above secondary level of education. Punjab and Sindh have the highest percentage of ever-married women who have gone to secondary school and tertiary level, while Punjab has the lowest percentage of uneducated women. In Balochistan and NWFP, 88 percent and 79 percent of women respectively have no education. Urban-rural differentials are striking. In major urban areas 39 percent of women are uneducated, compared with 80 percent of women in rural areas. Also, in major urban areas, 16 percent of women have gone beyond secondary level education, while in rural areas only 1.6 percent of women have reached this level. Comparison of levels of education among currently married and formerly married women shows that currently married women are more likely to have attended formal educational institutions than women who are widowed, divorced or separated.

Household roles:

Though women were found to be weak on various counts like education, employment, mobility, ownership of property and its income utilisation and a score of others, they were found to be very strong in their familial roles and as partner in decision making regarding family chores.

The study has found that mostly it is women who decide what food to cook (45 percent). A higher proportion (50 percent) of women in rural areas than their counterparts in urban areas (40 percent)

decide about food. Similarly, relatively more women in NWFP have the final say for choosing what food to be cooked (57 percent) followed by women in Punjab (47 percent).

Familial relationships:

Currently married women were asked whether they enjoy full confidence of their husbands and in-laws in daily affairs at the household level. Whether the husband or in-laws listen to them and believe in them; respect and regard their decisions; and whether they give more weight to their future plans. Majority of women (65 percent) reported that they are always listened to and believed in; 54 percent said that their decisions are given due regard and full respect; and 49 percent said that their future plans are given more weight. However, some women (29 percent) expressed that they have been listened to; 37 percent reported that their decisions are respected; and 42 percent believed that their plans are given more weight only sometimes. A small minority (6-9 percent) expressed that they have not been given any importance with respect to their suggestions, decisions, or future plans. Women living in urban areas and in the provinces of Sindh, Punjab and in NWFP appear to have received greater attention of their husbands and in-laws compared to women in rural areas and in Balochistan.

Health care for children:

Seeking health care for children is mostly decided jointly by husband and wife (51 percent) but in additional 25 percent cases it is the woman who decides exclusively about children's health care. In this respect, urban-rural and provincial differentials are not very large. Similarly, children education is also decided jointly by husband and wife (55 percent) and to a much lesser degree (18 percent) by only husband or wife alone (13 percent).

Support for parents and in-laws:

Extending support to parents whether of husband or of wife is also jointly decided by the couple in majority of the cases (55 percent) but husband's exclusive decision in 24 percent cases with regard to wife's parents or relatives and in 28 percent cases with regard to his own parents or relatives has also been reported. Comparatively higher cohesion (in 62 percent cases) is observed between urban couples than those residing in rural areas (52 percent) and in Punjab province followed by couples in Balochistan, NWFP and Sindh.

Selection of daughter-in-law or son-in-law:

Choosing a daughter-in-law or a son-in-law is a difficult decision in the Pakistani context of arranged marriages. It is considered to be a joint responsibility of husband and wife to arrange for children's marriage. In over six out of ten cases, the decision of children's marriages is taken jointly by husband and wife. Decision by both husband and wife is relatively more common in urban (64 percent) than rural areas (60 percent) and in Punjab (68 percent) followed by NWFP (62 percent), Sindh (58 percent) and Balochistan (47 percent). Husband's exclusive decision for children's marriage is more common in Balochistan (30 percent) followed by NWFP (23 percent) and Sindh (21 percent) and is considerably less common in Punjab (8 percent).

Purchase or sale of property:

Almost 50 percent couples decide jointly when they want to purchase or sell a property. However, in one-third cases it is only the husband whose decision is final. Joint decisions for purchasing or selling a property are more common (58 percent) in urban than in rural areas (54 percent). In Balochistan, 68 percent women reported that decision for purchasing or selling a property is an exclusive act of their husbands. Though the proportion of such husbands is relatively lower in NWFP (53 percent) and Sindh (43 percent), the pattern is similar. In Punjab only 22 percent husbands decide exclusively on their own when they are buying or selling a property. Nevertheless, buying or selling a property in Punjab is mostly done by a joint consensus (61 percent) of couples.

Buying gifts on marriages:

Buying gifts on marriages is mostly a joint decision of husband and wife (57 percent). However, the husband and other members of the family also make exclusive decisions in 20 percent and 14 percent cases respectively. Jewellery is also bought or sold after jointly considering and reaching a decision by the couple. However, the exclusive decision of husband is also reported by 29 percent women and in 13 percent cases this decision is taken by other members of the family. The survey shows that husband-wife consultations and joint decisions with respect to household affairs are emerging at national and provincial levels.

Household jobs:

Pakistan is a traditional society. Male is usually considered to be responsible for earning money to run the household. The household matters relating to cooking, washing, cleaning, caring children, getting water from outside especially in rural areas where it is not available within the residential premises etc is the domain of wife or other female members of the household. The same pattern of distribution has been observed in this survey. Whereas, close to eighty percent of husbands are engaged in earning activities and about 16 percent other family members supposedly male are doing so, almost similar proportion of wives and other female members of the household are busy cooking meals. A substantial number of females do the job of cleaning up after meals, keep the house tidy, and wash clothes. Buying food items is mainly the responsibility of the husbands. That is more so in rural than urban areas and in the province of Balochistan.

Money handling:

It is encouraging to note that in about one-third of the households; wives handle the money exclusively. Earlier, money handling was considered to be exclusively a man's domain. Among provinces NWFP and Balochistan are the ones where 60 percent or more women reported their husbands to be handling the household money. In comparison, only 31 percent husbands in Punjab are doing so.

Caring children and senior members of the family:

Though 60 percent of currently married women reported to have been taking care of their children, in over one-fifth households both husband and wife share this task while other members of the household also contribute (11 percent). In Balochistan and NWFP, about one-third women reported that both husband and wife take care of their children. In the households with older members, it is mostly the

women's job to take care of the senior members. Interestingly getting water, fetching fuel for cooking and tending animals and crops is usually done by other than husbands, mostly wife or other family members.

Ownership of property and income:

Almost 95 percent of women do not own any property, while only 2-3 percent of them had a house in their name and another 1.8 percent had some agricultural land. Among provinces, in NWFP one in nine women owns some agriculture land, a house or a residential plot. Ownership of property by women is comparatively lowest in Balochistan (2.4 percent) and is also low in Sindh (4.5 percent) and Punjab (4.3 percent). However, women who own property, only 21 percent also receive its income. While the proportion of such women is lowest in NWFP (6 percent), a higher proportion of NWFP women (21 percent) report that they share the income with their husbands.

Entrepreneurship:

Four out of ten women (42 percent) expressed the desire to avail the credit schemes for establishing some enterprise, if ever such a scheme was floated by the government. More rural (44 percent) than urban women (39 percent) and those living in Sindh or Balochistan (47 percent) would avail such an opportunity. However, only 9 percent reported that they would be able to establish an enterprise on their own and about 35 percent expressed that the help of husband or some male member would facilitate its establishment. The proportion of such women was higher in Sindh (43 percent) followed by Punjab (33 percent). However, 51 percent of the respondents expressed their inability to start any enterprise without the help of male members and the proportion of such women was highest in NWFP (64 percent).

Casting vote in last election:

Ever married women in the sample were asked whether they had voted in the 2002 elections and if yes whether they voted for the person of their own choice, their husband's choice, and friend's choice or on the desire of an influential. The study shows that majority of women did not cast their vote (51 percent). The proportion of women who did not cast their vote was highest in NWFP followed by women in Sindh province. The proportion of such women was also higher in big cities compared to small towns and rural areas. Husband's advice was found to be more pronounced for the selection of the candidate (29 percent). However, one in six women voted according to her own choice. The proportion of such women was higher in major cities (29 percent) and in Punjab province (20 percent). On the other hand, husband's advice was more common in Balochistan (44 percent).

Working for money:

Those with no education and having above secondary level education are the largest group among women who are currently working. Around 18 percent of women with no education and 21 percent with above secondary level of education have reported as working, compared with about 10 percent of those with some secondary schooling as well as with primary schooling. Marital status also makes a difference. About 34 percent of women who are not currently married (i.e. divorced, separated or widowed) are working for money compared with only 15 percent of those who are currently married. This is expected as being single parent many women take up jobs to be self supporting.

Mobility of women:

Women's ability to go outside their houses on their own is an important indicator of their self confidence. The survey results indicate that 69 percent women reported to have been allowed to move in the vicinity of their house without accompanying anybody. This is almost equally common in urban as well as in rural areas. However, in Sindh only 49 percent and in Balochistan one-third women (35 percent) expressed that they are allowed to move just outside their houses.

About one-third currently married women expressed that they cannot go on their own to a market, a health centre or even a friend's or relative's house. A majority could go to these places in the company of a child or an adult. Urban-rural differentials were found in women's mobility to market and health centres but such differences were not seen when they had to go in the neighbourhood for recreation or to a friend's or relative's house. A higher proportion of women in the Punjab province expressed that they could go to such places alone.

Majority of women (71 percent) reported that they were allowed to go to another city or village only in the company of an adult. Only one in six women expressed that they could go to another city/village alone and an additional one in ten women reported that they could go to another city or village in the company of children.

Domestic violence:

Forty percent women reported that they were not afraid to disagree with their husbands, while one out of six women said that it depends on the matter or situation which can make them afraid of their disagreement with the husband's point of view. However, one out of nine women reported that they were more often afraid that their disagreement with husband would make them angry. The proportion of such women did not vary much across rural-urban divide but provincial variations were observed.

Often misunderstanding between husband and wife and their disagreement on various issues lead to some kind of domestic violence. However, 82 percent of women reported that they have had no serious misunderstanding that could lead to physical assault or abuse. The remaining eighteen percent women reported that they were mistreated by their husbands. The proportion of women who reported to have been mistreated by their husbands is almost similar across provinces but is slightly less common in urban compared to rural areas.

Reasons for domestic violence:

Three major reasons reported for physical abuse are:-talking back with husband, neglecting children and husband and delay in daily affairs. The major reason expressed by 42 percent women was heated arguments and talking back. This 'offence' triggered husband's wrath in major cities, rural settings and across provinces almost equally. The other major reason for such treatment was neglecting children (30 percent) followed by neglecting husband (25 percent) and delay in daily affairs. In rural areas, women were treated badly more by talking back than by neglecting children, husband or in-laws. However, compared to other provinces Sindhi women were physically abused more commonly for neglecting children (50 percent) than by talking back with husband.

Resolution of disputes:

Majority of women (55 percent) reported to be getting shelter of parents in a situation where disputes lead to serious consequences. The second important source from where the women reported to get support was the in-laws (23 percent). One in five women reported that she would seek help from sources other than relatives, friends and community

The proportion of women that would seek help from parents was higher in rural (58 percent) than in urban areas. The second most common support in rural areas is sought from in-laws whereas, after parents, urban women are more likely to seek support from other persons than in-laws, friends, and community. Women in NWFP (76 percent) and Balochistan (73 percent) had more confidence in their own parents to resolve such issues as compared to women in Sindh and in Punjab. Almost a similar proportion of Sindhi women reported that they would seek help either from in-laws, parents or persons other than relatives or friends. Surprisingly, community seems to have little influence in resolving such problems and so are friends in such matters.

The women with above secondary level education indicate a different pattern of support seeking behaviour in case of disputes than those with no education or less than secondary level education. For example, in the state of disputes fewer women with above secondary education show confidence in their parents and in-laws as compared to those with no education or less than secondary level of education.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This report provides major findings of the Status of Women, Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey conducted by the National Institute of Population Studies from March-October 2003 on a national level. The report provides information on the methodology, sample design and implementation of the survey, characteristics of the household population, fertility, family planning, reproductive health and status of women indicators. Before presenting the major findings, this chapter lays out the physical features of the country, climatic conditions, administrative divisions, population, language and religion, historical perspective of the population welfare programme, population policy and expenditure incurred on the population welfare programme. The objective of this presentation is to familiarize the reader with the historical, geographic, socioeconomic and demographic features of the country.

1.1 GEOGRAPHY

Pakistan occupies a geo-strategic position of importance: Bordered by Iran on the west, Afghanistan on the northwest, China on the northeast, India on the east, and the Arabian Sea to the south. The total land area is estimated at 796,095 square kilometers.

Pakistan extends from 24° to 37°N latitude and from 61° to 75°E longitude. Its boundary with Afghanistan is about 2,640 kilometers long. In the north, it runs along the ridges of the Hindu Kush Mountains and the Pamirs, where a narrow strip of Afghan territory called the Wakhan Corridor extends between Pakistan and Tajikistan. The Hindu Kush was traditionally regarded as the last northwestern outpost where Hindus could venture in safety. The boundary line with Afghanistan was drawn in 1893 by Sir Mortimer Durand, then foreign secretary in British India, and was acceded to by the Amir of Afghanistan that same year. This boundary, called the Durand Line, was undisputed when Pakistan became independent in 1947 and remains in effect today.

In the northeastern tip of the country, Pakistan controls about 84,159 square kilometers of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. This area, consisting of Azad Kashmir (11,639 square kilometers) and most of the Northern Areas (72,520 square kilometers), which includes Gilgit and Baltistan, is the rugged mountainous beauty of Pakistan. The Northern Areas has five of the world's fourteen highest mountains known as the "Eight-Thousanders" (8,000+ m high). It also has such extensive glaciers that it has sometimes been called the "third pole."

From the eastern end of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, a boundary of about 500 kilometers runs generally southeast between China and Pakistan, ending near the Siachen Glacier Pass. China and Pakistan, in a series of agreements between 1961 and 1965, determined this line.

The Pakistan-India cease-fire line runs from the Siachen Glacier vicinity west-southwest to a point about 130 kilometers northeast of Lahore. This line, about 770 kilometers long, was arranged with United Nations (UN) assistance at the end of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947-48. The cease-fire line came into effect on January 1, 1949, after eighteen months of fighting and was last adjusted and agreed upon by the

two countries in the Simla Agreement of July 1972. Since then, it has been generally known as the Line of Control.

The Pakistan-India boundary continues irregularly southward for about 1,280 kilometers, following the line of the 1947 Radcliff Award, named for Sir Cyril Radcliff, the head of the British Boundary Commission on the partition of Punjab and Bengal in 1947.

1.2 CLIMATE, RAINFALL AND SEASONS

Pakistan has a continental type of climate, characterised by extreme variations of temperature depending on the topography of the country. Pakistan experiences a general deficiency of rainfall. Although it is the monsoon region, it is arid, except for the southern slopes of the Himalayas and the sub-mountainous tract where the annual rainfall varies between 76 and 127 cm. Balochistan is the driest part of the country with an average rainfall of 21 cm.

There are four well-marked seasons in Pakistan, namely:

1. Cold season (December to March)
2. Hot season (April to June)
3. Monsoon season (July-September)
4. Post-monsoon season (October-November).

1.3 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

Pakistan is comprised of the provinces of Punjab, North West Frontier, Balochistan and Sindh and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of the north and northwest. Each province is divided into administrative districts, tehsils and talukas. There were 106 districts by end of June 2001. Islamabad is the capital of Pakistan, which lies in the northern part of the country at the bottom of Margalla hills near Rawalpindi, is a well-planned city construction of which started in the early 1960s.

1.4 PEOPLE, CULTURE, RELIGION AND LANGUAGE

Pakistan historically attracted migrants from many nations in the north-west and the north-east. These include Dravidians, Aryans, Greeks, Turks, Persians, Afghans, Arabs, and Mughals. The dominant racial type in Pakistan is Indo-Aryans.

In the cultural arena, Pakistan has inherited a rich heritage. A highly developed way of life was attained by the people of Pakistan in the Indus Valley Civilisation about 5000 years ago which came to an end around 1500 B. C. About 500 B. C., the northern city of Taxila emerged as a famous centre of Buddhist learning and culture which existed for a thousand years.

1.5 POPULATION, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION

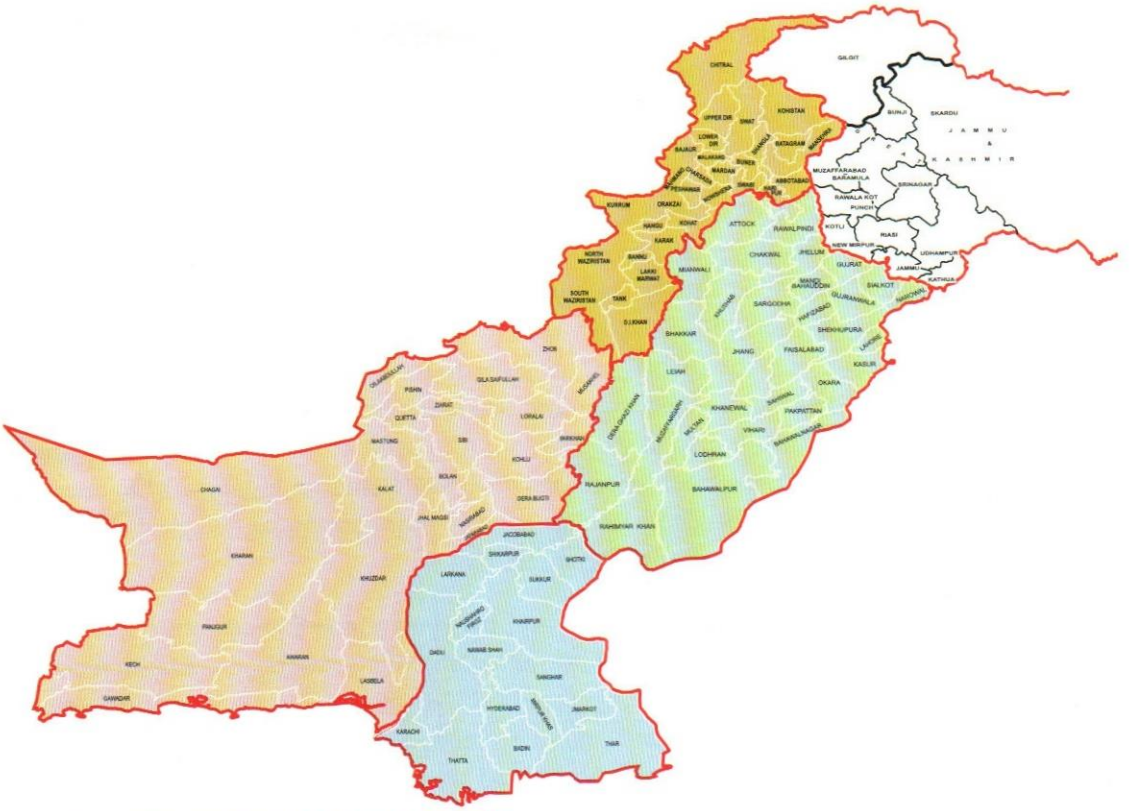
According to the 1998 Census the population of Pakistan was 132.352 million. Its projected population in the year 2003 was 148.3 million, making it the world's seventh most populous country after China, India, USA, Indonesia, Brazil and the Russian Federation. The inter-censal (1981-98) average annual population growth rate is estimated as 2.67 percent whereas the growth rate of population was around 2 percent per annum in 2003.

Pakistan's national language is Urdu, which is widely understood in most parts of the country. However, in the provinces local languages are also spoken. In northern and southern Punjab the local languages are Punjabi and Saraiki respectively. Sindhi is widely spoken in Sindh, except in Karachi where Urdu is the main language. Pushto is the local language of NWFP and the FATA, although Hindko is also spoken in certain parts of NWFP. Balochi, Pushto and Brahvi are widely spoken languages in Balochistan. The official language of the federal and provincial governments is English.

The vast majority of the population is Muslim (97 percent). Minorities include Christians, Hindus, Parsis, Marwaris, Mangowars and Ahmadies.

Figure 1.1

Districts Map of Pakistan



1.6 POPULATION WELFARE PROGRAMME

The Population Welfare Programme of Pakistan was started in the public sector in early 1960s. Initially it utilised the health sector infrastructure and started providing family planning services on a limited scale. The programme transformed into a major activity with the passage of time and adopted various strategies to reduce high fertility through provision of modern family planning methods by an independent public entity. The programme underwent strategic policy shifts since its inception. Following is a brief account of its transformation from an NGO initiative to a full fledged organised family planning programme passing through its chequered history.

POLICY SHIFTS IN POPULATION WELFARE PROGRAMME, 1953-2003

Period	Policy Shifts
1953-60	Family Planning Association of Pakistan (FPAP) was formed as a premier NGO for providing family planning services in the non-governmental sector. The FPAP established clinics in selected cities. It received government grant of Rs 0.5 million during First Five Year Plan, 1955-60. The government expressed concern over high population growth rate and accepted the philosophy of family planning to control it.
1960-65	Family planning activities were started in the public sector through the infrastructure of health departments in the four provinces. The scheme aimed to provide family planning facilities to 1.2 million couples at a cost of Rs 30.2 million. The Ford Foundation, the Population Council and the Swedish government funded the activities. A training-cum-research project, known as the Medical Social Research Project (MESOREP) was launched with the financial and technical help of the Population Council.
1965-70	A comprehensive and detailed scheme was adopted which separated the programme from the health sector. The programme was administered through the federal Family Planning Council and provincial Family Planning Boards. The programme targeted a reduction of crude birth rate from 50/1000 to 40/1000 by 1970 by providing family planning services to 20 million couples in the country. At the grass-roots level, part-time village dai (traditional midwife) provided contraceptive information and supplies and referred clients to clinics or hospitals for IUD insertion and sterilisation. IUD insertions and sterilisations were carried out by part-time / contracted doctors. National Research Institute of Family Planning (NRIFP) was established to conduct clinical and socio-psychological research. The MESOREP also continued during this period. The scheme was vigorously launched and the programme gained considerable attention both at home and abroad. Staff were trained at leading American population centres and placed in the administrative organisation. The programme received full government commitment and was able to build up an efficient administrative structure to develop and implement policies contrary to traditional attitudes. It made the subject of family planning a matter of public discussion and generally frustrated any organised religious opposition. However, contraceptive use was low and inadequate for achieving fertility reduction goals. With the change of government in 1969, field strategy was revised, Continuous Motivation System (CMS) was introduced as a pilot programme.
1972-74	The CMS was extended nation-wide. Part-time Dais were replaced with full-time male/female motivation teams.
1974-76	Contraceptive Inundation Scheme was introduced under the assumption that supply would create its own demand.

1977-80	Family Planning Council and Boards were abolished, programme was federalised and programme activities were suspended during political turmoil in the country.
1981	The CMS was abolished, male/female worker teams were disbanded, family planning posts were reduced from 16,000 to 8,500 and services of 4,323 trained employees including 1051 officers were dispensed with.
1981-84	Programme was made broader based by linking it to other development sectors. The programme adopted multi-sectoral approach.
1983-88	Provincial Population Welfare Departments were established and field activities were transferred to the provinces for implementation. Federal government retained the tasks such as policy, planning, targets, training, procurement of supplies, storage of supplies, seeking foreign funding, social marketing of contraceptives, IEC (partly), monitoring, research, evaluation and support to NGOs. NGO Co-ordinating Council (NGOCC) was established to co-ordinate the work of NGOs and to provide more flexible funding. Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) in its decision mandated that all health outlets will provide family planning services after its staff trained by the Population Welfare Programme. Supplies of contraceptives were also the responsibility of the Population Welfare Division. Social Marketing of Contraceptives (SMC) Programme was introduced.
1989	Population Welfare Programme was asked to focus on 11 large cities. A short-term plan was drawn for this purpose.
1990	Population Welfare Division was given the status of full-fledged Ministry of Population Welfare and the programme moved out from the Ministry of Planning and Development.
1992	NGOCC was replaced by National Trust for Population Welfare (NATPOW) to further strengthen the NGO participation and involvement in the population welfare programme of the country.
1991-99	The programme accelerated and gained momentum. The Village Based Family Planning Workers (VBFPW) Scheme was introduced in 1993 to enhance rural coverage. During 1991-97 the CPR level doubled from 12 percent to 24 percent. The Ministry of Health also launched Prime Minister's Programme for Family Planning and Basic Health Care. Under the programme, Lady Health Workers (LHWs) were recruited and trained to provide family planning and basic health services in urban slums and rural areas. The Population Welfare Programme became a major component of the Social Action Programme (SAP).

1999-2003 Programme was re-organised. The VBFPWs were transferred to the Health Programme. Major organisational changes were considered. The programme was recharged to meet the target of achieving the target of population growth of 1.9 percent by mid 2003. An explicit Population Policy was promulgated in 2002. Interim Population Sector Perspective Plan 2001-2011 was devised with defined goal of reaching nearing replacement level fertility through expansion of family planning coverage, quality services, reducing infant and maternal mortality, and taking other programmatic and strategic measures to achieve these goals.

1.7 POPULATION POLICY OF PAKISTAN

Vision

The overall vision of the Population Policy is to achieve replacement level fertility by 2020 leading in due course to population stabilization in Pakistan.

Goals

The Population Policy seeks to:-

- Attain a balance between resources and population within the broad parameters of the ICPD paradigm.
- Address various dimensions of the population issue within national laws, development priorities while remaining within national social and cultural norms
- Increase awareness of the adverse consequences of rapid population growth both at the national, provincial, district and community levels.
- Promote famil planning as an entitlement based on informed and voluntary choice
- Attain a reduction in fertility through improvement in access and quality of reproductive health services.

Strategies

- Develop and launch advocacy campaigns to address special groups, such as, policymakers, opinion leaders, youth and adolescents.
- Increase ownership of population issues by the stakeholders and strengthen their participation in the processes of service delivery and program design.
- Reduce unmet need for family planning services by making available quality family planning & RH services to all married couples who want to limit or space their children.
- Adopt a shift from target oriented to people-centred needs and services.

- Ensure the provision of quality services especially to the poor, under-served and un-served populations in rural areas and urban slums.
- Coordinate and monitor a comprehensive network of family planning & RH services in Pakistan.
- Build strong partnerships with concerned Line Ministries, Provincial line Departments particularly Health, Non-Governmental Organizations and the private Sector including the industrial sector to maintain standards in family planning by providing assistance/guidance through advocacy, training, monitoring and other means of participation and quality assurance.
- Strengthen contribution to population activities by civil society players, particularly NGOs and media.
- Expand the role of the private sector by making contraceptives accessible and affordable of contraceptives through social marketing of contraceptives and through local manufacture of contraceptives.
- Decentralize program management and service delivery to provincial and district levels.
- Ensure availability of the four prioritized areas of the Reproductive Health Package, i.e. family planning, safe motherhood, infant health and RTI / STDs through nationwide service delivery outlets in the public & private sector.
- Harness support, cooperation and involvement of men in strengthening the family as the basic unit of society and in small family size decision making; and
- Ensure Population and Family Life Education for school and college students.

1.8 EVALUATION OF THE POPULATION WELFARE PROGRAMME

Since the establishment of the population welfare programme, a number of cross sectional surveys have been conducted in Pakistan to evaluate family planning and health programmes. Continual evaluation of the Population Welfare Programme is essential for its improvement. The National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS), established in 1986, has conducted numerous evaluation studies. Evaluation surveys have also been conducted by the Population Council- an international NGO working in family planning and reproductive health research.

Prior to the current survey, the following major surveys have been undertaken in Pakistan at different times to evaluate the family planning programme and related issues:

- National Impact Survey (NIS), 1968
- Pakistan Fertility Survey (PFS), 1975
- Pakistan Labour Force and Migration Survey (PLM), 1979-80
- Pakistan Contraceptive Prevalence Survey (PCPS), 1984-85
- Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS), 1990-91
- Pakistan Contraceptive Prevalence Survey (PCPS), 1994-95
- Pakistan Fertility and Family Planning Survey (PFFPS), 1996-97
- Pakistan Reproductive Health and family Planning Survey (PRHFPS), 2000-01

1.9 EXPENDITURE ON POPULATION WELFARE PROGRAMME (1990-2003)

Table 1.1
YEAR-WISE EXPENDITURE ON POPULATION WELFARE PROGRAMME, PAKISTAN, 1990-2003

Year	Actual expenditure	GNP(mp)	Expenditure as % of GNP
1990-91	653.1	1,044,508	0.063
1991-92	762.8	1,223,922	0.062
1992-93	702.9	1,351,589	0.052
1993-94	710.5	1,577,085	0.045
1994-95	1,133.0	1,896,114	0.060
1995-96	1,181.2	2,134,706	0.055
1996-97	1,256.9	2,438,031	0.052
1997-98	1,194.3	2,653,292	0.045
1998-99	1,401.6	2,912,832	0.048
1999-00	2,144.9	3,778,155	0.068
2000-01	1,499.3	4,108,172	0.036
2001-02	1,454.2	4,425,364	0.033
2002-03	1,797.8	4,974,654	0.036
2003-04	2,169.0	5,765,058	0.038

Source: (1) Directorate of Financial Management (FM), Ministry of Population Welfare, Islamabad.
(2) Government of Pakistan, Pakistan Economic Surveys, 2000-01 & 2005-06 (Appendix tables: page 13)

CHAPTER 2

METHODOLOGY, SAMPLE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter presents the design and implementation of the Status of Women, Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey (SWRHFPS) conducted in 2003. It outlines the objectives, organisation, sample design, questionnaires, recruitment and training of field staff, fieldwork and data processing and implementation of the survey.

2.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY

The important objective of the survey was to provide national and provincial level data on fertility, knowledge and use of family planning, nuptiality, family size preferences, reproductive health, problems of women, information on status of women indicators, knowledge and use of reproductive health measures like antenatal care, pregnancy and postnatal care, women health problems, awareness about AIDS, hepatitis B and C, The survey sought to provide national and provincial level data on population and selected health aspects, with the aim of providing information to policy-makers, planners and programme managers for the improvement of national population welfare and health programmes. The SRHFPS, 2003 also aimed to serve as a source of demographic data and to examine broader demographic trends. In addition, the survey provides valuable data on the status of women and current situation of reproductive health of married women aged 15-49.

2.2 ORGANISATION OF THE SURVEY

The SWRHFPS was conducted with the financial assistance of United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) under its support to the Population Sector Programme. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was set up comprising experts from NIPS, Ministry of Population Welfare, UNFPA, Population Council, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS).

2.3 SAMPLE DESIGN

A national sample of 9,980 households was drawn covering Punjab, Sindh, NWFP, Balochistan, and the federal territory of Islamabad. The sample was provided by the Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS). The universe consisted of all urban and rural areas of the four provinces, and the federal territory of Islamabad as defined in the 1998 Population Census. The FATA and restricted military areas (which make up four percent of the total population) were excluded. A two-stage sample design was proposed, with area units at the first stage and households at the second.

The FBS used a standard stratification scheme at the area stage of sampling. The first step was to stratify by urban/rural. In the urban sector, major urban and other urban areas formed sub-strata. Major urban cities are Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Quetta, Hyderabad, Faisalabad, Multan, Gujranwala, Sialkot and Sargodha. All other cities and towns are considered as other urban. The blocks within the cities and towns of urban sub-strata were further stratified into high, medium and low income areas. In the rural sector, villages were stratified by province and district. In the next step, 200 urban blocks were selected in the urban sample and 250 villages, *dehs* and *mouzas* were selected in the rural sample. Thus there were a total of 450 area units, or Primary Sampling Units (PSUs).

Table 2.1
SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY SAMPLING UNITS
BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Province / Residence	Primary Sampling Units	Sampled Households
Pakistan	449	9980
Total urban	199	3980
Major urban	86	1720
Other urban	113	2260
Rural	250	6000
Punjab	224	4992
Total urban	96	1920
Major urban	45	900
Other urban	51	1020
Rural	128	3072
Sindh	94	2484
Total urban	57	1140
Major urban	32	640
Other urban	25	500
Rural	56	1344
NWFP	57	1416
Total urban	24	480
Major urban	5	100
Other urban	19	380
Rural	39	9368
Balochistan	36	1088
Total urban	22	440
Major urban	4	80
Other urban	18	360
Rural	27	648

After selection of PSUs, the FBS undertook the household listing in each PSU five to six months before the start of the field work. The household listings of the sampled areas were provided to NIPS. According to the sample design provided by FBS, 20 households per cluster were selected randomly from each urban block and 24 households per cluster were selected from a rural area. One 'other urban' cluster was not covered due to unavoidable circumstances. Thus, the 'other urban' household sample contain 20 fewer households than the intended number. A total of 3,980 households were selected from the sample of 199 urban areas and 6,000 households from 250 rural areas, making a total sample size of 9,980 households. The distribution of PSUs and sampled households by residence and province is presented in

table 2.1.Households in the more populous provinces (particularly Punjab) were under-sampled, while households in Balochistan were over-sampled. These unequal probabilities of selection have been corrected by weighting households according to the sample design. Weighting factors for every cluster were obtained from FBS and applied to obtain representative estimates at the national, provincial and urban-rural levels.

Table 2.2
WEIGHTED AND UNWEIGHTED NUMBERS OF HOUSEHOLDS
BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Residence	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Total urban					
Weighted	1964	1313	209	103	3589
Unweighted	(1920)	(1140)	(480)	(440)	(3980)
Major urban					
Weighted	922	889	68	41	1920
Unweighted	(900)	(640)	(100)	(80)	(1720)
Other urban					
Weighted	1042	424	140	63	1669
Unweighted	(1020)	(500)	(380)	(360)	(2260)
Rural					
Weighted	3767	1301	1073	316	6457
Unweighted	(3072)	(1344)	(936)	(648)	(6000)
Total					
Weighted	5731	2614	1281	420	10046
Unweighted	(4992)	(2484)	(1416)	(1088)	(9980)

Household weights are standardised, so that the sum of weights for households successfully interviewed is equal to the actual number (9400)

Table 2.3
WEIGHTED AND UNWEIGHTED NUMBERS OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Residence	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Total urban					
Weighted	11546	8112	1224	749	21631
Unweighted	(11442)	(7291)	(3044)	(3310)	(25087)
Major urban					
Weighted	5358	5016	286	290	10949
Unweighted	(5233)	(3631)	(408)	(598)	(9870)
Other urban					
Weighted	6188	3096	938	459	10682
Unweighted	(6209)	(3660)	(2636)	(2712)	(15217)
Rural					
Weighted	24284	8596	7380	2493	42754
Unweighted	(20389)	(8986)			(41128)
Total					
Weighted	35830	16708	8604	3242	64385
Unweighted	(31831)	(16277)	(9591)	(8516)	(66215)

Weights for household members use the same standardisation as for households.

Table 2.4
WEIGHTED AND UNWEIGHTED NUMBERS OF ELIGIBLE WOMEN BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Residence	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Total urban					
Weighted	2117	1445	114	43	3720
Unweighted	(1671)	(1137)	(190)	(100)	(3098)
Major urban					
Weighted	1059	1069	57	29	2213
Unweighted	(762)	(721)	(52)	(36)	(1571)
Other urban					
Weighted	1058	376	57	15	1507
Unweighted	(909)	(415)	(137)	(64)	(1526)
Rural					
Weighted	5103	1401	1434	232	8169
Unweighted	(3604)	(1278)	(1098)	(370)	(6350)
Total					
Weighted	7219	2846	1549	275	11889
Unweighted	(5275)	(2415)	(1288)	(470)	(9447)

Weights for eligible women are standardised so that the sum of weights for those successfully interviewed is equal to the actual number (8718)

Unless otherwise indicated, all numbers reported in tables are weighted, so that they show the effective contribution of a group to the national estimates, not the actual number of responses in the group. Weights were standardised so that the weighted totals were approximately equal to the unweighted totals. The standardisation process multiplies all the weights by a constant factor, so it has no effect on percentages, rates, means or medians (since these are all based on ratios), only on the number of cases reported as contributing to an analysis. In this report two standards have been chosen, one for households, based on the number of interviewed households (9400), and one for respondents, based on the number of women successfully interviewed in the ever-married sample (8718). The same standardisation is then used in all appropriate contexts. Tables 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 show the relationship between the weighted and unweighted numbers for province and type of area, for the households, the household members and the eligible women respectively.

2.4 QUESTIONNAIRES

The SWRHFPS used two main data collection instruments. The two main instruments were the household schedule and the woman's individual questionnaire.

i. Household Schedule

The Household Schedule was designed to list all usual household members. For each listed member, basic information on age, sex, marital status, relationship to the head of the household, education, reason for not attending the formal education, and occupation was collected. The information on age, sex and marital status was used to identify the women who were eligible for the Woman's Questionnaire. Eligible women were defined as ever married aged 15-49.

ii. Woman's Individual Questionnaire

The Woman's Questionnaire collected information from eligible women on their socio-demographic characteristics, reproduction, reproductive health, knowledge and use of contraception, pregnancy, breastfeeding, marriage, fertility preferences, women's status, and socio-economic factors.

The questionnaire was prepared by NIPS and discussed threadbare in the meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee. Based on the experience of past surveys regarding misreporting of the birth timings, extra care was taken to design a partial birth history calendar in which information for the last three live births only was taken. The overall context and format of the questionnaire was determined in a series of meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee. These meetings were attended by Experts, professionals and representatives of a wide range of organizations in the population and health fields including the Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Health, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Federal Bureau of Statistics, Population Council, the Asia Foundation, United Nations Population Fund, and Social Marketing of Pakistan. A copy of the questionnaire is provided at the end of this report.

The questionnaire was prepared in English, and then translated into the two major languages spoken in the country (Urdu and Sindhi). All the questionnaires contained both English and translated questions in one of the two major languages. The questionnaire was finalised after comprehensively pre-testing it in Punjab and Sindh provinces by female interviewers.

2.5 SELECTION OF FIELD STAFF

Considerable care was taken in the selection of staff for project management, supervision, quality control, data collection, data entry, analysis and report writing. The survey was implemented by a team headed by the Director NIPS as the Project Director. An expert in the field of demography and survey management with vast experience of conducting similar surveys was hired as Principal Investigator. One qualified and experienced mid-level professional from NIPS was designated as Office Co-ordinator to assist the Project Director and the Principal Investigator. Four mid-level professionals from NIPS were identified as Provincial Field Co-ordinators. All the co-ordinators were qualified and experienced persons who successfully conducted and controlled the field activities in their areas of jurisdiction.

A total of 17 teams were constituted for field work. Each team comprised one male supervisor, and three female interviewers. The Supervisors were post graduates and the interviewers possessed at least a Bachelor's degree. Supervisors and interviewers were recruited strictly on merit from local areas of the provinces. Field staff selected from different areas was able to understand and fluently speak local languages, which included Punjabi, Saraiki, Sindhi, Urdu, Pushto, Balochi and Brahvi. Preference was given to those who had previous experience of interviewing in surveys, especially those conducted by NIPS. The Project Director and Principal Investigator conducted interviews of all supervisors and interviewers to ensure selection of the best candidates.

2.6 TRAINING

The training was organised at three locations. The field staff from NWFP was trained at Islamabad while the data enumerators and supervisors from Punjab were imparted training at Lahore and those who hailed from Sindh and Balochistan were trained at Karachi. All field coordinators, field supervisors and interviewers attended the training sessions. Staff members from NIPS, FBS and the Regional Training Institutes of Population Welfare conducted the training. Guest speakers were also invited from relevant fields. Training programmes were conducted through general lectures, discussions, role-play, practice interviews as well as field practice. The training included instructions in interviewing techniques and survey field procedures. All questions were discussed in detail and instructions were communicated when needed. The Executive Director and Project Director personally monitored and visited training sessions.

2.7 DATA COLLECTION

The field work was carried out between March and October 2003. Eight teams were deployed in Punjab, five in Sindh, four in NWFP and four in Balochistan. The quality of data was ensured through careful selection of qualified and experienced field staff; extensive training of field staff; supervisory level checks of all questionnaires and rectification of mistakes; continual and close review of field work by Provincial Co-ordinators and Visits to survey teams by the Project Director and the Principal Investigator.

Each survey team had access to a vehicle made available by the District Population Offices. But in few cases teams had to hire a vehicle. Teams followed a pre-designed field programme. Supervisors identified a contact point and telephone number at each site. The most useful contact point was the office of the relevant DPWO. Communication between supervisors, co-ordinators and headquarters staff was maintained through telephone, fax and urgent mail.

2.8 COVERAGE OF SAMPLE

The teams covered the sampled areas and households according to programme designed by the supervisors. For each selected household, the interviewer listed all household members including all usual residents in the household. From these list ever-married women aged 15-49 were identified as eligible for the Woman Questionnaire.

Table 2.5 shows coverage of the sample areas (PSUs), households and ever- married women aged 15-49 by province and residence.

As mentioned earlier, out of 450 primary sampling units (PSUs), 449 PSUs were successfully covered in all the four provinces. One PSU in 'other urban' area of Punjab was not covered because of non availability of listings and map of the PSU location. Of the 9980 households selected, 9400 were located and visited, indicating an overall response rate of 94 percent. At the provincial level, the response rate was 94 percent in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan provinces while for NWFP the response rate was 96 percent. A total of 9447 eligible women were identified of whom 8718 were successfully interviewed, giving a response rate of 92 percent. The response rate was highest in NWFP (97 percent), followed by Sindh (95 percent), Balochistan (92 percent) and Punjab (90 percent).

Table 2.5

COVERAGE OF SAMPLE AREAS (PSUs), HOUSEHOLDS AND EVER-MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-49, BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE (UNWEIGHTED)

Province/ Residence	Primary sampling units			Households			Ever-married women Aged 15-49		
	Sampled	Covered		Sampled	Interviewed		Identified	Interviewed	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Pakistan	450	449	99.8	9980	9400	94.2	9447	8718	92.3
Total urban	200	199	99.5	3980	3702	93.0	3098	2861	92.4
Major urban	86	86	100.0	1720	1595	92.7	1571	1479	94.1
Other urban	114	113	99.1	2260	2107	93.2	1526	1382	90.6
Rural	250	250	100.0	6000	5698	95.0	6350	5857	92.2
Punjab	225	224	99.6	4992	4672	93.6	5275	4733	89.7
Total urban	97	96	99.0	1920	1748	91.0	1671	1485	88.9
Major urban	45	45	100.0	900	810	90.0	762	677	88.9
Other urban	52	51	98.1	1020	938	92.0	909	808	88.8
Rural	128	128	100.0	3072	2924	95.2	3604	3248	90.1
Sindh	113	94	100.0	2484	2338	94.1	2415	2302	95.3
Total urban	57	57	100.0	1140	1085	95.2	1137	1097	96.5
Major urban	32	32	100.0	640	618	96.6	721	715	99.1
Other urban	25	25	100.0	500	467	93.4	415	382	92.1
Rural	56	56	100.0	1344	1253	93.2	1278	1205	94.3
NWFP	63	63	100.0	1416	1364	96.3	1288	1252	97.3
Total urban	24	24	100.0	480	459	95.6	190	185	97.5
Major urban	5	5	100.0	100	95	98	52	52	100.0
Other urban	19	19	100.0	380	364	95.8	137	133	96.6
Rural	39	39	100.0	936	905	96.7	1098	1067	97.2
Total urban	22	22	100.0	440	410	93.2	100	93	93.4
Major urban	4	4	100.0	80	72	90.0	36	34	95.0
Other urban	18	18	100.0	360	338	93.9	64	59	92.5
Rural	27	27	100.0	648	616	95.1	370	337	91.1

Unless mentioned otherwise, the problem of non-response has been ignored in tables based on the interviewed women or households. This is because non-response has a similar effect on both numerators and denominators on all cells in a distribution, and experiments suggest that adjustments for non-response have negligible effects on results.

