## Turkmenistan



| World Summit for Children Indicators, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Childhood mortality | Infant mortality rate | 74 per 1,000 |
|  | Under-five mortality rate | 94 per 1,000 |
| Childhood undernutrition | Percent stunted (children under 5 years) | 22.3 |
|  | Percent wasted (children under 5 years) | 5.7 |
|  | Percent underweight (children under 5 years) | 12.0 |
| Clean water supply | Percent of households within 15 minutes of safe water supply ${ }^{1}$ | 62.1 |
| Sanitary excreta disposal | Percent of households with flush toilets, pit toilet/latrine | 99.2 |
| Basic education | Net primary school attendance rate ${ }^{2}$ | 84.9 |
| Family planning | Contraceptive prevalence rate (any method, currently married women) | 61.8 |
|  | Contraceptive prevalence rate (any method, all women) | 39.2 |
| Antenatal care | Percent of women who received antenatal care from a health professional ${ }^{3}$ | 98.1 |
| Delivery care | Percent of births in the 5 years preceding the survey attended by a health professional | 97.2 |
| Low birth weight | Percent of births in the 5 years preceding the survey at low birth weight ${ }^{4}$ | 6.0 |
| Iodized salt intake | Percent of households that use iodized salt ${ }^{5}$ | 75.3 |
| Vitamin A supplements | Percent of children age 6-59 months who received a vitamin $A$ dose in the six months preceding the survey | 15.3 |
| Exclusive breastfeeding | Percent of children under 6 months who are exclusively breasted | 15.9 |
| Continued breastfeeding | Percent of children age 12-15 months still breastfeeding | 75.1 |
|  | Percent of children age 20-23 months still breastfeeding | 26.1 |
| Timely complementary feeding | Percent of children age 6-9 months receiving breast milk and complementary foods | 70.6 |
| Vaccinations | Percent of children age 12-23 months with BCG vaccination | 99.1 |
|  | Percent of children age 12-23 months with at least 3 doses of DPT vaccinations | 97.9 |
|  | Percent of children age 12-23 months with at least 3 doses of polio vaccinations | 97.1 |
|  | Percent of children age 12-23 months with measles vaccination | 92.9 |
| Diarrhea control | Percent of children age 0-59 months with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey who received oral rehydration salts (ORS) or recommended home fluids (RHF) | 46.7 |
| Acute respiratory infection | Percent of children age 0-59 months with acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey who were taken to a health provider | 50.9 |
| Home management of illness | Percent of children age 0-59 months with diarrhea who were taken to a health provider | 38.5 |
| Children in especially difficult situations | Percent of children with at least one parent dead ${ }^{6}$ | 4.5 |
|  | Percent of children who do not live with either biological parent ${ }^{6}$ | 1.1 |
| HIV/AIDS | Percent of women age 15-49 who correctly state 2 ways of avoiding HIV infection ${ }^{7}$ | 40.6 |
|  | Percent of women age 15-49 who believe that AIDS can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery and breastfeeding, | 52.6 |
|  | Percent of women age 15-49 who know of a place to get tested for the AIDS virus | 12.4 |
|  | Percent of women age 15-49 who have been tested for the AIDS virus | 4.2 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Piped water or protected well water |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| ${ }^{3}$ For the last live birth in the five years preceding the survey |  |  |
| ${ }^{4}$ For children without a reported birth weight, the proportion with low birth weight is assumed to be the same as the proportion with low birth weight in each birth size category among children who have a reported birth weight. |  |  |
| ${ }^{5} 15$ parts per million or more |  |  |
| ${ }^{6}$ Based on de jure children |  |  |
| ${ }^{7}$ Having sex with only one partner who has no other partners and using a condom every time they have sex |  |  |

# Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey 2000 

Gurbansoltan Eje Clinical Research Center for<br>Maternal and Child Health<br>Ministry of Health and Medical Industry<br>Ashgabad, Turkmenistan<br>ORC Macro<br>Calverton, Maryland, USA

September 2001

The report summarizes the findings of the 2000 Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey (2000 TDHS), which was conducted by the Gurbansoltan Eje Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health of the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan. ORC Macro provided technical assistance. Funding was provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and logistical support was provided by UNFPA/Turkmenistan.

The TDHS is part of the worldwide Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) program, which is designed to collect data on fertility, family planning, and maternal and child health. Additional information on the Turkmenistan survey may be obtained from

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Protecting and strengthening the health of each citizen is a priority goal of the National program of the President of Turkmenistan, Saparmurat Turkmenbashi, "Strategy for Socialeconomic Transformation to the Year 2010." The Ministry of Health and Medical Industry directs significant efforts to improve quality and accessibility of medical services in Turkmenistan. Special attention is paid to medical services for women and children as well as preventive care and medical services in rural areas. Preventive care is a fundamental principle of the national health policy.

The 2000 Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS) was the first national-level population and health survey in Turkmenistan. The purpose of the survey was to provide objective information on fertility, health, and nutrition of women and children. This information is important for understanding the factors that influence the reproductive health of women and the health and survival of infants and young children. It can be used in planning effective policies and programs regarding the health and nutrition of women and their children in Turkmenistan.

The 2000 TDHS was implemented by the Gurbansoltan Eje Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry. Sampling design and listing operations for the survey were carried out by the staff of the National Institute of State Statistics and Information. The 2000 TDHS survey was funded by the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through the UNFPA Turkmenistan country office. Technical assistance for the program was provided by the MEASURE DHS+ project of ORC Macro in Calverton, Maryland, USA.

I would like to express my thanks to the USAID Regional Office for Central Asia, the USAID Mission in Turkmenistan and the UNFPA Country Office in Turkmenistan for their support of the survey. I am grateful to the staff of the MEASURE $D H S+$ program for their technical backstopping. Also, my sincere thanks go to the 2000 TDHS senior technical staff and to the members of all interviewing teams and the data processing team for their devotion and efforts in accomplishing the survey activities on time.

Gurbanguly M. Berdymukhamedov Minister of Health and Medical Industry Turkmenistan

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS) is a nationally representative survey of 7,919 women of reproductive age (15-49). Survey fieldwork was conducted from June to September 2000.

The TDHS was sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry (MOHMI) of the Republic of Turkmenistan. The Gurbansoltan Eje Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health implemented the survey with technical assistance from the Demographic and Health Surveys Program. The National Institute of State Statistics and Information (Turkmenmelihasabat) conducted sampling activities for the survey. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provided funding for the survey. UNFPA/Turkmenistan assisted with survey coordination and logistic support.

The TDHS was designed to provide policymakers and program managers at MOHMI with detailed information on the health status of women and children.

Some of the health indicators provided by the TDHS-such as fertility and infant mortality rates-are available from other sources. However, other survey indicators are not available from other sources-for example anemia status and nutritional indices for women and children. Thus, when taken together, the TDHS and existing data provide a more complete picture of health conditions in Turkmenistan than was previously available.

## Respondent Characteristics

Marital status and ethnicity. Sixty-two percent of women age 15-49 are currently married, 6 percent are widowed, divorced or separated and 32 percent have never been married. The great majority of respondents practice Islam ( 93 percent) and most are of Turkmen ethnicity ( 78 percent).

Education and media exposure. Women in Turkmenistan are well educated. Seventy-two percent have attended primary/secondary school, another 20 percent have attended secondary-special and 7 percent have a higher education. Access to the mass media is good; 94 percent of respondents reported watching television weekly.

Employment and earnings. Women participate extensively in economic activities. Approximately half of respondents (49 percent) were working and almost all working women (99 percent) reported cash earnings. Most respondents (77 percent) said that they had full or partial control over how their earnings were spent.

## Fertility

Fertility rates. For the three years preceding the survey (mid-1997 to mid-2000), the estimated crude birth rate was 24.6 births per 1,000 population. This is higher than the MOHMI rate of 20.3 (the average of the annual rates for calendar years 1997 to 1999).

Another index of current fertility is the total fertility rate (TFR). The TFR indicates the number of children a woman would have if she passed through the childbearing ages at the current age-specific fertility rates. The survey estimate of the TFR was 2.9 children per woman. This is significantly higher than the TFR for the neighboring country of Kazakhstan ( 2.1 children per woman) for approximately the same period.

The TFR is lower by about one child in urban areas ( 2.5 children per woman) than in rural areas ( 3.3 children per woman). By region, fertility is lowest in Ashgabad City (2.1 children per woman) and highest in Dashoguz (3.1 children per woman).

Trends over time. Official estimates of the crude birth rate (CBR) for the 1990s indicate substantial fertility decline. For example, between 1993 and 1997 the CBR declined by

37 percent (from 33.1 per 1,000 to 21.6 per 1,000 ). The survey confirmed this rapid decline, indicating a decline in fertility of 25 percent over approximately the same period.

Age at first birth. Childbearing in the teenage years is associated with increased social and health problems for both the mother and her child. The TDHS found that only 2.6 percent of women age 15-19 have given birth. Moreover, almost all births to teenage women occurred at age 19. Thus, the median age at initiation of childbearing in Turkmenistan is 23 years, which is older than in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, or the Kyrgyz Republic.

Birth intervals. Children born soon after a previous birth, especially those born within 24 months of the previous birth, have an increased risk of illness and death. In Turkmenistan, 36 percent of second and higher order births occurred after a birth interval of less than 24 months. The percentage of births following a birth interval of less than 24 months was greater among women in rural areas ( 40 percent) than among women in urban areas (30 percent).

## Contraception

Knowledge. Knowledge of contraceptive methods is widespread in Turkmenistan. Among currently married women, knowledge of at least one method is universal ( 99 percent). Married women have knowledge of, on average, six methods of contraception. Married women of all ages, all educational levels, all ethnic groups, and all regions of the country have a high level of knowledge of contraceptive methods.

Ever use. Among currently married women, 89 percent have used contraception at some time. As expected, older women are more likely to have used contraception than younger women.

Current use. Among currently married women, 62 percent are currently using contraception. Fifty-three percent are using a modern method and 9 percent are using a traditional method. The IUD is by far the most commonly
used method: two out of three current users have an IUD ( 39 percent of currently married women). Among the 9 percent of traditional users, withdrawal is the most popular method ( 5 percent of currently married women).

As expected, contraceptive prevalence rates increase with the respondent's age and the number of living children that she has. However, there is little difference in levels of current use by background characteristics. For example, current use is virtually the same for married women in both urban ( 62 percent) and rural areas (61 percent).

Discontinuation of use. An important issue in the provision of contraceptive services to current users is the rate of discontinuation of use and the reasons for discontinuation. Among women who began to use a method in the five years preceding the survey, 58 percent stopped using that method within 12 months. The rate of discontinuation was highest among users of the lactation amenorrhea method, the condom, and withdrawal (85, 56, and 44 percent). The most frequently reported reasons for discontinuation were switching to another method, health concerns, and desire to become pregnant.

Source of supply. Most users of modern contraceptive methods obtain their method through the public sector ( 96 percent). Fiftyfour percent obtain their method from hospitals or public health clinics, 15 percent from women's consulting centers, and 27 percent from public pharmacies.

Fertility preferences. Among currently married women, 60 percent reported that they want no more children ( 53 percent) or that they are infecund or have been sterilized ( 7 percent). Another 32 percent want another child, and 8 percent are undecided about having another child.