However, this is not true of tables where the numerators come from the interviewed women and the denominators from the household, as in the case of mean number of children for all women (i.e. single and ever married). Such tables are produced by linking information about the interviewed women to their household records; however, those members of the household who were eligible but were not interviewed do not have this additional information. To treat them as having no children (for example) would underestimate the true number of children for the household members, and to omit them from the households would be biased. To handle this situation, the numerators have been inflated to adjust for non-response, and non-interviewed women have been included in the denominators. So the value used in calculating the mean children ever born (for example) is the observed number of children for an interviewed woman, divided by the response rate for her group. This adjustment is made on the basis of response rates by single years of age by province and urban-rural residence.

2.9 REASONS FOR NON-RESPONSE

Table 2.6 shows response rates at household level for various categories of residence in the four provinces and the aggregate position at the national level. The table also indicates the reasons for non response for the respective categories of residence. The response rate of 94 percent at the national level is indicative of the quality of fieldwork. The major reason for household non-response were that houses were either vacant or the no adult member of the household was available at the time of the visit of the team. The non-response rate was relatively higher in Sindh and Punjab provinces compared to NWFP and Balochistan.

Reasons for individual non-response are shown in table 2.7. The main reason for individual non-response was non-availability of eligible woman at the time of visit, while explicit refusal to be interviewed was rare. Failure to make contact with eligible women was more common in Punjab and Balochistan than in the other two provinces.

Table 2.6
RESULTS OF HOUSEHOLD INTERVIEWS BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE (UNWEIGHTED)

Province / Residence	Completed	No adult at home	Refused	Dwelling vacant / destroyed	Others	Number
Pakistan	94.2	2.2	1.0	1.6	1.1	9980
Total urban	93.0	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.7	3980
Major urban	92.7	1.4	2.2	1.7	1.9	1720
Other urban	93.2	2.5	1.0	1.7	1.5	2260
Rural	95.0	2.3	0.6	1.5	0.7	6000
Punjab	93.6	2.5	1.1	1.6	1.2	4992
Total urban	91.0	2.7	2.2	1.9	2.2	1920
Major urban	90.0	2.2	3.6	1.8	2.4	900
Other urban	92.0	3.0	1.0	2.1	2.0	1020
Rural	95.2	2.3	0.4	1.4	0.6	3072
Sindh	94.1	2.4	0.6	2.1	0.7	2484
Total urban	95.2	1.1	1.1	1.7	1.0	1140
Major urban	96.6	0.5	0.6	1.7	0.6	640
Other urban	93.4	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.4	500
Rural	93.2	3.5	0.2	2.5	0.5	1344
NWFP	96.3	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.8	1416
Total urban	95.6	1.5	0.4	1.7	0.8	480
Major urban	95.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	4.0	100
Other urban	95.8	1.8	0.5	1.8	0.0	380
Rural	96.7	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.9	936
Balochistan	94.3	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.8	1088
Total urban	93.2	2.3	1.1	0.9	2.5	440
Major urban	90.0	1.3	2.5	2.5	3.8	80
Other urban	93.9	2.5	0.8	0.6	2.2	360
Rural	95.1	0.9	1.5	1.1	1.4	648

2.10 DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

All completed SRHFPS questionnaires were received at NIPS for editing, data entry and processing. The office co-ordinator was responsible for receiving questionnaires, organising the system of manual editing, and co-ordination with the computer programmer for data entry. Four editors were recruited to undertake technical editing of the questionnaires under the supervision of the office co-ordinator. Data entry and checking were overseen by the programmer. The data were entered using UN-DESD programme PC-Edit (Version 4.1), recommended by UNFPA. Four trained data entry operators carried out the job. Tabulation for this report was performed using SPSS version 8.0. MS Access 2000 was used for additional data checking and for calculating fertility and mortality rates.

Table 2.7
RESULTS OF INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE (UNWEIGHTED)

Province / Residence	Completed	Eligible women not at home	Refused	Partly completed	Others	Number
Pakistan	92. 3	6.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	9447
Total urban	92.4	6.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	3098
Major urban	94.1	4.8	0.4	0.4	0.2	1571
Other urban	90.6	8.6	0.1	0.4	0.3	1526
Rural	92.2	6.7	0.4	0.4	0.2	6350
Punjab	89.7	9.0	0.4	0.6	0.3	5275
Total urban	88.9	9.8	0.5	0.6	0.3	1671
Major urban	88.9	9.3	0.9	0.7	0.2	762
Other urban	88.8	10.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	909
Rural	90.1	8.7	0.4	0.5	0.3	3604
Sindh	95.3	4.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	2415
Total urban	96.5	3.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	1137
Major urban	99.1	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	721
Other urban	92.1	7.3	0.0	0.4	0.2	415
Rural	94.3	5.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	1278
NWFP	97.3	2.5	0.0	0.2	0.1	1288
Total urban	97.5	2.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	190
Major urb an	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	52
Other urban	96.6	3.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	137
Rural	97.2	2.5	0.0	0.2	0.1	1098
Balochistan	91.6	5.7	2.2	0.3	0.1	470
Total urban	93.4	6.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	100
Major urban	95.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36
Other urban	92.5	6.6	0.9	0.0	0.0	64
Rural	91.1	5.6	2.7	0.4	0.2	370

CHAPTER 3

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS

This chapter presents socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the population of the sample households. The objective is to provide an assessment of the environment in which men, women and children live and examine differentials and trends by comparing it with earlier surveys and censuses where possible.

3.1 AGE-SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

As in many developing countries, data collection efforts in Pakistan are subject to age misreporting and heaping on certain ages due to digit preference. Though special efforts were made in this survey to minimize this deficiency, age misreporting and heaping is evident in the data. The single year age distributions by sex in the population indicate that there is considerable preference for age ending in particular digits, especially 0 and 5 (Figure 3.1). Table 3.1 shows the distribution of de jure (the place of usual residence) household population by age and sex along with sex ratios for each five-year age group.

The overall sex ratio is 1.06. The highest sex ratio of 1.72 is observed at ages 80 and more years, followed by 70-74 years (1.57), and the lowest sex ratio of 0.83 among 50-54 year olds indicate pronounced out-transference of women beyond the age of eligibility for the individual interview. This has been observed in all similar cross sectional surveys undertaken in Pakistan. The higher sex ratio in the older ages perhaps indicate that men still outlive their counterparts in this part of the world.

The population pyramid depicting the overall age-sex distribution of the household population is shown in figure 3.1. The pyramid shows that around 41 percent of the population is below 15 years. The pattern is typical of countries that have experienced relatively high fertility in the recent past. However, the base of the pyramid is clearly undercut. The smaller size of the age group below five years has been observed in other surveys and censuses and is only partly explained by a recent fall in fertility. Some of the deficit of the 0-4 year olds is likely to be caused by the omission of young children. However, the age displacement problems appear less severe in this survey compared to the PDHS 1990-91, in which some deliberate shifting of under five children to the next age group was done by the interviewers to avoid detailed information to be collected about all children under age five.

The overall dependency ratio (i.e. the ratio of persons aged under 15 plus over 64 to those aged 15-64) is 81.79. A large proportion of this ratio is constituted by the population below the age of 15 years.

Table 3.1
AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

Age Group	Males		Females		Both sexes		Sex Ratio
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
00 - 04	4328	13.1	4084	13.1	8412	13.1	1.06
05 - 09	4679	14.1	4443	14.2	9123	14.2	1.05
10 - 14	4615	13.9	4056	13.0	8670	13.5	1.14
15 - 19	3725	11.2	3649	11.7	7374	11.5	1.02
20 - 24	2919	8.8	3048	9.8	5966	9.3	0.96
25 - 29	2278	6.9	2343	7.5	4621	7.2	0.97
30 - 34	1751	5.3	1857	5.9	3609	5.6	0.94
35 - 39	1766	5.3	1694	5.4	3460	5.4	1.04
40 - 44	1438	4.3	1204	3.9	2642	4.1	1.19
45 - 49	1232	3.7	992	3.2	2224	3.5	1.24
50 - 54	1051	3.2	1269	4.1	2320	3.6	0.83
55 - 59	782	2.4	783	2.5	1565	2.4	1.00
60 - 64	934	2.8	701	2.2	1635	2.5	1.33
65 - 69	558	1.7	462	1.5	1020	1.6	1.21
70 - 74	522	1.6	333	1.1	855	1.3	1.57
75 - 79	200	0.6	136	0.4	336	0.5	1.47
80+	349	1.1	202	0.7	551	0.9	1.72
Total	33127	100.0	31256	100.0	64382	100.0	1.06

Figure 3.1
AGE PYRAMID

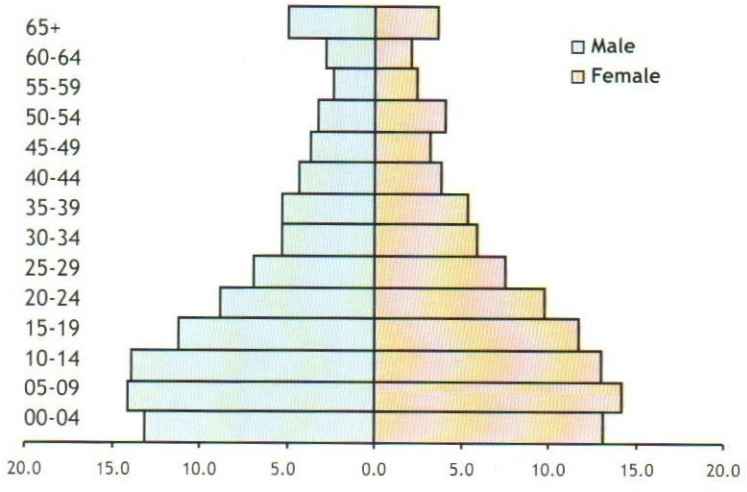


Table 3.2 presents data from various sources on age distribution of household population. The overall distribution of the population by age in this survey is similar to the distributions in previous surveys. However, the proportion younger than 15 years has fallen from 44 percent in the 1990-91 PDHS to 43 percent in 1996-97 PFFPS and to 41 percent in 2003 SWRHFPS. This change provides an indication of a possible fertility decline.

3.2 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF WIDOWED, DIVORCED AND SEPARATED WOMEN

In Pakistan the majority of women are economically and socially dependent on men, and most of them are currently married and live with their husbands. Table 3.3, shows the usual living arrangements of widowed, divorced and separated women by age and relationship to household head. Majority of such women (56 percent) live with sons or daughters and over one-fifth are heading the households. Younger women tend to live with parents whereas a very small proportion lives with their parent in laws. These findings are consistent with social norms in Pakistan.

Table 3.2

TRENDS IN HOUSEHOLD AGE COMPOSITION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

Age group	Census 1981	PCPS 1984-85	PDHS 1990-91	PFFPS 1996-97	PRHFPS 2000-01	SWRHFPS 2003
0- 4	15.3	16.4	13.4	14.4	13.8	13.1
5- 9	16.0	16.3	17.4	15.4	14.3	14.2
10-14	13.2	12.8	13.7	13.3	13.2	13.5
15-19	9.5	10.1	10.2	11.4	11.9	11.5
20-24	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.6	9.3	9.3
25-29	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.2
30-34	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.6
35-39	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.4
40-44	4.7	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.9	4.1
45-49	3.7	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.5
50-54	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.6
55-59	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.4
60-64	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5
65 +	4.3	4.3	5.0	4.3	4.2	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 3.3

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF WIDOWED, DIVORCED AND SEPARATED WOMEN BY AGE

Living arrangements (living with)	Age of woman					All
	Below 30	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+	
Self as head of household	9.0	32.7	46.6	28.9	14.8	22.1
Parents	49.7	30.7	9.0	1.7	--	5.4
Parents-in-law	9.7	10.5	3.8	0.4	--	1.5
Son/(daughter)	--	6.8	28.7	55.5	71.5	56.3
Son-in-law/ daughter-in-law	--	--	0.8	2.9	6.4	4.3
Brother/ (sister)	22.9	12.3	6.2	5.1	1.2	4.3
Grand Child	--	--	--	0.3	2.5	1.5
Other relatives	8.7	6.9	5.0	5.3	3.6	4.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	67	92	150	356	844	1509

3.3 MARITAL STATUS

The survey includes information on the marital status of all household members age 12 and more. Table 3.4 and 3.5 shows the marital status distribution of male and female household population by age. Among males, age 12 and more, more than 46 per cent are currently married and about 51 percent are never married. The proportion of never married is higher for males as compared to females (50.8 percent and 42.4 percent respectively). Marriage is rare for both males and females under age 15. However, in age bracket 15-19 years, less than 2 percent males and around 12 percent females are married. The proportion of marriage up to age 34 years rises sharply for females than males. By age 35-39 years it becomes almost universal for both males and females (92 and 93 percent respectively). Overall, females marry at much younger ages than males.

The data further indicate a much higher number of widowed among females as compared to males in the older ages. Thirty five percent of females age 60-64, four-tenths of age 65-69 and over 75 percent of age 80 or over are widows. However, the overall proportion of divorcees or separated remains very low.

Table 3.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MALE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION
ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS, BY AGE

Age group	Marital status				Total	Number
	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced / separated		
10-14	99.7	0.3	0.0	-	100.0	4615
15-19	98.4	1.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	3725
20-24	80.5	18.9	0.2	0.4	100.0	2919
25-29	49.1	49.3	0.6	1.0	100.0	2278
30-34	16.3	82.4	0.6	0.7	100.0	1751
35-39	6.2	92.4	0.9	0.5	100.0	1766
40-44	2.4	95.2	1.5	0.9	100.0	1438
45-49	2.4	93.7	2.4	1.5	100.0	1232
50-54	1.9	93.2	4.6	0.4	100.0	1051
55-59	0.5	94.2	4.9	0.3	100.0	782
60-64	1.2	89.3	8.8	0.7	100.0	934
65-69	1.5	86.1	11.4	1.0	100.0	558
70-74	1.3	78.5	19.6	0.6	100.0	522
75-79	0.1	79.7	19.1	1.1	100.0	200
80+	0.5	66.7	32.2	0.5	100.0	349
Total	50.8	46.3	2.4	0.5	100.0	24120

Table 3.5
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLD FEMALE POPULATION
ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS, BY AGE

Age group	Marital status				Total	Number
	Never married	Married	Widowed	Divorced / separated		
10-14	99.8	0.2	0.1	--	100.0	4056
15-19	88.5	11.4	0.0	0.1	100.0	3649
20-24	54.4	45.0	0.1	0.5	100.0	3048
25-29	19.3	79.0	0.6	1.1	100.0	2343
30-34	6.0	92.1	1.1	0.9	100.0	1857
35-39	3.4	93.3	2.2	1.1	100.0	1694
40-44	2.5	91.4	4.9	1.3	100.0	1204
45-49	1.3	91.1	6.9	0.8	100.0	992
50-54	1.1	84.0	14.0	0.9	100.0	1269
55-59	1.3	77.4	20.3	1.0	100.0	783
60-64	0.4	63.7	34.9	1.0	100.0	701
65-69	1.3	57.6	40.8	0.3	100.0	462
70-74	1.7	46.6	51.1	0.6	100.0	333
75-79	1.0	44.2	54.8	-	100.0	136
80+	0.6	22.2	75.1	2.1	100.0	02
Total	42.4	51.0	6.0	0.6	100.0	22728

3.4 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The level of education of household members affects positively on the reproductive behaviour, contraceptive use, the health of children, and proper hygienic practices. Tables 3.6 and 3.7 show the percent distribution of the de jure household population by educational level according to age, sex, and residence.

As expected, males tend to be better educated than females. Whereas 37 percent of males have received no education, as many as 58 percent of females are uneducated. A higher percentage of males than of females have completed each level of schooling. The age cohort differences in education levels suggest that there has been some progress over time. For example, the proportion of males having high school education is 11.5 percent, whereas, this proportion is almost double in case of younger age cohort of 25-29 years. Similarly, the proportion of females aged 50-54 is only 2.9 percent but it is 16.6 percent at age 20-24. This trend indicates a much faster improvement in females' level of education.

In Pakistan, the level of education is relatively low, so even primary education has an important place. More than 26 percent of males and 22 percent of females have completed, or are attending primary school. The percentage of population who has attended school beyond primary level is very low. Among five years and above population, about 10 percent have received middle level, 11 percent have completed secondary level while 8 percent have received a college level education. In comparison, at all levels, females are less likely to have received education.

Urban-rural differentials in education are explicit and evident. Sixty-nine percent of rural females have not received formal education compared with only 38 percent of urban females (Table 3.7) Forty-three percent of rural males have not attended formal school, compared with only 25 percent of the urban male population.

Balochistan has the lowest educational attainment for both males and females. Seventy-four percent of females and 45 percent of males have no formal education in Balochistan. Of all provinces, NWFP has the largest sex differential in educational attainment i.e., 36 percent of males compared with 66 percent of females have not received formal schooling. Punjab has the lowest percentage of males and females who are uneducated (34 and 53 percent respectively). Almost similar trend is visible at higher level of education. Almost double the proportion of males as compared to females has received college education across all provinces.

Table 3.6
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AGED FIVE YEARS OR ABOVE ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF EDUCATION, BY AGE AND SEX

Age group	None	Formal education (Classes passed)				Total	Number
		1-5	6-8	9-10	11+		
Males							
5- 9	55.8	43.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	4679
10-14	20.7	53.8	22.9	2.4	0.2	100.0	4615
15-19	19.6	19.4	23.3	28.1	9.7	100.0	3725
20-24	21.2	15.7	16.6	26.4	20.1	100.0	2919
25-29	25.9	13.7	14.1	23.8	22.4	100.0	2278
30-34	34.5	14.9	11.4	19.2	20.0	100.0	1751
35-39	38.6	14.0	11.4	19.9	16.0	100.0	1766
40-44	41.0	13.1	9.5	20.1	16.2	100.0	1438
45-49	41.5	16.3	8.7	18.9	14.5	100.0	1232
50-54	49.1	14.8	7.7	16.9	11.5	100.0	1051
55-59	48.7	17.9	11.9	11.9	9.6	100.0	782
60-64	60.0	14.7	7.2	11.7	6.5	100.0	934
65+	71.5	12.6	6.1	6.3	3.5	100.0	1629
All (males)	36.5	26.2	13.0	14.5	9.8	100.0	28799
Females							
5- 9	62.9	36.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	100.0	4443
10-14	33.4	45.6	18.5	2.4	0.1	100.0	4056
15-19	37.3	20.1	15.5	18.7	8.4	100.0	3649
20-24	43.6	15.0	9.4	15.4	16.6	100.0	3048
25-29	55.3	13.8	6.6	12.5	11.7	100.0	2343
30-34	66.0	14.2	5.3	7.1	7.4	100.0	1857
35-39	71.7	12.1	4.5	5.4	6.3	100.0	1694
40-44	75.6	9.6	3.9	5.9	4.9	100.0	1204
45-49	77.5	10.1	4.4	4.8	3.2	100.0	992
50-54	85.0	6.8	2.6	2.8	2.9	100.0	1269
55-59	88.2	5.6	1.8	3.0	1.4	100.0	783
60-64	91.5	4.9	1.6	1.1	0.9	100.0	701
65+	95.5	2.8	1.0	0.3	0.3	100.0	1134
All (females)	58.0	21.6	7.7	7.2	5.5	100.0	27171
All (both sexes)	46.9	24.0	10.4	10.9	7.7	100.0	55970

Table 3.7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AGED FIVE OR ABOVE ACCORDING TO EDUCATION, BY RESIDENCE, PROVINCE AND SEX

Residence/Province	None	Formal Education				Total	Number
		1 - 5	6 - 8	9 - 10	11 +		
Males							
Residence							
Total urban	24.8	25.3	14.8	17.9	17.3	100.0	9848
Major urban	24.5	24.0	14.7	18.9	17.9	100.0	5070
Other urban	25.1	26.7	15.0	16.7	16.6	100.0	4778
Rural	42.6	26.7	12.0	12.7	5.9	100.0	18951
Province							
Punjab	33.7	26.3	14.5	16.0	9.5	100.0	16076
Sindh	41.0	26.0	10.1	11.7	11.1	100.0	7504
NWFP	36.1	26.7	13.1	14.8	9.3	100.0	3806
Balochistan	45.4	25.1	10.6	11.0	7.8	100.0	1412
All (males)	36.5	26.2	13.0	14.5	9.8	100.0	2879
Females							
Residence							
Total urban	37.8	23.8	12.0	13.5	12.9	100.0	9391
Major urban	33.7	22.7	13.1	15.8	14.8	100.0	4727
Other urban	41.9	24.9	11.0	11.2	11.0	100.0	4664
Rural	68.6	20.5	5.5	3.8	1.6	100.0	17780
Province							
Punjab	53.2	23.4	9.0	8.0	6.4	100.0	15319
Sindh	61.1	19.3	6.5	7.5	5.5	100.0	6939
NWFP	66.3	20.3	6.2	4.3	2.9	100.0	3618
Balochistan	73.6	16.9	4.2	3.6	1.7	100.0	1296
All (females)	**58.0**	**21.6**	**7.7**	**7.2**	**5.5**	**100.0**	**27171**
All (both sexes)	**46.9**	**24.0**	**10.4**	**10.9**	**7.7**	**100.0**	**55970**

3.5 SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Table 3.8a shows the percentage of the household population aged 5-24 years who are currently attending school according to age, sex and residence. It is clear that boys are more likely than girls to be attending schools. Sixty two percent of urban boys are in schools, compared with 59 percent of girls. In rural areas, the differentials are more prominent as 52 percent of boys as against 36 percent girls are enrolled in schools. School enrolment in urban areas is considerably higher than in rural areas (60 percent compared with 44 percent). Figure 3.2 also shows the same pattern in various age groups.

Table 3.8b and figure 3.3 shows the percentage of the household population aged between 5-24 years who are still attending school by province. Current school enrolment is highest in Punjab where 53 percent of 5-24 year olds are currently in schools. The percentage is slightly lower in NWFP (50.3 percent) followed by Sindh (43.8 percent). School enrolment is lowest in Balochistan where only 41 percent of 5-24-year-olds are enrolled in schools. A similar pattern has been observed among other age groups across provinces except 16-19-years-old, where the lowest proportion is observed in Sindh.

Table 3.8a
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AGED 5-24 YEARS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, BY SEX AND RESIDENCE

Age Group	Males		Females		Both sexes		All	Number
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural		
5-15	80.5	66.9	77.5	49.8	79.1	58.8	65.2	19412
5- 9	84.1	65.5	79.5	53.2	81.8	59.5	66.2	9123
10-15	77.8	68.3	75.9	46.6	76.9	58.0	64.4	10290
16-19	48.9	36.3	45.3	17.7	47.1	27.3	34.7	5754
20-24	20.9	11.0	21.8	5.2	21.4	8.0	13.0	5966
All	**61.9**	**51.9**	**58.7**	**35.7**	**60.4**	**44.0**	**49.6**	**31133**

Figure 3.2
School enrolment by residence and age groups

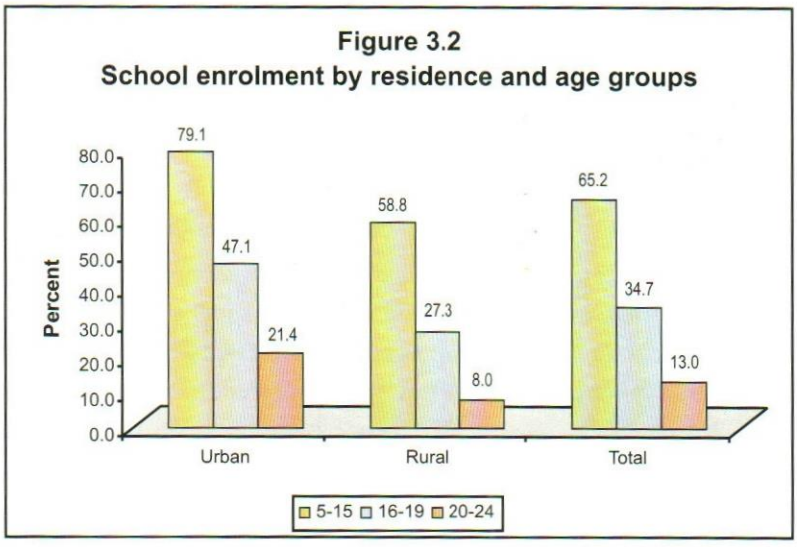
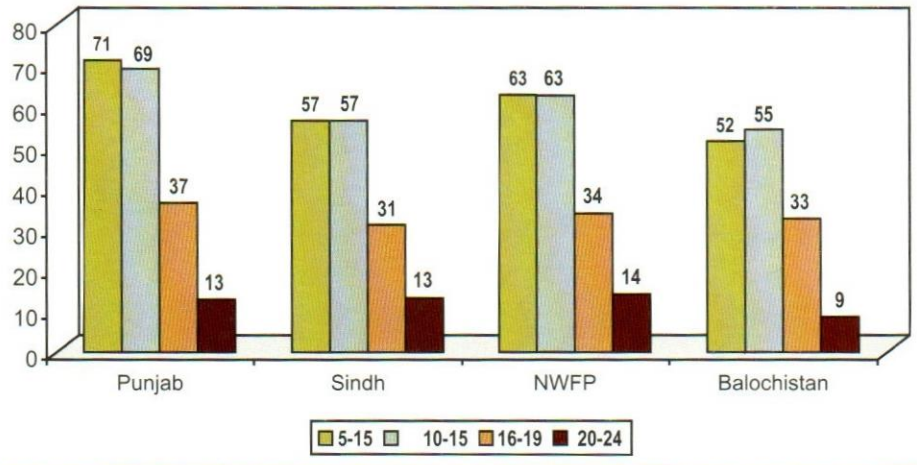


Table 3.8b
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AGED 5-24 YEARS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, BY PROVINCE

Age Group	Province				All	Number
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan		
5-15	71.4	56.7	62.9	51.6	65.2	19412
5-9	73.8	56.7	63.1	48.6	66.2	9123
10-15	69.3	56.7	62.8	54.5	64.4	10290
16-19	36.6	31.2	34.0	32.7	34.7	5754
20-24	13.0	13.3	14.2	8.7	13.0	5966
Total	**52.9**	**43.8**	**50.3**	**40.9**	**49.6**	**31133**

Figure 3.3
School Enrolment By Province Age Group



3.6 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

A household in Pakistan may range from a single person to more than 16 persons. Pakistani households tend to be large, because of the predominance of the joint family system. The household unit refers to a group of people living together who have collective arrangements for eating.

Table 3.9 shows the distribution of households by number of usual members according to province. At the national level the average household size is 6.9 persons. This has slightly increased from 6.7 persons reported in PDHS 1990-91 but declined from that reported in the PFFPS 1996-97 (7.1 persons). Because of increasing economic pressure in Pakistan, few adult offsprings of middle and lower income families are able to afford to build or rent separate houses. The result is that new families have no choice but to continue to live with their kin, in-laws or other relatives in the same household, leading to an increase in household size.

Average household size ranges from 6.74 persons in Punjab to 8.23 persons in Balochistan. Again Balochistan is found to have the highest proportion of 10 and more members in the household (31.1 percent) followed by Sindh (17.5 percent) and Punjab (15.4 percent). This clearly depicts that either economic pressure or for others reasons, the tendency to live in joint family system is higher in Balochistan followed by Sindh.

Table 3.9
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, BY PROVINCE

Number of Usual Members	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
1	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.1	1.2
2	4.6	5.6	3.5	2.0	4.6
3	6.5	8.2	6.4	5.8	6.9
4	9.3	10.5	10.7	7.4	9.7
5	13.5	13.0	12.1	9.7	13.0
6	15.6	13.8	13.6	10.2	14.6
7	14.7	12.2	15.3	11.7	14.0
8	11.5	10.9	13.1	10.8	11.5
9	7.6	7.3	9.7	11.2	7.9
10	5.6	5.5	5.4	10.4	5.7
11	3.4	4.0	3.1	4.7	3.6
12	2.0	2.1	2.2	4.0	2.1
13	1.6	1.8	0.9	3.5	1.6
14	0.8	1.2	1.0	2.1	1.0
15	0.5	0.8	0.3	1.5	0.6
16 +	1.5	2.1	1.9	4.9	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5314	2451	1241	394	9400
Mean size	**6.74**	**6.82**	**6.93**	**8.23**	**6.85**

3.7 URBAN-RURAL VARIATIONS IN HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Table 3.10 shows the distribution of urban and rural households by the sex of the head of the household, and the size of the household population. At the national level, 94 percent of households are headed by males and almost six percent by females, and there is little variation observed within urban-rural stratum.

More than one-fifth of households have between one and four members, and more than half have between five and eight members, while the remaining about one-fourth has more than nine members. Variation in mean household size by residence is slight, ranging from 6.1 in major urban areas to 7.0 in rural areas. Interestingly, average household size in other urban and rural areas is the same.

Table 3.10
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, BY RESIDENCE

Sex/Usual Members	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Sex of household head					
Male	94.0	93.7	94.4	94.4	94.3
Female	6.0	6.3	5.6	5.6	5.7
Number of Usual members					
1	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2
2	4.9	5.7	4.0	4.5	4.6
3	7.7	8.8	6.3	6.5	6.9
4	9.6	11.2	7.7	9.8	9.7
5	15.3	16.6	13.7	11.8	13.0
6	16.1	16.8	15.4	13.8	14.6
7	13.6	12.8	14.5	14.2	14.0
8	10.8	10.4	11.3	11.9	11.5
9	7.2	6.4	8.1	8.3	7.9
10	4.8	3.7	6.1	6.2	5.7
11	3.0	2.6	3.4	3.9	3.6
12	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.2	2.1
13	1.4	0.7	2.2	1.7	1.6
14	0.6	0.4	0.8	1.2	1.0
15	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.6
16 +	1.3	0.7	2.0	2.2	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3312	1790	1522	6088	9400
Mean size	**6.53**	**6.12**	**7.02**	**7.02**	**6.85**

3.8 USUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS PER BEDROOM

In this survey information on the number of persons per sleeping room, as a measure of crowding, was obtained. Table 3.11a and table 3.11b show the number of usual household members per bedroom by place and region of residence respectively.

At the national level about five percent of households have separate sleeping rooms for each household member; 19 percent of households have two persons per sleeping room; 24 percent have three persons per sleeping room; and one fifth of the household have four persons per sleeping room. The remaining 33 percent of households have more than five persons per sleeping room. The overall mean number of people per bedroom is 3.9, indicating a higher level of crowding.

The number of persons per bedroom is higher in rural compared to urban areas. Households in major urban areas have relatively lower average number of persons per sleeping room (3.5 persons) compared to rural areas (4.1 persons). Almost six-tenths of the urban households have up to three members while in

the rural areas a relatively less proportion (43 percent) of the households are accommodating up to three persons per room.

Table 3.11a
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF MEMBERS PER BEDROOM, BY RESIDENCE

Usual household members per bedroom	Residence				All
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	
1	5.9	6.3	5.5	3.7	4.5
2	21.7	24.1	18.7	17.0	18.7
3	26.8	27.2	26.3	22.6	24.1
4	18.7	18.2	19.2	21.1	20.3
5+	27.0	24.2	30.2	35.5	32.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3312	1790	1522	6080	9392
Mean	**3.61**	**3.47**	**3.76**	**4.09**	**3.92**

Across the provinces the mean number of household members per bedroom is 3.57 in NWFP followed in ascending order by Punjab (3.84), Balochistan (4.12) and Sindh (4.24). Again the proportion of households having 2-member per room is found highest in NWFP (26.1 percent) and lowest in Balochistan (17.7 percent). This survey shows that in Sindh and Balochistan, household are over crowded as more than 35 percent households have five or more persons per bedroom where as in NWFP one-forth of the households have the same number.

Table 3.11b
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF MEMBERS PER BEDROOM, BY PROVINCE

Usual household members per bedroom	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
1	5.5	3.2	3.5	1.6	4.5
2	18.7	17.1	22.6	16.1	18.7
3	23.8	22.6	27.5	26.0	24.1
4	20.2	19.1	22.8	20.7	20.3
5+	31.8	38.0	23.6	35.6	32.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5309	2450	1240	393	9392
Mean	**3.84**	**4.24**	**3.57**	**4.12**	**3.92**

3.9 HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

To assess the economic and environmental conditions in which household members live, the household questionnaire included question about housing structure, toilet facility, ownership of house, availability of electricity/gas facilities and source of energy used for cooking. Information on these characteristics is useful from public health point of view, as well as indirectly reflecting household socio-economic status.

of electricity/gas facilities and source of energy used for cooking. Information on these characteristics is useful from public health point of view, as well as indirectly reflecting household socio-economic status.

Tables 3.12 (a & b) and 3.13 (a & b) reflect on the housing characteristics of the sample population. Overall, 86 percent of households have electricity whereas it is universally available in major urban areas (99 percent) but in rural areas one-fifth of the households are still without electricity. Across the provinces, 90 percent of households in Punjab, 89 percent houses in NWFP and 76 percent of households in Sindh and Balochistan have electricity.

Gas connection is available to 89 per cent in major urban and 46 percent in other urban areas, while it is available only to 3.6 per cent households in rural areas. Among provinces, 43 per cent connections of gas are available in Sindh, followed by 24 percent in Punjab, 17 percent in Balochistan and only 11 per cent in NWFP. The availability of Gas connection has increased significantly over the period of time as indicated in the findings of earlier national studies but rural areas are still lacking behind urban areas.

Fifty three percent of households have their own flush toilet, three-tenths (3.4 percent) have traditional pit latrines and one-third (35 percent) have no toilet facilities at all. Large urban-rural differentials in toilet facilities are also evident. In major urban areas, for instance, almost 90 percent of households have their own flush toilets and only less than one percent has no toilet facility. In rural areas, however, 52 percent of households have no toilet facilities and one-third of households have their own flush toilets. In rural areas people prefer to go to the field/bush rather than have toilet facilities in the home; thus the absence of toilet facilities is likely to reflect rural cultural norms rather than poverty. Among provinces, sanitary facilities appear to be better in Punjab as three-fifths (60.4 percent) of the households have flush toilets facilities. In comparison, only one-fifth (22.2 percent) of the households in Balochistan have flush toilet facility.

The construction of houses indicates that almost one-third houses in the country are Katcha, 27 per cent semi-pacca and the remaining are pacca. The construction of houses varies by urban-rural residence. As expected, in major urban areas, mostly houses are pacca or semi-pacca. In rural areas, still most of the houses are either Katcha or semi-pacca and about 20 per cent of the houses are pacca. in rural areas. Among provinces, it is noted that Balochistan has 77 per cent Katcha houses as compared to 23 percent in Punjab.

In a way it is a matter of satisfaction that more than 85 per cent of the household residents in Pakistan own the house they are living in. Ownership is more common in rural areas (92 percent) as compared to urban (74 percent). In urban areas, the minimum proportion (68 percent) of ownership is found to be among residents of major urban areas. Across the provinces, there are not much differential, however, the data show that the most urbanized province (Sindh) of Pakistan has the lowest (75 percent) ownership of houses.

Table 3.12a
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS, BY RESIDENCE

Housing Characteristics	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Electricity	97.8	99.0	96.4	79.3	85.8
Gas	69.4	89.2	45.9	3.6	26.8
Toilet facility					
Flush	86.6	89.8	82.9	33.9	52.5
Bucket	6.1	7.5	4.5	8.6	7.7
Pit (Septic tank)	1.5	0.6	2.5	4.5	3.4
Other	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.4
No facility	4.4	0.6	9.0	51.5	34.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Housing structure					
Katcha	5.7	0.8	11.4	46.3	32.0
Semi-pacca	16.1	8.6	24.8	33.5	27.3
Pacca	63.8	70.7	55.7	18.5	34.4
Flat	3.5	4.8	1.9	0.3	1.4
Constructed House/Bungalow	10.9	15.1	6.0	1.0	4.5
Other	0.1	--	0.2	0.4	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ownership of house					
Owned	74.0	67.9	81.0	91.6	85.4
Mortgaged	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.9
Rented	20.9	27.3	13.4	1.5	8.3
Rent free	3.0	2.9	3.0	5.9	4.8
Other	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.1	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	**3312**	**1790**	**1522**	**6088**	**9400**

Table 3.12b
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS, BY PROVINCE

Housing Characteristics	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Electricity	90.1	76.4	88.8	76.5	85.8
Gas	23.8	42.9	11.0	16.9	26.8
Toilet facility					
Flush	60.4	45.5	41.8	22.2	52.5
Bucket	1.6	12.4	25.8	3.1	7.7
Pit (Septic tank)	0.8	3.6	5.4	31.6	3.4
Other	1.1	2.1	0.5	4.5	1.4
No facility	35.9	36.4	26.6	38.6	34.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Housing structure					
Katcha	22.5	37.5	47.8	76.5	32.0
Semi-pacca	33.3	15.0	30.0	15.6	27.3
Pacca	36.4	41.4	21.2	6.4	34.4
Flat	1.4	2.1	0.2	0.5	1.4
Constructed House/Bungalow	6.4	2.9	0.8	0.9	4.5
Other	0.1	1.1		0.1	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ownership of house					
Owned	89.3	74.8	88.9	87.7	85.4
Mortgaged	0.8	0.9	0.6	2.0	0.9
Rented	6.1	15.6	4.5	4.5	8.3
Rent free	3.0	8.1	6.0	5.6	4.8
Other	0.7	0.7	--	0.2	0.6
Total	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	**5314**	**2451**	**1241**	**394**	**9400**

Majority of the households use wood (67 percent) for cooking. The second most commonly used energy source for cooking is cow-dung (40 percent) followed by natural gas (26 per cent). Natural gas is the main source of cooking in major urban (88 percent) while wood is the main cooking source in rural (91 percent) while cow-dung is used by a large proportion in rural areas (57 percent). Among provinces, wood is the most common (85.7 percent) source of energy. From other sources of energy, cow dung is mostly used in Punjab whereas natural gas in Sindh.

Table 3.13a
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF COOKING ENERGY BY RESIDENCE

Source of cooking energy	Residence				Total
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	
Natural Gas	68.1	87.6	45.1	3.3	26.2
Cylinder Gas	8.0	2.2	14.8	6.2	6.8
Kerosene oil	3.0	2.7	3.3	4.9	4.2
Wood	22.9	5.3	43.6	90.5	66.7
Cow-Dung	7.8	1.5	15.2	57.4	40.0
Electricity	0.7	0.4	1.1	1.0	0.9
Other	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5
Number	3167	1690	1477	6056	9223

Table 3.13b
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF COOKING ENERGY BY PROVINCE

Source of cooking energy	Province				Total
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Natural Gas	23.0	42.3	10.9	16.2	26.2
Cylinder Gas	8.2	1.0	12.9	4.9	6.8
Kerosene oil	5.9	1.0	3.3	4.3	4.2
Wood	69.4	50.4	85.7	71.6	66.7
Cow-Dung	48.0	30.3	28.9	26.2	40.0
Electricity	0.5	0.3	0.2	13.0	0.9
Other	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.5
Number	5234	2371	1227	391	9223

3.10 SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER

Safe drinking water is important for the health of household members. Table 3.14a and table 3.14b show the source of household drinking water by residence. For most households (82.2 percent), the source of drinking water is available within the four walls of their dwelling.. It includes piped water and hand/motor pump in the residence. Twenty-nine percent of all households have piped water in their residence and an additional three percent houses rely on a public tap close to their residences.

Comparing the findings of earlier surveys, one may conclude that improvements have taken place over time. However, greater efforts are still needed to provide piped water to all households. Access to residential piped water is higher in urban than in rural areas. In major urban areas 80 percent of households have piped water, while in other urban areas 39 percent of households have this facility. Only 12 percent of households in rural areas have piped water available.

Hand/motor pump is the major source of water. More than half of households get water from this facility available within their residence. Among provinces, Punjab has the highest proportion of households having hand or motorized pump in dwelling (70 percent) and lowest in piped water where only one-fifth household have this facility. In the remaining three provinces, the major source of water is 'piped into residence'. In Sindh, majority of the households (41 percent) have water available within their premises, followed by NWFP and Balochistan (39 percent). Two other common sources of water in Balochistan and NWFP are karez and river respectively. Overall, a small fraction of people rely on water from ponds/lakes and karaz.

3.11 TRAVELLING TIME TO NEAREST WATER SOURCE

Tables 3.15a and 3.15b show the traveling time to the nearest water source by residence and province. For most households the source of drinking water is within their dwelling. In urban areas 96 percent of households and in rural areas 82 percent of households have drinking water facilities on the premises. When the source of drinking water is not on the premises, urban households as expected are closer to the water source than are the rural households.

There are significant differentials across provinces in the time it takes to get to the source of drinking water. In Punjab 94 percent households have water facilities on their premises, followed by 80 percent in Sindh, and 76 percent in NWFP but 63 percent in Balochistan. A negligible proportion of households in Punjab, one percent in NWFP, 2.1 percent in Sindh and almost seven percent in Balochistan reported that travel time to get water is more than one-hour. Comparatively, the inhabitants of Balochistan experience serious problems of water availability as they have to travel longer to get it.

Table 3.14a
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER, BY RESIDENCE

Source of drinking water	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Piped into residence	60.8	79.5	38.8	11.5	28.9
Public tap	3.6	5.0	2.0	2.1	2.6
Covered Well in residence	1.3	0.3	2.5	3.2	2.5
Uncovered Well in residence	0.3	--	0.7	1.5	1.1
Hand pump in residence	9.5	0.7	19.8	42.6	30.9
Motor pump in residence	20.8	12.5	30.5	19.5	19.9
Public covered well	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.9	1.4
Public uncovered well	0.2	--	0.4	3.4	2.3
Public hand pump	1.3	0.3	2.5	6.4	4.6
Spring	0.0	--	0.1	2.7	1.7
River/stream	--	--	--	2.8	1.8
Karez	--	--	--	0.4	0.3
Pond/lake	0.1	--	0.1	0.3	0.2
Tanker truck/vendor	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.5
Other	1.0	0.5	1.5	1.0	1.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3312	1790	1522	6088	9400

Table 3.14b
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER, BY PROVINCE

Source of drinking water	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Piped into residence	20.2	41.2	38.8	38.7	28.9
Public tap	2.3	2.4	4.7	2.2	2.6
Covered Well in residence	0.6	0.4	14.1	5.7	2.5
Uncovered Well in residence	0.6	0.7	3.4	2.3	1.1
Hand pump in residence	38.8	28.8	10.1	3.2	30.9
Motor pump in residence	31.4	5.0	5.5	3.5	19.9
Public covered well	0.5	2.1	2.6	4.9	1.4
Public uncovered well	0.9	5.3	1.4	3.7	2.3
Public hand pump	2.5	9.4	3.0	9.2	4.6
Spring	1.0	0.2	8.0	2.3	1.7
River/stream	0.3	1.7	6.1	10.5	1.8
Karez	0.0	--	--	6.2	0.3
Pond/lake	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.4	0.2
Tanker truck/vendor	0.1	1.0	0.3	3.7	0.5
Other	0.7	1.5	1.3	1.9	1.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5314	2451	1241	394	9400

Table 3.15a
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO TRAVELLING TIME TO NEAREST WATER SOURCE, BY RESIDENCE

Travelling time	Residence				All
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other urban	Rural	
On premises	96.2	97.6	94.5	81.7	86.8
Less than ½ hour	2.3	1.2	3.6	7.7	5.8
Upto one hour	1.4	1.1	1.7	9.2	6.4
More than one hour	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.5	1.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3312	1790	1522	6088	9400
Mean (minutes)	1.04	0.70	1.45	6.73	4.72

Table 3.15b
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO TRAVELLING TIME TO NEAREST WATER SOURCE, BY PROVINCE

Traveling time	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
On premises	94.4	79.9	75.6	62.5	86.8
Less than ½ hour	3.1	8.3	12.1	6.6	5.8
Upto one hour	2.4	9.7	11.3	24.1	6.4
More than one hour	0.1	2.1	1.0	6.8	1.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5314	2451	1241	394	9400
Mean (minutes)	1.45	7.82	7.68	21.04	4.72

3.12 OWNERSHIP OF CONSUMER DURABLES

It is often difficult to estimate income and expenditure levels of households in cross-sectional surveys. The availability of durable goods is considered to be a proxy indicator of socioeconomic status of the household. Table 3.16a and table 3.16b provide information regarding the ownership of consumer durables.