Future use. Of the 38 percent of currently married women who are not using contraception, almost half (47 percent) reported that they intend to use in the future. Most women ( 89 percent) who intend to use in the future indicated that the IUD is their preferred method.

## Induced Abortion

In Turkmenistan, as in most of the former Soviet Union, induced abortion has long been used as a means of fertility control. In a manner analogous to the analysis of fertility, the total abortion rate (TAR) provides a useful measure of the incidence of induced abortion. The TAR is the number of induced abortions a woman would have in her lifetime if she passed through her childbearing ages at the current age-specific abortion rates.

Abortion rates. For the three-year period preceding the survey (mid-1977 to mid2000), the total abortion rate for Turkmenistan was 0.9 . The total abortion rate was higher in urban areas ( 1.0 abortions per woman) than in rural areas ( 0.7 abortions per woman). The highest levels of induced abortion were in Ashgabad City and the Lebap Region (1.1 and 1.2 abortions per woman, respectively).

Attitudes toward abortion. Sixty percent of respondents indicated that they disapprove of induced abortion. However, about one-quarter of respondents reported that if confronted with an unintentional pregnancy, they would have an abortion, and another onequarter said they were undecided about whether they would have an abortion if they unintentionally became pregnant.

## Maternal and Child Health

Turkmenistan has a well-developed health system with an extensive infrastructure of facilities. This system includes general hospitals, delivery hospitals, women's consulting centers, and doctor's assistant/midwife posts. There is an extensive network of the latter facilities in rural areas.

Antenatal care. Almost all respondents who gave birth in the last five years ( 98 percent) received antenatal care from either a doctor (81 percent) or a nurse/midwife (17 percent). In general, in Turkmenistan women seek antenatal care early and continue to receive care throughout their pregnancy. The median number of antenatal care visits is ten.

Place of delivery. Most births in Turkmenistan (95 percent) occur in public facilities, primarily hospitals (89 percent). Almost all deliveries ( 97 percent) are under the supervision of a doctor ( 82 percent) or a nurse/ midwife (15 percent).

Vaccination rates. Among children 1223 months of age (i.e., children who should be fully vaccinated), the survey found high levels of coverage for the vaccines recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). Coverage exceeds 97 percent for BCG (protection against tuberculosis), DPT/DT (protection against diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus), polio, and measles. Overall, 90 percent of children have received all of these WHO-recommended vaccinations.

Breastfeeding. Breastfeeding is nearly universal in Turkmenistan: 97 percent of children born in the three years preceding the survey were breastfed. Overall, 18 percent of children are breastfed within an hour of delivery, and 76 percent are breastfed within 24 hours of delivery. The median duration of breastfeeding is 18 months. However, the median duration of exclusive breastfeeding, which WHO recommends for six months, is only 0.5 months.

Among breastfed children, there is little complementary feeding in the period immediately after birth. At 2-3 months of age, only 7 percent of children receive solid foods. This figure increases to 43 percent for children 4-5 months of age and exceeds 90 percent for children 8-9 months of age.

Nutritional status of children. Two important nutritional indicators for children are the proportion stunted (short for their age) and the proportion wasted (underweight relative to their height). In a well-nourished population, it is expected that about 2.3 percent of children will be moderately or severely stunted or wasted.

Among children under age five in Turkmenistan, 22 percent are stunted and 6 percent are wasted. There are regional differ-
ences, particularly for stunting. The percentage of children stunted in Dashoguz (27 percent) is twice as high as in Ashgabad City (13 percent).

## Infant Mortality Rates

Official government estimates of infant mortality are based on data collected according to protocols established during the time of the former Soviet Union. Those protocols classify a pregnancy that ends at less than 28 weeks of gestation as a miscarriage unless the infant survives for at least seven days.

In the TDHS, infant mortality data were collected based on the international definition of a live birth, i.e., a birth that shows any sign of life, irrespective of the gestational age at the time of delivery (United Nations, 1999). Because of the difference between the government data collection system and that of the TDHS in the definition of a live birth, the TDHS estimate of the infant mortality rate (IMR) would be expected to exceed the official government estimates.

IMR estimates. The government estimate of the IMR for the five-year period 19962000 is 32 per 1,000 . The survey IMR estimate for that period is 74 per 1,000 . The IMR estimate for Kazakhstan, for approximately the same period, is 62 per 1,000 .

IMR differentials. It is known that closely spaced births (i.e., births within 24 months of a previous birth) put infants at relatively high risk of dying. In Turkmenistan, 36 percent of second and higher order births occur within 24 months of a previous birth. Infant mortality for those births ( 94 per 1,000) is almost twice as high as for births occurring after an interval of 48 or more months ( 49 per 1,000 ). This suggests that a program promoting birth spacing could reduce infant mortality.

The survey also found significant differences in the IMR between urban areas ( 60 per 1,000 ) and rural areas ( 80 per 1,000 ).

Anemia Status

The TDHS was the first study of anemia in Turkmenistan based on a nationally representative sample of women and children. The survey measured the hemoglobin level of capillary blood.

Anemia among women. Nine percent of respondents in the TDHS had hemoglobin levels indicating moderate (8 percent) or severe anemia ( 1 percent). These figures are identical to recent findings for Kazakhstan.

There were notable differences in the level of moderate to severe anemia by region. The level was twice as high in the Balkan and Dashoguz regions (12 percent) as in Ashgabad City (6 percent).

Anemia among children. Seventeen percent of children under the age of five exhibited moderate ( 16 percent) or severe anemia (1 percent). Again, these figures are almost identical to recent findings for Kazakhstan (17 percent moderate and 1 percent severe anemia).