Compared with data from the 1990-91 PDHS, ownership of most consumer durables has risen. In the SWRHFPS 2003, 45 percent of households have a television, whereas in 1990-91, only 27 percent of households had a television. Not surprisingly, the ownership of consumer durables is higher in urban than in rural areas. In urban areas almost three-quarters of households have a television, (71 percent) compared with just over a quarter in rural areas (30 percent). Unavailability of electricity in many villages as well as low income levels may account for the low ownership of television in rural areas.

At the national level telephone and air-conditioning facilities are rare. Only 15 percent of households have a telephone and only four percent have air conditioners. Again ownership varies considerably by rural-urban residence. About one in ten households owns a motorcycle, while only four percent of households own a car or van. These proportions are slightly higher than reported in PDHS 1990-91.

Table 3.16a

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS POSSESSING SPECIFIED CONSUMER DURABLES BY RESIDENCE

Consumer Durables	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Electric heater	7.5	7.3	7.7	3.1	4.6
Gas heater	20.6	22.0	19.0	1.7	8.4
Geyser (Gas/Electric)	13.6	14.5	12.5	1.2	5.6
Vacumn cleaner	4.1	4.0	4.3	0.0	1.5
Microwave oven	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.1	1.8
Cooking range	7.2	7.3	7.2	0.6	3.0
Dish antenna/Cable TV	23.7	26.0	20.9	2.1	9.7
Radio/Tape recorder	41.3	39.1	43.9	32.0	35.3
VCR/VCP	16.0	16.0	15.9	3.6	7.9
Television	71.1	76.5	64.8	30.2	44.6
Telephone	30.4	31.5	29.1	6.6	15.0
Refrigerator	45.9	50.3	40.7	13.5	24.9
Room cooler	19.6	19.3	20.1	4.2	9.7
Air conditioner	10.0	9.4	10.7	1.0	4.2
Ashing machine	56.3	60.8	50.9	16.9	30.8
Dish-washer	4.0	4.3	3.7	1.0	2.1
Bicycle	32.2	29.3	35.5	29.5	30.4
Camera/Video camera	12.1	12.4	11.7	2.9	6.1
Personal computer	9.8	10.9	8.4	0.7	3.9
Motorcycle	17.7	19.6	15.5	4.5	9.2
Car/jeep	7.3	7.8	6.7	1.5	3.6
Mobile telephone	8.3	9.2	7.3	1.2	3.7
Others	8.3	4.8	12.3	7.5	7.8

Provincial differentials are also striking. In NWFP, for instance, 18 percent of households have a telephone, followed by Punjab (16 per cent). Every second household in NWFP has the facility of television (49 percent) followed by the Punjab (45 per cent) Sindh (44 per cent) and 28 percent in Balochistan. By seeing the differentials among provinces, it is clearly evident from tables that the level of ownership of consumer durables is higher in Punjab as compared to the remaining three provinces.

Table 3.16b

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS POSSESSING SPECIFIED CONSUMER DURABLES BY PROVINCE

Consumer Durables	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Electric heater	3.9	1.7	5.4	29.9	4.6
Gas heater	11.2	1.2	7.9	15.8	8.4
Geyser (Gas/Electric)	7.0	3.0	4.0	6.8	5.6
Vacumn cleaner	2.0	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.5
Microwave oven	2.3	1.0	1.3	0.6	1.8
Cooking range	3.3	1.7	2.4	8.3	3.0
Dish antenna/Cable TV	9.0	13.0	6.1	10.0	9.7
Radio Tape recorder	34.3	29.8	46.0	48.8	35.3
VCR/VCP	8.3	7.0	8.2	7.6	7.9
Television	45.4	43.7	48.9	27.5	44.6
Telephone	16.2	11.5	17.8	10.8	15.0
Refrigerator	27.1	22.3	23.9	16.5	24.9
Room cooler	13.5	2.6	8.9	4.2	9.7
Air conditioner	4.5	3.3	5.3	1.8	4.2
Washing machine	31.9	27.7	33.6	25.4	30.8
Dish-washer	2.2	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.1
Bicycle	40.0	17.3	15.3	30.0	30.4
Camera/Video camera	7.0	3.7	7.4	5.2	6.1
Personal computer	4.9	2.1	3.5	2.3	3.9
Motorcycle	10.7	8.3	3.6	11.8	9.2
Car/jeep	4.3	2.1	2.9	5.1	3.6
Mobile telephone	4.8	2.5	2.1	1.4	3.7
Others	8.1	10.3	2.5	3.3	7.8

Provincial differentials are also striking. In NWFP, for instance, 18 percent of households have a telephone, followed by Punjab (16 per cent). Every second household in NWFP has the facility of television (49 percent) followed by the Punjab (45 per cent) Sindh (44 per cent) and 28 percent in Balochistan. By seeing the differentials among provinces, it is clearly evident from tables that the level of ownership of consumer durables is higher in Punjab as compared to the remaining three provinces.

CHAPTER 4

RESPONDENTS CHARACTERISTICS AND INDICATORS OF STATUS OF WOMEN

Marriage marks the onset of exposure to childbearing in Pakistan and therefore has important implications for fertility levels. Age at marriage is a proximate determinant of fertility. This chapter examines data on marriage patterns, socio-economic profile of respondents and their husbands, age distribution, age at marriage, consanguinity, and status of women indicators like literacy, education, employment, property ownership, exposure to mass media; and other social activities in which women are usually engaged.

4.1 MARITAL STATUS

Table 4.1 presents the percent distribution of all women aged 15-49 by current marital status. Marriage among women is nearly universal in Pakistan. Over ninety-seven percent of women aged 35-49 were married. A comparison with data from the 1990-91 PDHS, 1996-97 PFFPS and 2000-01 PRHFPS shows that marriage patterns have changed. In 1990-91, 75 percent, in 1996-97, 82 percent and 2000-01, 84 percent of women aged 15-19 years were single, compared with close to 89 percent in 2003. At the national level the percentage of ever-married women aged 15-49 years decreased from 75 percent in 1990-91 to 63 percent in 2003 indicating and influence on increasing tendency of late marriage.

Data on the marital status of ever-married women by five-year age groups are given in Table 4.2. Among ever-married women, 97 percent are currently married, two percent are widowed and only one percent are divorced or separated. The proportion of currently married gradually decreases from 99 percent in age group 15-19 to 92 percent in age group 45-49, while the percentage of widowed or divorced women increases with age. The proportion of separated women however, decreases with age. Overall, the frequency of divorce and separation is low, most probably because marriages in Pakistan are generally arranged, and family pressure tends to keep couples together. Only 1.8 percent of married women reported that they had been married more than once.

Table 4.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL WOMEN 15-49 YEARS ACCORDING TO CURRENT MARITAL STATUS, BY AGE

Current age	Marital status					Number
	Never married	Married	Widowed	Divorced / separated	All ever married	
15-19	88.5	11.4	0.0	0.1	11.5	3649
20-24	54.4	45.0	0.1	0.5	45.6	3048
25-29	19.3	79.0	0.6	1.1	80.7	2343
30-34	6.0	92.1	1.1	0.9	94.0	1857
35-39	3.4	93.3	2.2	1.1	96.6	1694
40-44	2.5	91.4	4.9	1.3	97.5	1204
45-49	1.3	91.1	6.9	0.8	98.7	992
All	37.5	60.4	1.4	0.7	62.5	14786

Table 4.2
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS, BY AGE

Age group	Ever-married women				Total	Number
	Currently married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated		
15-19	98.7	0.4	--	0.9	100.0	386
20-24	98.7	0.4	0.3	0.7	100.0	1269
25-29	97.9	0.6	0.6	0.9	100.0	1765
30-34	97.9	1.2	0.5	0.5	100.0	1674
35-39	96.4	2.4	0.8	0.4	100.0	1576
40-44	94.2	4.7	0.7	0.4	100.0	1110
45-49	92.1	7.4	0.3	0.2	100.0	938
All	96.7	2.3	0.5	0.6	100.0	8718

4.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Table 4.3 shows the age distribution of ever-married women and currently married women between age 15 and 49 years and the age distribution of husbands of currently married women. The age distribution of ever-married women is similar to that reported in the PFFPS 1996-97 and PRHFPS 2000-01. The percentage of respondents in each age group gradually increases with age, peaks at 25-29 years and then declines. The mean age of ever-married women is 32.2 years.

The majority of currently married women are aged between 20 and 34 years, while the majority of their husbands are between 25 and 39 years. The proportion of currently married men aged less than 35 years has declined from around 43 percent in 1996-97 to 36 percent in 2003 indicating a tendency of late

marriages. The mean age of currently married women is 32 years compared to a mean age of 38 years among husbands. On average, there is close to six-year difference between the ages of respondents and their husbands. This difference is narrowing down from 6.7 years in 1990-91 PDHS to 5.9 in 2003 SWRHFPS because of a relatively rapid increase in the age at marriage for females rather than males.

Table 4.3
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN, CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN AND HUSBANDS OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO CURRENT AGE, SWRHFPS 2003, PRHFPS 2000-01 AND PFFPS 1996-97

Age group	Ever-married women (Age 15-49 years)			Currently married women (Age 15-49 years)		Husbands of currently married women		
	SWRHFPS	PRHFPS	PFFPS	SWRHFPS	PFFPS	SWRHFPS	PRHFPS	PRFPS
	2003	2000-01	1996-97	2003	2000-01	2003	2000-01	1996-97
15-19	4.4	6.0	6.8	4.5	6.2	0.7	0.9	1.0
20-24	14.6	16.3	17.2	14.9	16.5	5.8	6.4	7.1
25-29	20.2	21.6	22.0	20.5	21.8	12.7	14.7	16.6
30-34	19.2	18.8	19.2	19.4	19.0	17.1	18.6	18.1
35-39	18.1	16.3	15.1	18.0	16.1	19.0	18.3	17.4
40-44	12.7	13.3	11.1	12.4	13.0	16.2	15.6	14.6
45-49	10.8	7.7	8.0	10.2	7.4	13.3	11.8	12.0
50-54	--	--	--	--	--	--	8.0	7.4
55-59	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.9	3.1
60-64	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.8	1.5
65+	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.0	1.1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number	8718	6579	7848	8427	6370	8427	6370	7584
Mean age	32.2	31.3	NA	32.0	31.2	37.9	37.3	37.3

NA = Not available

4.3 SINGULATE MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Proportions single or never-married can be used to calculate the singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM). The SMAM is an estimate of the mean number of years lived by a cohort of women or men before their first marriage. The SMAM for men is estimated as 27.3 years, while for females the SMAM is estimated as 23.4 years, which has increased from previous surveys.

Table 4.4
TRENDS IN SINGULATE MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE
FOR MALES AND FEMALES, 1951-2003

Source	Male	Female	Difference
Census 1951	22.3	16.9	5.4
Census 1961	23.3	16.7	6.6
Census 1972	25.7	19.7	6.0
PFS 1975	25.3	19.9	5.4
Census 1981	25.1	20.2	4.9
PCPS 1984-85	25.3	20.7	4.6
PDHS 1990-91	26.5	21.7	4.8
PCPS 1994-95	26.1	22.0	4.1
PFFPS 1996-97	26.5	22.0	4.5
Census 1998	25.9	21.7	4.2
PRHFPS 2000-01	27.1	22.7	4.4
SWRHFPS 2003	27.3	23.4	3.9

Table 4.4 presents SMAMs for both sexes calculated from a number of Censuses and surveys conducted since 1951. These figures show more or less a steady rise in the SMAM among both men and women over the last 50 years. The SMAM for males has increased from 22.3 in 1951 to 27.3 in 2003 and for females from 16.9 in 1951 to 23.4 in 2003, though there are signs in the 1990s of a stabilisation of marriage ages. The long-term increase in age at marriage is likely to be a result of improvements in education, economic pressure and other socio-economic changes. While the SMAM has increased for both sexes over the last five decades, the gap between the SMAM for men and women has also narrowed to some extent. This narrowing may be a reflection of the age structure.

Differences in the singulate mean age at marriage by selected background characteristics, calculated from data from the SWRHFPS 2003 are presented in table 4.5. For men, the SMAM is highest in Punjab followed narrowly by NWFP and Sindh but substantially low in Balochistan. For females, the SMAM is highest for Punjab, followed by Sindh, NWFP and Balochistan. The largest difference in the singulate age at marriage between men and women was observed in NWFP (5 years) whereas the least difference was noted in Sindh (3.7 years).

Table 4.5
SINGULATE MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE FOR MALES AND FEMALES, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS (HOUSEHOLD POPULATION)

Background characteristics	Singulate mean age at marriage				
	Males	Number	Females	Number	Difference
Province					
Punjab	27.46	13626	23.72	12977	3.74
Sindh	27.24	6256	23.58	5764	3.66
NWFP	27.31	3086	22.30	2954	5.00
Balochistan	25.68	1151	21.85	1033	3.83
Residence					
Total urban	28.53	8463	24.98	8047	3.55
Major urban	28.95	4386	25.49	4107	3.56
Other urban	28.03	4076	24.38	3940	3.65
Rural	26.56	15657	22.54	14680	4.02
Education					
None	26.03	7903	21.71	12952	4.32
Up to primary	22.19	5511	19.32	4247	2.88
Middle	21.88	3718	19.65	2094	2.23
Secondary	22.79	4162	18.95	1952	3.84
Above secondary	28.92	2824	27.51	1483	1.41
All	**27.28**	**24120**	**23.44**	**24120**	**3.84**
Census 1998	**25.88**		**21.70**		**4.18**

The SMAM also varies by urban-rural residence. Men in major urban areas are likely to get married 2.4 years later than those in rural areas, while women in major urban areas marry 3 years later than those in rural areas. The largest difference in SMAM between men and women occurs in rural area.

Higher levels of education are generally associated with an increase in the SMAM. For example, the SMAM for uneducated males is 26 years compared to 28.9 among those who have above secondary education. Likewise, the SMAM of females is also highest among those with secondary level education and considerably low for women with no education. Surprisingly, the SMAM for both men and women with primary, middle or some secondary education is even lower than those with no education. This unlikely phenomenon needs further investigation.

4.4 MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

The minimum legal age at marriage in Pakistan is 18 years for males and 16 for females. Respondents were asked to give their actual age at first marriage. Two terms are important in this respect, nikah and rukhsati. Nikah means that a girl is legally married, but that she has not yet started living with her husband. Rukhsati is the ceremony when the bride goes to her husband's house, and thereafter husband

and wife start living together. Women are considered to be exposed to the risk of pregnancy only after the rukhsati. Careful probing was used to differentiate the nikah from the rukhsati. In the following discussion marriage refers to rukhsati rather than nikah.

Table 4.6 examines differentials in the median age at marriage (i.e. the age by which 50 percent are married) by selected background characteristics. At the national level, the median age at first marriage among women aged 25-49 years is 18.3 years. The median age at marriage for each of the five age groups shows small variation for women in the age groups 30-44 however, the variation in median age at marriage is relatively more for women under age 30.

Median age at marriage is higher in Balochsitan (18.8) and Punjab (18.6) in comparison to Sindh (17.9) and NWFP (17.8). Early marriages are more common in rural than in urban areas. In major urban areas, the median age at first marriage, among women aged 25-49, is 19.5 years while in rural areas it is 17.9 years.

As expected, there is a positive association between the median age at marriage and education. Women with no education on average marry 4.5 years earlier than women with above secondary education. This suggests that an over the time increase in age at marriage in the country has been partly caused by the increase in female education.

Table 4.6
MEDIAN AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE AMONG EVER-MARRIED WOMEN (25-49 YEARS), BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Current age						Number
	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	25-49	
Province							
Punjab	18.8	18.4	18.3	18.7	18.9	18.6	3892
Sindh	18.3	17.6	17.9	18.0	17.5	17.9	1857
NWFP	17.5	17.7	18.2	17.7	17.5	17.8	993
Balochistan	19.0	18.1	18.8	19.8	19.5	18.8	321
Residence							
Total urban	19.8	19.2	18.8	18.8	19.3	19.2	2482
Major urban	20.0	19.2	19.0	19.0	19.8	19.5	1299
Other urban	19.1	19.2	18.3	18.4	18.3	18.8	1183
Rural	18.0	17.6	17.9	18.1	18.3	17.9	4581
Education							
None	17.6	17.3	17.8	18.0	18.2	17.8	4942
Up to primary	18.3	19.0	18.6	18.3	19.1	18.7	834
Middle	19.6	19.0	18.8	18.7	19.2	19.0	354
Secondary	20.2	20.3	19.4	19.8	21.0	20.1	511
Above secondary	21.5	23.2	22.0	22.5	22.1	22.3	422
All Areas	**18.4**	**18.1**	**18.2**	**18.2**	**18.6**	**18.3**	**7063**

4.5 MARRIAGE BETWEEN RELATIVES

Pakistan has one of the highest reported rates of consanguineous marriages in the world. Table 4.7 provides data on marriages between relatives reported in the SWRHFP 2003. The results show that 64 percent of all marriages are between first and second cousins. First cousin marriages are more common

on the father's side (31 percent), but over a fifth of marriages also occur to first cousins on the mother's side (21.1 percent). About 12 percent of marriages are between second cousins, and just over one-third of marriages occur between non-relatives (35.8 percent). The results are also shown in figure 5.1. Compared to 1990-91 the proportion of consanguineous marriages has slightly increased in 2003.

Table 4.7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO RELATIONSHIP TO THEIR HUSBANDS, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

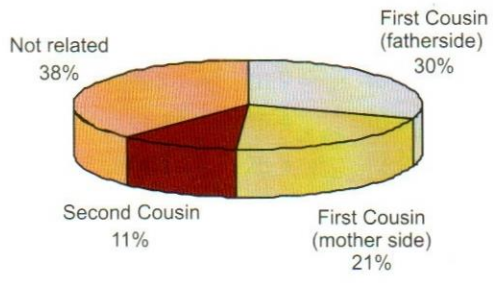
Background characteristics	First cousin		Second cousin	Not related	Total	Number
	Father's side	Mother's side				
Age						
15-19	33.4	23.8	14.1	28.7	100.0	386
20-24	31.3	24.6	11.8	32.3	100.0	1269
25-29	30.8	21.3	13.0	35.0	100.0	1765
30-34	30.2	21.2	10.8	37.8	100.0	1674
35-39	28.0	19.5	13.2	39.3	100.0	1576
40-44	32.5	19.4	12.8	35.3	100.0	1110
45-49	32.6	19.1	12.3	35.9	100.0	938
Residence						
Total urban	26.3	19.3	11.1	43.4	100.0	2861
Major urban	25.9	16.8	11.6	45.7	100.0	1479
Other urban	26.6	22.0	10.6	40.8	100.0	1382
Rural	33.0	21.9	13.0	32.1	100.0	5857
Province						
Punjab	30.4	22.2	12.5	34.9	100.0	4733
Sindh	32.4	20.0	13.1	34.6	100.0	2302
NWFP	27.3	17.8	11.2	43.7	100.0	1252
Balochistan	36.8	23.8	10.6	28.8	100.0	430
Education						
None	33.1	21.4	13.0	32.2	100.0	5953
Up to primary	28.9	21.5	11.3	38.4	100.0	1102
M iddle	24.3	19.9	11.4	44.4	100.0	504
Secondary	24.2	21.4	10.8	43.6	100.0	665
Above secondary	21.9	17.2	10.4	50.5	100.0	494
All SWRHFPS 2003	30.8	21.1	12.4	35.8	100.0	8718
All PDHS 1990-91	29.7	20.6	10.9	37.2	100.0	6611

Differences in marriage patterns are visible by urban-rural residence. First cousin marriages are most common in rural areas (55 percent) and are less likely to occur in major cities, where about 43 percent marriages are between first cousins.

Balochistan has the highest proportion of marriages among first cousins (60.6 percent), followed by Punjab (52.6 percent), Sindh (52.4 percent) and lastly NWFP (45 percent). As expected first cousin marriages among educated women are less common as compared to women with no education. Among women with above secondary level education, the proportion marrying first cousins falls to below 40 percent. The impact of education is more distinct in marriages between to non-related spouses. For of

example, about 51 percent of women with education above secondary level marry spouses who are not related. In comparison, only 32 percent women with no education were married to unrelated spouses.

Figure 4.1
Marriage between Fisrt Cousins, Second Cousins and Non-relatives



4.6 CHOICE IN MARRIAGE

Women in the survey were also asked whether the person they were married to, was entirely of their own choice, both own and parents' choice or was it only parents/ relatives choice. The findings clearly indicate that in Pakistan marriages are not only arranged but it is overwhelmingly the choice of parents and other relatives (80 percent). In 16 percent cases, girl's choice along with parents is also considered. Whereas, only 4.5 percent women reported that they married entirely on their own choice. Not much variation was found on the basis of urban-rural residence. However, in Balochistan, women were slightly more assertive (7.7 percent) in getting their own choice of husband compared to other provinces, especially to that of Punjab where only 3.7 percent women reported to have married to their husbands of their own choice. Similarly, women with above secondary education and those who were employed had a slightly higher margin of success for marrying a person of their own choice (Table 4.8).

Fifty-three percent of women, who did not marry on their own choice, did so because of their 'parents' honour' and 37 percent left the choice to 'God's will'. In nine percent cases, women reported to have been compelled by their parents to marry a person of parents' choice (Table 4.9). Variations are also prominent among provinces and on the basis of education, urban-rural residence and work status. In traditional societies like Pakistan, girls usually honour the choice of their parents and elders and leave the rest to God's Will. The results show that even if they are not happy with the choice of their parents they usually uncomplainingly accept their parents' choice.

Women who were currently married were asked whether or not they were happy with their married life. It is encouraging to note that about 95 percent of women were contended with their married life (Table 4.10). The proportion of such women was slightly higher for those who married with mutual consent of

their parents (97 percent) compared with those who married entirely on their own choice (96 percent), or only with parents choice (94 percent). Variations on the basis of region and urban-rural residence were also small. Pakistani women have generally compromising attitude towards life and being fatalist they accept whatever comes in their life. This could be one reason for a low divorce rate in Pakistan.

Table 4.8
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO CHOICE OF THEIR MARRIAGE BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Entirely own choice	Both own and parent's choice	Parents/Relatives choice (arranged)	Other	Total	
					Percent	Number
Province						
Punjab	3.7	10.8	85.3	0.2	100.0	4733
Sindh	5.6	23.3	70.9	0.3	100.0	2302
NWFP	4.6	16.5	78.7	0.2	100.0	1252
Balochistan	7.7	25.4	66.7	0.2	100.0	430
Type of Area						
Total Urban	4.8	18.1	76.9	0.2	100.0	2861
Major Urban	5.1	21.0	73.6	0.3	100.0	1479
Other Urban	4.4	15.0	80.5	0.1	100.0	1382
Rural	4.4	14.4	80.9	0.2	100.0	5857
Education Levels						
None	4.0	13.7	82.1	0.2	100.0	5953
Upto Primary	4.1	18.7	76.9	0.3	100.0	1102
Middle	6.9	18.2	74.9		100.0	504
Secondary	5.4	20.8	73.6	0.2	100.0	665
Above Secondary	8.3	22.6	69.1		100.0	494
Working for money						
Yes	5.1	12.6	82.1	0.1	100.0	1366
No	4.4	16.2	79.2	0.2	100.0	7352
Total	4.5	15.7	79.6	0.2	100.0	8718

Table 4.9

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO DID NOT MARRY ON THEIR OWN CHOICE AND NOT HAPPY AT THE TIME OF ENGAGEMENT BY COMPELLING FACTORS FOR MARRIAGE AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Parent's honour	Compelled by parents/relatives	Left to God	Other	Total	
					Percent	Number
Province						
Punjab	48.5	8.5	41.5	1.6	100.0	921
Sindh	68.5	8.0	23.1	0.4	100.0	350
NWFP	51.5	11.5	36.8	0.2	100.0	174
Balochistan	36.2	8.7	53.2	1.9	100.0	67
Residence						
Total Urban	50.1	4.6	43.9	1.3	100.0	395
Major Urban	49.0	2.1	47.3	1.5	100.0	157
Other Urban	50.9	6.3	41.7	1.1	100.0	238
Rural	53.9	10.2	34.8	1.1	100.0	1117
Education Levels						
None	51.6	9.0	38.4	1.1	100.0	1138
Upto Primary	56.0	8.0	34.5	1.6	100.0	182
Middle	59.2	12.9	24.8	3.1	100.0	73
Secondary	66.6	3.3	30.1	--	100.0	72
Above Secondary	43.1	7.2	49.7	--	100.0	47
Working for money						
Yes	55.8	11.4	31.5	1.2	100.0	295
No	52.2	8.1	38.6	1.1	100.0	1217
Total	52.9	8.7	37.2	1.1	100.0	1512

Table 4.10
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY-MARRIED WOMEN BY FEELING ABOUT THEIR MATRIMONIAL LIFE AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Own Choice			Own/Parents choice			Arranged/Others			Total		
	Happy	Not Happy	No comments / Others	Happy	Not Happy	No comments / Others	Happy	Not Happy	No comments /Others	Happy	Not Happy	No comments / Others
Province												
Punjab	95.6	1.5	2.8	98.2	0.6	1.1	94.7	1.9	3.4	95.1	1.8	3.1
Sindh	97.5	1.2	1.4	97.9	0.7	1.4	97.9	0.7	1.4	97.9	0.7	1.4
NWFP	94.6	4.0	1.4	95.3	0.7	4.0	88.9	1.3	9.8	90.2	1.3	8.5
Balochistan	98.1	-	1.9	93.5	1.3	5.2	83.5	2.4	14.1	87.2	1.9	10.9
Residence												
Total Urban	98.8	0.9	0.3	97.7	0.9	1.3	95.4	1.4	3.2	96.0	1.3	2.7
Major Urban	98.1	1.5	0.4	98.5	1.0	0.4	96.1	1.1	2.7	96.7	1.1	2.1
Other Urban	99.8	-	0.2	96.5	0.8	2.7	94.8	1.6	3.6	95.2	1.4	3.3
Rural	94.9	2.1	3.0	97.0	0.6	2.4	93.5	1.6	4.8	94.1	1.5	4.4
Education Levels												
None	95.8	2.3	1.9	96.9	0.5	2.6	93.2	1.5	5.3	93.8	1.4	4.8
Upto Primary	99.4	-	0.6	96.3	2.1	1.6	95.4	2.2	2.4	95.7	2.1	2.2
Middle	86.5	3.6	9.9	97.0	1.0	2.0	95.2	2.7	2.1	94.9	2.5	2.6
Secondary	100.0	-	-	98.9	-	1.1	97.6	1.2	1.2	98.0	0.9	1.1
Above Secondary	100.0	-	-	100.0	-	-	98.0	0.7	1.2	98.6	0.5	0.9
Working for money												
Yes	95.6	4.2	0.2	94.3	2.0	3.8	92.4	3.2	4.4	92.8	3.1	4.1
No	96.4	1.1	2.4	97.7	0.5	1.8	94.5	1.3	4.3	95.1	1.1	3.8
Total	96.3	1.7	2.1	97.3	0.7	2.0	94.1	1.6	4.3	94.7	1.4	3.8

4.7 WOMEN'S AUTONOMY

Education, employment and exposure to mass media are some of the means by which women gain status and build their confidence to exert their point of view. Status and autonomy are two important aspects of women's empowerment. To measure women's autonomy and empowerment more directly, the survey has focussed on women's participation in household decision making, mobility, ownership of property and freedom to spend the earnings, relationship with members of the family and the respect and confidence they are given by the husbands and other near relatives especially those living within the household. The type of environment a girl is provided in her early age also builds her confidence and abilities to counter odds in her adulthood and married life.

Hence, literacy, education, exposure to mass media, employment especially working outside home are some of the factors which play a dominant role in character building.

4.7.1 Literacy

A literate person is defined as anyone who can read and write a simple letter with full understanding. Besides governmental campaigns a number of Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) also have adult literacy programmes. Nevertheless, literacy levels remain low in Pakistan. Table 4.11 provides information on literacy levels of ever-married women and their husbands (last husbands).

A slightly over fifty-nine percent of husbands are literate compared with only 28.5 percent of wives. Literacy levels in Punjab and Sindh are higher than in NWFP and Balochistan, and levels in urban areas are higher than in rural areas. In major urban areas 75.5 percent of husbands and 59 percent of wives are literate. But in rural area 51.5 percent of husbands and only 17.4 percent of wives are literate. These data suggest that more organised efforts are needed to improve literacy levels in the country especially among women.

Table 4.11
PERCENTAGE LITERATE AMONG EVER-MARRIED WOMEN AND THEIR HUSBANDS BY PROVINCE AND URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE

Province/Residence	Wives	Husbands
Province		
Punjab	33.59	62.59
Sindh	27.29	57.01
NWFP	18.01	54.00
Balochistan	09.98	47.34
Residence		
Total urban	51.31	74.66
Major urban	58.88	75.50
Other urban	43.21	73.77
Rural	17.39	51.54
All	28.52	59.13

4.7.2 Education

The Males' Attitudes for Family Planning Survey, conducted by NIPS in 1994, found that 96 percent of men approved of education for boys, while 82 percent approved of education for girls. However, actual levels of education are much lower, especially for females. Part of the reason for the discrepancy between approval of education and actual school enrolment might rest with the inadequate educational facilities in Pakistan. To remedy this, the government has identified primary schooling as one of its priority areas, and embarked on a strategy for increasing the number of primary schools in the country. Secondary and tertiary level educational institutions have also expanded somewhat but are still inadequate to meet higher educational needs.

Table 4.12 shows the levels of education of ever married-women by province and by urban-rural residence. Data are also presented for currently married women and formerly married women. About 68 percent of ever-married women have no education at all and only six percent of women have above secondary level of education.

Punjab and Sindh have the highest percentage of ever-married women who have gone to secondary school and tertiary level, while Punjab has the lowest percentage of uneducated women. In Balochistan and NWFP, 88 percent and 79 percent of women respectively have no education.

Urban-rural differentials are striking. In major urban areas 39 percent of women are uneducated, compared with 80 percent of women in rural areas. Also, in major urban areas, 16 percent of women have gone beyond secondary level education, while in rural areas only 1.6 percent of women have reached this level.

Comparison of levels of education among currently married and formerly married women shows that currently married women are more likely to have attended formal educational institutions than women who are widowed, divorced or separated.

Table 4.12
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO EDUCATION, BY PROVINCE AND URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE

Province/ Residence	None	Formal education					Total	Number
		1 - 5	6 - 8	9 - 10	11 +	Any formal		
Province								
Punjab	63.2	14.6	6.8	8.8	6.5	36.8	100.0	4733
Sindh	69.1	12.0	4.9	7.9	6.2	30.9	100.0	2302
NWFP	79.0	9.0	4.7	4.2	3.0	21.0	100.0	1252
Balochistan	88.3	4.5	2.2	3.6	1.4	11.7	100.0	430
Residence								
Total urban	44.9	15.3	9.6	16.1	14.0	55.1	100.0	2861
Major urban	38.5	14.8	11.1	19.3	16.3	61.5	100.0	1479
Other urban	51.9	15.8	8.1	12.7	11.6	48.1	100.0	1382
Rural	79.7	11.4	3.9	3.5	1.6	20.3	100.0	5857
All ever-married women	68.3	12.6	5.8	7.6	5.7	31.7	100.0	8718
All currently married women	68.1	12.7	5.8	7.7	5.7	31.9	100.0	8427
All formerly married women	73.6	11.4	4.6	5.6	4.8	26.4	100.0	291

Table 4.13 shows the educational level of husbands of ever-married respondents by province and residence. Husbands are better educated than their wives. Overall, 39 percent of husbands of ever-married women have no education at all, while 61 percent have had a formal education, with 15 percent having beyond secondary level of education. Seventeen percent of husbands in Sindh have gone beyond secondary level schooling, while in other provinces it varies between 13-15 percent.

Husband education reported by wives reflects wide urban-rural differentials. In rural areas 46 percent of husbands are uneducated, whereas in urban areas the proportion is only 25 percent. Differences are even wider for above secondary level schooling. In major urban areas almost one-fourth of husbands have above secondary level education, compared with only nine percent in rural areas.

Comparison of husbands of currently married women and those of formerly married women shows that those in the latter category are more likely to be uneducated. Around half (47 percent) of ex-husbands or those that have died - that is, the last husbands of widows were uneducated compared to 39 percent of husbands of currently married women. Moreover, a higher proportion of husbands of currently married women as compared to those of formerly married women have secondary and tertiary level of education.

Table 4.13
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HUSBANDS ACCORDING TO EDUCATION BY PROVINCE AND URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE

Province/ Residence	None	Formal education					Total	Number
		1 - 5	6 - 8	9 - 10	11 +	Any formal		
Province								
Punjab	35.6	14.5	13.3	23.2	13.3	64.4	100.0	4733
Sindh	41.2	18.5	7.6	15.4	17.3	58.8	100.0	2302
NWFP	44.0	10.5	11.9	18.9	14.6	56.0	100.0	1252
Balochistan	53.2	10.2	7.8	15.9	12.9	46.8	100.0	430
Residence								
Total urban	25.1	13.0	12.3	24.3	25.3	74.9	100.0	2861
Major urban	26.4	10.5	11.4	25.6	26.0	73.6	100.0	1479
Other urban	23.6	15.7	13.2	23.0	24.4	76.4	100.0	1382
Rural	46.1	15.6	10.9	18.1	9.3	53.9	100.0	5857
All husbands or last husbands of ever-married women	39.2	14.8	11.3	20.2	14.5	60.8	100.0	8718
All husbands of currently married women	38.9	14.8	11.3	20.3	14.7	61.1	100.0	8427
All last husbands of widowed, divorced, separated women	47.3	15.0	12.0	14.7	11.1	52.7	100.0	291

4.7.3 Exposure to Mass Media

The mass media can play an important role in creating awareness and changing attitudes. Television is a powerful medium of mass communication and can directly affect viewers' psychology, attitudes and behaviour. However, television sets are likely to be out of the price range of the majority of people in Pakistan and, for villages or households without electricity, radio is a potentially important source of information. Print media are also important and there are numerous newspapers in Pakistan both in English and local languages, moreover, exposure to these is inevitably affected by low literacy rates. Each ever-married woman was asked whether she read a newspaper, watched television, or listened to the radio, and the frequency of this exposure.

Table 4.14 shows the percent distribution of respondents by the level of exposure to different forms of media. Thirty eight percent of respondents report that they watch television daily or usually, while 9 percent listen to the radio, and 18 percent of women report that they read newspapers at least once in a while. The proportion of women who never read a newspaper (82 percent) also includes women who are illiterate. Television is therefore, the most important medium. Exposure to all types of media particularly of television has increased in the past decade i.e. since PDHS 1990-91.

Table 4.14:
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO EXPOSURE TO MASS MEDIA BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Read newspaper				Watch television				Listen to radio				Number
	Daily	Once a week	Once in a While	Never	Daily	Once a week	Once in a While	Never	Daily	Once a week	Once in a While	Never	
Province													
Punjab	3.6	5.1	12.1	79.2	29.9	8.3	14.2	47.6	4.4	4.0	19.9	71.7	4733
Sindh	2.5	3.8	12.5	81.1	32.0	6.2	13.0	48.8	5.3	3.4	19.9	71.4	2302
NWFP	1.3	2.8	7.1	88.8	33.6	7.9	11.1	47.4	4.1	5.2	28.2	62.4	1252
Balochistan	1.0	2.1	4.0	92.9	21.0	2.5	8.1	68.4	6.0	5.8	34.1	54.2	430
Residence													
Total Urban	6.5	8.5	21.0	63.9	54.7	10.2	15.2	20.0	3.6	4.4	26.2	65.8	2861
Major Urban	8.0	9.1	22.4	60.5	60.1	11.1	15.2	13.6	3.9	5.5	21.5	69.0	1479
Other Urban	4.9	7.9	19.6	67.5	48.8	9.1	15.2	26.8	3.2	3.2	31.2	62.4	1382
Rural	1.0	2.2	6.3	90.5	18.8	6.1	12.1	63.1	5.2	4.0	19.6	71.2	5857
Education													
None	0.1	0.1	0.3	99.5	19.7	5.8	12.6	62.0	3.7	3.1	18.5	74.7	5953
Upto Primary	2.5	4.5	24.8	68.2	40.7	11.5	16.4	31.4	5.8	5.5	27.9	60.8	1102
Middle	3.6	13.7	40.0	42.8	54.7	10.1	14.1	21.1	6.3	5.3	25.8	62.6	504
Secondary	8.5	19.2	44.2	28.2	61.9	12.5	11.5	14.1	7.5	7.5	26.7	58.3	665
Above Secondary	28.3	24.6	36.6	10.5	72.6	8.3	13.9	5.2	8.4	7.0	37.0	47.7	494
Age													
15 - 19	1.5	1.7	13.0	83.8	27.4	3.8	13.5	55.3	5.8	4.5	22.7	67.0	386
20 - 29	2.5	5.8	13.8	78.0	31.4	6.8	11.7	50.1	5.4	4.1	20.9	69.6	3034
30 - 39	2.8	3.9	10.7	82.6	30.7	7.9	12.3	49.0	4.0	4.3	21.4	70.3	3250
40 - 49	3.8	3.2	7.5	85.5	29.7	8.2	16.4	45.7	4.6	3.7	23.5	68.2	2048
All	2.8	4.3	11.1	81.8	30.6	7.4	13.1	48.9	4.7	4.1	21.8	69.4	8718

As mentioned earlier, across Pakistan, women are more likely to watch television than listen to radio. In contrast, in Balochistan women are more likely to listen to radio than to watch television. Women in NWFP are slightly more exposed to television while more women in Punjab read newspapers. There is also a large difference in media exposure between urban and rural women. In major cities 29 percent of women read newspapers, compared with only three percent in rural areas. Fifty-eight percent of women in urban areas report that they watch television daily, compared with only a quarter of women in rural areas. Little variation in radio listeners is found by residence. This is despite the fact that radio ownership is generally assumed to be higher in rural areas. As expected, more educated women are more likely to read newspapers than less educated women. Of course, uneducated women are more likely to be illiterate.

4.7.4 Employment of women

The employment of women has important implications for their economic independence. Table 4.15 provides information on ever-married women working for money by background characteristics.

Overall, around 16 percent of ever-married women are currently working for money. There is considerable variation in employment between the provinces. Employment of women was reported highest in the province of Sindh (22 percent) followed by Balochistan (17 percent), Punjab (15 percent) and NWFP (5 percent). A relatively higher proportion of women in Balochistan who are working for money, is an unusual finding that requires further investigation. Overall these low levels of women's employment may partially be because of cultural restrictions on women's mobility. Although, urban-rural differences are evident, yet the percentage of currently working women working both in small cities/ towns and rural areas is almost similar. A low level of women employment is reported in major urban areas.

Those with no education and having above secondary level education are the largest group among women who are currently working. Around 18 percent of women with no education and 21 percent with above secondary level of education have reported as working, compared with about 10 percent of those with some secondary schooling as well as with primary schooling. Marital status also makes a difference. About 34 percent of women who are not currently married (i.e. divorced, separated or widowed) are working for money compared with only 15 percent of those who are currently married. This is expected as being single parent many women take up jobs to be self supporting.

Table 4.16 shows the distribution of women who work for money according to occupation, employment status, place of work, and retention of money. Among the women who work, one-third (35 percent) is employed in production. The agriculture sector is the second most common source of employment (34 percent). Sixty percent of women work for family members, and 27 percent are self-employed. Almost half of working women work away from their homes. Only seven percent of working women report that they keep all of the money that they earn, while 22 percent report that their husbands keep money that they earn. It is noted that a large number of uneducated women are working for money (77 percent) obviously due to economic pressure. In contrast to this a small proportion of educated women are found to be working for money.

Table 4.15
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WORKING FOR MONEY BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Working for money	Number
Province		
Punjab	15.09	4733
Sindh	22.46	2302
NWFP	4.86	1252
Balochistan	17.15	430
Residence		
Total urban	13.32	2861
Major urban	9.63	1479
Other urban	17.26	1382
Rural	16.81	5857
Education level		
None	17.54	5953
Up to primary	9.75	1102
Middle	8.36	504
Secondary	10.41	665
Secondary +	20.78	494
All	15.67	8718
Currently married women	15.04	8427
Formerly married women	33.93	291

Table 4.16
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN WORKING FOR MONEY ACCORDING TO SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK

Characteristic of work	Working for money	Number
Occupation		
Professional, technical	12.0	164
Administrative, managerial	1.4	19
Clerical	0.6	8
Sales	2.4	32
Service	4.7	64
Agriculture	33.5	458
Production	35.1	479
Other	8.4	114
Occupation unidentified	1.3	18
Unemployed	0.4	5
Retired and not looking for work	0.1	2
Housewife	0.2	2
Employment Status		
Work for family member	59.7	815
Self-employed	27.4	374
Govt. Service	6.7	91
Private Service	6.2	85
Place of Work		
Home	48.1	656
Away	51.9	709
Retention of money		
Keep all the money	69.6	950
Husband	21.9	300
Son	0.4	5
Mother/father-in-law	3.8	53
Mother/father	0.9	12
Other	3.4	47
Education		
None	76.5	1044
Upto primary	7.9	107
Middle	3.1	42
Secondary	5.1	69
Above secondary	7.5	103
Total	100.0	1366

4.7.5 Husbands' Employment

The husband's employment is also a proxy indicator of the status of women. In this survey all ever-married women were asked about their husbands' occupation. Women who were widowed or divorced were asked

about the kind of work their last husbands were doing. Table 4.17 presents data on the husband's employment status.

Pakistan's economy is gradually diversifying and shifting from agriculture to non-agriculture sector, but its reliance on the agriculture still remains considerable. Twenty- five percent of husbands are employed in the agricultural sector, while 13 percent work in production. Sales are also an important sector, which provides employment to almost 15 percent of husbands while 18 percent are employed in other miscellaneous areas.