## Acquired Immune DeficiencySyndrome(AIDS)

Compared with other parts of the world, Turkmenistan has been relatively untouched by the AIDS epidemic. Currently, there is only one known case of AIDS and one other person known to be HIV positive in Turkmenistan. Almost no respondents reported that they knew an HIV-infected person or anyone who had died of AIDS.

Knowledge. Awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS is limited. Seventy-three percent of respondents reported having heard of HIV/ AIDS, but only 50 percent believe that they could adopt behavior patterns that would reduce their risk of contracting the disease. Further evidence of limited knowledge of HIV/AIDS was the fact that only 31 percent of respondents recognized that condom use is a risk-reducing behavior.

Attitudes toward infected individuals.
The survey found unsympathetic attitudes toward HIV-infected individuals. Only a small proportion of respondents ( 24 percent) reported that an infected person should be allowed to keep that information private, and a large proportion ( 73 percent) reported that they believe an infected person should not be allowed to work alongside other people in a shop or office. These findings suggest that respondents have the mistaken idea that they can become HIV-infected through ordinary human contact.

Use of the media for AIDS education. The survey indicates that much needs to be done to educate the population about HIV/AIDS. It is significant that more than 95 percent of respondents felt it would be acceptable to provide HIV/AIDS educational messages via radio, television, and the print media.


# INTRODUCTION, OBJECTIVES, AND SURVEY DESIGN 

B.S. Sopyev and C.M. Nazarov

### 1.1 Geography and Population

Turkmenistan is situated in the center of central Asia to the north of the Kopetdag mountain range, bounded by the Caspian Sea to the west and the Amu Daria River to the east. The territory of Turkmenistan is 491,200 square kilometers; it stretches 1,100 kilometers from west to east and 650 kilometers from north to south. The country borders Kazakhstan to the north, Uzbekistan to the east and northeast, Iran to the south, and Afghanistan to the southeast. The Karakum Desert occupies a large part of the territory of Turkmenistan. The Kopetdag Mountains and Small and Big Balkan ranges stretch from Turkmenbashy City to the Serax Region.

The official state language is Turkmen, which belongs to the Turkic language group. The main religion is Sunni Islam.

According to the data of the National Institute of State Statistics and Information (Turkmenmelihasabat), as of January 1, 2001, the population of Turkmenistan was 5.2 million people. Forty-five percent of the population is urban.

Currently, Turkmenistan is experiencing intensive socioeconomic changes with significant impact on population and health. The demographic changes in Turkmenistan are characterized by population growth in urban and rural areas primarily due to high natural increase.

High population growth has resulted in a unique population age structure. The percentage of children and teenagers in the population is high ( 40.3 percent). The proportion of the population that is working is also large ( 53.6 percent). Women now represent 50 percent of the population.

The main factors currently determining the demographic situation in Turkmenistan are the following: a high proportion of married women, a low level of divorce, and a high birth rate. Nevertheless, in recent years, it has become evident that the birth rate has decreased. Another demographic feature of Turkmenistan is that the majority of women give birth at a young age, which is more favorable for childbearing and birth.

One of the most important components of population growth in addition to the birth rate is the mortality rate. According to government statistics, the mortality rate has declined. In urban and rural areas, male mortality prevails over female mortality. As a result, average life expectancy for men is 63.4 years, compared with 70.4 years for women. The level of population replacement is comparatively high in Turkmenistan: there are 3.5 births for each death. The birth rate in rural areas is 1.8 times higher than in urban areas. Life expectancy at birth is 66.8 years in Turkmenistan. Life expectancy is constantly increasing through decline in newborn and maternal mortality. The number of fertile women increased during the last 5 years to approximately 1,570,000.

Migration and natural translocations influence population growth. In the process of international migration, the contribution of different republics of the former Soviet Union is not
equal: Russian Federation, 60.3 percent; Uzbekistan, 14.5 percent; Ukraine, 3.4 percent; Kazakhstan, 13.1 percent; Azerbaijan, 2 percent. Of the total migration, 66 percent is rural population migration.

### 1.2 History

Turkmenistan has a unique history and in both a geographical and political sense, plays an important role in the development of central Asia. Turkmen from ancient times have inhabited the territory of modern Turkmenistan. They have broad multilateral relationships with Asian countries, especially neighboring states such as Iran and Afghanistan. The Russian-Turkmen trade relationship has existed since the 10th century.

Until gaining its independence, Turkmenistan did not have full sovereignty in conducting internal and foreign policy as a part of Russia and as a part of the Soviet Union.

Turkmenistan was founded as a result of the people's will, as expressed in an independence referendum on October 27, 1991, that was adopted by the Parliament.

The first elections for the President of Turkmenistan were held October 27,1990, after the new Turkmenistan Constitution had been adopted. On June 21, 1992, recurring elections for the President of Turkmenistan were held. Saparmurad Ataevich Niazov was unanimously elected as President of Turkmenistan.

On December 12, 1995, Turkmenistan was granted the status of neutrality by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly. Turkmenistan is the only country that has been granted constantneutrality status in the history of the UN. State neutrality status demonstrates the will of Turkmenistan to follow a hands-off policy and peaceful coexistence with neighboring countries and all nations of the world. Neutrality also has a positive influence on internal human rights protection and creates an environment for providing for the welfare of the population.

### 1.3 ECONOMY

During its years of independence, Turkmenistan has developed its own state and economic model, which is based on historical, national, ethnic, and social traditions of the Turkmen nation. The model of governmental development for Turkmenistan has proved highly effective. The social security of the population and equal opportunities for the commonwealth are based on economic achievements and internal production growth.

Turkmenistan has large mineral resources, such as oil, gas, sulfate, salt, and limestone. The country possesses 64 percent of all oil reserves in central Asia and is the fourth largest natural gas producer in the world.