Table 4.17
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF HUSBANDS OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION, BY PROVINCE, RESIDENCE AND EDUCATION

Background Characteristics	Occupation											Total	Number
	Professional /Technical	Admin-istration	Clerical	Sales	Service	Agriculture	Production	Transport	Other	Occupation unidentified	Unemp-loyed		
Province													
Punjab	7.3	0.7	8.6	16.0	5.9	21.4	14.8	0.6	20.3	1.9	2.4	100.0	4733
Sindh	6.6	0.3	7.1	14.3	6.3	29.9	9.5	2.7	15.4	4.2	3.7	100.0	2302
NWFP	10.0	0.4	15.0	13.5	6.0	25.0	10.1	0.1	15.3	0.9	3.8	100.0	1252
Balochistan	13.4	0.2	14.3	9.8	5.0	34.5	10.2	0.8	5.5	1.5	4.8	100.0	430
Residence													
Total urban	10.8	1.4	11.6	23.8	7.3	5.7	15.9	2.2	13.7	4.5	3.1	100.0	2861
Major urban	10.4	1.6	12.9	23.5	6.8	2.5	16.6	3.0	14.9	5.1	2.7	100.0	1479
Other urban	11.2	1.2	10.1	24.1	7.9	9.1	15.2	1.4	12.3	3.9	3.6	100.0	1382
Rural	6.4	0.1	8.3	10.5	5.3	34.2	10.8	0.6	19.5	1.3	3.1	100.0	5857
Education													
None	1.4	0.0	5.7	10.7	5.4	35.7	10.4	1.1	25.1	1.4	3.0	100.0	3417
Up to primary	2.5		8.4	14.9	7.3	26.7	16.0	1.4	18.3	1.8	2.6	100.0	1289
Up to middle	3.0	0.1	9.5	21.1	6.3	20.1	16.1	1.3	15.3	3.0	4.2	100.0	987
Up to secondary	10.4	0.0	13.8	17.5	6.7	16.4	15.5	1.2	12.9	2.9	2.7	100.0	1757
Above secondary	30.5	3.5	14.0	17.8	5.0	9.0	7.3	0.4	4.6	4.1	3.6	100.0	1268
All	7.8	0.5	9.4	14.9	6.0	24.8	12.5	1.1	17.6	2.3	3.1	100.0	8718

Agriculture is the main occupation in all the four provinces although its importance varies. For example, in Balochistan 35 percent of husbands work in agriculture, whereas only 21 percent are employed in this sector in Punjab. Agriculture remains the most important source of employment in rural areas (34 percent), but accounts for less than six percent in urban areas, where sales, production, and office jobs are the most important sectors. The percentage employed in the agricultural sector declines with education. Men with education up to middle level are generally in agriculture or production, while men with higher education up to secondary level are mainly in sales or production. Most men with secondary and higher level of education are professionals, technical, salesmen or in clerical jobs.

4.7.6 Women's ownership of property

Table 4.18 shows the percentage of women who own some kind of property while Table 4.19 indicates the status of those who are receiving the income of that property. Almost 95 percent of women do not own any property, while only 2-3 percent of them had a house in their name and another 1.8 percent had some

agricultural land. Among provinces, in NWFP one in nine women owns some agriculture land, a house or a residential plot. Ownership of property by women is comparatively lowest in Balochistan (2.4 percent) and is also low in Sindh (4.5 percent) and Punjab (4.3 percent). However, women who own property, only 21 percent also receive its income. While the proportion of such women is lowest in NWFP (6 percent), a higher proportion of NWFP women (21 percent) report that they share the income with their husbands.

Table 4.18
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO OWN PROPERTY/BUSINESS BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Type of property							Number
	Agricultural land	Commercial Property	Residential plot	A house	A business/ shop	Other	Any type of property	
Residence								
Total Urban	1.2	0.6	1.1	3.3	0.4	0.6	5.8	2861
Major urban	0.4	0.2	1.2	2.7	0.6	0.7	4.6	1479
Other urban	2.1	1.1	1.0	3.9	0.2	0.5	7.0	1382
Rural	2.0	0.2	0.5	1.8	0.1	1.1	5.1	5857
Province								
Punjab	1.9	0.4	0.9	1.8	0.3	0.1	4.3	4733
Sindh	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.0	3.2	4.5	2302
NWFP	3.9	0.1	1.2	7.0	0.3	0.1	11.5	1252
Balochistan	0.9		0.1	1.4		0.1	2.4	430
All	1.8	0.3	0.7	2.3	0.2	0.9	5.3	8718

Table 4.19
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN OWNING PROPERTY/BUSINESS AND PERSON WHO RECEIVE INCOME, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Users of income from property								Number
	Respondent	Parents	Father/ mother -in-law	Husband /son/ daughter	Both (husband and wife)	Other	No income	All	
Residence									
Total Urban	19.6	8.3	1.1	7.0	8.9	0.9	54.5	100.0	165
Major urban	20.0	2.3	--	8.0	13.7	--	60.1	100.0	68
Other urban	19.4	12.6	1.9	6.3	5.5	1.5	52.8	100.0	97
Rural	21.4	4.6	4.1	11.0	13.3	2.1	44.4	100.0	299
Province									
Punjab	23.2	11.3	2.7	6.9	8.5	3.1	45.5	100.0	205
Sindh	37.3	2.3	0.9	16.1	5.5	--	40.6	100.0	104
NWFP	5.8	1.3	5.3	7.9	21.2	1.0	58.3	100.0	144
Balochistan	14.0	--	--	20.5	7.4	--	58.1	100.0	10
All	20.8	5.9	3.0	9.6	11.7	1.7	48.0	100.0	463

4.7.7 Ability to Utilise Credit Schemes

Entrepreneurial skills also contribute to improve women status. It is important to know whether women feel confident to run a business or establish any means of earning if facilitated by the government through credit schemes. Women were asked in this survey 'If the government announces a credit scheme for women, which could be used for small enterprises would you be interested to avail this opportunity? Additionally all ever married women were also asked "Would you be able to establish any small enterprise without the help of your husband or other male members?" Table 4.20 provides information collected in response to these questions. Four out of ten women (42 percent) expressed the desire to avail the credit schemes for establishing some enterprise, if ever such a scheme was floated. More rural (44 percent) than urban women (39 percent) and those living in Sindh or Balochistan (47 percent) would avail such an opportunity. However, only 9 percent reported that they would be able to establish an enterprise on their own and about 35 percent expressed that the help of husband or some male member would facilitate its establishment. The proportion of such women was higher in Sindh (43 percent) followed by Punjab (33 percent). However, 51 percent of the respondents expressed their inability to start any enterprise without the help of male members and the proportion of such women was highest in NWFP (64 percent).

Table 4.20
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN BY ABILITY TO UTILIZE CREDIT SCHEME BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

	Type of Area				Province				Total
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Avail opportunity, if Government announce credit scheme									
Yes	38.6	33.5	44.1	43.8	41.9	46.7	32.8	46.6	42.1
No	61.4	66.5	55.9	56.2	58.1	53.3	67.2	53.4	57.9
Establish small enterprise without help									
Yes - Would be able on her own	11.6	10.9	12.2	8.2	10.9	7.7	7.3	6.1	9.3
Yes - but husband/others help will facilitate	32.6	31.6	33.7	35.8	32.8	43.2	28.0	32.0	34.8
No-Can't do any thing without husband/Other's help	48.9	53.0	44.6	52.0	50.4	43.3	63.8	61.6	51.0
Other	6.8	4.5	9.4	3.9	6.0	5.8	0.8	0.3	4.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2861	1479	1382	5857	4733	2302	1252	430	8718

4.7.8 Women's Participation in Elections

All ever married women in the sample were asked whether they had voted in the 2002 elections and if yes whether they voted for the person of their own choice, their husband's choice, friend's choice or on the desire of an influential. Results are presented in Table 4.21. Majority of women reported that they did not cast their vote (51 percent). The proportion of women who did not cast their vote was highest in NWFP followed by women in Sindh province. The proportion of such women was also higher in big cities compared to small towns and rural areas.

Husband's advice was found to be more pronounced for the selection of the candidate (29 percent). However, one in six women voted according to her own choice. The proportion of such women was higher in major cities (29 percent) and in Punjab province (20 percent). On the other hand, husband's advice was more common in Balochistan (44 percent).

Table 4.21
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN WHO HAD CAST THEIR VOTE IN THE LAST ELECTION ACCORDING TO THEIR CHOICE, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/Province	Own choice	Husband advice	Friend	Influential	Others	Did not cast vote	All	Total
Residence								
Total Urban	24.2	22.4	0.2	0.5	0.7	52.0	100.0	2861
Major Urban	29.0	12.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	57.9	100.0	1479
Other Urban	19.0	33.6	0.1	0.6	1.1	45.6	100.0	1382
Rural	14.0	31.4	0.6	1.7	2.1	50.2	100.0	5857
Province								
Punjab	19.9	32.0	0.7	2.0	1.9	43.5	100.0	4733
Sindh	16.1	25.9	0.3	0.2	2.0	55.5	100.0	2302
NWFP	10.2	14.4		0.4	0.3	74.8	100.0	1252
Balochistan	16.7	44.1	0.1	1.7	1.7	35.6	100.0	430
All	17.3	28.5	0.5	1.3	1.7	50.8	100.0	8718

4.7.9 Mobility of Women

Women's ability to go outside their houses on their own is an important indicator of their self confidence. In this survey women were asked whether they are allowed to go on their own to places like just outside their houses or compound, to a market, health centre, neighbourhood for recreation, a friend's house and to another city or village or would they necessarily require the company of a child or an adult to go to such places? It transpires that the mobility of a woman to a place which is further off from the house is comparatively restricted when she would like to go on her own. There are various social and cultural reasons because of which mobility is restricted. Besides, at times a woman would prefer to go out in a

company of a child or some adult even if there is no restriction on her movement. For example women prefer to go for shopping in the company of a husband or any other adult just to have second opinion on the price and the quality of the articles that she is going to purchase. This is even common with male in the Pakistani society.

Table 4.22 shows percent distribution of currently married women who are allowed to go outside their houses on their own or to go out in the company of somebody whether a child or an adult. The survey results indicate that 69 percent women reported to have been allowed to move in the vicinity without accompanying anybody. This is almost equally common in urban as well as in rural areas. However, in Sindh only 49 percent and in Balochistan one-third women (35 percent) expressed that they are allowed to move just outside their houses.

About one-third currently married women expressed that they cannot go on their own to a market, a health centre or even a friend's or relative's house. A majority could go to these places in the company of a child or an adult. Urban-rural differentials were found in women's mobility to market and health centres but such differences were not seen when they had to go in the neighbourhood for recreation or to a friend's or relative's house. A higher proportion of women in the Punjab province expressed that they could go to such places alone.

Majority of women (71 percent) reported that they were allowed to go to another city or village only in the company of an adult. Only one in six women expressed that they could go to another city/village alone and an additional one in ten women reported that they could go to another city or village in the company of children.

Though mobility of women is restricted in Pakistan and women mostly express that they would not be allowed to go alone to a place further off their residence, there is a need to explore the reasons for such restrictions. Equally important is to know the perceptions of males in this respect.

Table 4.22
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN, WHO WERE ALLOWED TO GO TO DIFFERENT PLACES, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Mobility	Residence				Province				Total	
	Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
Just outside house										
Own	67.8	64.4	71.5	69.4	79.5	49.3	76.8	35.2	68.9	5804
With children	15.7	16.9	14.4	11.7	7.0	19.6	17.6	29.7	13.0	1098
With adult	15.3	17.3	13.2	17.9	12.9	29.2	4.3	34.4	17.0	1436
Not at all	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.0	0.6	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.1	89
Market										
Own	41.8	47.6	35.5	30.4	50.0	18.0	12.5	10.0	34.1	2873
With children	20.5	20.4	20.6	16.0	15.5	17.5	26.4	12.8	17.5	1471
With adult	32.6	29.9	35.5	37.7	31.2	49.9	24.7	46.9	36.0	3035
Not at all	5.2	2.1	8.5	16.0	3.3	14.6	36.4	30.3	12.4	1049
Health centre										
Own	39.9	46.2	33.1	26.9	45.9	17.5	10.2	5.8	31.2	2627
With children	20.6	20.1	21.2	15.1	14.0	18.9	25.1	15.1	16.9	1427
With adult	38.5	32.6	44.8	55.6	39.4	59.7	62.4	78.2	50.0	4217
Not at all	1.0	1.1	0.9	2.3	0.8	3.9	2.3	0.9	1.9	157
Neighbourhood for recreation										
Own	50.0	52.8	47.0	48.1	63.0	26.3	48.4	14.6	48.7	4106
With children	17.9	18.5	17.2	17.6	10.9	20.4	35.7	24.5	17.7	1491
With adult	29.5	26.0	33.3	32.1	23.9	49.8	14.8	60.4	31.3	2637
Not at all	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.2	3.5	1.2	0.4	2.3	192
Freind/relative House										
Own	33.5	36.5	30.3	33.3	45.2	15.1	31.2	8.4	33.3	2809
With children	17.8	17.9	17.8	19.4	13.8	17.0	40.5	20.6	18.9	1590
With adult	46.5	43.2	50.1	46.2	40.5	63.8	27.5	70.4	46.3	3902
Not at all	2.2	2.5	1.8	1.2	0.4	4.2	0.8	0.6	1.5	126
Other City/Village										
Own	18.8	20.9	16.4	14.4	24.9	7.1	3.1	0.4	15.8	1333
With children	13.3	14.1	12.4	8.9	8.4	10.3	18.9	6.4	10.3	871
With adult	64.1	60.3	68.2	74.2	66.0	74.4	75.7	90.4	70.9	5972
Not at all	3.8	4.7	2.9	2.6	0.6	8.2	2.3	2.7	3.0	251
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	8427

4.7.10 Participation in Household Decision Making

In order to measure women's participation in household decision making, they were asked to report who in their household had the final say with respect to food to be cooked, children's health care, children's education, support for husband's and wife's parents, children's marriage, buying or selling property, gifts on marriages and buying or selling jewellery. Table 4.23 shows the distribution of currently married women by their responses. Mostly it is women who decide what food to cook (45 percent), though around 13 percent husbands also exert their preference in this respect. However, the 'others' category which includes children is also prominent as in 29 percent cases they have the final say about what has to be cooked on a particular day. A higher proportion (50 percent) of women in rural areas than their counterparts in urban areas (40 percent) reported that they decide what food is to be cooked. Similarly, relatively more women in NWFP have the final say for choosing what food to be cooked (57 percent) followed by women in Punjab (47 percent).

Seeking health care for children is mostly decided jointly by husband and wife (51 percent) but in additional 25 percent cases it is the woman who decides exclusively about children's health care. In this respect, urban-rural and provincial differentials are not very large. Similarly, children education is also decided jointly by husband and wife (55 percent) and to a much lesser degree (18 percent) by only husband or wife alone (13 percent). Extending support to parents whether of husband or of wife is also jointly decided by the couple in majority of the cases (55 percent) but husband's exclusive decision in 24 percent cases with regard to wife's parents or relatives and in 28 percent cases with regard to his own parents or relatives has also been reported. Comparatively higher cohesion (in 62 percent cases) is observed between urban couples than those residing in rural areas (52 percent) and in Punjab province followed by couples in Balochistan, NWFP and Sindh.

Choosing a daughter-in-law or a son-in-law is a difficult decision in the Pakistani context of arranged marriages. It is considered to be a joint responsibility of husband and wife to arrange for children's marriage. In over six out of ten cases, the decision of children's marriages is taken jointly by husband and wife. However, in 15 percent cases, the husband can still exert his decision whereas the wife has very little exclusive say. In one out of five cases, perhaps children along with grand parents or other relatives make their decision for choosing a life partner. Decision by both husband and wife is relatively more common in urban (64 percent) than rural areas (60 percent) and in Punjab (68 percent) followed by NWFP (62 percent), Sindh (58 percent) and Balochistan (47 percent). It appears that children along with other relatives have relatively greater say in Punjab and Balochistan followed by Sindh and NWFP. Husband's exclusive decision for children's marriage is more common in Balochistan (30 percent) followed by NWFP (23 percent) and Sindh (21 percent) and is considerably less common in Punjab (8 percent).

Almost 50 percent couples decide jointly when they want to purchase or sell a property. However, in one-third cases it is only the husband whose decision is final. Joint decisions for purchasing or selling a property are more common (58 percent) in urban than in rural areas (54 percent). In Balochistan, 68 percent women reported that decision for purchasing or selling a property is an exclusive act of their husbands. Though the proportion of such husbands is relatively lower in NWFP (53 percent) and Sindh (43 percent), the pattern is similar. In Punjab only 22 percent husbands decide exclusively on their own when

Table 4.23

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN REPORTING PERSONS WHO HAVE FINAL SAY IN HOUSEHOLD MATTERS BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Final say on		Residence				Province				Total	
		Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
Food to cook	Both	21.8	26.2	17.0	8.0	8.6	24.7	3.7	15.5	12.5	1056
	Respondent	35.9	30.5	41.8	50.1	47.3	37.2	56.9	37.1	45.5	3833
	Husband	11.8	12.0	11.7	13.6	8.6	20.6	13.5	19.1	13.0	1095
	Others	30.4	31.3	29.5	28.3	35.5	17.5	25.9	28.3	29.0	2443
Children's health care	Both	60.6	58.8	62.5	46.6	55.9	40.8	52.9	50.3	51.2	4315
	Respondent	23.2	25.7	20.4	25.1	21.6	29.1	26.7	24.6	24.5	2061
	Husband	7.3	7.7	6.9	13.8	9.4	17.3	9.7	11.7	11.7	982
	Others	8.9	7.8	10.1	14.5	13.1	12.8	10.8	13.3	12.7	1069
Children education	Both	64.2	62.9	65.6	51.2	61.3	44.9	54.2	51.6	55.4	4672
	Respondent	14.4	17.5	11.0	12.0	13.3	14.0	12.8	1.6	12.8	1078
	Husband	10.9	11.1	10.8	21.3	11.6	25.5	22.5	33.0	17.9	1510
	Others	10.5	8.5	12.6	15.5	13.9	15.6	10.5	13.8	13.9	1167
Support for own parents/relatives	Both	62.0	62.7	61.2	52.3	62.7	43.7	50.4	54.9	55.5	4674
	Respondent	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.8	5.7	6.3	11.3	7.5	6.7	568
	Husband	20.2	22.1	18.3	25.4	16.7	35.6	26.5	28.7	23.7	1998
	Others	11.2	8.5	14.1	15.5	14.9	14.5	11.9	8.9	14.1	1187
Support for husband parents/relatives	Both	61.9	64.0	59.6	52.5	61.9	42.8	55.7	54.1	55.6	4683
	Respondent	4.5	5.1	4.0	4.7	4.9	4.2	4.3	5.4	4.7	393
	Husband	22.9	22.8	23.1	30.4	20.6	40.4	32.1	29.5	27.9	2354
	Others	10.6	8.1	13.3	12.4	12.6	12.6	7.9	11.0	11.8	997
Children's marriage	Both	68.8	68.9	68.6	60.3	67.6	57.5	62.0	47.4	63.1	5318
	Respondent	1.9	2.6	1.1	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.7	0.5	1.8	151

Final say on		Residence				Province				Total	
		Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
	Husband	10.3	11.3	9.2	17.0	8.4	20.7	22.7	29.9	14.8	1247
	Others	19.0	17.2	21.0	20.9	22.2	19.8	13.6	22.2	20.3	1712
Buying/selling property etc	Both	57.8	61.5	53.7	45.4	61.3	37.6	37.2	19.6	49.5	4168
	Respondent	1.8	2.5	1.1	2.1	2.2	2.4	1.2	0.6	2.0	169
	Husband	27.7	25.7	29.8	37.5	21.7	43.2	53.4	67.9	34.3	2889
	Others	12.7	10.3	15.4	15.0	14.8	16.9	8.2	11.8	14.3	1202
Gifts on marriages	Both	64.9	68.2	61.3	53.1	65.5	50.9	44.3	33.2	57.0	4800
	Respondent	7.8	7.7	8.0	10.2	8.5	4.6	23.3	4.0	9.4	793
	Husband	15.6	15.7	15.4	21.8	10.0	30.1	26.9	50.4	19.8	1667
	Others	11.7	8.4	15.3	14.9	15.9	14.4	5.5	12.4	13.8	1167
Buying/selling Jewellery	Both	64.7	72.2	56.6	50.1	63.0	48.5	43.1	34.8	54.9	4625
	Respondent	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.0	3.1	7.0	2.8	3.6	302
	Husband	21.2	18.2	24.5	32.4	19.7	33.4	44.7	55.1	28.7	2420
	Others	10.6	6.1	15.4	13.9	14.3	15.0	5.2	7.3	12.8	1080
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	8427

they are buying or selling a property. Nevertheless, buying or selling a property in Punjab is mostly done by a joint consensus (61 percent) of couples.

Buying gifts on marriages is mostly a joint decision of husband and wife (57 percent). However, the husband and other members of the family also make exclusive decisions in 20 percent and 14 percent cases respectively. Jewellery is also bought or sold after jointly considering and reaching a decision by the couple. However, the exclusive decision of husband is also reported by 29 percent women and in 13 percent cases this decision is taken by other members of the family. It is encouraging to note that husband-wife consultations and joint decisions with respect to household affairs are emerging at national and provincial levels.

4.7.11 Distribution of Household Work

Pakistan is a traditional society. Male is usually considered to be responsible for earning money to run the household. The household matters relating to cooking, washing, cleaning, caring children, getting water from outside especially in rural areas where it is not available within the residential premises etc is the domain of wife or other female members of the household. The same pattern of distribution has been observed in this survey (Table 4.24). Whereas, close to eighty percent of husbands are engaged in earning activities and about 16 percent other family members supposedly male are doing so, almost similar proportion of wives and other female members of the household are busy cooking meals. A substantial number of females do the job of cleaning up after meals, keep the house tidy, and wash clothes. Buying food items is mainly the responsibility of the husbands. That is more so in rural than urban areas and in the province of Balochistan.

It is encouraging to note that in about one-third of the households; wives handle the money exclusively. Earlier, money handling was considered to be exclusively a man' domain. Among provinces NWFP and Balochistan are the ones where 60 percent or more women reported their husbands to be handling the household money. In comparison, only 31 percent husbands in Punjab are doing so.

Though 60 percent of currently married women reported to have been taking care of the children, in over one-fifth households both husband and wife share this task while other members of the household also contribute (11 percent). In Balochistan and NWFP, about one-third women reported that both husband and wife take care of their children. In the households with older members, it is mostly the women's job to take care of the senior members. Interestingly getting water, fetching fuel for cooking and tending animals and crops is usually done by other than husbands, mostly wife or other family members.

Table 4.24
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN REPORTING PERSONS WHO MOSTLY PERFORM SELECTED TASKS IN THE HOUSEHOLD, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Type of tasks		Residence				Province				Total	
		Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
Works for income	Both	2.2	1.9	2.5	1.6	1.5	3.3	0.3	1.1	1.8	154
	Respondent	3.6	3.4	3.8	3.3	3.4	4.0	2.6	2.7	3.4	299
	Husband	78.3	81.4	75.1	77.8	77.1	74.9	85.8	81.0	78.0	6800
	Others family members	15.0	12.5	17.6	16.8	17.3	17.2	10.7	14.5	16.2	1410
	Others	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	55
Cook meals	Both	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.1	1.6	0.1	0.4	0.5	45
	Respondent	79.3	82.1	76.3	78.3	78.0	77.9	83.2	75.3	78.6	6852
	Husband	1.4	1.7	1.1	1.1	0.6	1.7	1.0	6.5	1.2	105
	Others family members	17.8	14.5	21.2	20.0	20.7	18.8	15.4	17.5	19.3	1680
	Others	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	35
Clean up after meals	Both	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	30
	Respondent	64.2	67.6	60.5	67.3	64.0	66.7	72.8	70.2	66.3	5777
	Husband	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.6	1.9	1.4	1.6	1.1	99
	Others family members	29.6	26.3	33.2	30.5	32.7	28.6	24.8	27.1	30.2	2634
	Others	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.7	2.7	1.6	0.7	1.0	2.0	179
Buys food	Both	2.1	2.7	1.6	2.3	3.2	1.2	0.7	1.5	2.2	194
	Respondent	22.8	33.6	11.2	17.0	26.2	13.9	6.0	2.3	18.9	1646
	Husband	46.6	41.8	51.7	50.4	38.2	59.9	64.3	68.3	49.1	4284
	Others family members	26.2	19.6	33.2	29.8	31.0	23.9	28.6	27.5	28.6	2495
	Others	2.3	2.2	2.4	0.5	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.1	98
Handles the HH's money	Both	9.0	10.3	7.6	5.8	7.3	6.8	5.7	5.6	6.8	595
	Respondent	39.9	45.0	34.6	26.5	40.7	22.9	15.4	10.9	30.9	2695
	Husband	34.3	31.3	37.5	46.1	30.7	49.5	63.8	66.5	42.2	3680
	Others family members	16.7	13.4	20.2	21.5	21.2	20.6	14.9	16.5	19.9	1737

Type of tasks		Residence				Province				Total	
		Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
	Others	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	12
Cleans the house	Both	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.8	71
	Respondent	64.5	66.9	61.9	69.5	65.5	70.1	71.8	70.4	67.9	5917
	Husband	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.9	0.6	2.5	3.4	4.0	1.7	147
	Others family members	26.1	23.4	29.1	27.4	29.5	24.1	23.6	23.9	27.0	2350
	Others	7.2	7.4	7.0	0.4	3.7	1.7	0.7	1.2	2.7	232
Buys clothing	Both	16.9	16.5	17.3	12.9	16.8	10.1	13.6	9.3	14.2	1237
	Respondent	50.6	57.5	43.2	34.5	51.3	26.2	31.0	11.0	39.8	3468
	Husband	21.4	18.1	25.1	37.2	16.4	50.5	44.4	69.9	32.1	2795
	Others family members	10.7	7.5	14.1	15.3	15.3	13.0	10.9	9.3	13.8	1202
	Others	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	17
Washes the clothes	Both	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.1	0.4	3.7	1.0	0.5	1.4	120
	Respondent	72.8	73.4	72.1	7.6	73.7	76.4	81.5	83.4	76.0	6629
	Husband	1.2	1.7	0.6	0.7	0.2	1.7	1.4	1.3	0.8	73
	Others family members	18.3	16.8	19.8	19.8	22.4	16.4	14.9	13.9	19.3	1682
	Others	5.9	6.1	5.6	0.8	3.3	1.7	1.2	0.8	2.4	213
Cares for the children	Both	19.8	15.2	24.7	21.9	17.1	21.8	31.5	32.9	21.2	1849
	Respondent	61.0	62.6	59.4	59.1	64.7	56.0	51.2	50.8	59.8	5210
	Husband	1.4	1.6	1.1	0.9	0.5	1.8	1.3	2.1	1.1	92
	Others family members	5.1	4.4	5.8	7.2	5.7	8.4	6.8	5.4	6.5	569
	Others	12.7	16.1	9.0	10.8	12.0	12.0	9.1	8.8	11.4	998
Cares for the elderly	Both	11.5	7.3	16.0	10.8	7.6	9.1	22.1	26.4	11.0	960
	Respondent	21.6	19.0	24.4	28.2	27.1	21.4	28.7	31.5	26.1	2272

Type of tasks		Residence				Province				Total	
		Total urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
	Husband	2.4	2.9	1.9	1.6	0.6	4.2	1.6	3.8	1.8	161
	Others family members	5.0	2.7	7.5	8.5	6.7	5.7	12.6	7.6	7.4	641
	Others	59.4	68.1	50.2	50.9	57.9	59.5	35.0	30.6	53.7	4684
Gets water	Both	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.1	0.2	2.4	0.4	2.4	0.9	77
	Respondent	2.8	2.0	3.6	13.9	4.0	14.9	20.2	24.5	10.2	893
	Husband	1.9	2.4	1.4	2.2	1.1	3.7	1.5	6.2	2.1	182
	Others family members	2.4	2.1	2.7	7.6	2.4	7.6	11.4	19.1	5.9	512
	Others	92.5	93.3	91.6	75.3	92.3	71.4	66.6	47.8	80.9	7054
Gets fuel for cooking	Both	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.4	0.9	1.6	0.5	0.8	1.0	91
	Respondent	5.8	9.5	1.8	13.5	9.8	15.6	8.6	5.9	10.9	954
	Husband	12.1	2.9	21.9	42.3	33.8	18.1	50.3	41.5	32.4	2826
	Others family members	7.9	0.5	15.9	29.2	23.6	15.8	27.6	25.1	22.2	1936
	Others	73.9	86.9	59.9	13.6	31.8	48.9	13.0	26.7	33.4	2910
Tends animals	Both	0.4	0.1	0.7	3.7	1.9	4.0	1.5	6.5	2.6	228
	Respondent	3.1	2.0	4.3	18.9	12.7	12.0	15.1	28.7	13.7	194
	Husband	1.8	1.0	2.5	15.8	10.8	7.2	21.0	8.2	11.2	976
	Others family members	2.0	0.4	3.8	17.7	11.7	11.1	14.8	23.0	12.5	1094
	Others	92.7	96.5	88.7	43.9	62.8	65.7	47.6	33.5	59.9	5226
Tends crops	Both	0.1		0.2	2.0	0.7	2.4	1.1	2.7	1.3	117
	Respondent	1.0	1.0	0.9	5.8	2.0	5.7	8.7	6.9	4.2	364
	Husband	1.9	0.6	3.2	20.8	13.7	8.8	26.4	19.9	14.6	1269
	Others family members	1.0	0.1	2.1	12.2	8.1	6.8	11.5	13.6	8.5	743
	Others	96.1	98.2	93.7	59.4	75.4	76.3	52.2	56.9	71.4	6224
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	010	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	8718

4.8 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

There has been increasing concern about violence against women in general and domestic violence in particular, in both developed and developing countries. This has been recognised as a violation of basic human rights of women. However, in patriarchal societies such as Pakistan, women usually do not admit to have been badly treated by their husbands or other male members of the family. Disagreement between husband and wife on any matter usually lead to mal-treatment of women by their husbands.

In the current survey, married women were asked whether they were afraid to disagree with their husbands because they might become angry. The results are presented in Table 4.25. Interestingly, four out of ten women reported that they were not afraid to disagree with their husbands, while one out of six women said that it depends on the matter or situation which can make them afraid of their disagreement with the husband's point of view. However, one out of nine women reported that they were more often afraid that their disagreement with husband would make them angry. The proportion of such women did not vary much across rural-urban divide but provincial variations were observed. A higher proportion of women in Punjab (12.6 percent) and substantially low proportion of women in Balochistan (3.5 percent) expressed their fear in this respect.

Often misunderstanding between husband and wife and their disagreement on various issues lead to some kind of domestic violence. Again, it is interesting to find that eight out of ten women (82 percent) reported that they have had no serious misunderstanding that could lead to physical assault or abuse (Table 4.26). The remaining eighteen percent women reported that they were mistreated by their husbands either by slapping them (9.7 percent), pushing them (6.9 percent), were beaten (6.3 percent), threatened with weapon (1.6 percent) or thrown something at (2 percent). The proportion of women who reported to have been mistreated by their husbands is almost similar across provinces but is slightly less common in urban compared to rural areas.

Table 4.25

PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO ARE AFRAID TO DISAGREE WITH THEIR HUSBANDS BECAUSE HE WILL BE ANGRY WITH HER ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY HAPPENS, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Frequ-ently Afraid	Not Often Afraid	Depend	Not Afraid	Don,t Know	All	Number
Residence							
Total Urban	10.3	24.6	16.8	47.4	1.0	100.0	2758
Major Urban	10.0	20.6	11.9	56.1	1.3	100.0	1432
Other Urban	10.5	28.8	22.0	37.9	0.7	100.0	1326
Rural	11.3	32.9	16.9	36.7	2.2	100.0	5669
Province							
Punjab	12.6	29.4	17.1	40.4	0.4	100.0	4552
Sindh	9.6	26.2	18.7	44.8	0.8	100.0	2232
NWFP	10.2	41.2	13.4	28.2	7.0	100.0	1219
Balochistan	3.5	27.4	14.7	47.4	7.0	100.0	423
All	11.0	30.2	16.9	40.2	1.8	100.0	8427

Table 4.26

PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN BY TYPE OF PHYSICAL ABUSE BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Type of Abuse						Never had misunder-standing	Number
	Slapped	Pushed	Beaten	Threate ned with weapon	Throwing Something on You	Other		
Residence								
Total Urban	7.6	5.1	4.7	1.3	1.5	0.5	84.3	2758
Major Urban	5.3	3.9	3.7	0.8	0.8	0.0	86.0	1432
Other Urban	10.0	6.5	5.8	1.8	2.3	1.0	82.4	1326
Rural	10.7	7.7	7.2	1.8	2.5	0.6	80.4	5669
Province								
Punjab	8.7	7.3	6.2	1.9	2.4	0.6	82.3	4552
Sindh	10.9	6.8	6.0	1.2	2.1	0.8	80.1	2232
NWFP	11.5	5.9	8.4	1.9	1.2	0.2	81.9	1219
Balochistan	8.0	5.8	3.1	0.1	1.9	0.4	83.1	423
All	9.7	6.9	6.3	1.6	2.1	0.6	81.7	8427

treatment was neglecting children (30 percent) followed by neglecting husband (25 percent) and delay in daily affairs. In rural areas, women were treated badly more by talking back than by neglecting children, husband or in-laws. However, compared to other provinces Sindhi women were physically abused more commonly for neglecting children (50 percent) than by talking back with husband.

Table 4.27
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN, WHO WERE PHYSICALLY ABUSED BY REASONS, RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Reasons for abuse							Number
	Neglecting children	Neglecting husband	Office work	Coming late from office	Neglecting in-laws	Delay in daily affairs	Talking back	
Residence								
Total Urban	31.0	22.6	1.9	3.8	16.9	19.6	37.2	234
Major Urban	24.6	14.0	2.8	5.3	16.4	15.2	42.8	85
Other Urban	34.7	27.6	1.5	3	17.2	22.1	34.0	149
Rural	29.5	25.3	0.9	1.2	16.9	25.0	43.2	744
Province								
Punjab	17.4	16.0	1.3	2.1	16.6	20.1	43.6	476
Sindh	49.7	37.4	1.4	2.0	10.4	26.1	40.4	281
NWFP	29.3	31.8	0.8	1.5	30.8	30.8	39.0	169
Balochistan	38.5	12.0	0.3	-	9.0	20.9	41.5	54
All	29.8	24.6	1.2	1.9	16.9	23.7	41.8	979

Women who have had a dispute with their husbands were asked as from whom they seek support in case a dispute could lead to a serious consequence. Majority of the respondents (55 percent) reported to be getting shelter of parents in such a situation. The second important source from where the women reported to get support was the in-laws (23 percent). One in five women reported that she would seek help from sources other than relatives, friends and community (Table 4.28).

The proportion of women that would seek help from parents was higher in rural (58 percent) than in urban areas. The second most common support in rural areas is sought from in-laws whereas, after parents, urban women are more likely to seek support from other persons than in-laws, friends, and community. Women in NWFP (76 percent) and Balochistan (73 percent) had more confidence in their own parents to resolve such issues as compared to women in Sindh and in Punjab. Almost a similar proportion of Sindhi women reported that they would seek help either from in-laws, parents or persons other than relatives or friends. Surprisingly, community seems to have little influence in resolving such problems and so are friends in such matters.

Though majority of women in all age groups reported the parental support as most important, the proportion of women who sought support from 'other sources' increases with the increase in their age

indicating their dwindling confidence in other relatives (in-laws) as they climb up the age ladder. The women with above secondary level education indicate a different pattern of support seeking behaviour in case of disputes than those with no education or less than secondary level education. For example, in the state of disputes fewer women with above secondary education show confidence in their parents and in-laws as compared to those with no education or less than secondary level of education.

4.9 FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIP

Currently married women were asked whether they enjoy full confidence of their husbands and in-laws in daily affairs at the household level. Whether the husband or in-laws listen to them and believe in them; respect and regard their decisions; and whether they give more weight to their future plans. The results are presented in Table 4.29. Majority of women (65 percent) reported that they are always listened to and believed in; 54 percent said that their decisions are given due regard and full respect; and 49 percent said that their future plans are given more weight. However, some women (29 percent) expressed that they have been listened to; 37 percent reported that their decisions are respected; and 42 percent believed that their plans are given more weight only sometimes. A small minority (6-9 percent) expressed that they have not been given any importance with respect to their suggestions, decisions, or future plans. Women living in urban areas and in the provinces of Sindh, Punjab and in NWFP appear to have received greater attention of their husbands and in-laws compared to women in rural areas and in Balochistan.

Table 4.28
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN SEEKING SUPPORT IN CASE OF DISPUTE LEADING TO SEVERE CONSEQUENCES BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Type of relatives/person					Number
	In-laws	Friends	Community	Parents	Other	
Residence						
Total Urban	19.0	6.0	6.1	44.9	27.7	433
Major Urban	19.6	10.4	7.8	43.8	22.8	200
Other Urban	18.5	2.2	4.6	45.9	31.9	233
Rural	24.2	3.6	7.1	58.3	17.0	1109
Province						
Punjab	19.4	5.6	8.0	60.2	17.3	806
Sindh	31.4	2.2	6.2	30.6	32.6	444
NWFP	18.2	3.9	2.1	75.9	6.1	221
Balochistan	20.9	4.1	11.7	73.3	15.2	72
Respondent Age						
15 - 19	27.9		6.4	58.7	20.7	33
20 - 24	38.7	2.0	5.8	62.3	10.4	169
25 - 29	24.9	3.2	4.4	56.9	16.1	279
30 - 34	20.8	3.7	8.2	63.6	15.8	308
35 - 39	24.7	5.4	8.1	52.2	19.7	359
40 - 44	14.9	5.9	5.4	48.0	25.7	188
45 - 49	12.6	5.8	8.0	40.9	34.4	207
Education						
None	22.4	4.5	6.8	55.1	19.5	1188
Upto Primary	20.8	3.7	8.8	56.6	20.6	162
Middle	32.9	1.6	2.8	50.2	22.9	75
Secondary	26.3	2.4	5.2	52.8	21.8	69
Above Secondary	16.2	8.9	10.4	43.7	22.9	49
All	22.7	4·3	6·8		20·0	1542

Table 4.29
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ENJOYING FULL CONFIDENCE OF HUSBAND/IN-LAWS IN HOMELY AFFAIRS BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Homely affairs	Type of Area				Province				Total
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Husbands / in-laws listen and believe in respondents									
Yes	70.5	72.5	68.4	62.5	66.0	74.6	52.7	42.0	65.2
No	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.3	5.8	5.0	5.2	16.4	6.0
Sometime	24.0	22.0	26.2	31.2	28.2	20.4	42.1	41.6	28.8
Husbands / in-laws respect and regard respondents decisions									
Yes	62.8	67.1	58.3	50.3	56.3	63.6	41.3	22.8	54.4
No	6.2	5.7	6.8	9.2	6.7	7.2	9.2	28.0	8.2
Sometime	31.0	27.2	34.9	40.5	37.0	29.2	49.5	49.3	37.4
Give more weight to respondents future plans									
Yes	59.5	65.1	53.5	44.5	52.0	57.4	37.2	14.4	49.4
No	6.2	5.5	7.0	10.2	6.2	8.0	10.5	39.3	8.9
Sometime	34.3	29.4	39.5	45.2	41.8	34.6	52.4	46.3	41.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2861	1479	1382	5857	4733	2302	1252	430	8718

Chapter 5

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OF WOMEN

The National Health Policy of Pakistan was promulgated in June, 2001. The policy provides an overall national vision for the health sector based on "Health for all" approach. It aims to implement the strategy of protecting people against hazardous diseases; of promoting public health; and of upgrading curative health care facilities. The policy identifies a series of measures, programmes and projects as the means for enhancing equity, efficiency and effectiveness in the health sector through focussed interventions. Improved safe motherhood services for mothers and focussed reproductive health services to childbearing women through a lifecycle approach are aimed to be provided at doorstep. Promotion of maternal and child health has been one of the most important objectives of the health programme in Pakistan. Under the programme, prenatal care includes at least three antenatal care visits, iron supplements for pregnant and lactating women, two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine, detection and treatment of anaemia in mothers, encouragement of institutional deliveries by trained health personnel, postnatal care and identification and treatment of reproductive tract and sexually transmitted infections. The primary health care services are also extended through the lady health workers programme at doorsteps especially in rural areas.

5.1 PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care is important for the health of mother and child. It refers to pregnancy related health care provided by a doctor or a paramedic at a medical facility or at home. The prenatal checkups include monitoring a pregnancy for signs of complications, detection and treatment of pre-existing and concurrent problems of pregnancy, provision of advice and counselling on preventive care, diet during pregnancy, delivery care, postnatal care and related issues. As stated earlier as part of the prenatal care, a woman must receive two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine, adequate amounts of iron and folic acid to prevent or treat anaemia, monitoring of blood pressure etc.

The current survey collected information from women on specific problems they may have had during their last pregnancy and whether they received any prenatal checkups. Women who did not receive prenatal checkups were asked why they did not under go prenatal checkups. Women who received prenatal checkups were asked about the care provider, the timing of the first prenatal check-up, the total number of checkups and whether they received any tetanus toxoid injections. Table 5.1 presents information on prenatal care by service provider and selected background characteristics of respondents who delivered in three years period prior to the survey. The information was collected for the last birth only. The respondents were asked whom did they usually consult for prenatal checkups. It is possible that they consulted more than one service provider during their pregnancy.

It is noted that 52 percent women received antenatal care during their last pregnancy (Table 5.1). Only one-third mothers received prenatal checkups form doctors while 15 percent women usually visited other health professionals such as Nurse, Family Welfare Worker, Lady Health Worker, and Village Based Family Planning Worker. Older women (age 35-49) are much less likely than younger women to have received prenatal checkups for their last birth and so are women with parity six or more.

Antenatal care is positively correlated with mother's education and urban residence. Data show that more women with higher level of education tend to visit medical doctors. The proportion is 89 percent for women above secondary education as compared to 24 percent for women with no education. Similarly, women from major urban areas are more likely (68 percent) to receive prenatal care from medical doctors compared to their rural counterparts (27 percent).

The relationship between birth order and antenatal care received from a medical doctor shows that more women with lower birth order have visited medical doctors and such visits decreases with the increase in the birth order. Interestingly, mother's age, which is positively and highly correlated with the birth order, does not show a similar pattern as is evidenced for birth order. As expected, the province of Sindh, being the most urbanised shows highest (45 percent) and Balochistan shows lowest proportion (16 percent) of women visiting a doctor for antenatal care.

Table 5.1

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF LAST BIRTH IN THE THREE YEAR PRECEDING THE SURVEY ACCORDING TO SOURCES OF PRENATAL CARE (ANC) DURING PREGNANCY BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Sources of antenatal care							Number
	Doctor	Nurse/ FWW/LHV	TBA/Dai	VBFPW/ LHW	Hakim/ Homoeopath	Other	No one	
Mother's age at birth								
< 20	29.5	9.6	9.1	0.9	-	-	50.8	300
20 - 24	38.5	9.4	6.0	1.0	0.2	-	45.1	1043
25 - 34	39.1	7.6	6.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	46.3	2075
35 +	28.0	5.5	8.3	0.3	0.5	-	57.3	626
Birth Order								
1	45.0	9.1	6.2	1.0	0.2	-	38.5	695
2-3	42.3	9.2	6.3	0.4	0.0	-	41.7	1319
4-5	36.1	7.0	6.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	50.0	951
6 +	24.5	6.2	8.0	0.0	0.3	-	60.3	1127
Residence								
Total Urban	60.4	6.8	4.9	0.4	0.1	0.0	27.3	1151
Major Urban	68.4	7.2	2.1	0.2	-	-	22.0	566
Other Urban	52.7	6.4	7.6	0.6	0.2	0.0	32.4	585
Rural	27.0	8.3	7.5	0.6	0.2	0.0	56.3	2942
Province								
Punjab	34.2	9.8	10.3	0.9	0.3	-	44.5	2108
Sindh	44.6	4.2	2.2	-	-	0.1	48.8	1147
NWFP	36.5	8.2	1.0	0.0	0.2	-	54.1	607
Balochistan	15.8	6.8	12.5	1.4	-	0.1	63.5	231
Education Levels								
No Education	24.2	7.6	7.8	0.5	0.2	0.0	59.6	2811
Upto Primary	47.8	10.6	7.2	0.2	0.2	-	34.0	522
Middle	60.7	10.1	5.7	01.1	-	-	22.4	233
Secondary	73.3	6.3	2.5	1.0	0.2	-	16.8	299
Above Secondary	88.5	4.0	0.1	0.7	-	-	6.8	229
All	36.4	7.9	6.8	0.5	0.2	0.0	48.2	4093

5.2 NUMBER AND TIMING OF PRENATAL CHECKUPS

The number of prenatal checkups and the timing of the first check-up are important for the health of mother and the outcome of the pregnancy. The conventional recommendation for normal pregnancies is that once pregnancy is confirmed, prenatal checkups should be scheduled at four week intervals during the first seven months, then two weeks until the last month, and weekly thereafter. Four antenatal checkups one each during the third, sixth, eighth and ninth of pregnancy-have been recommended as the minimum necessary. The conventional recommendation is to schedule the first check-up within six weeks of a woman's menstruation period; however, even if the initial check-up is initiated as late as the third trimester, chances of perinatal mortality are substantially reduced.

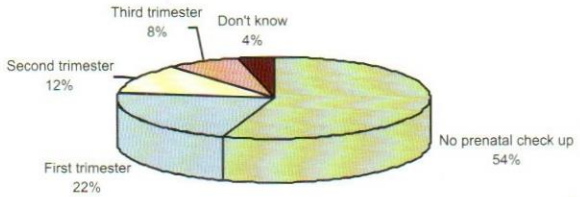
Table 5.2 shows the percent distribution of women seeking prenatal care for their last pregnancy during three years preceding the survey according to number and timing of prenatal checkups. It is alarming to note that 48 percent women did not visit a prenatal care-provider even once throughout their last pregnancy. Seven percent women had visited conventional care providers other than medical professionals. It is noted that 23.4 percent women had 1-3 antenatal checkups from a medical professional during their last pregnancy in three years preceding the survey and 21.5 percent women had four or more prenatal visits during their last pregnancy. Surprisingly, a sizeable proportion of women (11.5 and 7.8 percent) had their first prenatal check-up from medical professional in the second trimester and third trimester respectively.

Table 5.2

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN SEEKING PRENATAL CARE FOR THEIR LAST PREGNANCY IN THE THREE YEARS PRECEDING THE SURVEY ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF ANTENATAL CARE VISITS AND STAGE OF PREGNANCY AT THE TIME OF FIRST VISIT

Ante-natal care indicator	Ante-natal care		Ante-natal care from a medical professional	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Number of ANC visits				
0	48.2	1970	55.1	2258
1	6.9	284	5.8	237
2	10.9	446	8.6	352
3	10.6	433	9.0	267
4	7.9	322	7.0	287
5	5.1	207	4.4	179
6+	10.5	428	10.1	411
Timing of first visit				
No prenatal check up	48.2	1970	55.2	2254
First trimester	24.6	1009	22.0	903
Second trimester	14.3	583	11.5	472
Third trimester	8.9	363	7.8	318
Don't know	4.1	166	3.5	143
Number of births	100.0	4090	100.0	4090

Figure 5.1
Timing of First Prenatal Visit to a Health Professional



5.3 TETANUS TOXOID VACCINATION

An important cause of death in infancy is neonatal tetanus, which is caused by newborn infants becoming infected by tetanus organisms, usually at umbilical stump. Neonatal tetanus is most common among children who are delivered in unhygienic environments and when unsterilized instruments are used to cut the umbilical cord. Tetanus typically develops during the first or second week of life and is fatal in 70-90 percent cases (Foster, 1984). If neonatal tetanus infection occurs where expert medical help is not available, as is common in rural areas of Pakistan, death is almost certain. Neonatal tetanus, however, is a preventable disease. Two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine given one month apart during pregnancy are nearly 100 percent effective in preventing tetanus among both newborn infants and the mothers. Immunity against tetanus is transferred to the foetus through the placenta when the mother is vaccinated.

In the current survey, mothers who had given birth in the three years prior to the survey were asked whether during their last pregnancy they were given an injection in the arm to prevent them and their baby from getting tetanus. Women who said they had received a tetanus injection were asked how many times they had received the injection during that pregnancy.

Table 5.3 shows the distribution of women by the number of tetanus toxoid injections given to mothers, according to selected background characteristics. Over half of women (51 percent) reported they did not receive any tetanus toxoid injection during their last pregnancy in the three years period prior to the survey, and another five percent received only one injection. The proportion of mothers who received two or more injections during their last pregnancy was about 44 percent.

Tetanus toxoid injections are more common in urban than in rural areas (Figure 5.2). Coverage of tetanus toxoid varies inversely by birth order. Relatively higher proportion of women (53 percent) reported to have received at least two doses of tetanus toxoid injection in Punjab as compared to NWFP (42 percent) and Sindh (35 percent). In Balochistan, the coverage was dismally low as only 13 percent women reported to have received at least two doses of TT injections. No specific pattern was observed for TT vaccination by age of mother at birth. However, as expected, the coverage of tetanus toxoid has a positive correlation with the level of education of mother. Eighty-three percent women with above secondary education received at least two doses of tetanus toxoid injections as compared with 32 percent women with no education (Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2
Percentage of women having at least two Injections of Tetanus Toxoid during Last Pregnancy by Level of Education

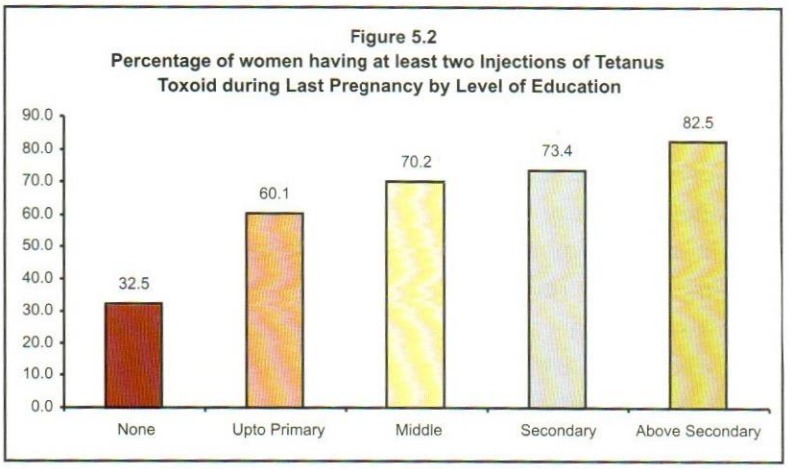


Table 5.3

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF TETANUS TOXOID INJECTIONS RECEIVED DURING THEIR LAST PREGNANCY IN THREE YEARS PRIOR TO SURVEY BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Number of TT injections					Number of births
	1	2	3	4+	No	
Mother's age at Birth						
< 20	5.0	24.1	15.4	0.9	54.6	290
20 - 24	4.6	30.5	18.1	1.0	45.7	1062
25 - 34	5.4	29.2	14.6	0.9	50.0	2071
35 +	4.8	24.9	7.2	0.8	62.2	621
Birth Order						
1	4.5	33.5	19.5	1.5	40.9	696
2-3	5.1	32.4	16.7	1.1	44.7	1317
4-5	6.0	28.5	13.5	0.7	51.3	953
6 +	4.4	21.0	9.4	0.6	64.6	1123
Residence						
Total Urban	5.9	41.8	18.0	0.6	33.8	1152
Major Urban	7.0	44.7	14.3	1.1	32.9	566
Other Urban	4.8	39.1	21.5	0.0	34.6	587
Rural	4.7	23.3	13.1	1.1	57.9	2938
Province						
Punjab	4.7	37.6	14.2	1.1	42.5	2105
Sindh	7.7	24.1	9.9	1.0	57.3	1146
NWFP	0.9	12.2	28.8	0.5	57.6	607
Balochistan	6.0	11.1	1.8	0.1	81.0	231
Education						
None	4.7	20.2	11.5	0.8	62.8	2807
Upto Primary	5.1	38.0	21.0	1.1	34.8	522
Middle	4.3	49.2	19.5	1.5	25.5	233
Secondary	6.6	51.0	21.8	0.6	20.1	299
Above Secondary	7.1	59.6	20.7	2.2	10.3	229
All	5.0	28.5	14.4	0.9	51.1	4090

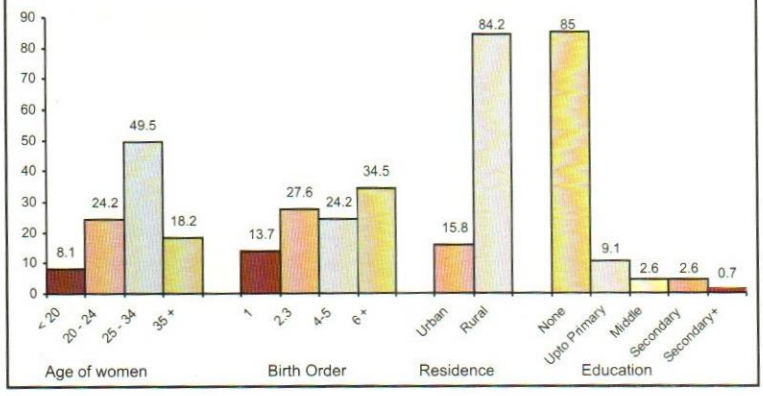
5.4 REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING PRENATAL CARE

Table 5.4 shows that women who did not get antenatal care during their last pregnancy reported to have been constrained by non-affordability (22.7 percent) followed by health facility being too far (10.9 percent) and the poor quality of service (1.5 percent). However, majority of women (55.8 percent) also abstained from visiting a health professional for antenatal check-ups on the ground that they did not encounter any health problem during pregnancy. Most of such women were residents of 'other urban' and the Punjab. Of the women who did not receive antenatal care because they could not afford, most were from major urban areas and among provinces the least stated so in the province of Punjab. Of the total women who did not receive antenatal care during their last pregnancy, about half were in the age group 25-34 years, 35 percent were with birth order 6+, and overwhelming majority (84 percent) were rural residents. As expected, a vast majority (85 percent) of those who did not receive antenatal care during their last pregnancy were uneducated women (see Figure 5.3).

Table 5.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN WHO DID NOT RECEIVE ANTENATAL CARE FOR THE LAST PREGNANCY, ACCORDING TO REASONS, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Reasons		Residence				Province				Total
		Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Baloch-istan	
Health facility too far		3.0	4.2	2.2	12.3	2.4	19.0	14.1	27.8	10.9
Could not afford		27.5	37.6	20.7	21.8	17.7	27.5	27.0	27.2	22.7
No Transport					1.4	0.2	2.9		3.9	1.2
Healthy/no problem		57.8	46.0	65.8	55.4	69.8	42.0	52.9	24.6	55.8
Poor service		1.4	1.0	1.7	1.5	2.0	0.6	1.5	1.0	1.5
Did not know where to go		2.2	4.5	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.6	4.6	1.3
Other		2.9	2.0	3.4	2.4	3.2	2.4	1.2	0.6	2.4
No Reason		5.2	4.6	5.5	4.0	3.8	4.4	2.6	10.3	4.2
Total	Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Number	306	123	183	1632	926	554	318	139	1937

Figure 5.3
Percent of Women who did not receive Antenatal Care by Selected Background Characterisitcs



5.5 PROBLEMS DURING PREGNANCY

For the last birth in the three years preceding the survey, the mother was asked if at any time during the pregnancy she experienced any of the following related problems: Vaginal bleeding, convulsion, fever/persistent vomiting, headache, backache, weakness, abdominal pain, anaemia, blood pressure, swelling over ankles, swelling over face and jaundice. The potential health risk posed by vaginal bleeding during pregnancy varies by the duration of pregnancy and the extent of bleeding. Convulsions accompanied by signs of hypertension can be symptomatic of eclampsia, a potentially fatal condition. Although documenting the prevalence of the symptoms of pregnancy complications is vital for planning services to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, the information presented here is based on women's self reports and should be interpreted with care.

Table 5.5 shows that around 76 percent women had faced no health problem during their last pregnancy whereas the remaining had one or more problems during the last pregnancy. The pregnancy related health problems most commonly reported are excessive fatigue (include headache, backache, weakness and abdominal pain) by 18 percent women, followed by fever and persistent vomiting and blood pressure reported by 10 percent and 7 percent women respectively. The prevalence of excessive fatigue was relatively more common (33 percent) in NWFP, Balochistan (22 percent) and 'other urban' areas (20 percent). About 7 percent women at national level and 12 percent women in Balochistan reported to be anaemic during their last pregnancy. About 5-7 percent women reported to have had some signs of pre-eclampsia during their last pregnancy. This condition was reported to be more common (13 percent) in NWFP.

Table 5.5
PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS DURING RECENT PREGNANCY IN THREE-YEARS PRECEDING SURVEY BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Health problems	Residence				Province				All women
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Vaginal Bleeding	2.7	1.3	4.2	3.3	2.5	4.7	3.2	2.2	3.2
Convulsion	1.8	0.9	2.7	1.7	0.7	3.0	2.3	3.5	1.7
Fever/persistent vomiting	8.9	4.6	13.0	10.8	8.0	11.4	17.0	8.1	10.3
Excessive fatigue	14.6	8.8	20.2	19.5	13.5	18.1	32.9	21.9	18.1
Anaemia	5.7	3.5	7.8	7.1	4.8	6.8	11.1	11.9	6.7
Blood pressure	6.3	4.3	8.3	7.3	6.4	5.4	13.1	4.3	7.0
Swelling over ankles	4.3	3.2	5.4	6.8	4.3	4.9	13.7	8.0	6.1
Swelling over face	4.1	3.3	4.8	5.9	3.0	4.9	13.4	7.8	5.4
Jaundice	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.7	0.8	2.3	1.1	6.9	1.6
Other	2.0	0.8	3.2	1.9	2.0	2.2	1.7	0.2	1.9
No problem	78.9	86.1	71.9	74.5	79.1	77.3	63.3	70.0	75.8

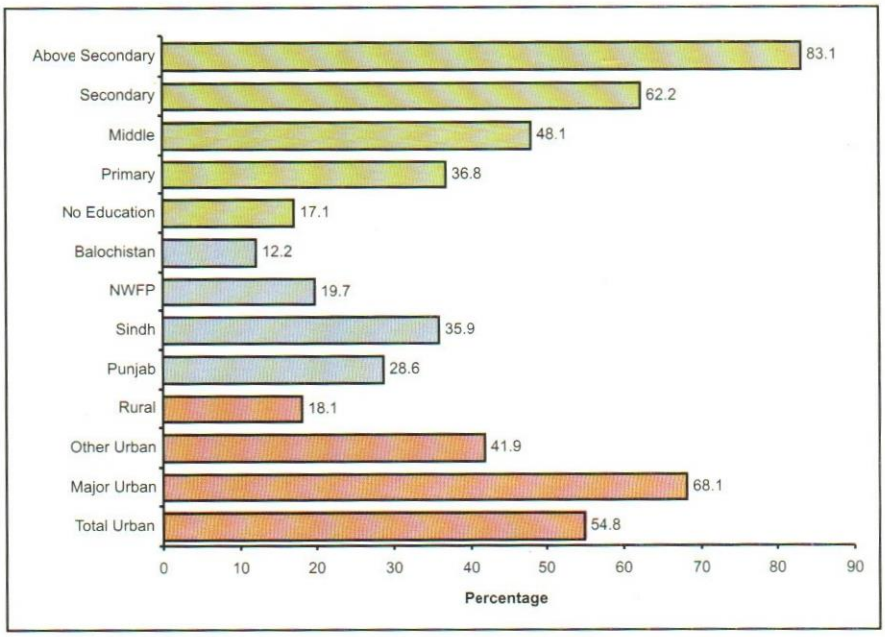
5.6 PLACE OF DELIVERY

Another important thrust of the reproductive and child health programmes is to encourage deliveries under proper hygienic conditions under the supervision of trained health professionals. For the last birth during the three years preceding the survey, mothers were asked about the place of delivery and the person attending the delivery. For the safe health of mother and child, it is imperative that all deliveries are catered at hospitals/clinics under the supervision of qualified doctors. However, it is noted that 71 percent women had delivered their last babies at home and only 28 percent deliveries occurred in government and private health facility (Table 5.6) Women with higher parity are more likely to deliver at home. Even in urban areas where the availability and accessibility of health facilities is much better, 44 percent of the deliveries are occurring at home and only a little over one-fifth deliveries are occurring in public health facilities as compared to one-third in private health facilities. Among provinces, Sindh the most urbanised province indicated the highest proportion (15 percent in public health facilities and 21 percent in private health facilities) of deliveries occurring in health facilities. Again education is found to be positively associated with deliveries in health facilities, that is, women with higher education, are more likely to be delivering their babies in a health facility. Figure 5.4 shows the percentage of women who delivered their last birth at a health facility by level of education, region and residence.

Table 5.6
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MOTHERS BY PLACE OF THEIR LAST DELIVERY IN THREE YEARS PRECEDING THE SURVEY BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Place of Delivery					Number
	Home	Government Health facility	Private Health facility	On the way to hospital/clinic	Other	
Birth Order						
1	58.1	18.7	22.7	0.2	0.3	695
2-3	67.9	12.4	18.8	0.5	0.3	1319
4-5	72.0	10.1	17.2	0.4	0.2	951
6 +	81.4	7.4	10.6	0.5	0.2	1127
Residence						
Total Urban	44.4	21.8	33.0	0.5	0.3	1151
Major Urban	30.9	30.7	37.4	0.8	0.2	566
Other Urban	57.5	13.2	28.7	0.2	0.4	585
Rural	81.3	7.6	10.5	0.4	0.2	2942
Province						
Punjab	70.8	10.3	18.3	0.4	0.2	2108
Sindh	63.4	15.0	20.9	0.2	0.5	1147
NWFP	79.3	11.1	8.6	1.0	-	607
Balochistan	87.3	8.0	4.2	0.5	-	231
Education						
No Education	82.1	7.8	9.3	0.4	0.2	2811
Upto Primary	63.0	15.4	21.4	-	0.2	522
Upto Middle	49.6	20.5	27.6	2.1	0.3	233
Upto Secondary	37.4	25.5	36.7	-	0.4	29
Above Secondary	16.6	21.7	61.4	0.3	-	229
All	**70.9**	**11.6**	**16.8**	**0.4**	**0.2**	**4093**

Figure 5.4
Percentage of women who delivered their last birth at a health facility by level of education, region and residence



5.7 DESIRE FOR LAST PREGNANCY

Women in the SWRHFP survey were asked about the outcome of the last pregnancy whether it ended in a live birth or in a stillbirth. It was found that 98.6 percent were live births while 1.4 percent pregnancies ended in stillbirths (Table 5.7). It is noted that over one-quarter pregnancies were either mistimed or unwanted. To be exact 12 percent women wanted no more pregnancies, while about 17 percent wanted to delay or postpone their last pregnancy. This is a very large number and needs attention of policy makers as women's reproductive health and family planning needs are not fully met. By providing services to these women will result into improved reproductive health as well as better control and regulation of fertility.

Age of women and birth order show inverse relationship with the proportion of 'live births' and 'wanted then' status of last birth, implying that the need for reproductive health and family planning services increases with the age of women and birth order. Interestingly, no notable differentials of live birth status exist by urban-rural residence and by provinces. Nevertheless the status of live birth was exceptionally high among women with 11+ classes passed. Moreover, highest determination in terms of 'wanted then' for last pregnancy was found among women with 11+ classes passed, those living in rural areas and in the province of Balochistan, which is an interesting result. Overall, 27 percent women reported that their last pregnancy was either not wanted at all or was mistimed (Figure 5.5).

It is observed that only 1.4 percent deliveries ended in twin live births. Such births are more common among women of 35+ years of age, 6+ birth order, residents of major urban areas, living in Punjab and those who are 9-10 classes passed (Table 5.8).

Table 5.7

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MOST RECENT BIRTHS (DURING LAST THREE YEARS) BY SURVIVAL STATUS AT THE TIME OF DELIVERY AND DESIRE OF WOMEN FOR THE LAST PREGNANCY

Background characteristics	Status of last birth		Desire for last pregnancy			Number
	Live birth	Still birth	Wanted then	Wanted later	Wanted no more	
Age of woman at child birth						
< 20	99.5	0.5	89.8	8.5	1.7	300
20 - 24	98.7	1.3	84.5	13.1	2.4	1043
25 - 34	98.8	1.2	71.1	16.3	12.6	2075
35 +	97.3	2.7	51.6	16.1	32.3	626
Birth Order						
1	99.9	0.1	97.2	2.3	0.6	695
2-3	99.2	0.8	81.9	15.4	2.7	1319
4-5	98.4	1.6	67.3	19.6	13.1	951
6 +	97.4	2.6	52.4	18.4	29.3	1127
Residence						
Total Urban	98.6	1.4	67.9	15.2	16.9	1151
Major Urban	98.2	1.8	67.5	13.0	19.5	566
Other Urban	99.0	1.0	68.2	17.4	14.4	585
Rural	98.6	1.4	75.0	14.9	10.2	2942
Province						
Punjab	98.2	1.8	75.4	11.8	12.8	2108
Sindh	98.9	1.1	64.0	20.2	15.7	1147
NWFP	99.4	0.6	78.9	16.0	5.1	607
Balochistan	98.8	1.2	80.0	14.7	5.3	231
Education						
None	98.5	1.5	72.4	15.0	12.6	2811
1 - 5	99.1	0.9	72.0	15.2	12.8	522
6 - 8	98.1	1.9	74.5	15.2	10.3	233
9 - 10	98.0	2.0	73.6	16.6	9.8	299
11 +	99.8	0.2	79.9	11.7	8.4	229
All	**98.6**	**1.4**	**73.0**	**15.0**	**12.1**	**4093**

Figure 5.5
Percent of women whose last pregnancy was wanted, mistimed or unwanted

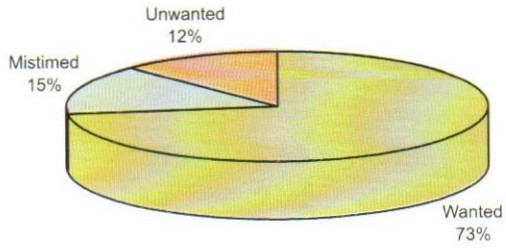


Table 5.8
PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS IN THREE YEARS PRECEDING SURVEY ACCORDING TO NATURE OF DELIVERY BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Nature of Delivery		
	Singleton live birth	Twins Live Births	Number
Age of woman at child birth			
< 20	99.5	0.5	300
20 - 24	98.7	1.3	1043
25 - 34	98.8	1.2	2075
35 +	97.3	2.7	626
Birth Order			
1	99.9	0.1	695
2-3	99.2	0.8	1319
4-5	98.4	1.6	951
6 +	97.4	2.6	1127
Residence			
Total Urban	98.6	1.4	1151
Major Urban	98.2	1.8	566
Other Urban	99.0	1.0	585
Rural	98.6	1.4	2942
Province			
Punjab	98.2	1.8	2108
Sindh	98.9	1.1	1147
NWFP	99.4	0.6	607
Balochistan	98.8	1.2	231
Education			
None	98.5	1.5	2811
1 - 5	99.1	0.9	522
6 - 8	98.1	1.9	233
9 - 10	98.0	2.0	299
11 +	99.8	0.2	229
All	98.6	1.4	4093

5.8 POSTNATAL CARE

The health of mother and her newborn child depends not only on the health care she receives during her pregnancy and delivery, but also on the care she and the infant receive during the post-partum period. Checkups within two months after the delivery are particularly important for births that take place at home.

Table 5.9 gives the percentage of women who received any postnatal care for their last delivery during the three-year period prior to the survey. Women who reported to have acquired any postnatal care were also asked about the source from which they received such care. The table shows that postnatal care is less common compared to antenatal care seen earlier in the chapter. Only one in five women reported that she went for any postnatal checkups. Hardly any differentials were found on the basis of age of women at birth of the child. However, it was observed that women were more likely to visit for postpartum checkups on their first delivery (27 percent) as compared to subsequent deliveries. Similarly, the proportion of women receiving postnatal care was higher for women living in small towns compared to those living in rural areas or even in major cities. Among provinces, the proportion of women seeking postnatal care was higher in Punjab. Attainment of education was found to be an important factor influencing health seeking behaviour in the postpartum period.

Women who went for postpartum checkups, majority (63 percent) went to medical doctors and a small proportion (6 percent) received it from other heath professionals like nurse/FWW/LHV. Yet a substantial number (28 percent) turned to the traditional source of trained or untrained birth attendants commonly known as "Dais". The proportion of such women was higher in rural areas and in the province of Punjab and Balochistan. An inverse relationship was found between education and seeking postpartum care from the Dais.

Women who did not receive postnatal care were asked the reasons for not doing so. Table 5.10 shows that about three-fourths women reported that they did not need any postnatal care, as they had no complications or problems. However, a sizeable proportion of women (14 percent) did not receive postnatal care for the last pregnancy because they 'could not afford', followed by 'health facility was too far' (8 percent). The proportion of such women was higher in rural areas and in the province of Balochistan.

Table 5.9

PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN WHO RECEIVED POSTNATAL CARE FOR THE RECENT PREGNANCY IN THREE YEARS PRECEDING SURVEY, BY SOURCES AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Any Postnatal care received	Number	Sources of postnatal care						Total	Number
			Doctor	Nurse/FWW/ LHV	TBA/Dai	VBFPW/ LHW	Hakim/ Homoeopath	Other		
Age of woman at child birth										
< 20	19.3	300	50.1	8.1	36.2	2.0	2.2	1.4	100.0	58
20 - 24	18.1	1043	69.5	4.4	23.6	2.5	--	--	100.0	189
25 - 34	21.2	2075	65.8	5.9	25.8	1.9	0.2	0.4	100.0	440
35 +	21.0	626	52.8	5.8	38.3	1.2	0.2	1.7	100.0	131
Birth Order										
1	26.6	695	74.4	6.9	15.5	2.7	--	0.5	100.0	185
2-3	22.7	1319	66.0	3.5	27.1	2.3	0.7	0.4	100.0	300
4-5	16.3	951	61.0	4.8	32.7	1.4	--	0.1	100.0	155
6 +	16.7	1127	50.0	9.6	37.8	1.1	0.3	1.2	100.0	188
Residence										
Total Urban	28.5	1151	76.9	3.5	19.0	0.5	--	0.1	100.0	328
Major Urban	25.8	566	81.8	3.7	14.5	--	--	--	100.0	146
Other Urban	31.0	585	72.9	3.3	22.7	1.0	--	0.1	100.0	182
Rural	17.0	2942	54.5	7.4	33.8	2.8	0.5	0.6	100.0	501
Province										
Punjab	24.3	2108	51.4	5.9	39.6	2.7	0.2	0.3	100.0	512
Sindh	17.4	1147	87.8	5.0	5.3	--	0.4	1.5	100.0	199
NWFP	11.0	607	91.3	6.6	2.1	--	--	0.4	100.0	66
Balochistan	22.1	231	51.8	8.6	33.7	4.3	1.2	--	100.0	51
Education										
None	15.0	2811	46.5	8.3	41.3	2.6	0.3	0.9	100.0	421
1 - 5	21.5	522	73.0	3.2	22.1	1.0	--	0.7	100.0	112
6 - 8	26.2	233	63.8	6.8	27.3	--	2.1	--	100.0	61
9 - 10	35.7	299	80.5	4.5	13.8	1.3	--	--	100.0	107
11 +	56.	229	95.7	1.0	1.5	1.8	--	--	100.0	128
All	**20.2**	**4093**	**63.3**	**5.9**	**28.0**	**1.9**	**0.3**	**0.6**	100.0	**829**

Table 5.10
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN WHO DID NOT RECEIVE POSTNATAL CARE FOR THE LAST PREGNANCY, ACCORDING TO REASONS, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Reason	Residence				Province				Total
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Health facility too far	1.2	0.3	2.2	9.6	1.8	13.7	7.6	24.1	7.5
Could not afford	11.2	11.9	10.6	15.0	9.7	18.2	17.1	21.6	14.0
No Transport	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.1	1.3	0.0	2.4	0.6
Healthy/Had no problem	84.1	85.7	82.5	69.7	83.3	63.2	71.7	43.5	73.3
Poor Service	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	0.5	0.7	4.0	1.2
Husband.in-laws did not allow	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	2.0	3.0	1.5
Other	1.1	0.1	2.1	2.2	2.4	1.7	0.9	1.5	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Numbers	823	420	404	2441	1596	948	540	180	3264

5.9 INFERTILITY

A woman is considered infertile if she is living with her husband for two or more years after marriage, is not using any contraceptive and has not conceived a child during this period. The proportion of such women with primary infertility was found a little over 6 percent in this survey (Table 5.11). Variation in infertility is not marked among provinces. However, the lowest proportion of infertile women is found in the NWFP. On the other hand, infertility is higher in the rural areas of Pakistan. One of many reasons of infertility is low nutritional status of women that is more prevalent in rural than urban areas.

5.10 ABORTION

In Pakistan, abortion is illegal except when the life of mother is at risk. Unfortunately, no authentic data on this indicator is available from any source in Pakistan. In the SWRHFP survey, all ever-married women were asked whether they ever experienced a pregnancy, which ended in a miscarriage or an abortion? Those who responded positively were then asked about the total number of spontaneous and induced abortions. Table 5.12 shows that 21 percent ever-married women had experienced at least one or more spontaneous abortions whereas only about 2 percent admitted to have had one or more induced abortions in their life. Induced abortions may be under reported for obvious reason of disapproval by the religion and society. Yet the prevalence of abortion, which at times can be fatal, is significantly high particularly among women residents of 'other urban' areas and Balochistan. This needs attention of both policy makers and service providers.

Table 5.11
PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN AGED 20 AND MORE WHO WERE MARRIED TWO OR MORE YEARS AND HAVE HAD NO LIVE BIRTH BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/Province	Percentage	Number
Residence		
Total Urban	5.16	2800
Major Urban	5.16	1452
Other Urban	5.16	1348
Rural	6.96	5531
Province		
Punjab	6.41	4549
Sindh	6.48	2198
NWFP	5.85	1183
Balochistan	6.53	402
All	**6.35**	**8332**

Table 5.12
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO EVER HAD AN ABORTION BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/Province	Number of spontaneous abortions				Number of induced abortions				Number
	0	1	2	3 +	0	1	2	3 +	
Residence									
Total Urban	78.4	13.7	5.4	2.5	97.9	1.6	0.4	0.1	2861
Major Urban	81.1	12.9	4.4	1.7	97.9	1.7	0.4		1479
Other Urban	75.5	14.5	6.6	3.5	97.8	1.5	0.4	0.3	1382
Rural	79.4	12.7	5.1	2.7	98.5	0.9	0.5	0.2	5857
Province									
Punjab	79.7	12.0	5.5	2.9	98.0	1.3	0.5	0.2	4733
Sindh	76.9	14.8	5.3	3.0	99.3	0.5	0.3		2302
NWFP	81.8	13.9	3.3	1.0	97.8	1.6	0.5	0.1	1252
Balochistan	75.7	12.8	8.1	3.4	97.4	2.1	0.3	0.2	430
All	**79.0**	**13.0**	**5.2**	**2.7**	**98.3**	**1.1**	**0.4**	**0.2**	**8718**

5.11 AIDS/RTIs/STDs

Efforts were made to obtain information about AIDS/RTIs and STDs. It is found that 46 percent of ever married women had ever heard about AIDS (Table 5.13). Among those who had heard, their major source was TV/Radio (41 percent), followed by relatives/ friends/neighbours (14 percent), husbands (13 percent), newspapers/posters/ pamphlets (9 percent) and medical personnel (5 percent). Educational attainment and urban residence have positive relationship with knowledge about AIDS.

Table 5.14 shows that those who had heard about AIDS, a majority reported that the disease spreads through sexual activity (82 percent), blood transfusion (75 percent), contaminated equipment (71 percent) and from mother to child (55 percent). Fewer women had opined that the disease can also be spread by using clothes/utensils of the sick person, touching a sick person or using the combined toilet. The highest number of women who reported spread of disease by sexual activity was in the age group 25-29 years, living in major urban areas, resident of Balochistan and those who were highly educated (11+ classes passed).

Table 5.13
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT AIDS BY SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Ever Heard of Aids	Source of information						Number
		Husband	Relatives/ Friends/ Neighbours	TV/Radio	Newspapers/ Posters/ Pamphlets	Medical personnel	Other	
Age								
15 - 19	38.1	6.3	6.0	33.7	5.3	2.7	0.4	386
20 - 24	50.9	15.5	13.7	44.3	9.5	4.3	0.5	1269
25 - 29	49.1	16.1	15.4	44.3	11.3	6.6	0.6	1765
30 - 34	47.4	13.6	14.4	42.1	7.6	5.3	0.9	1674
35 - 39	46.7	12.5	12.7	41.6	8.2	4.7	0.7	1576
40 - 44	43.5	10.1	13.8	39.2	7.7	6.3	1.0	1110
45 - 49	40.3	10.2	14.2	34.6	7.1	5.0	0.5	938
Residence								
Total Urban	69.0	20.5	22.7	64.5	18.5	9.8	1.5	2861
Major Urban	70.5	23.6	28.1	67.1	21.0	9.6	2.4	1479
Other Urban	67.3	17.2	16.8	61.8	15.8	10.0	0.5	1382
Rural	35.5	9.4	9.4	29.8	3.8	3.1	0.3	5857
Province								
Punjab	50.0	15.2	16.8	44.8	10.5	6.5	0.5	4733
Sindh	38.4	7.0	6.3	35.6	6.2	4.2	1.5	2302
NWFP	48.7	13.1	13.9	43.2	7.1	3.7	0.2	1252
Balochistan	44.0	22.1	19.5	26.9	4.9	2.5	0.3	430
Education Levels								
None	30.5	6.7	7.4	25.6	0.7	1.9	0.4	5953
1 - 5	66.4	18.6	17.5	59.5	9.3	5.5	0.2	1102
6 - 8	81.6	24.7	26.4	73.1	20.1	8.5	1.3	504
9 - 10	90.7	27.6	30.9	87.0	30.4	12.5	1.4	665
11 +	98.2	46.2	45.2	94.4	60.6	32.4	3.7	494
All	**46.4**	**13.1**	**13.7**	**41.2**	**8.6**	**5.3**	**0.7**	**8718**

Table 5.14
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAVE HEARD ABOUT AIDS ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE OF AIDS TRANSMISSION BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Reported mode of AIDS transmission								Number
	Sexual intercourse	Blood transfusion	Contaminated equipment	From mother to child	Use of utensils/ Clothes	By touching a sick person	Toilet usage	Other	
Age									
15 - 19	78.9	65.9	68.4	49.4	15.7	11.2	9.0	7.0	147
20 - 24	82.2	74.7	69.9	53.9	13.8	9.2	8.3	3.0	646
25 - 29	84.2	77.7	73.0	58.9	13.8	10.1	9.4	3.1	867
30 - 34	82.7	76.5	71.4	54.7	16.4	10.4	9.9	3.5	793
35 - 39	84.0	75.0	70.0	53.3	14.1	10.0	10.5	3.7	735
40 - 44	80.9	76.5	74.0	57.4	13.7	10.2	8.7	1.9	483
45 - 49	78.0	72.4	66.2	52.8	11.8	9.6	8.7	3.6	377
Residence									
Total Urban	86.2	76.8	72.7	57.5	12.3	8.8	8.3	1.8	1973
Major Urban	86.9	77.4	72.2	56.4	12.8	7.9	7.6	1.5	1042
Other Urban	85.4	76.2	73.2	58.7	11.7	9.8	9.1	2.2	931
Rural	78.7	74.1	69.4	53.0	16.1	11.1	10.4	4.7	2076
Province									
Punjab	85.9	84.6	82.1	64.8	20.3	14.7	14.3	2.6	2366
Sindh	66.9	48.4	40.6	29.3	5.0	2.7	1.7	3.0	883
NWFP	88.5	83.8	74.0	61.8	4.8	3.4	2.8	6.9	610
Balochistan	90.8	60.0	63.9	34.2	11.4	6.3	4.8	1.3	190
Education Levels									
None	73.9	66.9	61.3	44.6	14.7	11.0	9.9	4.3	1818
1 - 5	81.4	73.6	71.6	53.4	17.7	12.6	12.3	3.4	732
6 - 8	89.5	82.4	78.3	63.4	12.1	8.9	8.2	2.4	411
9 - 10	93.6	86.3	83.8	69.6	14.3	9.7	9.6	2.7	603
11 +	95.4	90.8	84.5	72.5	9.1	3.4	3.4	0.7	485
All	82.4	75.4	71.0	55.2	14.2	10.0	9.4	3.3	4049

Table 5.15 shows data about specific health problem related to different symptoms of RTIs/STDs. Most frequently cited symptoms are back pain (28 percent), followed by vaginal discharge (18 percent), hip pain (15 percent), lower abdominal pain (11 percent), smelling discharge (8 percent), coloured discharge (8 percent), burning micturation (7 percent), weight-loss (5 percent), repeated fever (4 percent) and skin rash (3 percent). The back-pain reported as the most common health problem, was highest among the residents of rural areas and NWFP.

It is encouraging to find that about 84 percent women had ever discussed her health problem with husbands (Table 5.16). Husbands attitude indicate that 64 percent husbands took women to the doctor, 22 percent asked women to see the doctor, while only10 percent husbands were indifferent (Table.5.16). The husbands of NWFP were the most considerate as 71 percent took their wives to a doctor. Comparatively, only 37 percent husbands in Balochistan took their wives to a doctor for a health problem. Moreover, 61 percent husbands in rural areas as against 73 percent in major urban areas took their wives to a doctor.

Table 5.15

PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN HAVING SPECIFIC WOMEN HEALTH PROBLEMS RELATED TO DIFFERENT SYMPTOMS OF RTIS/STDS BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Current health problems	Residence				Province				All
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
Any vaginal discharge	16.1	16.4	15.8	19.6	24.1	9.6	16.5	8.7	18.4
Coloured discharge	6.8	6.7	6.9	8.4	12.5	2.1	2.3	3.5	7.9
Smelling discharge	6.6	6.5	6.7	8.0	11.1	3.4	2.7	4.5	7.5
Back pain	20.9	16.4	25.7	31.6	28.4	19.7	39.9	35.2	28.1
Hip pain	9.4	5.9	13.1	17.3	15.8	9.7	21.0	10.9	14.7
Burning micturation	4.3	2.2	6.6	7.7	6.3	6.3	8.1	7.3	6.6
Repeated infection	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.9	1.3	1.3	1.3	7.7	1.6
Chronic cough	0.9	0.6	1.2	3.1	2.7	1.5	2.6	2.9	2.3
Repeated fever	2.1	1.2	3.0	5.0	3.5	3.8	5.1	8.7	4.0
Weight loss	3.1	2.5	3.6	5.7	3.7	4.1	8.5	10.5	4.8
Uretheral discharge	1.2	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.4	2.5	0.4
Lower abdominal pain	7.7	2.9	12.9	12.5	11.6	6.8	17.2	7.7	10.9
Skin rash	1.8	0.7	2.9	3.0	2.7	1.0	4.5	4.1	2.6
Frequent/Excessive urination	3.2	2.3	4.1	5.2	4.9	2.5	7.8	2.3	4.5

Table 5.16

PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN HAVING EVER DISCUSSED HER HEALTH PROBLEM WITH HUSBAND AND ATTITUDE OF HUSBAND, BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Province/Residence	Discussed problem with husband		Husbands attitude				Number
	Percentage	Number of women	Took to doctor	Asked women to see doctor	Indifferent	Would cure in due Course	
Residence							
Total Urban	90.5	2758	69.0	22.9	5.3	2.8	2497
Major Urban	89.3	1432	72.5	21.6	4.0	1.8	1280
Other Urban	91.8	1326	65.3	24.2	6.7	3.8	1217
Rural	80.2	5669	61.0	21.7	12.0	5.4	4547
Province							
Punjab	89.8	4552	60.7	26.9	8.5	3.9	4088
Sindh	84.5	2232	70.7	17.0	9.6	2.8	1887
NWFP	68.8	1219	71.0	9.3	11.4	8.2	839
Balochistan	54.4	423	36.9	25.7	23.8	13.6	230
All	**83.6**	**8427**	**63.8**	**22.1**	**9.6**	**4.4**	**7044**

FERTILITY

Estimation of recent fertility and its differentials is one of the prime objectives of this survey. Information on fertility helps to determine the impact of the use of family planning and other proximate determinants of fertility. The fertility estimates presented in this chapter are based on the births in the last three years to ever-married women of reproductive age who were interviewed in the survey. It may be mentioned that in this survey instead of recording the birth history of every child born alive, it was decided to record the history of last three births only. This was done to minimise the distortions in the fertility data. In a country like Pakistan where literacy rate especially among females is very low retrospective survey data particularly of children born long ago are affected by under-reporting of births (especially children who died in early infancy) and misreporting of date of births. In view of the fact that birth interval among Pakistani women is short, the births of last three babies are more likely a recent phenomenon for most women of reproductive age. Thus the fertility estimates based on the retrospective history of three children only will more likely present a picture without above stated distortions. The birth history of last three children born alive obtains information on the single, twin and multiple birth status, sex, date of birth and survival status of each child. Respondents were however, first asked to report the aggregate number of sons and daughters they had ever given birth to in their lifetime referred to as 'Children Ever Born'. To encourage complete reporting, women were asked separately the number of sons and daughters living with her, those living elsewhere and children who had died.

6.1 CHILDREN EVER BORN (CEB) AND SURVIVING

In the survey questionnaire, the total number of children ever born was ascertained by a sequence of questions designed to maximise recall. Since lifetime fertility reflects the accumulation of births over the past 30-35 years, it has limited direct relevance to the current situation. However, the data are important for understanding the family formation patterns of women who are still in the reproductive age span.

Tables 6.1 and 6.2 present the distribution of all women (married and single) and currently married women by the number of children ever born according to age. The tables also show the mean number of children ever born and mean number of living children according to age. Since virtually all births in Pakistan take place among married women, it is safe to assume that never-married women have no births.

Childbearing starts in the teenage years, but only a very small percentage of all women in the age group 15-19 (a little over four percent) have given birth. All women aged 15-49, on the average, have had 2.5 live births. The mean number of CEB steadily increases from 0.1 to 6.6 as age increases from 15-19 years to 45-49 years. The mean number of living children is 2.2. Seven percent of all ever-married women are childless. However, only 3 percent women in the age group 45-49 years remained childless. In other words, these women have almost completed their reproductive life span without any live birth.