Besides mineral products, other components of the Turkmenistan economy are the growth and export of cotton, the production of chemicals, the construction of machinery, the production of construction materials, the textile industry, and carpet weaving. Imports include mainly industrial and technical goods. Besides Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries, the main trade partners of Turkmenistan are Turkey, Iran, Japan, Germany, Italy, and Israel.

In agriculture, the government considers it most important to have efficient composition of economic relations, liberalization, and governmental protection. In agrobusiness, priority is given
to food production and the integration of different levels of producers into the manufacturing of final products.

Turkmenistan pays close attention to the expansion and modification of road and railway networks and the development of new air and sea routes. Such attention helps not only for the development of internal transportation networks but also for including them in the international communications system. Civil aviation and the sea fleet are constantly increasing their pool of aircraft and vessels.

Overall, structural shifts in the economy have supported the development of the market structure of the country, ensuring that the country will move forward, maintain food security and advance the well-being of the population. For example, Turkmenistan, is the only country in the world where gas, water, electricity, and salt are free of charge for its citizens. Public transportation costs are subsidized, and flour is available at a privileged price for children, students, invalids, and retired people.

The literacy level in Turkmenistan is 99 percent. The education system includes preschools, secondary schools, vocational schools, and high schools.

Prior to independence, Turkmenistan was developing as a regional subsystem of one national economic complex of a large country. The structure of its economy was determined by interunion labor subdivision. The supply of national consumer goods and food for the population was provided through a centralized system.

The government now implements an active policy aimed at ensuring economic stability. The main document for the policy is the program "Ten Years of Stability." In 2000, the national program "The Strategy for Social Economic Reform till 2010" was adopted. High levels of gas, oil, and cotton production are foreseen in it. Food independence is also an area of focus in the program. The technological context is aimed at a high production of fuel, energy, mineral, and agricultural resources. All of this will ensure high rates of economic growth, which will promote human development.

### 1.4 Health Care System and Epidemiological Situation

The highest value for every country is a healthy nation, and the main objective of state policy is the creation of conditions for the thorough development of each citizen. For improvement of health services delivery, the President of Turkmenistan approved the program "Health in 1995." The objective of the national program was the improvement of health through reforming the health care system. The priority directions for the health care system were identified: mother and child health protection; tuberculosis (TB) control; sexually transmitted infections (STIs), AIDS, viral hepatitis, and cardiovascular disease prevention. For solving those problems, it was indicated as necessary to retrain medical staff, to modify treatment protocols, to improve the population information system, and to guarantee the drug supply and the medical equipment supply for primary health units.

The reforms in health care are in the spheres of health management, financing, primary health care, hospital services, drug supply and use of people's resources, infrastructure, medical science, and legislation.

The governmental allocations to the health care system are aimed first of all at preventive medicine.

Beginning in 1996, family practice was implemented all over the country, and the state system of voluntary health insurance began to work. Currently, 92 percent of the population participates in the insurance system. Insurance payments go directly to the State Fund of Health Development and compose about 90 percent of it. The purchase of essential drugs, vaccines, and immune-prevention drugs are provided for by the fund. Essential drugs are sold for insurance receipts. The contract system of hiring staff is operating in all health institutions. Beginning in February 1996, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry (MOHMI) of Turkmenistan started to implement state licensing of medical and pharmaceutical activities.

With the aim to concentrate financial, human, and technical resources, all inefficient, small etrap (regional), velayat (district), and central health institutions were disbanded and replaced by large multifunctional medical facilities that were renamed hospitals. A total of 1,470 healthpreventive institutions were disbanded and replaced by rural or urban houses of health, central hospitals, and maternal and child health (MCH) centers at the regional, town, and district levels.

The network of district multiprofile hospitals has successfully developed, merging with diagnostic centers and consultative departments. Such merging helps to avoid profile duplications and to reorient the main part of the resources from inpatient care to primary health and preventive medicine. The number of hospitalizations significantly decreased by means of controlling the number of directions for hospitalization. That was achieved by improving the level of primary and medicosanitary services. The level of bed use increased through the decrease of average length of stay in the hospital (from 14.8 days in 1995 to 11.8 days in 1999). The use of international standards for calculation of bed rotation helped to decrease the average length of staying in bed for the patient to 9.1 days (during a 10-month period in 2000).

Medical staff resources in health care are undergoing reform through revision of the quantity and quality of medical education. Beginning in 1995 in the area of health reform, 20,000 jobs (about 18.4 percent) were eliminated. This was done mainly by the elimination of vacant positions for doctors $(2,000)$ and middle medical personal $(12,500)$. Currently, the third step of the reform is underway, causing the elimination 10,000 more jobs. Reducing the number of staff in health institutions will improve the professional level and will help to distribute the staff rationally. For successful implementation of the above-named objectives, MOHMI and the World Health Organization (WHO) have designed and are implementing the pilot project, including a model for a village primary-health treatment-prevention unit, founded on the basis of former FAPs (feldsherobstetrician points) and SVAs (village ambulances) using the staff of former units.

Pilot project activities are oriented toward effective integrated medical service delivery, which will ensure delivery of a number of services: health improvement, reproductive health for families, prevention, diagnostics, and treatment. The pilot site experience will be applied to other primary health units around the country.

For decreasing infant mortality rates, MOHMI has focused on the prevention of acute respiratory infection (ARI), acute intestinal infection (AII), and poliomyelitis. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) support the implementation of these projects.

In 1999, MOHMI adopted recommendations on "Adaptation and Implementation of WHO/UNICEF Materials on Integrated Management of Child Infections in Turkmenistan." An orientation meeting has been held to provide health workers information on WHO/UNICEF clinical approaches to integrated management of child infections. The pilot regions have been
chosen-Turkmenabat City and Gizilarbat Region. Data on child mortality and morbidity has been provided to WHO experts for program planning purposes.