Currently married women on average have 4.1 CEB. About 41 percent of married women in age group 15-19 years have children, three-fourths of the women have at least one child by age 24 years and 95 percent have children by age 34 years. The mean number of CEB to currently married women increases smoothly from 0.6 to 6.8 as age increases from 15-19 years to 45-49 years. The average number of CEB in age group 45-49 is 6.8, but there is a substantial proportion (20 percent) of these women who have 10 or more births.

Overall, about 24 percent of currently married women have one to two CEB and a similar proportion (25 percent) had three to four CEB while 40 percent women have more than four CEB. Clearly, the small family norm is still not established in Pakistan. The mean number of surviving children to currently married women is 3.6. The cumulative mean number of surviving children by the end of reproductive life comes to 5.8 as against 6.8 CEB. Overall, 13 percent currently married women are reported to be pregnant at the time of survey and the maximum number (24 percent) of pregnant women is found in the age group 20-24 years.

Table 6.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL WOMEN BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN (CEB) AND MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN AND LIVING, ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

Age group	Number of children ever born (CEB) to ever-married women														Number of women	Mean CEB	Mean living children	% Pregnant
	Never married	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	Not Interviewed	Total				
15-19	88.4	6.1	3.2	0.8	0.1	0.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.2	100.0	3719	0.06	0.06	2.55
20-24	54.5	10.4	12.2	10.2	5.0	2.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	--	--	--	4.6	100.0	3097	0.67	0.61	11.18
25-29	19.5	8.8	11.0	16.5	13.7	11.3	6.6	3.4	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	7.0	100.0	2389	2.19	1.96	14.86
30-34	6.0	4.9	5.5	9.1	14.5	15.9	12.5	11.5	6.7	4.2	1.6	1.4	6.4	100.0	1904	3.99	3.54	14.22
35-39	3.5	4.4	2.8	5.1	7.7	14.9	13.9	14.3	9.9	9.0	4.4	4.6	5.5	100.0	1726	5.10	4.52	7.97
40-44	2.5	4.1	3.1	3.9	5.4	11.0	10.0	13.1	12.5	9.1	6.2	11.2	6.8	100.0	1220	5.79	5.05	3.37
45-49	1.3	3.2	2.8	3.2	5.3	9.5	9.0	10.4	10.6	11.8	9.4	17.2	6.4	100.0	1013	6.55	5.60	1.73
All	**37.6**	**6.7**	**6.5**	**7.2**	**6.8**	**7.5**	**5.7**	**5.4**	**3.9**	**3.2**	**1.9**	**2.8**	**4.8**	**100.0**	**15067**	**2.50**	**2.20**	**8.31**

Table 6.2
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN (CEB) AND MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN AND LIVING BY AGE

Age group	Number of children ever born (CEB) to Currently Married Women												Number of women	Mean of CEB	Mean living children	% Pregnant
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	Total				
15-19	59.2	31.1	7.9	1.2	0.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	100.0	380	.55	.52	22.30
20-24	25.3	29.6	25.1	12.4	5.7	1.3	0.3	0.2	--	--	--	100.0	1248	1.50	1.36	23.76
25-29	11.4	15.0	22.5	18.7	15.6	9.0	4.7	1.7	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0	1718	2.76	2.47	17.48
30-34	5.3	6.0	10.0	16.7	18.4	14.4	13.1	7.8	4.8	1.8	1.6	100.0	1632	4.28	3.79	14.36
35-39	4.5	2.9	5.4	8.2	16.6	15.2	16.0	11.1	10.2	4.7	5.2	100.0	1512	5.33	4.73	8.03
40-44	4.0	2.7	3.9	6.9	12.2	11.2	14.1	14.1	10.4	7.1	13.1	100.0	1042	6.11	5.32	3.43
45-49	3.2	2.8	3.0	5.3	9.4	9.6	11.7	11.5	13.3	10.5	19.6	100.0	860	6.83	5.82	1.73
All	**11.4**	**11.2**	**12.4**	**11.9**	**13.1**	**9.9**	**9.4**	**6.9**	**5.6**	**3.2**	**4.9**	**100.0**	**8392**	**4.06**	**3.58**	**12.97**

Table 6.3 shows the differentials in mean number of CEB to all women by age according to province, residence and education. By province, there is hardly any differentials found in the mean number of CEB to all women aged 15-49. This is in spite of the fact that marked differentials in the proportion of pregnant women are evidenced among provinces. As expected, women in rural areas tend to have more children than in urban areas. Education beyond secondary level is strongly associated with lower CEB. For example, the mean number of CEB is only 1.0 for women having education above secondary level. As expected, average number of children ever born increases with the increase in the age of women.

Table 6.3
MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO ALL WOMEN, BY AGE AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Age							All	Number	% Pregnant
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49			
Province										
Punjab	0.05	0.63	2.13	3.87	5.00	5.56	6.28	2.41	8642	8.05
Sindh	0.07	0.65	2.15	4.00	5.16	6.22	7.22	2.58	3802	8.77
NWFP	0.80	0.85	2.53	4.16	5.16	5.80	6.37	2.63	1941	7.10
Balochistan	0.09	0.96	2.29	4.83	5.80	6.70	7.42	2.77	682	12.43
Residence										
Total urban	0.02	0.41	1.76	3.46	4.62	5.43	5.93	2.16	5514	4.84
Major urban	0.02	0.36	1.61	3.39	4.39	4.95	5.91	2.05	2863	4.07
Other urban	0.02	0.47	1.92	3.53	4.86	5.92	5.96	2.29	2651	5.69
Rural	0.09	0.83	2.44	4.27	5.37	6.03	6.91	2.69	9553	10.33
Education										
None	0.12	0.97	2.75	4.45	5.51	6.15	6.97	3.47	8264	10.45
Up to primary	0.05	0.74	1.84	3.61	4.56	5.40	5.43	1.83	2233	6.32
Middle	0.03	0.67	1.91	3.23	4.47	5.06	5.20	1.30	1293	5.68
Secondary	0.01	0.37	1.48	2.92	3.92	4.56	4.37	1.06	1821	6.26
Above secondary	0.01	0.13	0.93	2.24	3.01	3.25	4.73	0.91	1455	4.20
All	**0.06**	**0.67**	**2.19**	**3.99**	**5.10**	**5.79**	**6.55**	**2.50**	**15067**	**8.31**

Births have been inflated to adjust non-response

Table 6.4 shows the differentials in mean number of CEB to currently married women by age according to province, residence and education. The mean number of CEB to currently married women is highest in Sindh (4.1) followed by Punjab and Balochistan (4.06) and NWFP (4.0). Women in rural areas and women with no education tend to have more children than those in other categories. There is likelihood of considerable overlap in these groups, as it is the rural areas where attainment of education is the least among women in Pakistan.

Table 6.4
MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN BY AGE AND BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Age							All	Number	% Pregnant
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49			
Province										
Punjab	0.54	1.54	2.72	4.14	5.25	5.84	6.62	4.06	4535	12.82
Sindh	0.59	1.39	2.70	4.31	5.38	6.62	3.38	4.10	2221	13.69
NWFP	0.54	1.50	2.99	5.50	5.39	6.11	6.56	3.99	1215	10.66
Balochistan	0.45	1.60	2.77	4.88	5.84	6.85	7.60	4.06	421	17.38
Residence										
Total urban	0.46	1.35	2.41	3.75	4.77	5.71	6.32	3.91	2748	8.55
Major urban	0.50	1.33	2.26	3.63	4.44	5.30	5.91	3.72	1427	7.27
Other urban	0.43	1.37	2.57	3.89	5.13	6.12	6.88	4.11	1320	9.94
Rural	0.56	1.55	2.93	4.54	5.65	6.37	7.11	4.14	5545	15.12
Education										
None	0.58	1.62	3.10	4.69	5.67	6.48	7.22	4.55	5716	13.11
Up to primary	0.52	1.50	2.51	3.89	4.92	5.76	5.92	3.47	1065	11.41
Up to middle	0.53	1.46	2.48	3.54	4.50	5.35	5.52	3.04	488	13.14
Up to secondary	0.29	1.17	1.98	3.26	4.14	4.85	4.79	2.70	646	15.27
Above secondary	0.29	0.91	1.77	2.62	3.62	3.39	4.44	2.48	477	11.44
All	0.55	1.50	2.76	4.28	5.33	6.11	6.83	4.06	8392	12.97

6.2 TRENDS IN MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN AND MEAN NUMBER OF SURVIVING CHILDREN

Table 6.5 shows the trends since 1975 in the mean number of children ever born to all women. The mean number of CEB to all women has decreased from 4.3 in 1975 PFS to 2.5 in 2003 SWRHFPS. This downward trend could be the result of combined effect of rising age at marriage and rising trend in contraceptive prevalence rate. Since 1975, the mean number of CEB has declined in each age group. The mean number of CEB at national level is 2.5 in 2003 SWRHFPS, which is slightly less than 2000-01 PRHFPS.

Table 6.5
TRENDS IN MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN
EVER BORN TO ALL WOMEN BY AGE

Age	PFS 1975	PDHS 1990-91	PFFPS 1996-97	PRHFPS 2000-01	SWRHFPS 2003
15-19	0.23	0.16	0.11	.10	.06
20-24	1.48	0.95	1.02	.88	.67
25-29	3.09	2.61	2.75	2.41	2.19
30-34	4.80	4.29	4.62	4.29	3.99
35-39	5.88	5.49	5.60	5.33	5.10
40-44	6.88	6.26	6.46	6.40	5.79
45-49	6.83	6.42	7.18	6.74	6.55
All Ages	**4.3**	**3.0**	**2.79**	**2.57**	**2.50**

Note: Data from PCPS 1984-85 and PCPS 1994-95 are not included as comparable figures are not available.

Table 6.6 shows trends in the mean number of children ever born to currently married women as reported by various surveys over past 28 years. An over the time trend indicates that overall there is a modest decline of mean number of CEB from 4.3 in 1975 PFS to 4.1 in 2003 SWRHFPS. By age groups, the decline since 1975 is consistent and quite marked in almost every age group. Such a trend is a clear indication of declining fertility in Pakistan.

Table 6.6
TRENDS IN MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO CURRENTLY
MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-49, BY AGE, 1975-2003

Age	PFS 1975	PCPS 1984-85	PDHS 1990-91	PFFPS 1996-97	PRHFPS 2000-01	SWRHFPS 2003
15-19	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.64	.55
20-24	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.73	1.50
25-29	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.2	2.98	2.76
30-34	5.2	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.59	4.28
35-39	6.4	6.1	5.7	5.9	5.58	5.33
40-44	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.7	6.66	6.11
45-49	7.4	7.5	6.6	7.5	7.15	6.83
All	**4.3**	**4.3**	**4.1**	**4.2**	**4.14**	**4.06**

Table 6.7 shows trends in the mean number of surviving children among currently married women. Overall there has been an upward trend in surviving children among currently married women since 1975 PFS. The average number of surviving children is 3.6 in the 2003 SWRHFPS compared with 3.2 in 1975 PFS.

The upward trend reflects improvements in child survival because of the improvements in the associated socio-economic indicators that affect the child survival.

Table 6.7
TRENDS IN MEAN NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN TO CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-49, BY AGE, 1975-2003

Age	PFS 1975	PCPS 1984-85	PDHS 1990-91	PFFPS 1996-97	PRHFPS 2000-01	SWRHFPS 2003
15-19	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.64	.55
20-24	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.73	1.50
25-29	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.2	2.98	2.76
30-34	5.2	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.59	4.28
35-39	6.4	6.1	5.7	5.9	5.58	5.33
40-44	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.7	6.66	6.11
45-49	7.4	7.5	6.6	7.5	7.15	6.83
All	**4.3**	**4.3**	**4.1**	**4.2**	**4.14**	**4.06**

6.3 FERTILITY LEVELS

Measures of current fertility include the age-specific fertility rates and the total fertility rate. The total fertility rate (TFR) is a useful measure for examining the overall level of fertility. It represents the number of children a woman would have by the end of her childbearing years if she were to pass through those years bearing children at currently observed rates. It is calculated by summing the age-specific fertility rates. The general fertility rate (GFR) represents the annual number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49.

Table 6.8
AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES BY PROVINCE FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD PRECEDING THE SURVEY

Age	Province				All
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	
15-19	46.90	75.92	57.19	86.83	59.77
20-24	181.70	192.09	200.68	213.51	190.29
25-29	233.53	228.38	212.36	264.18	232.89
30-34	183.72	194.79	193.49	238.38	194.25
35-39	106.41	118.15	113.78	165.72	117.09
40-44	36.23	80.27	51.32	107.52	56.34
45-49	22.98	60.40	33.45	36.80	33.36
TFR 15-49 (per woman)	**4.06**	**4.75**	**4.31**	**5.56**	**4.42**
TFR 15-44 (per woman)	**3.96**	**4.53**	**4.23**	**5.49**	**4.27**

Table 6.9
AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATES, TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, GENERAL FERTILITY RATES AND CRUDE BIRTH RATES FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD PRECEDING THE SURVEY, BY RESIDENCE

Age	Residence		All
	Urban	Rural	
15-19	53.26	82.90	59.77
20-24	186.92	203.84	190.29
25-29	197.79	252.22	232.89
30-34	180.23	227.59	194.25
35-39	105.98	158.22	117.09
40-44	47.80	102.65	56.34
45-49	31.15	35.14	33.36
TFR 15-49	**3.26**	**4.85**	**4.42**
TFR 15-44	**3.20**	**3.68**	**4.27**

Tables 6.8 and 6.9 show the estimation of age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) and total fertility rates of Pakistan by province and by residence. The three-year period is chosen for calculation of these rates to reduce non sampling errors and to minimise the problem of displacement of births.

The total fertility rate at national level has been estimated as 4.4 for women 15-49 years of age and 4.3 for women 15-44 years of age. Fertility peaks at age group 25-29 (233 births per 1,000 women). Across provinces (Figure 6.1), TFR for women aged 15-49 is lowest for Punjab (4.1) followed in ascending order by NWFP (4.3), Sindh (4.8) and Balochistan (5.6). As expected, TFR is lower in urban areas (3.3) and higher in rural areas (4.9). In other words, there is a gap of 1.6 children in the fertility of urban and rural women (Figure 6.2).

Figure 6.1
Total Fertility Rate by Province

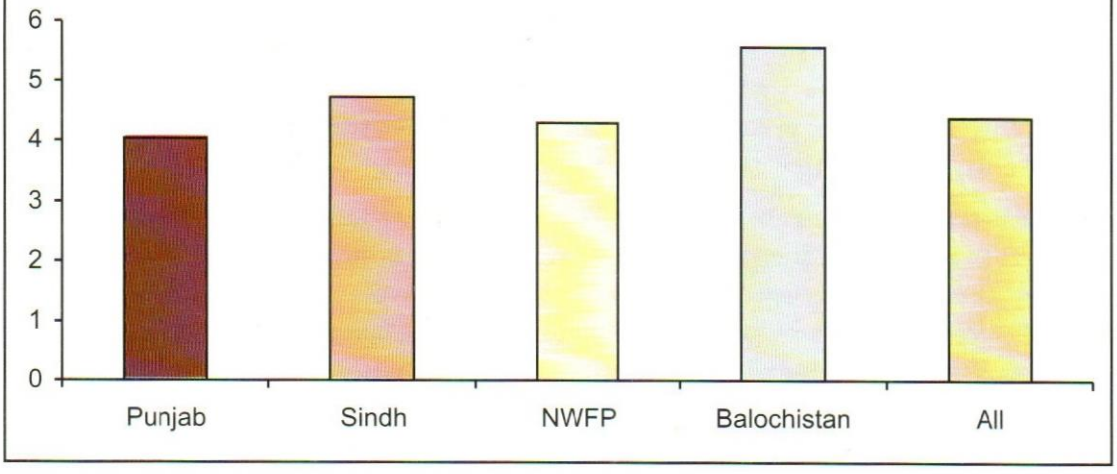


Figure 6.2
Total Fertility Rate by Residence

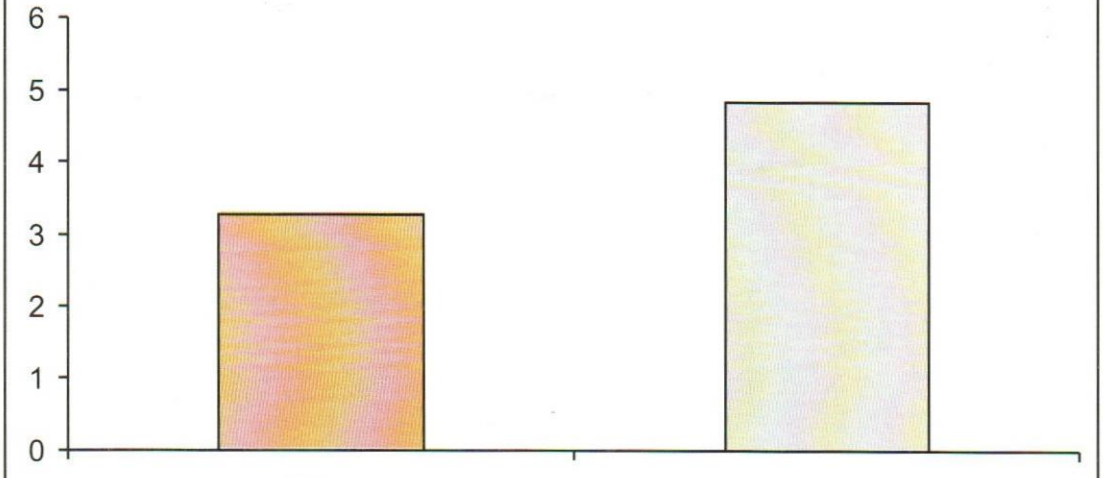


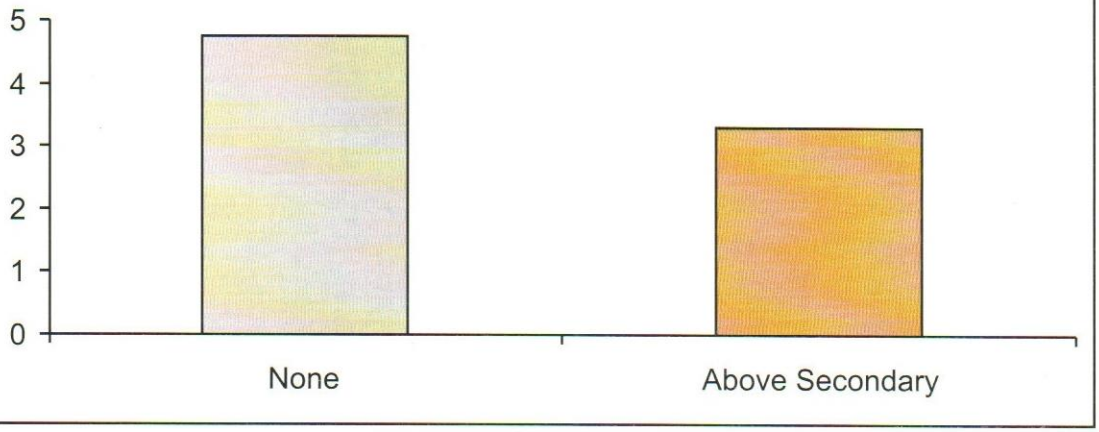
Table 6.10 shows a comparison of TFR with the mean number of children ever born to women aged 40-49 by province, residence and education. The mean number of CEB to women aged 40-49 reflects the fertility performance of older women who are approaching the end of childbearing years and thus represents completed fertility. Comparison of completed fertility with current fertility represented here by TFRs provides the summary indication of fertility change over the past 30 years. Thus for the country as a whole, the completed fertility of 6.3 births compared to the TFR of 4.4 births suggests that fertility may have declined by about 2 births, or 30 percent. Declines are registered for all provinces and residential strata, but it is clear that fertility has fallen more in Sindh followed by Punjab then NWFP and least in Balochistan, and more in rural than in urban areas. In Pakistan where a majority of population lives in rural areas, such a pattern is a welcoming sign.

Table 6.10 also presents findings by education. There are large fertility differentials by education. For example, women with no education have a TFR of 4.8, which is much higher than the women having middle or secondary or above education (3.3). Interestingly, the minimum differentials between completed fertility and current fertility also exist for women who have attained above secondary level education. Figure 6.3 shows that as expected women with tertiary education have experienced relatively low levels of childbearing than those with no education. In fact this trend is clearly evident for a long time in Pakistan, implying the importance of imparting education to women particularly up to above secondary level.

Table 6.10
TOTAL FERTILITY RATE FOR THE THREE YEARS PRECEDING THE SURVEY, AND THE MEAN NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN TO WOMEN 40-49, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Total fertility rate	Mean number of children ever born to women aged 40-49
Province		
Punjab	4.06	6.04
Sindh	4.75	6.86
NWFP	4.31	6.19
Balochistan	5.56	7.09
Residence		
Urban	3.26	5.84
Rural	4.85	7.57
Education		
None	4.76	6.66
Up to primary	3.91	5.72
Middle	3.33	5.37
Secondary	3.28	4.71
Secondary+	3.31	3.78
All	**4.42**	**6.30**

Figure 6.3
Total Fertility Rate by Education



6.4 TRENDS IN AGE-SPECIFIC AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES DERIVED FROM SUCCESSIVE SURVEYS

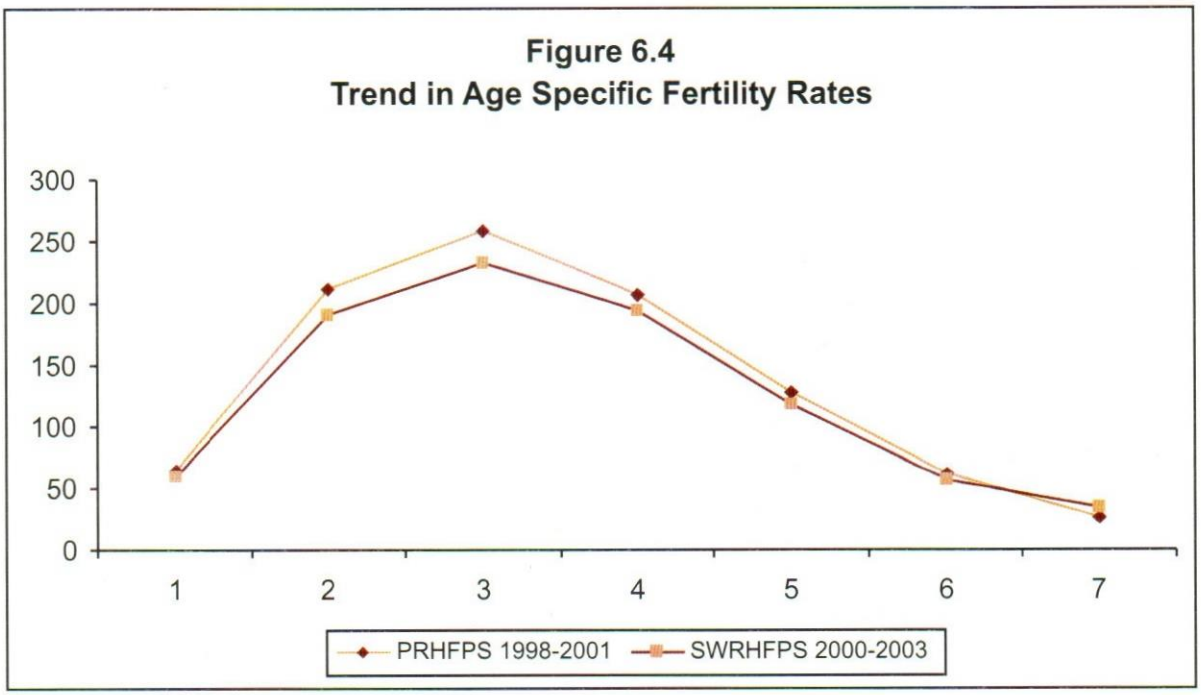
All previous fertility surveys using a birth history have shown a similar pattern of shifting of births. They all give the impression of a rapid fertility decline immediately prior to the survey which requires careful interpretation of estimates. The true rate of decline is therefore likely to be much smoother than suggested by a superficial examination of the trends in any one survey. The trend can be best observed looking across surveys, concentrating on results obtained for comparable periods.

Table 6.11 shows the trends in age-specific and total fertility rates derived from fertility surveys conducted over the past 30 years. The rates for each age group and the total fertility rates follow the same pattern between the successive surveys, with a common indication of somewhat steady decline in fertility. Overall, there is a consistent downward trend in TFR from 6.27 during 1970-75 (PFS) to 4.42 during 2001-2003 (SWRHFPS). The series suggests that from PFS in 1975 to 2003 SWRHFPS survey, the TFR has fallen by about 2 children, equivalent to about 30 percent. During the period between the last two surveys, the TFR has fallen by 7 percent (Figure 6.4). Overall, it seems safe to conclude that a steady decline in fertility in Pakistan is continuing.

Table 6.11
TRENDS IN AGE-SPECIFIC AND TOTAL FERTILITY RATES

Age	PFS 1970-75	PCPS 1984	PDHS 1986-91	PCPS 1994	PFFPS 1992-96	PRHFPS 1998-2001	SWRHFPS 2000-03
15-19	104	64	84	44	83	65	59.77
20-24	266	223	230	227	249	211	190.29
25-29	314	263	268	307	278	258	232.89
30-34	264	234	229	243	215	206	194.25
35-39	204	209	147	179	148	128	117.09
40-44	93	127	73	92	75	61	56.34
45-49	8	71	40	36	24	26	33.36
TFR	**6.27**	**5.95**	**5.4**	**5.64**	**5.36**	**4.77**	**4.42**

Figure 6.4
Trend in Age Specific Fertility Rates



6.5 TOTAL MARITAL FERTILITY

Table 6.12 presents a comparison of total marital fertility rates with total fertility rates by province, residence and education of the women. The total marital fertility rates represent the sum of age-specific fertility rates for currently married women only, and is interpreted as the total number of births that a woman would have if she was continuously married between ages 15 and 49 and experienced recent-period rates of marital fertility. Because many women now postpone marriage, these total

marital rates are considerably higher when compared to TFRs. In other words, the difference between the two demonstrates the importance of age at marriage in restraining fertility.

As expected, Balochistan has the highest total marital fertility rate (7.76) followed by Sindh (6.81), Punjab (6.41) and NWFP (6.08). This pattern is not strictly followed in the estimates of TFRs (Figure 6.5). However, a similar pattern is observed between TFR and MTFR by urban-rural and educational levels of women (Figure 6.6). Urban married couples have at least one child fewer than rural ones. Educated women have also lower fertility compared with those who have no education. For example, the total marital fertility rate for women having no education is 6.89 compared with 5.59 for women who have education above secondary.

Table 6.12
TOTAL MARITAL FERTILITY RATES FOR 2001-2003 AND COMPARISON WITH TOTAL FERTILITY RATES, BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Total fertility rate 2001-2003	Total marital fertility rate 2001-2003 *
Province		
Punjab	4.06	6.41
Sindh	4.75	6.81
NWFP	4.31	6.08
Balochistan	5.56	7.76
Residence		
Urban	3.26	5.73
Rural	4.85	6.81
Education		
None	4.76	6.89
Up to primary	3.91	6.50
Middle	3.33	6.35
Secondary	3.28	6.24
Above secondary	3.31	5.59
All	**4.42**	**6.65**

* Based on exposure within marriage to women married continuously

Figure 6.5
Total fertility rate and Marital total fertility rate by province

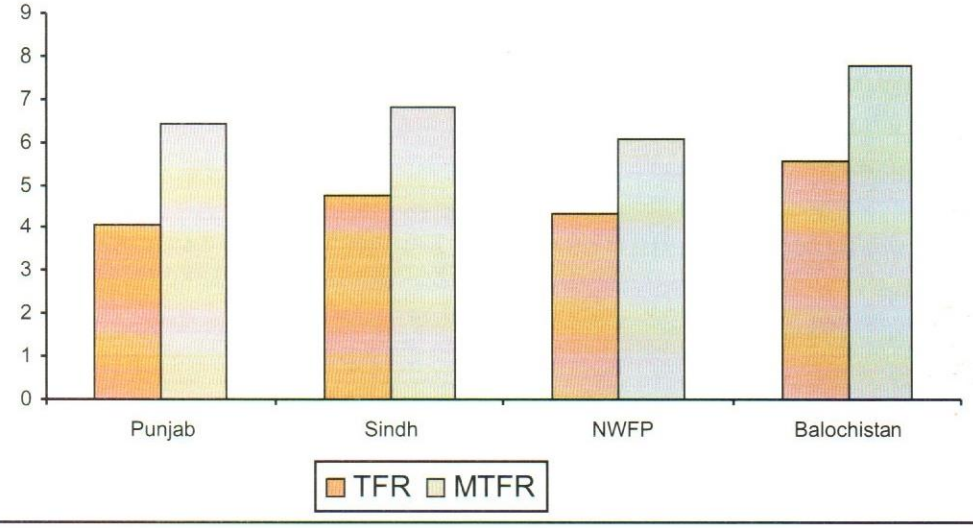
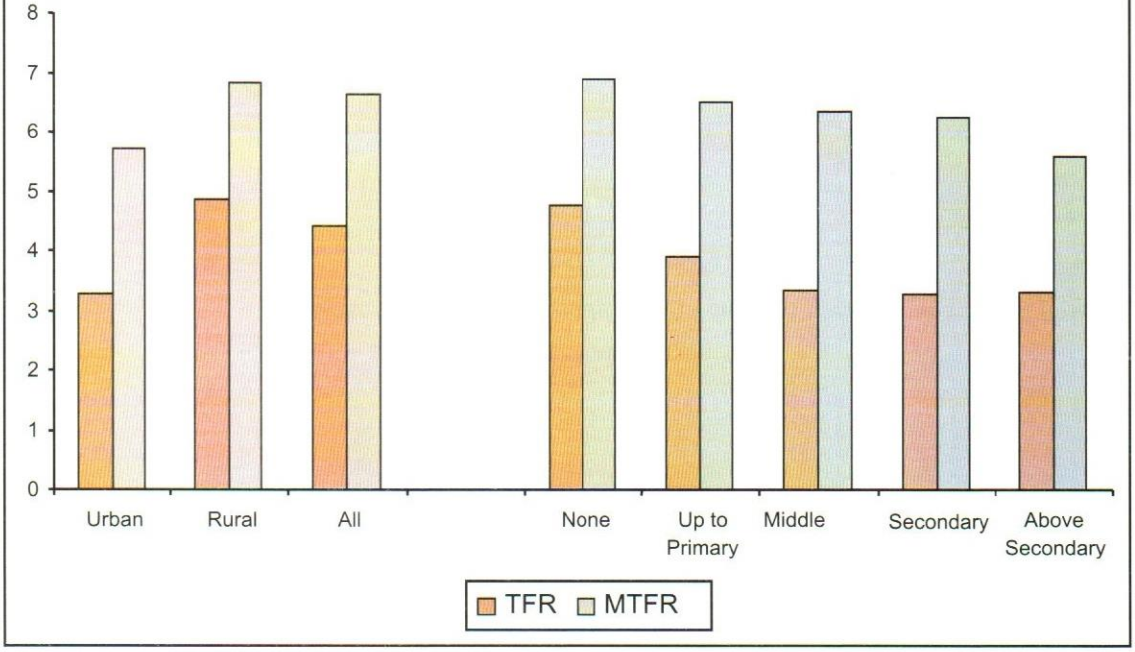


Figure 6.6
Total and Marital Total Fertility Rate by Residence and Education



6.6 FERTILITY PLANNING (WANTED, UNPLANNED AND UNWANTED FERTILITY)

Women were asked; "At the time you became pregnant with (Name of child), did you want to become pregnant then, did you want to wait until later, or did you want no (more) children at all?" Women were asked to classify in this manner all births in the last three years. Such questions introduce problems of recall, and it is also likely that women rationalise mistimed or unwanted conceptions and declare them as wanted once children are born. Results are therefore likely to underestimate unwanted or unplanned fertility. Nevertheless, some unwanted pregnancies are reported. Table 6.13 shows the percent distribution of births including current pregnancy during the three years prior to the survey by fertility planning status, according to birth order and mother's age at birth.

Table 6.13
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS (INCLUDING CURRENT PREGNANCY) IN THE THREE YEARS PRECEDING THE SURVEY ACCORDING TO PLANNING STATUS BY BIRTH ORDER AND MOTHER'S AGE AT THE TIME OF BIRTH

Birth order and mother's age	Planning status of birth			Total	Number of births
	Wanted then	Wanted later	Not wanted		
Birth order					
1	97.4	2.6	-	100.0	950
2	87.0	11.5	1.5	100.0	1042
3	81.3	14.8	3.9	100.0	995
4	72.6	15.9	11.5	100.0	1100
5	68.8	15.2	16.0	100.0	835
6	64.5	13.3	22.2	100.0	788
7+	51.8	16.5	31.7	100.0	1733
Mother's age					
< 20	88.8	11.2	-	100.0	157
20-24	85.6	13.1	1.4	100.0	935
25-29	81.1	13.5	5.5	100.0	1525
30-34	72.2	14.4	13.1	100.0	1546
35-39	67.4	12.9	19.7	100.0	1444
40-44	61.2	13.4	25.4	100.0	1003
45-49	64.8	10.9	24.2	100.0	832
All	**72.8**	**13.2**	**14.0**	**100.0**	**7443**

Overall, 73 percent of pregnancies were wanted at the time of conception, more than 13 percent were regarded as mistimed, and another 14 percent were unwanted. These data show a positive relationship between birth order and 'not wanted' pregnancies and inverse relationship between birth order and

'wanted then' pregnancies. Among first births for example, only 3 percent are considered mistimed and none are unwanted, but among seven or higher children almost half of pregnancies are considered mistimed or unwanted. A curvilinear relationship is observed between mistimed or unwanted child births and age of mothers and inverse relationship between wanted births and mother's age, up to 40-44 age groups.

6.7 TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND MOTHERHOOD

The issue of teenage fertility is important because teenage mothers and their children are at increased risk of social and health problems. Births to teenage mothers usually follow an early marriage. As women who marry at an early age often come from poor families with limited education and weak health, their children are more exposed to illness and to higher mortality during childhood than children of mothers who marry beyond teen age. Table 6.14 presents information on fertility among women age 15-19 by background characteristics.

It is assumed that teenagers who have never married have had no pregnancies and no births. Overall, four percent of women aged 15-19 years have become mothers, and two percent are currently pregnant with their first child. Thus six percent of teenagers have begun childbearing.

There are large differentials between subgroups of women. There is a positive relationship between age and fertility. At age 15 nearly one percent women have commenced childbearing. This figure increases to 2.9 percent at age 16 years and further increases four times at age 19 years (12 percent). Teenage fertility is highest in NWFP (8.5 percent), followed by Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab. Teenage motherhood is more common in rural areas: 8 percent compared with 2 percent in urban areas. As expected, mother's education shows inverse relationship with teenage fertility.

Table 6.14
PERCENTAGE OF TEENAGERS AGED 15-19 WHO ARE MOTHERS OR PREGNANT WITH THEIR FIRST CHILD, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Teenagers who are		Mothers and/ or pregnant	Number
	Mothers	Pregnant with First child		
Age				
15	0.6	0.3	0.9	851
16	1.7	1.2	2.9	803
17	2.5	1.3	3.8	578
18	8.0	2.7	10.7	1002
19	8.7	2.7	12.4	484
Province				
Punjab	3.3	1.5	4.8	2157
Sindh	5.1	1.7	6.8	909
NWFP	5.7	2.8	8.5	486
Balochistan	6.4	1.5	8.0	167
Residence				
Total urban	1.4	0.7	2.1	1374
Major urban	1.2	0.7	1.9	693
Other urban	1.6	0.6	2.2	681
Rural	5.8	2.4	8.2	2345
Education				
None	8.0	3.5	11.5	1390
Up to primary	3.2	0.8	4.0	743
Up to middle	2.7	0.9	3.6	577
Up to secondary	0.6	0.5	1.1	695
Above secondary	0.6	0.3	0.9	314
All	**4.2**	**1.7**	**5.9**	**3719**

CHAPTER 7

KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF FAMILY PLANNING

The Population Welfare Programme in Pakistan aims to promote voluntary and free choice of family planning methods best suited to individual couples. The programme aims to enhance contraceptive use by increasing awareness of family planning and motivating couples to adopt a method. Information about knowledge and use of family planning methods described in this chapter is designed to be of practical relevance to programme administrators and policymakers responsible for monitoring existing programmes and formulating new strategies to enhance contraceptive use. This chapter describes women's knowledge of contraceptive methods, the sources of methods, contraceptive prevalence, along with ever-use and never-use status, and the future contraceptive use intentions of women. Furthermore, data on the level of communication about family planning between respondents and their husbands, friends and relatives are explored. Comparisons have also been made with previous such surveys conducted in Pakistan.

7.1 KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILY PLANNING METHODS

Knowledge of contraceptive methods is a prerequisite for its use. In this survey, information on knowledge and ever use of contraceptive methods was obtained by asking each respondent the following question: 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 each method not mentioned spontaneously, a description of the method was provided by the interviewer and the respondent was asked whether she was aware of that method. Knowledge of a family planning method therefore, refers simply having heard of a method. Women were not asked to elaborate on what they knew about each method.

Table 7.1 presents the level of spontaneous, prompted and overall level of knowledge among ever-married and currently married women.

Table 7.1
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED AND CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO KNOW SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

Contraceptive method	Contraceptive Knowledge		
	Unprompted	Prompted	Overall
Ever-married			
Any method	87.1	8.2	95.4
Any modern method	86.2	8.7	94.9
Pill	76.4	14.2	90.6
IUD	58.5	23.6	82.1
Injectables	69.5	18.6	88.1
Implant	16.4	10.3	26.7
Condom	41.6	23.2	64.9
Female sterilisation	61.2	24.4	85.6
Male sterilisation	25.1	16.3	41.4
Any traditional method	27.8	17.3	45.1
Rhythm	17.0	8.1	25.1
Withdrawal	18.7	16.8	35.5
Other	1.5	0.1	1.7
Number of women	8718	8718	8718
Currently married			
Any method	87.4	8.1	95.5
Any modern method	86.5	8.6	95.0
Pill	76.6	14.1	90.7
IUD	58.6	23.5	82.1
Injectables	69.8	18.5	88.2
Implant	16.5	10.4	26.9
Male sterilisation	25.2	16.4	41.5
Condom	42.0	23.1	65.2
Female sterilisation	61.4	24.4	85.9
Any traditional method	28.1	17.3	45.4
Rhythm	17.2	8.2	25.4
Withdrawal	18.9	16.9	35.7
Other	1.6	0.1	1.7
Number of women	8427	8427	8427

At the national level, knowledge of at least one contraceptive method is nearly universal. Ninety-five percent of ever-married and currently married women know of at least one contraceptive method. Nevertheless, knowledge of specific methods varies considerably. The most widely known method is Pill (91 percent) followed by Injectables (88 percent), female sterilisation (86 percent), IUD (82 percent). Implant is a recently introduced method and, at present, only a little over a quarter of currently married women are aware of it. In general, awareness about female methods is high. Knowledge about male

methods is lower. About 65 percent of women have heard of the condom and four-tenths are aware of vasectomy. Regarding traditional methods, 36 percent have heard of withdrawal, and just one-fourth are familiar with the rhythm method.

Table 7.2 presents trends in contraceptive knowledge over the last two decades. Overall awareness of methods has increased from 62 percent in 1984-85 to 96 percent in 2003. Knowledge of all methods has increased substantially over this period. The largest increase in awareness (41 percent) has occurred for Injectable method followed by IUD (39 percent). However, awareness of the condom has more than doubled since 1984-85 from 29 percent to 65 percent in 2003.

Table 7.2
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO KNOW SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS, SWRHFPS 2003, PRHFPS 2000-01, PFFPS 1996-97, PCPS 1994-95 PDHS 1990-91 AND PCPS 1984-85

Contraceptive method	PCPS 1984-85	PDHS 1990-91	PCPS 1994-95	PFFPS 1996-97	PRHFPS 2000-01	SWRHFPS 2003
Any Method	61.5	77.9	90.7	94.3	95.7	95.4
Any Modern method	U	77.2	90.5	93.4	95.0	95.0
Pill	54.1	62.2	72.6	86.6	91.1	90.7
IUD	43.4	51.5	73.4	82.4	84.4	82.1
Injectable	46.7	62.2	79.4	86.0	90.2	88.2
Implant	--	--	--	14.9	19.9	26.9
Vaginal methods	16.2	12.7	9.0	--	--	--
Condom	28.9	35.3	46.0	61.2	69.9	65.2
Female sterilisation	50.6	69.7	86.2	88.5	88.8	85.9
Male sterilisation	18.8	20.2	15.4	31.0	31.6	41.5
Any traditional method	U	25.7	38.2	54.3	50.3	45.4
Rhythm	5.8	17.8	22.4	33.7	23.8	25.4
Withdrawal	9.0	14.3	28.4	40.7	42.4	35.7
Other	1.5	3.5	4.3	3.7	1.9	1.7

7.2 DIFFERENTIALS IN KNOWLEDGE

Table 7.3 shows data on knowledge among currently married women by selected background characteristics of age, province, urban-rural residence and schooling. Predictably, awareness tends to increase with age, although it falls slightly among women in the two highest age groups. The lowest knowledge group is 15-19-year-olds, 88 percent of whom know at least one method, while women aged 30-44 years are the most knowledgeable of at least one method. The same age group women are also the most likely to know a modern method.

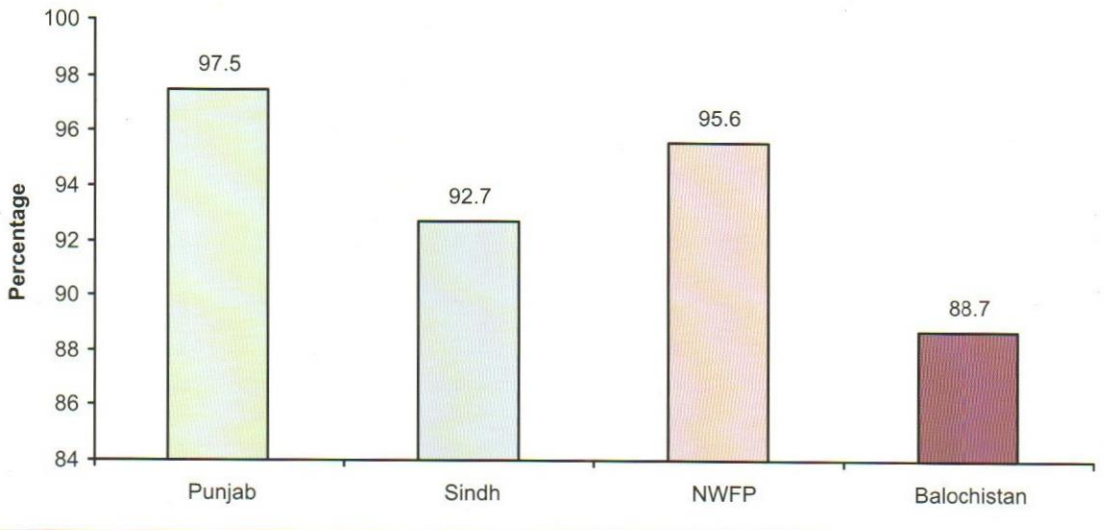
Table 7.3
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO KNOW AT LEAST ONE CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Know any method	Know a modern method	Number of women
Age			
15-19	88.2	87.4	381
20-24	93.5	93.1	1253
25-29	95.3	95.0	1728
30-34	96.0	95.5	1638
35-39	97.3	97.2	1519
40-44	97.0	96.3	1045
45-49	96.2	94.8	863
Province			
Punjab	97.5	97.3	4552
Sindh	92.7	91.6	2232
NWFP	95.6	94.9	1219
Balochistan	88.7	88.1	423
Residence			
Total urban	97.0	96.4	2758
Major urban	96.1	95.2	1432
Other urban	97.9	97.7	1326
Rural	94.8	94.3	5669
Education			
None	94.0	93.4	5739
Up to primary	98.3	98.1	1069
Middle	98.3	97.9	490
Secondary	99.0	98.8	649
Above secondary	99.8	99.2	480
All	**95.5**	**95.0**	**8427**

Knowledge of contraceptive methods by region is also presented in Figure 7.1. Knowledge of at least one method is highest in Punjab (98 percent), followed by NWFP (96 percent), Sindh (92 percent) and Balochistan (89 percent).

Variation in knowledge by urban-rural residence and education is not large. In urban areas 97 percent of currently married women know of at least one method, as compared to 95 percent in rural areas. Knowledge of at least one method is higher by six percentage points among women with above secondary education as compared to uneducated women.

Figure 7.1
Knowledge of any method of family planning by province



7.3 KNOWLEDGE OF THE FERTILE PERIOD

Basic knowledge of reproductive physiology, including knowledge of when the fertile period occurs is useful information for an individual to understand reproductive health and practice family planning. It is of particular importance among couples reliant on coital-dependent methods, and more specifically among couples who practise the rhythm method. The successful use of rhythm depends on a couple's understanding of the monthly cycle and knowledge of the days when a woman is most likely to conceive.

Overall, only seven percent of the ever married could identify the timings of the fertile period correctly. Those who reported to have ever used rhythm method only 29 percent were aware of the correct timings of the fertile period. Though about a quarter of the women (24 percent) with above secondary education were aware of the correct timings of the fertile period the rest had either no knowledge at all or were placing it wrongly. Urban-rural differentials are also minimal as only eight percent urban and six percent rural women were aware of the correct timings of the fertile period. However, such low levels of knowledge are not surprising because formal information on reproductive physiology is not offered in Pakistan. Anecdotal evidence shows that friends and informal networks are the main sources of information on sex and reproduction, and much of the information is factually incorrect. Culturally appropriate mechanisms through which information on reproductive physiology can be given to couples and individuals are essentially needed. Provision of such information through interpersonal communication efforts should be incorporated into the family planning programme, so that rhythm-users can use the method successfully.

Table 7.4
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE OF FERTILE PERIOD DURING MENSTRUAL CYCLE, BY BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	During Menstrual Period	Right After Period Ends	In the Middle of the Cycle	Just Before Period Begins	At Any Time	Other	Dont Know	No Specific Period of higher Fertility	Total Number of Women
Residence									
Total urban	0.9	16.5	8.0	1.2	1.3	0.2	50.7	21.3	2861
Major urban	1.3	14.4	8.4	1.3	0.5	0.2	46.3	27.5	1479
Other urban	0.3	18.7	7.5	1.2	2.2	0.2	55.4	14.6	1382
Rural	0.2	10.9	6.1	1.4	0.4	0.0	52.1	28.8	5857
Education									
None	0.4	9.6	5.2	1.1	0.5	0.1	56.0	27.2	5953
Up to primary	0.5	16.5	5.5	1.7	1.3	--	52.3	22.3	1102
Up to middle	0.2	16.6	8.1	2.6	0.7	0.1	44.1	27.5	504
Up to secondary	0.2	22.5	9.0	1.2	0.8	0.3	39.0	27.0	665
Above secondary	0.8	25.2	23.6	3.1	2.1	0.5	22.2	22.6	494
Ever used Rhythm	0.6	39.9	28.9	4.0	3.7	0.5	9.5	12.9	471
All	**0.4**	**12.7**	**6.7**	**1.4**	**0.7**	**0.1**	**51.7**	**26.3**	**8718**

7.4 KNOWLEDGE OF SOURCE OF SUPPLY AND ADVICE

Knowledge of where to obtain family planning methods and advice is crucial for adoption of family planning. For each method, women were asked whether they knew where to obtain it. Women who knew about rhythm or withdrawal were asked if they knew a source of advice on the method. Table 7.5 shows the percent of currently married women who know the source of methods or where to obtain advice on traditional methods. Overall, 86 percent of currently married women know where to go for family planning methods. Knowledge of source varies by method in the same way that awareness of specific methods varies. Over 70 percent women know where to go for pill, IUD and female sterilization. The source of implant is not much known (22 percent) while over one-half women know where to obtain condom-a male method. The source to get male sterilization done was known to one-third of women.

In urban areas, 90 percent of currently married women know where to obtain a method as compared to 84 percent in rural areas. Women in small towns are comparatively more knowledgeable about the source of methods compared to their counterparts in big cities. In rural areas, knowledge is lower, perhaps because most of the villages are without any family planning centre or drug store.

Surprisingly, in Balochistan women are reported to have better knowledge of a source of a method compared to women in the Sindh province. This is contrary to findings in early surveys and needs further investigation.

Table 7.5
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO KNOW A SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR SPECIFIC METHODS, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Contraceptive method	Residence				Province				All
	Total Urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Baloch-istan	
Any Method									
Any Modern Method	89.7	85.7	94.0	84.2	89.5	78.1	89.9	79.2	86.0
Pill	84.1	79.2	89.4	74.2	82.8	63.4	84.1	74.7	77.5
IUD	79.3	74.9	84.1	65.1	79.3	54.9	65.6	57.2	69.7
Injectable	82.2	77.3	87.4	71.9	81.3	60.6	81.8	68.7	75.2
Implant	31.2	40.4	21.3	17.2	24.9	24.2	10.7	7.1	21.8
Condom	70.3	72.5	67.9	47.3	62.1	43.9	49.4	50.0	54.8
Female sterilisation	79.3	72.4	86.8	70.1	81.2	61.1	72.6	51.5	73.2
Male sterilisation	46.6	48.8	44.1	27.1	49.4	14.2	15.4	16.4	33.5
Number of Women	2758	1432	1326	5669	4552	2232	1219	423	8427

Note: Women who do not know a method are included among those who do not know the source.

7.5 REASONS FOR ADOPTING FAMILY PLANNING

The majority of ever users report that they first started using family planning for birth spacing purposes (Table 7.6). Initial reasons for use vary by the number of living children a woman has. As the number of living children increases, the percent of women who adopt family planning for spacing decreases while that for limiting family size increases. The majority of women with three or fewer living children adopt family planning for spacing purposes. The trend reverses for women with parity four or more.

Table 7.6
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO EVER USED CONTRACEPTION ACCORDING TO REASON FOR ADOPTING FAMILY PLANNING METHOD, BY THE NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN AT FIRST USE

Reason for adopting Contraception	Number of living children at the time of first use								All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
Spacing	98.2	94.4	88.4	65.5	36.4	21.7	14.0	8.5	58.3
Limiting	--	5.5	11.4	33.7	63.2	76.3	85.7	90.8	41.2
Other	1.8	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.4	2.0	0.3	0.7	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	60	756	708	606	507	344	262	405	3647

7.6 INITIATING THE IDEA OF AND DECISION-MAKING ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING

Insight into who initiates the idea of family planning and the decision-making process leading to the adoption of family planning is important in order to better understand what influences women to regulate their fertility. Table 7.7 presents these data for currently married ever user respondents. At

the time of first use of contraception, a quarter of currently married women used contraception on their own initiative, one-fifth used contraception on the suggestion of their husbands, 4 percent initiated use of contraception by a joint consensus between husband and wife and 48 percent used contraception because of the influence of other persons. "Other persons" include mainly medical and paramedical persons. Rural women appear to be ahead of their counterparts in urban areas in terms of initiating the idea of use of family planning methods. However, more urban women are influenced by other persons that include medics and paramedics.

Table 7.7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED EVER-USERS ACCORDING TO PERSON WHO INITIATED THE IDEA TO USE FAMILY PLANNING, BY RESIDENCE

Initiator of family planning use	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Respondent	21.0	21.3	20.6	28.3	25.2
Husband	17.3	17.7	16.7	24.2	21.3
Other person	55.9	57.0	54.4	42.1	47.9
Both	4.3	3.0	5.9	4.3	4.3
Other	1.6	0.9	2.3	1.1	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1529	853	676	2118	3647

Table 7.8 presents data on who took the decision to choose a particular method as the first method for use. It shows that the involvement of husbands is almost equal to wives in decisions about a particular method to use. Given the fact that among couples, more women than husbands initiated the idea of family planning, it is encouraging to note that, in taking the decision for a particular contraceptive method to use, husbands play equally active roles as wives, and that is more so in major urban and rural areas. The influence of 'others person' is quite prominent (47 percent).

Table 7.8
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED EVER USERS BY PERSON WHO DECIDED ON THE FIRST METHOD OF USE

Person taking the decision	Residence				All
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	
Respondent	20.8	20.3	21.3	25.7	23.6
Husband	20.3	21.0	19.4	24.8	22.9
Other person	51.2	50.2	52.4	43.5	46.7
Both	6.3	7.1	5.4	5.0	5.5
Other	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1529	853	676	2118	3647

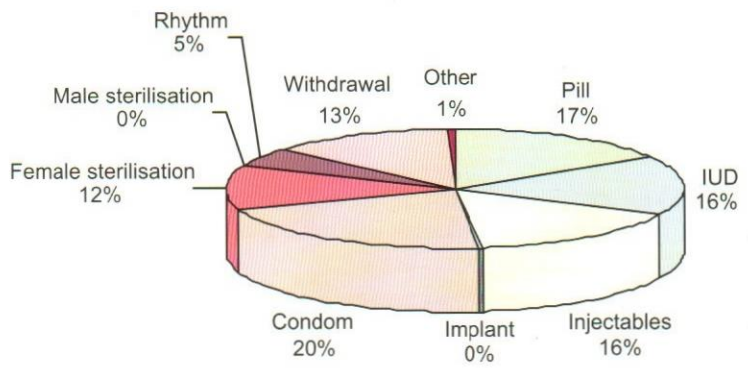
7.7 CHOICE OF FIRST CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD

All ever-users were asked about the first method they initiated. These data are analysed by the number of living children in table 7.9. Condom appears to be a prominent method the use of which is initiated by majority of users at zero or low parity. Interestingly, initiation of condom decreases with the increase in the number of living children. On the hand, a substantial proportion of users adopt female sterilisation straight away as they complete their desired family size. Withdrawal method is also initially used by quite a substantial number of users at low parity. About half of ever users (48 percent) reported to have started fertility regulation by using pill, IUD or injectable. Figure 7.2 shows choice of first contraceptive method among ever married women.

Table 7.9
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED EVER-USERS, ACCORDING TO FIRST CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD USED, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN AT THE TIME OF FIRST USE

First contraceptive method	Number of living children at time of first use								All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
Pill	10.9	16.2	21.4	14.5	19.8	14.6	9.9	13.8	16.5
IUD	--	10.5	18.5	19.3	14.6	19.7	18.9	15.7	16.0
Injectables	5.5	10.2	14.7	17.4	18.5	17.8	22.8	16.2	15.6
Implant	--	--	--	--	0.8	0.3	--	0.9	0.2
Condom	59.9	40.3	22.2	19.8	12.6	10.6	11.0	8.4	21.4
Female sterilisation	--	0.5	2.2	8.1	15.6	20.5	28.1	31.7	11.5
Male sterilisation	--	--	--	0.2	0.5	0.5	--	0.3	0.2
Rhythm	7.9	5.5	6.6	4.4	6.4	4.9	1.8	3.4	5.1
Withdrawal	15.9	16.7	14.1	15.8	10.7	8.1	6.3	8.9	12.8
Other	--	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	3.0	1.2	0.7	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	60	756	708	606	507	344	262	405	3647

Figure 7.2
Choice of first contraceptive method among ever married women



7.8 EVER-USE OF CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

The survey asked respondents if they had ever used each of the methods they knew about. Table 7.10 presents the pattern of ever use of family planning methods for ever and currently married women by age. Overall, among ever-married women, 42 percent have ever used any method, 36 percent have ever used any modern method and 13 percent have ever used any traditional method. The most widely used modern method is the condom (13 percent), followed by the pill and injection (10 percent), IUD (Nine percent), and female sterilisation (Eight percent). The most commonly used traditional method is withdrawal (9 percent). Among currently married women, 43 percent have ever used any method, 37 percent have used any modern method and 13 percent have used any traditional method. Condom, Pills and Injectables are the most common methods ever used.

Ever-use of contraception increases with age. Among currently married women aged 15-19 years, ever-use of any method is only 10 percent, whereas among women aged 30-44, ever use rises to 50 percent and more. Condom remains the most popular method ever used by women aged 40 years and below while Injectable and pill are the most commonly used methods among women aged 30-39 years. Among women 40-49 years, female sterilisation is the most common methods ever used.

Table 7.10
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED AND CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAD EVER USED SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS BY AGE

Contraceptive method	Age							All
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
Ever-married								
Any method	10.0	22.3	38.3	49.5	53.8	51.1	43.2	41.8
Any modern method	8.3	19.3	32.7	40.5	49.0	44.4	36.2	36.0
Pill	3.2	4.7	9.7	12.2	13.9	12.0	9.1	10.2
IUD	1.3	5.3	8.9	11.4	12.3	12.2	7.3	9.4
Injectable	1.9	4.7	9.4	12.2	14.9	11.1	9.1	10.1
Implants	--	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Condom	3.1	8.7	13.6	16.4	18.2	12.6	8.8	13.1
Female sterilisation	--	0.2	2.3	6.2	12.2	16.8	15.8	7.7
Male sterilisation	--	--	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Any traditional method	3.9	7.0	11.6	16.3	16.1	16.3	11.6	12.9
Rhythm	1.9	3.5	4.1	6.5	7.7	6.1	5.3	5.4
Withdrawal	2.1	4.5	9.2	11.8	11.9	11.7	7.9	9.4
Other	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5
Number	386	1269	1765	1674	1576	1110	938	8718
Currently married								
Any method	10.1	22.6	39.0	50.1	55.3	53.4	44.8	42.8
Any modern method	8.4	19.6	33.3	41.0	50.4	46.2	37.7	36.8
Pill	3.2	4.8	9.9	12.3	14.4	12.5	9.6	10.4
IUD	1.4	5.3	9.1	11.5	12.5	12.7	7.5	9.6
Injectable	1.9	4.7	9.6	12.4	15.4	11.5	9.6	10.3
Implants	--	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3
Condom	3.2	8.8	13.8	16.4	18.8	13.1	9.0	13.4
Female sterilisation	--	0.2	2.4	6.3	12.6	17.6	16.5	7.9
Male sterilisation	--	--	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2
Any traditional method	3.9	7.1	11.8	16.7	16.6	17.0	11.8	13.2
Rhythm	1.9	3.6	4.1	6.6	8.0	6.4	5.3	5.5
Withdrawal	2.1	4.5	9.4	12.1	12.3	12.2	8.2	9.6
Other	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5
Number	381	1253	1728	1638	1519	1045	863	8427

7.9 CURRENT USE OF CONTRACEPTION

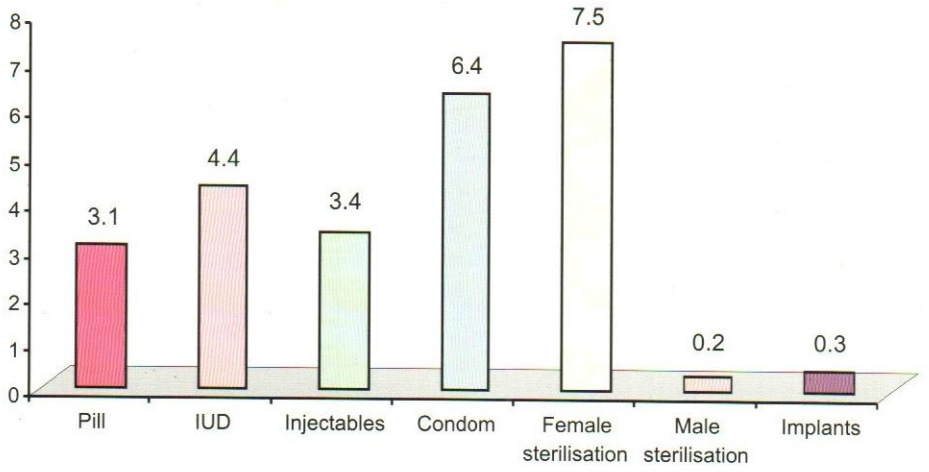
Table 7.11 provides information on current use of family planning methods for currently married women in Pakistan. Thirty-two percent of currently married women were currently using some method of contraception at the time of survey.

Table 7.11
METHOD-SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE, BY AGE

Contraceptive method	Age							All
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
Any method	6.5	15.3	28.8	37.9	43.7	42.7	30.0	32.1
Any modern method	4.0	12.2	22.3	28.4	36.1	33.7	23.9	25.2
Any traditional method	2.5	3.2	6.5	9.5	7.5	8.9	6.1	6.8
Pill	2.0	1.7	3.8	3.4	4.5	3.0	1.2	3.1
IUD	0.0	3.3	6.0	5.3	4.8	5.2	1.8	4.4
Injectables	1.1	2.6	3.6	4.2	4.9	2.7	1.8	3.4
Condom	0.8	4.4	6.7	9.0	9.3	5.2	2.3	6.4
Female sterilisation	--	0.1	2.1	6.1	11.8	16.7	15.9	7.5
Male sterilisation	--	--	--	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.2
Inplants	--	--	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.3
Rhythm	0.7	0.7	1.1	2.2	2.5	2.2	1.7	1.7
Withdrawal	1.8	2.5	5.2	6.9	4.5	6.3	4.1	4.9
Other		0.0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
Not currently Using	93.5	84.7	71.2	62.1	56.3	57.3	70.0	67.9
Number	381	1253	1728	1638	1519	1045	863	8427

Current use of contraception increases with age. However, after age 40 a decline in use is visible mostly because of transition to menopause. Twenty-five percent of currently married women aged 15-49 years are using a modern method, while around seven percent are using a traditional method. Female sterilisation continues to maintain the status of the most popular method among Pakistani women as 7.5 percent women were using this method at the time of survey. This is followed by condom (6.4 percent) and IUD (4.4 percent). Current use of male sterilisation is almost negligible. Clearly, efforts are needed to increase the popularity of the pill and injectable, as well as expand services to include male sterilisation. The traditional method of withdrawal has slightly declined from the previous surveys yet it is the third most preferred method among current users. Figure 7.4 shows use of modern methods of contraception at the time of survey.

Figure 7.3
Current Use of Modern Contraceptive Method



Current use of any method increases with age from about seven percent among 15-19-year-olds to over 43 percent among 40-44 years age. At later ages the CPR declines, most likely due to the onset of menopause. The method-mix by five-year age groups varies as women progress through their reproductive life cycle. At younger ages temporary methods are more popular, but as age increases, and presumably parity, female sterilisation becomes more common.

The CPR by the number of living children is presented in table 7.12. Overall, a positive association exists between the number of living children and current use. Current use of any method increases steadily from two percent among women with no living child to 44 percent among those with four children. At later parities, around four out of ten women are found to be using contraception. At lower family sizes (0-3) condom and withdrawal are the most common methods, while among women with four and more living children the sterilisation is the most commonly used method. The other popular methods at later parities are Condom, injectables, withdrawal and IUD.

Table 7.12
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO METHOD SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTION USE BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN

Contraceptive Methods	Number of living children							All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6 +	
Any method	2.0	20.3	29.5	41.4	43.6	40.2	39.2	32.1
Any modern method	1.4	14.9	21.8	31.6	34.3	32.9	32.3	25.2
Any traditional method	0.6	5.4	7.7	9.8	9.3	7.3	6.9	6.8
Pill	0.0	2.9	3.1	3.3	4.9	3.5	3.3	3.1
IUD	0.3	2.7	6.2	6.3	5.2	4.8	4.8	4.4
Injectables	--	2.2	3.0	4.9	4.0	4.7	4.3	3.4
Condom	1.0	6.7	7.5	9.8	9.6	6.1	4.3	6.4
Female sterilisation	0.1	0.4	2.0	7.1	9.9	13.3	14.4	7.5
Male sterilisation	--	--	--	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2
Inplants	--	--	--	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.3
Rhythm	0.1	1.1	1.5	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.7
Withdrawal	0.6	4.3	5.7	7.2	6.3	5.0	4.6	4.9
Other	--	--	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3
Not currently Using	98.0	79.7	70.5	58.6	56.4	59.8	60.8	67.9
Number	1032	1027	1145	1185	1222	893	1923	8427

Table 7.13 and Figure 7.4 show the difference in current use of contraceptive methods across provinces and by urban-rural residence. As is typical of developing countries family planning use is higher in urban than in rural areas. The survey results show that around 44 percent of currently married urban women use contraception compared to 27 percent in rural areas. CPR is highest in Punjab (34 percent), followed by Sindh (32 percent), NWFP (30 percent) and Balochistan (19 percent).

Table 7.13
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO METHOD SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVE USE, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Contraceptive method	Residence				Province				Total
	Total urban	Major urban	Other urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Baloch-istan	
Any method	43.5	48.2	38.5	26.5	33.9	31.8	30.3	19.0	32.1
Any modern method	33.6	38.4	28.4	21.1	26.1	25.5	25.2	15.1	25.2
Any traditional method	9.9	9.8	10.0	5.4	7.8	6.4	5.1	3.9	6.8
Pill	3.7	3.8	3.6	2.8	2.1	3.7	5.6	2.6	3.1
IUD	4.8	5.4	4.1	4.3	5.4	3.2	3.5	3.5	4.4
Injectables	3.3	3.6	3.0	3.5	2.7	3.9	5.3	2.9	3.4
Condom	11.4	14.2	8.2	3.9	6.3	8.2	4.5	2.6	6.4
Female sterilisation	10.0	10.8	9.1	6.2	9.0	5.8	6.0	3.5	7.5
Male sterilisation	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	--	--	0.2
Implants	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	--	0.3
Rhythm	1.6	1.0	2.3	1.7	2.3	0.7	1.6	0.4	1.7
Withdrawal	7.7	8.3	7.0	3.5	5.1	5.5	3.3	3.5	4.9
Other	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
Not currently Using	56.5	51.8	61.5	73.5	66.1	68.2	69.7	81.0	67.9
Number	2758	1432	1326	5669	4552	2232	1219	423	8427

Figure 7.4
Current use of contraceptives by residence and province

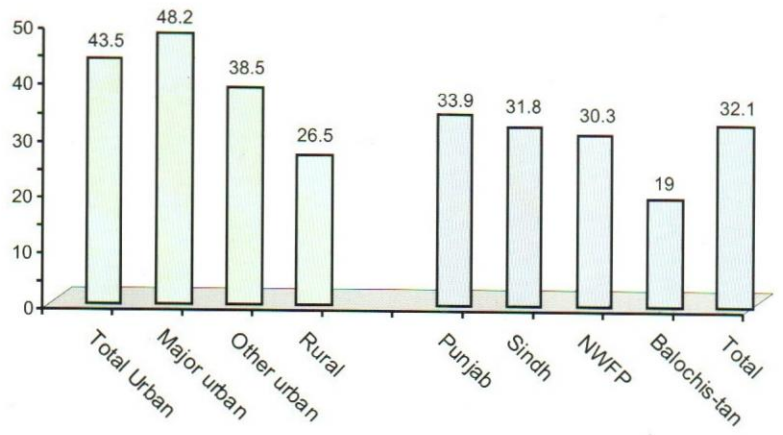


Table 7.14 shows current use of contraception by level of education. As expected, education has a strong influence on use status. A little over a quarter of women (27 percent) with no formal education were using a contraceptive method as compared to 38 percent women with primary or less education, 43 percent women with some secondary education and 53 percent with above secondary education. The use of both traditional and modern methods more or less increases with educational level but more women tend to use modern methods.

Table 7.14
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN AGE 15-49, CURRENTLY USING A CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD, BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Education	Use Any Modern Method	Use Any Traditional Method	Use Any Method
None	21.4	5.3	26.8
Primary	29.7	8.0	37.6
Middle	35.5	11.2	46.7
Secondary	31.8	11.6	43.4
Above secondary	41.3	11.8	53.0
All	**25.2**	**6.8**	**32.1**

Table 7.15 shows duration of current use for various methods. Over one-third (35 percent) users of contraceptive methods have been continuing with specific methods for more than three years. Understandably, being terminal methods, the continuation of sterilisation was higher compared to any other method. However, about a quarter of users of Condom, IUD and Pill were using these methods for more than three years while others were late starters. Though rhythm and withdrawal are not effective methods of contraception, about 37 percent and 29 percent of users of these methods reported to have been using these methods continuously for more than three years.

Table 7.15
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF METHOD-SPECIFIC CURRENT USERS BY DURATION OF USE

Methods	Duration in months						Number
	0-6	7-12	13-24	25-36	37 +	All	
Pill	25.9	23.6	19.0	6.8	24.7	100.0	259
IUD	20.8	18.4	23.3	11.5	26.0	100.0	374
Injectables	31.4	18.3	18.7	11.1	20.4	100.0	288
Condom	22.3	19.4	20.4	11.6	26.3	100.0	536
Female Sterilization	9.7	8.7	10.2	10.0	61.5	100.0	629
Male Sterilization	16.6	21.1	12.8	18.8	30.7	100.0	13
Implants	16.8	6.3	10.9	10.9	55.1	100.0	26
Rhythm	22.0	14.4	15.4	10.8	37.4	100.0	142
Withdrawal	18.1	14.1	25.4	12.8	29.7	100.0	410
Any Method	19.6	15.8	18.5	10.8	35.2	100.0	2703

Contraceptive use has gradually increased in Pakistan over the past few decades. Figure 7.5 presents trends in the CPR among currently married women since 1990-91. The use of contraceptives was reported to be around 12 percent in 1990-91 after about 30 years of the initiation of the family planning programme in the public sector. However, in the subsequent 13 years the current use of contraception has almost tripled. Yet, the performance of the programme is not much impressive when compared with other developing countries including Muslim countries that adopted family planning programme at around the same time or later (see Figure 7.6)

Figure 7.5
Trend in Contraceptive Pevalence Rate

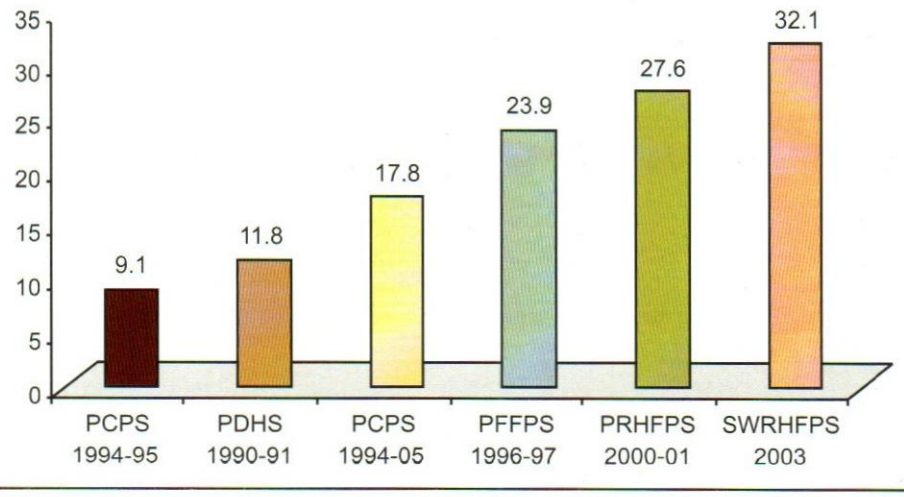
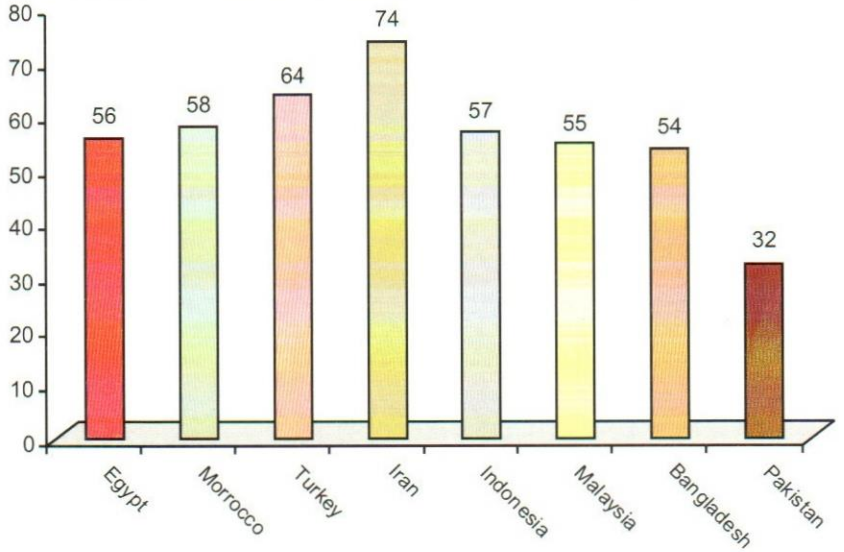


Figure 7.6
Contraceptive Rate in Selected Muslim Countries 2003



7.10 SOURCE OF SUPPLY OF MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

Current users of modern methods were asked to provide details about the source of their current contraceptive method. The sources have been grouped into public, private and NGO and the results are presented in Table 7.16. The data show that 65 percent currently married current users obtain their method from a public sector outlet, while 35.5 percent get it from the private sector including shops and general stores. Less than one percent reported NGO centres as a source of contraception. The government sector is the major provider of family planning methods like Sterilisation, IUD, Implants, Injectables and Pills. The contribution of family welfare centres has improved over time from 9 percent in 2000-01 to around 15 percent in 2003. However, the contribution of the Mobile Service Units is dismally low. The MSU component is potentially important for provision of family planning and primary health care services in the rural and underserved areas.

The contribution of the private sector is found to be substantial especially for the provision of condom, male sterilization, Pills and Injectables. Involvement of private doctors is paying its dividend as over 10 percent current users reported to have been using this source more recently. They can especially take a lead in popularising male sterilisation which is comparatively an easy procedure. The contribution of the NGO sector has declined over the period to less than one percent compared to 2 percent reported in the Pakistan Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey 2000-01. This sector needs to be strengthened and reorganised under the umbrella of the NATPOW.

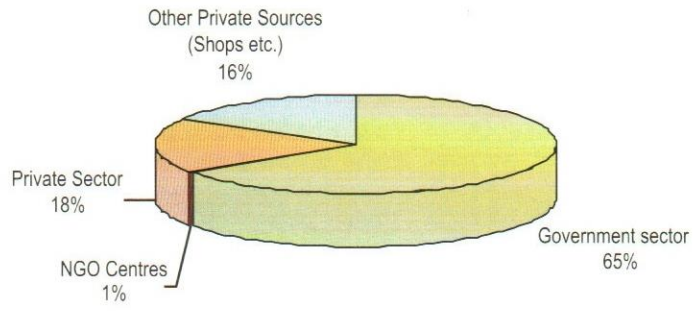
Figure 7.8 presents the major sources of contraceptives services in Pakistan. The contribution of both the public and private sector is visible and this public-private partnership can further improve the

accessibility, availability and affordability of quality services to different segments of the society which is so divergent in its demand, selectivity of a service provider and paying capacity. The contraceptive-mix has also to be broadened keeping in view the technological advancement in this field.

Table 7.16
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENT USERS OF MODERN METHODS ACCORDING TO MOST RECENT SOURCE OF SUPPLY

Source of supply or information	Pill	IUD	Injectable	Condom	Female Sterili-zation	Male Sterili-zation	Implants	All modern Methods
Government Sector	**62.1**	**80.4**	**74.5**	**27.3**	**84.6**	**55.2**	**77.0**	**64.9**
RHSC/Govt. Hospital	15.8	21.2	15.1	3.7	66.3	41.8	33.4	28.9
Govt. Health centre / BHU / RHC/MCH	13.2	22.2	15.1	3.4	18.3	13.4	35.0	14.3
Family welfare centre	17.5	28.7	37.7	10.1	--	--	--	14.9
Mobile service units	--	0.9	1.2	0.3	--	--	4.3	0.4
Lady health worker	13.8	6.7	4.9	8.2	--	--	4.3	5.6
Other Government	1.8	0.7	0.5	1.6	--	--	--	0.8
NGO Centres	0.2	2.1	1.3	--	2.6	--	3.7	0.6
Private Sector	21.7	16.8	21.1	18.9	16.6	44.7	12.1	18.1
Green Star Clinic	2.6	1.7	3.9	1.3	0.9	--	--	1.5
Key Clinic	1.5	0.9	0.1	0.7	0.7	--	--	0.6
Private Doctors	7.6	13.5	11.6	3.8	14.2	25.9	8.3	10.3
Pharmacy/Drug Store	7.9	0.1	1.6	10.8	--	--	--	3.9
Homeopath	0.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.0
TBA .Dai	1.1	0.6	2.4	0.3	--	--	--	0.6
Other Private Source	0.6	--	1.5	2.0	0.8	18.8	3.8	1.2
Other Sources	16.2	0.8	3.0	53.8	0.4	11.2	7.2	16.4
Shop (Other than drug store)	14.4	--	2.0	50.1	--	11.2	--	14.7
Friend/Relative	1.0	--	0.2	1.3	--	--	--	0.5
Other	--	--	0.6	0.6	--	--	7.2	0.3
Dont Know	0.8	0.8	0.2	1.8	0.4	--	--	0.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number	259	375	288	536	629	13	2126	2126

Figure 7.6
Sources of Modern Methods



7.11 NEVER-USERS

Never users of family planning methods were asked why they had never used any method. The main reasons for never-use are presented in table 7.17. The data show that around four-tenths (38 percent) non-users did not use any method because they want children. While this category includes women who are just married and or with less than desired number of children, the need to promote the concept of birth spacing among couples and the delay in first birth, nevertheless is important.

One fifth of women have never used family planning because they had natural spacing between children. 'Husband and others' opposition is also substantial as about eight percent of never-users have not adopted family planning because they believe that their husbands or other close relatives supposedly in-laws are opposed to it. This underlines the importance of the need to increase male involvement in family planning.

In summary, the reasons of nine percent women for never using any contraceptive relate directly to the family planning programme as they include fear of side effects, lack of family planning services and unaffordable cost of methods, while 10 percent cited religion reasons, 38 percent were in need of children, 20 percent were able to space naturally and the rest were either infecund or were not sure as to why had they never used family planning methods. However, about three percent women expressed that breastfeeding was an alternate for family planning methods.

Urban-rural differences in the reasons for never-use are evident in these data. Compared to urban women, women in rural areas are more likely to cite reasons such as religion, non-availability of services, cost of contraceptives, husband's opposition and preference for a large family.

Table 7.17
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED NEVER-USERS ACCORDING TO REASON FOR NON-USE OF FAMILY PLANNING, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Reasons for never use	Residence		Province				Total	
	Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	Percent	Number
Afraid of side effects	6.9	5.0	4.6	7.4	24	11.2	5.5	267
Religious reasons	5.8	9.8	7.5	8.8	13.0	9.0	8.7	422
Dont want or shy to go to FP clinic	1.9	1.4	0.9	3.7	--	0.6	1.5	74
FP facility nor available	0.5	3.0	0.7	4.7	0.9	8.1	2.4	114
Fatalistics	0.5	0.9	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.8	40
Cost too much	0.6	1.3	0.9	1.7	1.1	0.3	1.1	53
Husband/Other Opposed	6.9	7.9	5.6	7.9	14.9	6.4	7.6	369
Cant get pregnant	3.1	2.2	2.0	2.4	4.1	1.6	2.4	116
Have no children/ newly married	20.9	19.0	21.3	17.3	17.4	19.3	19.5	941
Have not yet had desired number of children	16.8	19.0	21.7	12.1	18.2	20.9	18.4	889
Natural Spacing	24.4	18.6	24.2	15.7	16.9	15.0	20.1	972
Breastfeeding	3.3	2.8	2.3	4.2	3.0	1.8	2.9	141
Other	3.3	3.9	4.3	2.3	6.0	.8	3.8	182
DK	5.0	5.2	2.6	11.4	1.8	4.8	5.2	249
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Number	1258	3569	2457	1373	682	316		4827

Religious reasons and husband's or other's opposition is more common reason for never using any contraception in NWFP compared with other provinces, while non availability of methods or lack of access and perceived side effects are more common in Balochistan. More women in Punjab express the ability to naturally space their children while more Sindhi women could not express reasons for never using a family planning method.

7.12 REASONS FOR DROP-OUT

Table 7.18 shows the distribution of women who had discontinued the use of contraception by various reasons. The most common reason cited by 30 percent of past users was desire for additional children. However, about 16 percent of discontinuers reported that they became pregnant while using contraception. This may be because of method failure as well as improper use of contraceptive methods. This requires proper counselling by the service providers at the time a woman accepts/receives a method. Another important reason for drop-out cited by one-fifth of the past users (20 percent) was side effects of the methods. This also requires counselling by the service providers so that women who express side effects may be switched to some other suitable method, instead of discontinuing the use altogether. Husband's opposition was cited by a small proportion of women (1.4 percent).

Reasons for dropout vary on the basis of urban-rural residence and by province. Moreover, differentials in some reasons are more striking than others. For example, although 30 percent women cited desire for pregnancy as the reason for dropping out use yet the proportion of such women was very high in Balochistan (60 percent) and NWFP (45 percent) as compared to Punjab (27 percent) and Sindh (22 percent). The reason of side effect was more common in Sindh (32 percent) compared to other provinces. Similarly, husband's disapproval is comparatively higher in Balochistan (7.4 percent) compared to other provinces.

Table 7.18
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WHO DROPPED OUT OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE ACCORDING TO REASON FOR DROP OUT, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Reason for Drop-out	Residence				Province				Total	
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Baloch-istan	Percent	Number
Infrequent Sex/ Husband went away	8.1	10.6	5.5	5.6	7.4	2.2	7.4	2.3	6.4	58
Became pregnant	16.2	17.6	14.7	15.5	19.2	12.2	8.1	9.9	15.7	142
Wanted to become pregnant	30.7	29.6	31.8	30.2	26.8	22.2	44.6	60.0	30.3	274
Husbands disapproved	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.7	1.6	1.2	0.1	7.4	1.4	18
Health concerns	8.2	9.1	7.4	7.9	8.2	9.8	7.1	--	8.0	72
Side Effects	20.6	12.1	29.1	19.8	19.6	32.4	11.4	15.0	20.1	181
Lack of access/Too far	--	--	--	0.2	0.2	--	--	0.8	0.1	1
Cost too much	--	--	--	1.7	0.8	2.4	1.2	--	1.1	10
Inconvenient to use	2.1	4.2	--	1.2	1.6	2.0	1.1	--	1.5	14
Menopause	6.5	8.6	4.3	4.9	5.6	3.3	7.2	2.2	5.4	49
Marital difficult/problems	0.5	0.2	0.9	1.7	1.1	0.9	2.6	--	1.3	12
Other	4.0	3.9	4.1	5.6	5.2	3.8	6.4	1.5	5.1	46
DK	2.3	3.5	1.1	4.1	2.7	7.6	2.7	1.1	3.5	31
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	902
Number	300	150	149	602	556	150	169	27	902	

7.13 INTENTIONS ABOUT FUTURE USE OF CONTRACEPTION

Currently married women who were not using any contraceptive method at the time of survey (including those who were pregnant at that time) were asked about their intentions to use a method in the future. All those who responded in affirmative were further asked about their preferred method. This type of information can help managers of family planning programme to identify potential groups of users and to provide the types of contraception that are likely to be in demand. Table 7.19 gives women's responses to the questions on future use according to their number of living children. About half of the never users (53 percent) expressed that they intend to use contraception in the future, though not all of them were sure

what method would they prefer to use. Only a quarter of these women identified a specific method for use in future. The most preferred methods among these women were pills (7.8 percent), condom (5.4 percent) and Injectable (4.4 percent). More women with parity two or less preferred pills while women with parity five or more expressed their intention for sterilization in future. Among women who had ever used a method in the past expressed their desire to use condom (17.2 percent), Injectable (9.1 percent) and IUD/pills (7.5 percent).

However, about half of never users (47 percent) and more than a quarter of past users (29 percent) expressed they do not intend to use contraceptives in the future as well. Both categories of these were dominated by women with parity three or more. This is a hard core that the programme has to target.

Table 7.19
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED NEVER USERS AND PAST-USERS ACCORDING TO INTENTION TO USE AND PREFERRED METHOD BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN

Preferred method Of contraception	Never-users					Past users				
	Number of living children			Total		Number of living children			Total	
	0-2	3-4	5-6	Percent	Number	0-2	3-4	5-6	Percent	Number
None	40.0	51.4	56.1	46.9	2262	13.3	29.0	36.0	28.8	259
Pill	10.0	6.0	5.2	7.8	376	8.3	7.8	6.9	7.5	67
IUD	3.2	4.2	2.1	3.1	151	8.7	8.7	6.0	7.5	67
Injectables	5.0	4.4	3.3	4.4	213	12.8	7.1	8.6	9.1	81
Implant	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4	20	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4	4
Condom	2.0	1.0	0.8	1.5	70	16.5	8.4	4.1	8.2	74
Female sterilisation	3.2	5.9	9.2	5.4	261	9.0	18.5	20.3	17.2	155
Male sterilisation	0.1	--	0.3	0.1	6	--	--	0.4	0.2	2
Rhythm	0.1	--	0.1	0.1	4	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	7
Withdrawal	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.4	21	6.7	2.0	1.5	2.8	25
Other	17.4	12.3	8.0	13.7	663	17.6	12.7	10.8	12.9	116
Dont Know	18.0	14.1	14.1	16.1	777	5.4	3.7	3.9	4.1	37
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2441	1095	1290		4827	196	289	414		899

7.14 REASONS FOR NOT INTENDING TO USE CONTRACEPTION

Currently married women who do not intend to use contraception in the future were asked to indicate the main reason for their intentions. This type of information is crucial for understanding the obstacles to further increase in contraceptive use and for designing effective communication programmes. Table 7.20 shows that a quarter of women mentioned fertility related reasons such as infrequent sex, menopause or having had hysterectomy, sub-fecund / in-fecund, or wanted more children; while 16 percent women reported that they do not intend to use contraceptives because of one or the other form of opposition to family planning in the family; and about 11 percent reported method related reasons for not intending to use family planning methods in future. The most frequently mentioned single reason for not intending to

use contraception is the desire for more children expressed by 15 percent of women. The proportion is highest in Balochistan (35 percent) followed by NWFP (20 percent). In other words, a great desire for more children was a visible in Balochistan. Differentials on the basis of rural-urban residence are not so prominent. However, an overwhelming number of non users (48 percent) did not give any specific reason for not intending to use contraception in future. Almost similar phenomena are observed in urban and rural areas and in the provinces of Punjab and Sindh. In Balochistan and NWFP provinces comparatively small proportion of women did not expressed any reason for not intending to use contraception in future (34 percent and 40 percent respectively).