### 1.5 Reproductive Health Policy and Programs

The government is paying close attention to the issues of maternal and child health. After adopting the Cairo Program of Actions, MOHMI, together with UNFPA, approved the Strategic Plan on reproductive health through 2005. According to this plan, Turkmenistan will provide the reproductive health services to give women the opportunity to successfully complete pregnancy and labor and to give couples a good chance to have a healthy child. The government gives families and individuals the right to decide the number of their children, as well as optional birth spacing, and supplies families with information on these issues.

The most important medical-social problems for women are reproductive health and decrease of mortality and morbidity. In 1998, after rationalization of primary health institutions, polyclinics were reorganized into houses of health, and women's consultations were moved to the houses of health according to district principals. Each institution provides an exact list of reproductive health services at the level of primary contact with a patient.

In Turkmenistan reproductive health services do not pursue the objective of decreasing the birth rate in the country or limiting the number of children. According to national interests, it is oriented toward avoiding pregnancy for women from high-risk groups, toward preventing maternal mortality, and toward ensuring optimal birth spacing.

Of all methods of contraception, the IUD is the most commonly used ( 20 percent of women of fertile age) due to its security and convenience of use. Less popular are hormonal pills (1.3 percent) and injectables ( 0.6 percent). Surgical methods of sterilization are familiar but are not in demand. Overall, government statistics indicate that approximately 22 percent of women in the fertile age use modern contraceptives.

In connection with the implementation of the Reproductive Health Program, the tendency of the abortion rate to decrease becomes obvious. Recently, miniabortions have begun to prevail in the total abortion rate. Currently, with the decrease of the total abortion rate, the number of miniabortions has also decreased. Because of the availability of medical abortions up to 12 weeks of pregnancy, criminal abortions are not frequent. Their part in the total abortion rate was only 0.4 percent to 0.06 percent for 1998-1999. The number of abortions for women under 15 was even less ( 0.1 percent in 1998 and 0.01 percent in 1999).

### 1.6 Demographic and Health Data Collection System in Turkmenistan

The demographic and health data collection system in Turkmenistan is based on the registration of events and a periodical census. Demographic data collection and analysis is the prerogative of the Turkmenmelihasabat (National Institute of State Statistics and Information). The data on birth, death, marriage, and divorce are registered at the local administrative level. These data are forwarded to the Turkmenmelihasabat through regional and district statistical offices. The Turkmenmelihasabat is responsible for conducting censuses and demographic analysis during the periods between censuses. The last census in Turkmenistan was conducted in 1995, and its results were published in 1996. The Turkmenmelihasabat is also responsible for the tabulation of health data for the country and the publication of demographic data and social and economic information.

### 1.7 Objectives and Organization of the Survey

The Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS 2000) is the first national survey of maternal and child health in Turkmenistan. The survey was implemented by the Gurbansoltan Eje Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health (MCH Institute) and was financed through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Technical support was provided by the MEASURE DHS + project of ORC Macro and logistical support by UNFPA/Turkemenistan.

The purpose of the survey was to develop a single integrated set of data for the government of Turkmenistan to use in planning effective policies and programs in the areas of health and nutrition. TDHS 2000 collected data on women's reproductive history, knowledge and use of contraceptive methods, breastfeeding practices and nutrition, vaccination coverage, and episodes of diseases among children under the age of five. Information on the knowledge of and attitudes toward HIV/AIDS, other sexually transmitted infections, and tuberculosis were also collected. The survey also included the measurement of the hemoglobin level in the blood to assess the prevalence of anemia and measurements of height and weight to assess nutrition status.

The TDHS 2000 also contributes to the growing international database on demographic and health-related variables.

## Sampling Design and Implementation

Sampling and listing of households were designed and implemented by the Turkmenmelihasabat (National Institute of State Statistics and Information) with support from the MEASURE DHS + project of Macro International Inc.

The TDHS 2000 was designed to collect demographic and health data from a nationally representative sample of women in the reproductive ages (i.e., women 15-49). The design specification was based on the objectives of estimating sociodemographic and health indicators, including fertility and mortality rates, at the national level, for urban and rural areas and for the six regions of the country (Ashgabad City and Akhal, Balkan, Dashoguz, Lebap and Mary).

The sample design was specified in terms of households. The design called for a two-stage stratified probability sample that was self-weighting within each of the six regions. In the first stage, standard segments were selected with probability proportional to size. Overall, 231 PSUs were selected: 118 in urban areas and 113 in rural areas. A complete household listing was conducted in the PSUs. In the second stage, households were selected with probability proportional to the inverse of the first stage probability of PSU selection.

Among the 6,391 currently occupied households in the selected sample, the Household Schedule was completed in 6,302 , for a response rate of 98.6 percent. Of the eligible 8,250 women age 15-49 in those households, 7,919 were interviewed for a response rate of 96.0 percent. The overall survey response rate was 94.7 percent.

Additional details of sampling procedures are given in Appendix A and estimates of the sampling errors for selected statistics are given in Appendix B.

## Questionnaires

Two questionnaires were used for TDHS 2000: the Household Questionnaire and Women's Questionnaire. These questionnaires were based on the model survey instruments developed for the MEASURE DHS+ project and were adapted to the data needs of Turkmenistan during consultations with specialists in the area of reproductive health and child health and nutrition. The questionnaires were developed at first in English and then translated into Russian and Turkmen. A pretest was conducted in April 2000. Based on the pretest, the questionnaires were revised and finalized.