Table 7.20

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF NON-USERS OF CONTRACEPTIVE INTENDING NOT TO USE CONTRACEPTIVES ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE BY REASONS, BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Reason for Drop-out	Residence				Province				All	
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Baloch-istan	Percent	Number
Infrequent Sex	4.4	6.1	2.9	1.9	3.7	1.8	0.9	0.7	2.6	150
Menopause/Hyste-rectomy	6.3	7.5	5.3	3.5	5.8	2.2	4.1	1.4	4.3	246
Subfecund/Infecund	2.5	3.0	2.2	2.5	2.8	1.3	4.2	1.6	2.5	146
Wants (more) children	13.4	12.7	13.9	15.1	10.9	14.2	20.3	34.8	14.6	838
Respondent opposed	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.7	1.8	1.8	0.2	0.7	1.5	85
Husband Opposed	4.8	4.7	4.9	6.1	4.2	5.8	11.2	5.4	5.7	329
In-laws opposed	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.5	27
Others opposed	--	--	--	0.1	0.1	0.0	--	0.3	0.1	5
Religious prohibation	5.0	3.2	6.7	9.3	7.8	7.3	11.1	6.8	8.1	485
Knows no method	1.2	2.0	0.6	2.3	0.9	3.8	2.6	2.0	2.0	113
Knows no source	0.2	--	0.3	0.6	0.3	1.3	--	0.5	0.5	29
Health concerns	4.8	3.7	5.9	2.5	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.2	3.2	181
Fear of Side effects	1.7	0.9	2.4	2.5	2.6	1.7	1.6	3.6	2.3	131
Lack of access/Toofar	0.0	--	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.2	0.2	12
Cost too much	0.2	0.4	--	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	8
Inconvenient to use	1.4	2.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.8	--	0.5	0.8	43
Interferes with bodys normal processes	1.5	2.2	0.9	1.4	1.9	1.4	0.2	0.6	1.4	81
Other	2.4	2.1	2.6	1.8	2.1	2.0	1.2	2.4	1.9	111
DK	48.9	48.2	49.6	47.1	50.6	49.2	39.8	33.5	47.6	2726
Total	100.0	010	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	5726
Number	1558	742	816	4168	3012	1521	850	343		5726

7.15 COMMUNICATION ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING

Irrespective of whether they had ever used contraception, all ever married women were asked whether they had discussed family planning with their friends, relatives, neighbours in the past few months. Information on whether women talk about family planning at all, and with whom they discuss it, reveals their interest in the subject and concern about population growth as a whole. Nevertheless, innumerable studies show that discussions of family planning between women and their husbands increases the likelihood of contraceptive use, while talking about family planning with friends, neighbours and relatives is likely to improve acceptance and understanding of family planning. It might also be a measure of the acceptability of family planning, both at the individual and community level.

Table 7.21 shows that of women who reported discussing family planning, husbands were the most likely persons they discussed it with. Friends and neighbours were the second most common, followed by other female relatives. Since family planning is considered to be a very private matter, the subject is generally discussed with only very close relatives and friends. Women are not likely to discuss family planning with male members other than their husbands. Sisters, although also closely related, are an exception. Only nine percent of ever married women discussed family planning with sisters.

Little variation in discussion by residence is seen in these data. However, education tends to generate more discussion. For example, 46 percent of women with above secondary education report that they have talked to their husbands about family planning, compared to 26 percent of women with no education.

Table 7.21
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO DISCUSSED FAMILY PLANNING WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS, BY RESIDENCE AND EDUCATION

Discussion With	Residence				Education					All
	Total Urban	Major Urban	Other Urban	Rural	None	Up to Primary	Up to Middle	Up to Secondary	Above Secondary	
Husband	34.5	29.6	39.8	26.3	25.5	32.7	34.6	37.9	45.6	29.0
Mother	5.7	7.8	3.5	4.2	3.7	5.5	4.9	7.6	10.3	4.7
Father	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3
Sister	10.6	9.0	12.4	7.8	7.1	10.5	10.4	11.2	19.5	8.7
Brother	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2
Daughter	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.9
Mother-in-law	5.1	4.6	5.6	5.3	4.0	8.7	6.7	5.7	10.4	5.3
Friend / Neighbour	25.1	20.4	30.0	23.4	21.7	27.7	26.1	27.2	35.9	23.9
Other	1.4	1.1	1.7	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.5	1.9	1.9	2.5
Number	2861	1479	1382	5857	5953	1102	504	665	494	8718

Currently married women were also asked specifically whether they had spoken to their husbands about family planning in the past year, and if so how many times. Table 7.22 presents these data. Overall, 41 percent of currently married women reported that they had discussed family planning with their husbands in the past year. These include 26 percent who discussed family planning once or twice and 15 percent who discussed it more often. These findings show an increase in the level of inter-spousal discussion since the PDHS 1990-91, when approximately one in four currently married women reported that they had discussed family planning with their husbands in the last year.

Levels of inter-spousal discussion vary by age, residence, province and education. As age increases, the level and frequency of inter-spousal discussion also increases. However it begins to decrease in older age groups. Women aged 15-19 years and 45-49 years are least likely to have talked to their husbands about family planning during the last year. Inter-spousal discussions are more frequent among urban women. Women living in Punjab are also more likely to have discussed family planning with their husbands in the last year as compared to women from other provinces. Education greatly influences inter-spousal discussion. For example, 58 percent of currently married women with above secondary education discussed family planning compared with 37 percent of those with no education.

Table 7.22
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY OF INTERSPOUSAL DISCUSSION ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING IN THE PAST YEAR BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Family planning discussed				Number
	Never	Once or Twice	More often	Total	
Age					
15-19	82.0	13.7	4.2	100.0	381
20-24	64.7	22.6	12.7	100.0	1253
25-29	53.7	29.4	16.9	100.0	1728
30-34	51.8	29.3	18.9	100.0	1638
35-39	52.3	30.0	17.7	100.0	1519
40-44	61.4	25.5	13.0	100.0	1045
45-49	70.8	20.6	8.6	100.0	863
Residence					
Total urban	55.5	26.8	17.6	100.0	2758
Major urban	57.6	24.0	18.4	100.0	1432
Other urban	53.3	29.9	16.8	100.0	1326
Rural	60.3	26.2	13.6	100.0	5669
Province					
Punjab	51.9	30.8	17.3	100.0	4552
Sindh	70.2	18.4	11.4	100.0	2232
NWFP	57.5	28.0	14.6	100.0	1219
Balochistan	75.4	16.6	8.0	100.0	423
Education					
None	63.0	24.3	12.8	100.0	5739
Up to primary	54.6	28.5	16.9	100.0	1069
Up to middle	50.0	35.0	15.1	100.0	490
Up to secondary	46.7	30.0	23.4	100.0	649
Above secondary	42.2	33.6	24.2	100.0	480
All	**58.7**	**26.4**	**14.9**	**100.0**	**8427**

7.16 ATTITUDES OF COUPLES AND FRIENDS TOWARDS FAMILY PLANNING

A positive attitude towards family planning is likely to encourage contraceptive use among couples. Similarly, a positive attitude among friends and relatives is also likely to be conducive to contraceptive uptake. Table 7.23 presents the information on the attitude of respondents and perceived attitudes of their husbands, friends and neighbours towards family planning.

Table 7.23
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN AWARE OF CONTRACEPTION, ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN ATTITUDE AND THE PERCEIVED ATTITUDE OF HUSBAND AND FRIENDS/NEIGHBOURS

Perceived attitudes	Wifes attitude			Total	
	Approves	Disapproves	No opinion	Percent	Number
Husbands attitude					
Approves	53.2	1.1	1.1	55.5	4675
Disapproves	8.3	11.7	3.1	23.2	1954
Dont Know	8.4	2.2	10.7	21.3	1799
Friends / neighbours attitudes					
Approves	54.6	4.2	1.3	59.8	5037
Disapproves	2.6	5.7	0.7	9.0	761
Dont Know	13.1	5.2	12.9	31.2	2629
All	**69.9**	**15.1**	**14.9**	**100.0**	**8427**

Among currently married women, 70 percent approve of family planning; while 15 percent disapprove of it and an equal proportion have no opinion. Generally there is a consensus between husband and wife. In 53 percent of cases the wife believes that her husband's view conforms to her view. However an appreciable minority (8 percent) of wives approve of family planning but think that their husband disapproves. A further eight percent of wives approve but do not know their husband's opinion. However, in view of the fact that about six-tenths of women never discussed family planning with the spouse in the past year (see table 7.22), it is by no means certain that these perceptions are correct.

Women were also asked about the attitude of their friends and neighbours regarding family planning. Fifty-five percent of currently married women perceive that their friends and neighbours are in line with them in approving of family planning while only three percent of women think that, although they approve of family planning, their friends and neighbours disapprove. However, 13 percent of women who approve of family planning were not aware of the attitude of their friends and neighbours.

Overall, women perceive that 56 percent of husbands and 60 percent of friends and neighbours approve of family planning.

7.17 FAMILY PLANNING MESSAGES ON ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA

The family planning programme has been using electronic and print media for decades. In order to explore the reach of family planning messages through various mass media, the survey asked women whether they had heard or seen any message about family planning in the past few months. Table 7.24 shows the proportion of ever-married women who report having heard, read or seen a family planning message in the past few months according to their background characteristics. Results indicate that messages disseminated through the television reach four-tenths (41 percent) of ever-married women in Pakistan. In addition, one out of six women had heard a message on radio and a similar number had read a message in a newspaper or magazine and poster. Another 5 percent read in leaflet or brochure.

Urban-rural differentials are marked. For example, in major urban areas 67 percent of ever-married women reported seeing a message on television compared to 29 percent in rural areas. Likewise, women in urban areas are almost five times more likely than those in rural areas to have read a family planning message in a newspaper or a magazine. Urban-rural differentials were even more distinct on reading a family planning message through posters or leaflets/ brochures. Less difference is discovered in the percentage of women hearing messages on the radio. Women in NWFP are most likely to have seen a message on the television or to have heard a message on the radio. Women in Punjab are also more likely than women in other provinces to have read a family planning message in a newspaper or poster.

Exposure to family planning messages through the mass media is strongly and positively associated with the level of education. Exposure to messages through television rises consistently with education level. For example, only 29 percent of women with no education have seen a family planning message on the television, compared with 87 percent of women with above secondary schooling. Similarly, better educated women are more likely to have read a family planning message in the newspaper, or in a leaflet or poster.

Table 7.24
PERCENTAGE OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAVE HEARD A FAMILY PLANNING MESSAGE ON RADIO, TV OR THE PRINTED MEDIA DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background Characteristics	Family planning message						Total
	Heard on radio	Seen on television	Read In newspaper / magazine	Read in poster	Read in leaflet or brochure	Other	
Residence							
Total urban	20.4	66.5	20.7	16.7	11.4	1.8	2758
Major urban	19.8	68.3	21.6	16.3	11.1	2.8	1432
Other urban	21.1	64.6	19.8	17.1	11.6	0.7	1326
Rural	15.5	29.1	4.0	2.4	1.6	2.0	5669
Province							
Punjab	17.1	44.4	11.6	7.6	4.6	2.1	4552
Sindh	9.5	34.5	6.4	6.6	5.6	2.5	2232
NWFP	28.7	48.8	8.7	7.3	4.4	0.4	1219
Balochistan	23.3	24.1	5.1	4.4	3.6	1.5	423
Education							
None	12.8	28.7	1.1	1.8	1.0	1.5	5739
Up to primary	20.6	55.5	10.5	8.5	5.5	3.3	1069
Up to middle	24.6	66.5	24.7	14.6	10.5	2.2	490
Up to secondary	26.7	77.7	32.2	19.2	12.9	1.8	640
Above secondary	40.2	86.7	61.1	43.5	32.1	4.0	480
All	**17.1**	**41.4**	**9.5**	**7.1**	**4.8**	**1.9**	**8427**

7.18 CONTACTS WITH HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING WORKERS

Currently married women were asked whether they had been visited by a health or a family planning programme worker in the last 12 months. They were also asked whether, on the last visit, the family planning worker and/or health worker discussed family planning and/or the health of children or other family members. The results are presented in Table 7.25.

Table 7.25
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WITH FREQUENCY OF VISITS BY A HEALTH OR FAMILY PLANNING WORKER IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS BY RESIDENCE AND PROVINCE

Residence/ Province	Percent Visited at home in last 12 months				Number
	No visit	1-2 Times	3-4 Times	5 or more times	
Residence					
Total urban	51.9	15.8	15.6	16.7	2758
Major urban	66.0	15.6	9.7	8.6	1432
Other urban	36.6	16.1	21.9	25.4	1326
Rural	52.5	18.5	12.6	16.3	5669
Province					
Punjab	42.3	16.6	17.2	23.9	4552
Sindh	62.3	18.8	9.8	9.1	2232
NWFP	64.3	19.2	10.0	6.6	1219
Balochistan	73.3	18.5	4.6	3.6	423
All	**52.3**	**17.7**	**13.6**	**16.5**	**8427**

Generally, the coverage of home visits by family planning or health workers has been quite low. At national level, more than half (52 percent) of women reported that they have not been visited by these workers in the last 12 months. However, 18 percent reported they have been visited once or twice, 14 percent stated that they have been visited 3-4 times and 17 percent were reportedly visited by five or more times. The data show that 73 percent women were never visited in Balochistan, whereas over 60 percent were never visited in Sindh and NWFP and 42 percent in Punjab. Comparatively health workers visitation was more common in small cities and rural areas.

Table 7.26 provide information regarding the extent of discussions on family planning and health of children and other family members by family planning or health worker at the time of the visit to currently married women. Among currently married women who were visited during the last 12 months, family planning was discussed with 35 percent women while health of children and other family members was discussed with 95 percent of women. Apparently, since the major responsibility of the Lady Health Workers (LHWs) is to promote basic health services, they focus more on health than family planning. It is important to discuss family planning in these visits also as family planning is an important component of the primary health care programme. There is small variation in the extent of discussion on family

planning or health between urban and rural areas whereas the discussion on family planning by these workers was reported to be most in the NWFP.

Table 7.26
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WITH WHOM HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING WAS DISCUSSED BY FAMILY PLANNING & HEALTH WORKERS, BY PROVINCE AND RESIDENCE

Background characteristics	Discussed family planning	Discussed health of children and other family members	Number
Province			
Punjab	30.3	96.0	2627
Sindh	34.9	90.2	841
NWFP	63.4	93.9	436
Balochistan	41.9	94.7	113
Residence			
Total urban	31.9	96.5	1326
Major urban	41.0	94.9	846
Other urban	26.6	97.4	840
Rural	36.8	93.6	2691
All	**35.2**	**94.5**	**4017**

CHAPTER 8

FAMILY SIZE PREFERENCES

In order to obtain information on family size preferences, the survey asked currently married, non-sterilized, non-pregnant women: Would you like to have (a/another) child or would you like not to have any (more) children? Pregnant women were asked, 'After the child you are expecting, would you like to have another child or would like not to have any more children. Women who expressed a desire for additional children were asked how long they would like to wait before the birth of their next child. The survey also collected information on the preferred sex of the child and the ideal number of children by sex. This chapter presents data on fertility preferences and includes an assessment of desired family size, ideal family size, son preference, unwanted fertility, and the magnitude of unmet and met need for family planning.

8.1 DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

Table 8.1 shows future fertility preferences of currently married women by the number of living children (including any current pregnancy). The majority of currently married women want to either stop having children or delay the next birth. This indicates that there is general awareness of the need to regulate fertility. Thirty two percent of respondents want another child, and of these 13 percent want their next child within two years. The remainder (19 percent) want to delay their next pregnancy for at least two years, and of these 12 percent want a gap of two years, 5 percent three years, and 2 percent do not want another child for four to five years. Overall, 47 percent of women, including 8 percent of women who are already sterilised, report that they want no more children. This figure has risen by 7 percent since 1990-91.

The desire for a child is strongly associated with the number of living children a woman already has. Among women with no living children, 56 percent want a birth within the next two years, and 17 percent want to wait longer than two years. Among women who have one living child, the percentage of women wanting another child within two years falls to 26 percent, while 49 percent want to delay their next birth for longer than two years. As expected, the proportion of women wanting no more children increases with an increase in their number of living children.

On the whole, the proportion of women wanting no more children has risen since 1990-91. This is evident for all women at various stages of family size. However, the proportion wanting more than two children remains high; hence considerable efforts are required by the family planning programme to increase the acceptability of a small family size norm. Although the number of women desiring for another child have declined from 27 percent in 1990-91 to 13 percent now yet a considerable number of women (18 percent) were still either undecided or left their decision 'up to Allah'.

Table 8.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN

Desire for more children	Number of living children (including current pregnancy)								All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
Have another child soon [1]	56.3	25.5	16.6	7.8	4.4	4.0	2.4	0.6	13.2
Have another later [2]	16.6	49.3	40.4	23.7	8.9	5.1	3.0	1.8	19.3
After 2 years	9.7	31.8	24.4	12.1	5.7	2.7	1.8	1.1	11.6
After 3 years	5.6	12.8	10.4	6.1	2.3	1.7	0.9	0.2	5.1
After 4 years	0.4	2.7	3.0	3.0	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	1.4
After 5 years	0.9	2.1	2.6	2.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	1.3
Want no more	1.5	4.5	16.6	38.6	56.8	58.0	62.9	66.7	38.9
Sterilised	0.2	0.3	2.2	7.0	10.6	13.1	17.1	13.9	8.0
Can't get pregnant	6.1	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.9	2.4
Up to God	12.8	12.9	16.4	15.0	13.3	14.1	10.8	12.2	13.6
Undecided	6.2	5.0	5.7	5.6	4.0	2.8	1.9	1.8	4.1
Other	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	765	1038	1151	1237	1242	921	779	1213	8392

[1] Want next birth within 2 years
[2] Want next birth after 2 years

Table 8.2 presents the distribution of currently married women by desire for more children, according to age. Among women aged 15-19 years, 73 percent want a child, and about half of these women want the child soon. Among women aged 20-24 years, 65 percent of women want another child, but a majority of these want a gap of two or more years. The desire to have another child gradually declines with the increase in age. The desire to space children is concentrated among women aged 15-29 years, whereas older women tend to stop childbearing. These findings emphasize the need for family planning services throughout the reproductive life cycle of women.

Table 8.2
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN, BY AGE

Desire for more children	Age							All
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
Have another child soon[1]	35.5	22.7	17.2	11.0	7.8	6.6	3.6	13.2
Have another later[2]	37.7	42.7	31.5	16.8	6.2	2.5	1.5	19.3
After 2 years	24.4	24.8	18.8	9.5	4.2	1.9	0.9	11.6
After 3 years	9.8	12.2	7.9	4.4	1.5	0.5	0.4	5.1
After 4 years	2.0	3.4	2.6	1.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.4
After 5 years	1.4	2.4	2.1	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	1.0
Want no more	2.1	10.6	25.8	45.0	54.4	58.3	60.5	38.9
Sterilised	--	0.2	2.5	6.4	13.0	17.9	16.1	8.0
Can't get pregnant	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.2	2.7	2.8	9.8	2.4
Up to God	17.1	16.1	15.9	15.0	12.2	9.9	7.8	13.6
Undecided	7.0	6.2	6.1	4.3	2.9	1.7	0.8	4.1
Other	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	380	1248	1718	1632	1512	1042	860	8392

[1] Want next birth within 2 years
[2] Want next birth after 2 years

Table 8.3 presents data on the percentage of currently married women who want no more children by parity, according to selected background characteristics. Provincial variation is evident from these data. In Punjab more than half (52 percent) of all currently married women want no more children, compared with 45 percent in Sindh, 38 percent in NWFP and only 23 percent in Balochistan. At different family sizes almost a similar pattern of variation is observed across all the provinces. Punjab, for example, has the highest percentage (77 percent) of women with four children who want no more children compared with 63 percent in Sindh, 52 percent in NWFP and only 26 percent in Balochistan.

Table 8.3
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO WANT NO MORE CHILDREN, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN AND SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Number of living children								All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
Province									
Punjab	2.6	5.6	21.0	53.6	77.3	80.0	87.0	86.0	52.4
Sindh	1.2	5.3	22.1	38.5	62.9	66.8	80.1	81.3	44.9
NWFP	0.0	1.9	9.1	36.1	51.9	55.5	66.5	72.6	38.4
Balochistan	0.0	0.9	6.4	16.2	26.0	31.4	39.2	56.3	23.4
Residence									
Total urban	0.9	7.9	29.3	54.7	77.4	80.3	89.9	84.8	54.7
Major urban	1.6	8.7	38.6	59.1	76.9	83.2	92.3	82.4	56.4
Other urban	0.0	7.2	18.5	48.9	78.1	77.5	87.3	86.8	52.8
Rural	2.0	3.4	13.8	40.2	60.3	67.3	75.4	79.0	42.2
Educational Level									
None	1.2	4.1	15.3	40.3	61.3	66.7	78.2	79.2	47.8
Up to primary	3.9	3.4	16.0	44.4	74.1	82.5	88.0	88.3	45.5
Middle	0.0	5.9	20.3	57.5	84.1	81.4	86.7	96.6	46.8
Secondary	2.2	5.7	28.9	56.3	80.0	85.2	81.5	86.7	43.1
Above secondary	2.0	9.4	32.1	62.3	86.4	89.9	100.0	100.0	45.3
Total	1.7	4.8	18.8	45.7	67.3	71.1	80.0	80.6	46.9

Note:
1. Women who have been sterilised are considered to want no more children
2. Current pregnancy is included in number of living children

A comparison of provincial data of the survey with that of 1990-91 PDHS indicates an increase in the number of women wanting no more children in all four provinces. The greatest increase has occurred in Balochistan where only nine percent of women in 1990-91 reported wanting no more children, compared with 23 percent in 2003.

The desire for children at each parity also varies by urban-rural residence. A higher proportion of women (55 percent) in urban areas want no more children compared to their rural counterparts. Among women with three children 55 percent in urban areas want no more, compared with 40 percent in rural areas (44 percent). Among those with four children, 77 percent of urban women want no more children, compared with 60 percent in rural areas. It is encouraging to note that since 1990-91 the proportion of women who do not want more children increased by 7 percentage points in rural areas as compared to only 2 percentage points in urban areas. The proportion of women who want no more children shows no pattern when classified by their level of education. A similar pattern is evident for women at various parities except for women at parity 2 where there is positive association between those who do not want more children and their level of education. Keeping in view, the findings of earlier surveys where an inverse relationship between want no more children and education level is evidenced, the findings of this survey require in depth investigation.

8.2 SEX PREFERENCE FOR CHILDREN

Numerous studies show that there is a strong preference for sons in Pakistan. This is attributable to socio-economic and cultural factors. According to a study conducted by NIPS (Bhatti and Hakim, 1996) sons are preferred because they protect the family name and offer economic support to parents in old age. Girls on the other hand require the arrangement of costly dowries, and without a brother's protection are regarded as socially insecure.

Table 8.4 presents data on the sex preference for children among currently married women. Currently married women were asked whether they would prefer their next child to be a boy or a girl, or if it would not matter. The data show continued preference for sons.

Overall, 42 percent of currently married women want their next child to be a boy, compared with only 8 percent who want their next child to be female. However, half of women do not show any preference for a particular sex. It is encouraging to observe a change in the preference for sons since the PDHS 1990-91, where 49 percent of women said that they want a boy to be born next, and 46 percent said that the sex of the child do not matter. It is because all such women who are at the beginning of their reproductive behaviour, desire to become mothers soon irrespective of what is the sex of the baby to be born. In fact, women at this stage wish to prove their fecundity by producing a child. Among childless women, about four-fifths do not have a preference about the sex of their first baby. Among women who already have children, the proportion who desires a son for the next child increases with the increase in the number of daughters in the family. For example of women with two daughters and no sons, a huge majority (85 percent) want their next child to be a boy. However, among a family of two children with one child of each sex, a majority (55 percent) were indifferent about the sex of their next child, but the desire for a boy is 10 times more (41 percent) than for a girl baby (4 percent). Conversely, among those with two boys and no daughter only 11 percent want a boy. In fact, the Table 8.4 reveals a strong preference for a son at all parities.

Table 8.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WANTING ANOTHER CHILD, ACCORDING TO PREFERRED SEX OF THE NEXT CHILD BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN

Number of living children		Preferred sex of next child				Number
Total	Number of sons	Male	Female	Does not matter	Total	
0	0	20.2	0.8	79.0	100.0	822
1	No son	61.2	1.6	37.2	100.0	393
	One son	22.0	14.5	63.5	100.0	400
	Total	41.4	8.1	50.5	100.0	793
2	No son	84.9	0.8	14.3	100.0	194
	One son	41.0	4.3	54.6	100.0	303
	Two sons	13.2	44.6	42.2	100.0	193
	Total	45.6	14.6	39.8	100.0	691
3	No son	90.1	2.4	7.5	100.0	63
	One son	75.8	1.8	22.4	100.0	153
	Two sons	37.5	15.9	46.5	100.0	134
	Three sons	14.3	59.5	26.2	100.0	41
	Total	58.6	12.8	28.7	100.0	391
4	No son	96.6	2.1	1.3	100.0	29
	One son	87.6	--	12.4	100.0	59
	Two sons	43.7	12.0	44.3	100.0	46
	Three sons	32.2	23.4	44.4	100.0	29
	Four sons	14.4	43.4	42.2	100.0	14
	Total	62.7	10.8	26.5	100.0	177
5	No son	100.0	--	--	100.0	19
	One sons	100.0	--	--	100.0	49
	Two or three sons	62.2	--	37.8	100.0	78
	Four or more sons	28.9	21.9	49.2	100.0	35
	Total	**70.0**	**4.2**	**25.8**	**100.0**	**182**
All		**41.8**	**8.1**	**50.1**	**100.0**	**3056**

8.3 IDEAL FAMILY SIZE

In order to determine ideal family size, respondents with no children were asked, "If you could choose the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would you have?" Women with children were also asked about their ideal family size, but without taking into account existing children. They were asked, " 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 life, how many would that be?" All respondents were then asked, "How many of these children would you like to be boys, and how many would you like to be girls or would it not matter?".

Table 8.5 presents the distribution of currently married women by their ideal number of children according to the number of living children. At the national level, the mean ideal number of children among currently married women is 3.9. The Ideal family size has declined slightly (by 0.2 children) since 1990-91. The existing number of living children does have an association with the mean ideal family size. For example, women with three or less number of children have an ideal family size of less than 4.0, but among those with four or more children, the ideal family size is more than four children. Among women with seven or more children for example, the mean ideal family size is 4.9. It might be that some women are reluctant to report an ideal family size lower than their existing number of children because of a natural love for all their living children.

Table 8.6 shows the mean ideal number of children by age and selected background characteristics. The mean ideal family size more or less increases slightly with age, from 3.7 among women aged 20-24 years to 4.3 among women of 45-49.

The mean ideal number of children varies by province. It is lowest in Punjab (3.7), and highest in Balochistan (5.9), while in Sindh and NWFP, it is 4.1 and 4.5 respectively). Urban-rural differences are also evident. The mean ideal number of children is lower (3.5) in urban (3.5) and higher (4.2) in rural areas. As expected, the mean ideal family size decreases with the increase in the educational level of women. For example, among uneducated women it is 4.3 compared with 3.2 among women with the above secondary level education.

Table 8.5
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN, BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN

Ideal number of children	Number of living children [1]								All
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	
1	0.0	1.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	--	--	0.4
2	18.3	14.8	18.1	7.7	6.5	5.2	6.5	4.4	10.0
3	11.0	19.0	15.9	27.4	6.3	8.6	7.7	4.1	12.9
4	31.2	27.3	28.3	27.1	46.9	22.7	25.8	20.7	29.1
5	3.0	4.6	3.5	3.8	4.7	16.1	4.1	5.2	5.5
6	4.0	4.0	3.1	3.3	2.5	5.3	12.2	4.2	4.5
7+	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.8	2.3	2.1	2.6	8.4	3.0
Non-numeric response	30.4	26.4	29.0	28.4	30.3	39.8	41.1	53.0	34.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	765	1083	1151	1237	1242	921	770	1213	8392
Mean [2]	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.9	3.9

[1] Includes current pregnancy
[2] Mean is calculated excluding women giving non-numeric responses

Table 8.6
MEAN IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN, BY AGE AND SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Age of women							All
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	
Province								
Punjab	3.65	3.41	3.56	3.74	3.79	3.87	4.08	3.70
Sindh	4.92	3.97	3.88	4.01	4.14	4.10	4.17	4.06
NWFP	4.17	3.95	4.18	4.68	4.85	4.80	4.89	4.48
Balochistan	4.85	5.15	5.67	6.55	6.66	6.47	7.48	5.91
Residence								
Urban	3.22	3.28	3.27	3.59	3.71	3.68	3.94	3.54
Rural	4.25	3.84	4.06	4.25	4.30	4.33	4.46	4.17
Education								
None	4.41	4.06	4.18	4.35	4.33	4.27	4.41	4.27
Up to primary	3.58	3.58	3.68	3.64	3.80	3.76	3.85	3.68
Middle	3.69	3.17	3.40	3.49	3.29	3.61	4.59	3.45
Secondary	3.25	3.25	3.16	3.32	3.44	3.71	3.56	3.32
Above secondary	3.06	2.88	3.10	3.37	3.59	3.20	3.35	3.21
All	**4.10**	**3.68**	**3.78**	**3.99**	**4.08**	**4.06**	**4.25**	**3.95**

Table 8.7 presents the distribution of currently married women by their ideal number of children and ideal number of sons. The most favourite number of children overall is four. But desiring for 2 sons as ideal number remained equally favourite (79 percent) among those women whose ideal family size is either 3 or 4 children. Thirteen percent women consider more than four children as ideal, while a substantial percentage (35 percent) gives non-numeric responses. Once again a preference for sons is evident, especially when the mean ideal number of children is an odd number. For example, when the ideal number of children is three, the mean ideal number of sons is two and when the ideal number of children is five, the mean ideal number of sons is three. Overall, the mean ideal number of sons is 2.3.

Table 8.7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO IDEAL NUMBER OF SONS BY IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Ideal number of children	Ideal number of sons										Total		Mean ideal Number of Sons
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	Does not matter	Non Numeric response	Percent	Number	
1	24.2	42.9	2.5	--	--	--	--	2.9	27.5	--	0.4	37	0.94
2	0.4	83.3	7.2	--	--	--	--	--	9.2	--	10.0	836	1.16
3		6.6	79.2	2.1	0.1	--	--	--	12.0	--	12.9	1079	1.95
4		0.2	78.8	13.2	0.9	--	--	--	6.9	--	29.1	2440	2.16
5		0.5	10.1	63.0	17.5	0.5	--	--	8.4	--	5.5	462	3.08
6	--	0.0	3.8	41.2	39.3	8.6	1.2	--	5.8	--	4.5	377	3.60
7+	0.2	--	4.9	2.9	26.0	24.4	16.7	9.3	15.6	--	3.0	251	4.91
Non-numeric response	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	100.0	34.7	2911	
All	**0.2**	**9.4**	**34.7**	**9.5**	**3.8**	**1.1**	**0.6**	**0.3**	**5.8**	**34.7**	**100.0**	**8392**	**2.26**

8.4 COMPARISON OF WIFE'S DESIRED FAMILY SIZE AND HER PERCEPTION OF HUSBAND'S PREFERENCE

Table 8.8 presents a comparison of the wife's ideal family size with her perception of her husband's preference. Overall, 57 percent of currently married women believe that their husbands want the same number of children as they do. However, 18 percent think that their husbands want more children than they do and same proportion of women do not know their husbands' preference, reflecting poor levels of inter-spousal communication about fertility issues. Only six percent of currently married women believe that their husbands want fewer children than they do.

Data presented in table 8.9 show that an overwhelming majority of women who either want more children or do not want more children believe that their husbands agree with them. For example, 93 percent women who want more children are more likely to believe that their husbands have a similar attitude and just over three-quarters (79 percent) of those who want no more also believe their husbands agree with them. In cases where husbands are perceived to be not in agreement, a large proportion of them are perceived to desire for more children.

Table 8.8
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO HER PERCEPTION OF HER HUSBAND'S IDEAL FAMILY SIZE, BY HER OWN IDEAL FAMILY SIZE

Wifes ideal family size	Perceived husbands preference				Total	Number
	Same number	More children	Fewer children	Dont know		
Upto 2 Children	64.7	15.8	5.2	14.3	100.0	873
3 children	73.0	11.5	4.9	10.6	100.0	1079
4 children	70.7	13.5	4.5	11.3	100.0	2440
5 children	62.8	18.7	5.2	13.3	100.0	462
6+ children	52.6	26.1	5.7	15.5	100.0	628
Up to God /other	36.8	24.2	9.2	29.7	100.0	2911
All	56.8	18.4	6.4	18.4	100.0	8392

Table 8.9
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO HER PERCEPTION OF HER HUSBAND'S PREFERENCES, BY HER OWN PREFERENCES

Wifes preference	Perceived husbands preference				Total	Number
	Wants more	No more	Sterilised	Undecided /dont know		
Wants more	92.8	6.4	--	0.8	100.0	2735
No more	20.5	78.7	--	0.8	100.0	3268
Sterilised	--	--	100.0	--	100.0	671
Cannot get pregnant	40.6	59.4	--	--	100.0	198
Up to God	80.9	18.6	--	0.5	100.0	1139
Undecided / Don't know	84.5	15.5	--	0.5	100.0	348
Other / Non-Numeric	82.1	17.9	--	0.0	100.0	34
All	54.0	37.4	8.0	0.6	100.0	8392

Table 8.10 presents data on the perception of the husband's fertility intentions among currently married women who want no more children (including women who are sterilised). Among currently married women wanting no more children, 65 percent believe that their husbands also want no more children, compared with 17 percent who believe that their husbands do want more. The perception of husband's attitude varies by the number of living children. For example, among women with three children, 60 percent believe that their husbands also want no more children. A maximum proportion (69 percent) of women and their husbands who are perceived to be in agreement for wanting no more children are those who have 4 living children.

Perceived spousal agreement differs by province. Women in Punjab are most likely (69 percent) to perceive that their husbands agree with them. The least likely (43 percent) perceived agreement is in Balochistan. Urban-rural differences also emerge, but are less striking than provincial variations. In urban areas 66 percent of women believe that their husbands agree with their desire for no more children, while in rural areas the proportion is slightly smaller (65 percent). Perceptions of spousal agreement regarding the desire for no more children also vary by education. All educated women other than the one with secondary level education are less likely than uneducated women to believe that their husbands also want no more children.

Table 8.10
PERCEPTION OF HUSBAND'S FERTILITY INTENTIONS AMONG CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WHO WANT NO MORE CHILDREN (INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE STERILISED) ACCORDING TO SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Number of living children and background characteristics	Husbands preference*				Total	Number
	Wants more	Wants no more	sterilised	Undecided / dont know		
Number of living children						
Up to 3	25.9	60.3	12.9	0.9	100.0	905
4	14.6	68.7	15.7	0.9	100.0	834
5	14.2	66.7	19.0	0.2	100.0	638
6+	14.3	65.9	19.3	0.6	100.0	1561
Province						
Punjab	12.1	69.0	18.1	0.8	100.0	2377
Sindh	23.3	61.4	14.8	0.5	100.0	997
NWFP	23.3	59.7	16.7	0.4	100.0	466
Balochistan	40.7	43.4	14.9	0.9	100.0	99
Residence						
Total Urban	13.7	66.2	19.3	0.8	100.0	1503
Major Urban	13.5	65.2	20.2	1.1	100.0	805
Other Urban	14.0	67.3	18.3	0.4	100.0	698
Rural	19.0	64.8	15.6	0.6	100.0	2436
Education						
None	17.8	65.6	16.1	0.5	100.0	2731
Up to primary	16.5	61.7	20.4	1.4	100.0	484
Middle	13.7	64.2	21.3	0.8	100.0	229
Secondary	13.3	75.1	11.2	0.4	100.0	278
Above secondary	16.6	58.4	24.3	0.7	100.0	216
All	17.0	65.3	17.0	0.7	100.0	3939

* Women who have been sterilised are considered to want no more children

8.5 NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING

Currently married women who are not using any method of contraception but who do not want any more children or want to have another child after two or more years are defined as having an unmet need for family planning. Current contraceptive users are said to have a met need for family planning. The total demand for family planning is the sum of the met need and the unmet need. Table 8.11 shows the unmet need, met need and total demand for family planning, according to whether the need is for spacing or limiting births, by background characteristics of women.

Table 8.11
PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN WITH UNMET NEED, MET NEED AND TOTAL DEMAND FOR FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES, BY SELECTED BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

Background characteristics	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning			Total demand for family Planning			Percent of demand satisfied
	Spacing	Limiting	Total	Spacing	Limiting	Total	Spacing	Limiting	Total	
Province										
Punjab	11.9	24.1	36.0	7.9	25.9	33.8	19.8	50.0	69.8	48.4
Sindh	10.8	20.6	31.4	10.0	21.7	31.8	20.8	42.4	63.3	50.2
NWFP	10.5	16.9	27.5	9.6	20.7	30.3	20.2	37.6	57.8	52.4
Balochistan	8.3	11.7	20.1	8.3	10.6	19.0	16.7	22.4	39.1	48.6
Residence										
Urban	9.5	20.7	30.2	10.9	32.5	43.4	20.3	53.2	73.6	59.0
Rural	12.1	21.9	34.0	7.7	18.7	26.4	19.8	40.7	60.5	43.7
Education										
None	9.7	24.9	34.6	6.0	20.7	26.7	15.7	45.7	61.5	43.5
Up to primary	12.7	17.9	30.6	11.8	25.8	37.5	24.5	43.7	68.2	55.0
Up to middle	15.1	13.4	28.5	13.9	32.0	45.9	29.0	45.4	74.5	61.7
Secondary +	15.8	11.1	26.9	17.4	30.0	47.4	33.2	41.1	74.3	63.8
Age										
15-19	21.8	1.4	23.2	5.8	0.0	5.8	27.7	2.0	29.7	19.6
20-24	25.4	4.7	30.1	12.0	3.4	15.3	37.4	8.1	45.5	33.7
25-29	17.7	11.8	29.5	15.3	13.5	28.8	33.1	25.4	58.5	49.2
30-34	9.2	20.9	30.1	10.8	26.9	37.7	20.1	47.7	67.8	55.6
35-39	3.5	28.1	31.6	5.4	38.0	43.4	8.9	66.1	75.0	57.9
40-44	2.3	35.3	37.7	2.8	39.9	42.7	5.1	75.4	80.5	53.0
45-49	1.0	47.1	48.1	0.0	28.9	28.9	2.2	75.9	78.1	37.0
Living children										
0	12.2	0.9	13.1	1.6	0.4	2.0	13.8	1.4	15.1	13.5
1	24.6	2.8	27.4	18.3	2.0	20.3	43.0	4.8	47.8	42.4
2	22.0	7.7	29.7	19.2	10.3	29.5	41.2	17.9	59.2	49.8
3	11.3	19.0	30.3	14.8	26.4	41.2	26.2	45.4	71.6	57.6
4	6.2	28.3	34.5	6.0	37.5	43.5	12.2	65.8	78.1	55.7
5	4.7	34.0	38.7	3.9	36.0	39.9	8.6	70.2	78.8	50.6
6	4.4	37.1	41.4	0.9	41.9	42.7	5.2	79.2	84.4	50.6
7+	2.5	45.6	48.1	1.9	34.9	36.8	4.4	80.5	84.9	43.4
All	**11.2**	**21.5**	**32.7**	**8.7**	**23.3**	**32.0**	**20.0**	**44.8**	**64.8**	**49.4**

Table 8.11 shows that thirty-three percent of women have an unmet need for family planning. The unmet need for limiting is almost twice (22 percent) of those who want to postpone next birth for two or more years (11 percent). If all the women who say they want to space or limit their births were to use family planning, the contraceptive prevalence rate would increase from 32 percent to almost 65 percent, implying that half of the family planning need is not being met. Comparison with the previous surveys indicate that unmet need for family planning increased from 28 percent in 1990-91 to 38 percent is 1996-97 and dropped to 33 percent in 2000-01 and currently maintains that level. However, the proportion of total demand for family planning that is met increased from 30 percent in 1990-91 to 49 percent in 2003.

The unmet need for family planning is highest in Punjab followed by Sindh, NWFP and Balochistan. The unmet for limiting purposes is higher in all the provinces and at the aggregate level. Unmet need for family planning is higher in rural than in urban areas, and the proportion of total demand for family planning that is satisfied is lower in rural than in urban areas. Unmet need for family planning varies by women's education between 27 to 35 percent. The percentage of demand satisfied rises with education from 44 percent among women with no schooling to 64 percent among women with secondary or above education.

The unmet need is higher among older women compared to women under age 20. It is however stagnant (at around 30 percent) among women aged 20-34 years. At the highest reproductive age almost half of these women have an unmet need for family planning. Unmet need rises sharply when women have at least one living child. Among women with parity 2 and above, the unmet need varies between 27 to 48 percent. Among women with no children or with up to two living children, unmet need is almost exclusively for spacing. The proportion for unmet need for limiting then rises from 8 percent among women with two children to 46 percent among women with seven or more children. The data show that though women don't want additional children yet they are reluctant to use family planning for reasons expressed in Table 7.19-7.23.

REFERENCES

1. Bhatti, Mansoor-ul Hassan and Abdul Hakim (n.d), "Males' attitudes and motivation for family planning in Pakistan" National Institute of Population Studies, Islamabad
2. National Institute of Population Studies/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London (1998), "Pakistan Fertility and Family Planning Survey 1996-97", Islamabad
3. National Institute of Population Studies/IRD/Macro International Inc. Columbia (1992), "Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (1990-91)", Islamabad
4. National Institute of Population Studies (2001), "Pakistan Reproductive Health and Family Planning Survey 2000-01", Islamabad
5. Pakistan, Government of (2002) "Population Policy 2002", Ministry of Population Welfare.
6. Pakistan, Government of "Pakistan Economic Surveys, 2000-01 & 2005-06" Ministry of Finance
7. Pakistan, Government of "Directorate of Financial Management" M/o Population Welfare Islamabad
8. Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, (1982), "Population Labour Force and Migration Survey 1979-80", Islamabad
9. Population Council Pakistan (1998) "Pakistan contraceptive Prevalence Survey 1994-95" Islamabad
10. Population Planning Council of Pakistan, (1976) "Pakistan Fertility Survey: First Report" Voorburg, Netherland: International Statistical Institute
11. Population Planning Council, (n.d) "National Impact Survey, report" Islamabad, Training Research and Evaluation Centre (TREC)
12. Population Welfare Division [Pakistan], 1986. "Pakistan Contraceptive Prevalence Survey, 1984-85" Islamabad: Ministry of Planning and Development.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF POPULATION STUDIES

Block 12-A, Capital Inn Building, ISLAMABAD.
Tel : 9260334 - 9260336-7 Fax : 9260071
www.nips.org.pk