The Household Questionnaire was used to enumerate all usual members and visitors in a sample household and to collect information related to the socioeconomic status of the household. In the first part of the Household Questionnaire, information was collected on age, sex, education attainment, and relationship to the head of household for each person listed as a household member or visitor. A primary objective of the first part of the Household Questionnaire was to identify women who would be eligible for the individual interview. In the second part of the Household Questionnaire, information was collected on the characteristics of the dwelling unit, such as the source of water and the type of toilet facilities, and on the availability of a variety of consumer goods.

The Women's Questionnaire was used to collect information from eligible respondents (i.e., women age $15-49$ who were usual household members or who were present in the household the night before interviewer's visit) on the following major topics:

- Background characteristics
- Pregnancy history
- Outcome of pregnancies, antenatal and postnatal care
- Child health and nutrition practices
- Child immunization and episodes of diarrhea and respiratory illness
- Knowledge and use of contraception
- Marriage and fertility preferences
- Husband's background and women's work
- Knowledge of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections
- Maternal and child anthropometry
- Hemoglobin measurement of women and children.


## Training and Fieldwork

The TDHS 2000 questionnaires were pretested in April 2000. Eight interviewers were trained during a one-week period at the MCH Institute of Turkmenistan. The pretest included one week of interviewing in an urban area (Ashgabad City). A total of 100 women were interviewed. Pretest interviewers were retained to serve as supervisors and field editors for the main survey.

Fifty-five people, mostly physicians, were recruited as field supervisors, editors, health investigators, and interviewers for the main survey fieldwork. They were trained at the MCH Institute for three and a half weeks in June 2000. Training consisted of lectures and practice in the classroom, as well as role playing. The training of health investigators, who were responsible for anthropometric measurements (height and weight) and hemoglobin testing of women and children, was accomplished in two days in the classroom and three days in the field.

At the end of the training, the field staff was divided into six survey teams. Each team consisted of eight people, including one supervisor, one editor, five interviewers, and one health investigator. Besides this, six field coordinators were recruited from the staff of the MCH Institute and were responsible for communication and coordination of activities between the center and field teams.

The personnel for the survey teams were partly recruited from the staff of the MCH Institute and partly from different regions of the country.

All six teams started data collection on June 28, 2000, in Ashgabad. Beginning in mid-July, all six teams started data collection in the field. Data collection was completed on September 15, 2000.

## Data Processing

Questionnaires were returned to the MCH Institute for final editing and data processing. The office editing staff checked that questionnaires for all selected households and eligible respondents were returned from the field. Additionally, final editing included coding for a set of categories such as occupation and type of iron pills. Data were then entered and edited on computers using the Integrated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA) package, with data software translated into Russian. Office editing and data entry activities began on August 15 and were completed on October 14, 2000.

## Survey Response Rates

Table 1.1 summarizes the results of the fieldwork for the TDHS 2000. Overall, the household response rate was 98.6 percent and the individual women response rate was 96.0 percent. As is usually the case in household surveys, response rates were somewhat higher in rural than in urban areas.

| Table 1.1 Results of the household and individual interviews |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of households, number of interviews and response rates, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Result | Urban | Rural | Total |
| Household interviews |  |  |  |
| Households sampled | 3,688 | 3,162 | 6,850 |
| Households found | 3,347 | 3,044 | 6,391 |
| Households interviewed | 3,277 | 3,026 | 6,303 |
| Household response rate | 97.9 | 99.4 | 98.6 |
| Individual interviews |  |  |  |
| Number of eligible women | 3,836 | 4,414 | 8,250 |
| Number of eligible women interviewed | 3,693 | 4,226 | 7,919 |
| Eligible woman response rate | e 96.3 | 95.7 | 96.0 |

# HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS 

B.S. Sopyev and K. Fair

This chapter provides a descriptive summary of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the household population and the individual respondents in the 2000 Turkmenistan Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS). This information is useful for interpreting the survey findings and serves as an approximate indicator of the representativeness of the survey and of the quality of the data.

This chapter is divided into three parts. The first part deals with the characteristics of the household population in terms of age-sex composition, household size and distribution, and educational background. The second part describes the housing environment in which the respondents and their children live. The background characteristics of women age 15 to 49 years are discussed in the last part of the chapter.

### 2.1 Demographic Characteristics of Households

The Household Questionnaire was used in the TDHS 2000 to collect data on the demographic and social characteristics of all the usual residents of the sampled household and visitors who had spent the previous night in the household. A household, as defined in the survey, refers to a person or group of people usually living and eating together and jointly running the household's economy (de jure population). A visitor is someone who is not a usual resident of the household but slept in the household the night before the interview.

The distribution of the TDHS 2000 household population is presented in Table 2.1 and Figure 2.1, by five-year age groups according to urban-rural residence and sex. The total de facto population in the selected households was 30,830 people. In general, the survey results show that females outnumber males in Turkmenistan (52 and 48 percent, respectively). The male/female ratio varies by age. It is as high as 108 males per 100 females among those below age 15 and as low as 75 males per 100 females among those, age 65 and older. The ratio is almost similar in urban and rural areas ( 94 and 95 males per 100 women, respectively)

More than one-third (36 percent) of the population consists of children 14 years of age and under, with the proportion of children in rural areas greater than in urban areas ( 38 and 34 percent, respectively). Starting with age group 10-14, there is a gradual decrease in the proportion of the population in each successive age group. The relatively small size of the male and female populations in age group $55-59$ is a reflection of the low birth rates during World War II (i.e., 55 to 60 years prior to the TDHS 2000). Women 15-49 years of age, who are the main TDHS respondents, constitute about one-half of the de facto household population: 51 percent.

The results further indicate that 59 percent of the population of Turkmenistan is in the 15-64 age group, and the population age 65 years and older accounts for 5 percent of the total population. A distinct feature of the age distribution of the population is that the proportion of the dependent population-those younger than 15 or older than 65-is higher in rural areas ( 43 percent) than in urban areas ( 39 percent). This difference may be attributed to rural-urban migration of the economically active population-those age 15 to 65-especially youth, in search of jobs.

## Table 2.1 Household population by age, residence, and sex

Percent distribution of the de facto household population by five-year age group, according to sex and urbanrural residence, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age | Urban |  |  | Rural |  |  | Total |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| 0-4 | 9.8 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 13.1 | 11.6 | 12.3 | 11.7 | 10.6 | 11.1 |
| 5-9 | 12.5 | 11.4 | 11.9 | 13.2 | 12.3 | 12.7 | 12.9 | 11.9 | 12.4 |
| 10-14 | 13.0 | 11.3 | 12.2 | 13.3 | 13.2 | 13.2 | 13.2 | 12.4 | 12.8 |
| 15-19 | 9.8 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 10.6 | 11.2 | 10.9 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.3 |
| 20-24 | 8.6 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 10.8 | 10.0 | 8.9 | 9.9 | 9.4 |
| 25-29 | 8.4 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 9.1 | 7.9 | 8.5 | 8.8 | 7.9 | 8.3 |
| 30-34 | 7.7 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 6.8 | 6.1 | 6.4 | 7.1 | 6.7 | 6.9 |
| 35-39 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 5.2 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 6.2 | 6.0 |
| 40-44 | 5.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 |
| 45-49 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 5.0 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| 50-54 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.8 | 3.5 |
| 55-59 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| 60-64 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| 65-69 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| 70-74 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.8 | 1.6 |
| 75-79 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| 80+ | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Missing/don't know | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number | 6,497 | 6,947 | 13,443 | 8,449 | 8,938 | 17,387 | 14,946 | 15,885 | 30,830 |

Figure 2.1 Population Pyramid of Turkmenistan


TDHS 2000

The percent distribution of the population by broad age groups according to the 1995 Turkmenistan Census and the TDHS 2000 is presented in Table 2.2. There appears to be a progressive decline since the 1995 Census in the proportion of the population under 15, as well as a concomitant increase in the median age. The growth of the 15-64 age group results in a declining dependency ratio, calculated as the ratio of people in the dependent age groups to people in the economically active age group. This slight aging of the population is the result of a continuous decline in fertility levels since 1990. Correspondence of the percent distribution of the population in broad age groups between the TDHS 2000 and the 1995 Turkmenistan Census confirms the overall quality of the TDHS sample.

| Table 2.2 Population by age, according to select sources |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Percent distribution of the population by age group, according to selected sources Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| Age group | $\begin{gathered} 1995 \\ \text { Census } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & \text { TDHS } \end{aligned}$ |
| $<15$ | 40.5 | 36.3 |
| 15-64 | 56.0 | 58.8 |
| 65+ | 3.4 | 4.9 |
| Missing/DK | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Median age | 19.6 | 21.8 |

### 2.2 Household Composition

Information on the size and composition of sample households by urban-rural residence is presented on Table 2.3. The head of household (as recognized by other members) and the relationship of each household member to the head was determined in each household. In general, heads of households are male ( 74 percent). In urban areas the proportion of households headed by men ( 65 percent) is less than the proportion in rural areas (81 percent).

About 42 percent of households consist of between one and four members, with the average size of a household in Turkmenistan being 5.1 members. There are significant differences in the household size between urban and rural areas, with the average urban household consisting of 4.4 members compared to 5.7 in rural households. Only 3 percent of households include a child under 15 neither of whose parents were household members.

Table 2.4 presents information on children under age 15 by survival status of the parents according to selected sociobiological factors.

Eighty-eight percent of children under age 15 live with both parents. As children get older, fewer of them live with both parents; 94 percent of children in the age group 0 -live with both parents, compared to 84 percent in the age group 10-14 years. Rural children are more likely than urban children to live with both parents. Eight percent of

Note: Table is based on de jure household members, i.e., usual residents
children under 15 are living with only their mother; of these, 3 percent have lost their fathers and 5 percent have fathers who are still alive.

Regarding orphanhood, about 3 percent of children under age 15 have fathers who have died, and less than 1 percent have mothers who have died, while an insignificant proportion (0.1 percent) have lost both parents.

| Table 2.4 Fosterhood and orphanhood |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of de jure children under age 15 by survival status of parents and child's living arrangements, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Living with both parents | Livi with m but not | ing mother father |  | ing father mother |  | Not livi either | ng with parent |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic |  | Father alive | Father dead | Mother alive | Mother dead | Both alive | Father only alive | Mother only alive | Both dead | info. on father/ mother |  | Number of children |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0-2 | 93.9 | 4.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 2,058 |
| 3-5 | 91.0 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 2,175 |
| 6-9 | 87.1 | 5.1 | 3.4 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 3,164 |
| 10-14 | 83.6 | 4.9 | 5.5 | 0.7 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 2.4 | 100.0 | 3,999 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 88.2 | 4.4 | 3.3 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 5,736 |
| Female | 87.5 | 5.2 | 3.3 | 0.4 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 5,660 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 81.7 | 9.1 | 4.4 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 4,656 |
| Rural | 92.1 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 6,740 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 77.5 | 13.0 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 1,104 |
| Akhal | 90.7 | 2.5 | 3.4 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 1,732 |
| Balkan | 86.8 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 975 |
| Dashoguz | 91.2 | 3.1 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 2,334 |
| Lebap | 86.8 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 2.3 | 100.0 | 2,736 |
| Mary | 89.0 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 2,514 |
| Total | 87.9 | 4.8 | 3.3 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 11,396 |
| Note: Orphans are children with both parents dead |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 2.3 Educational Level Of Household Members

The high correlation between level of education and positive health and other social indicators makes education an important variable in any study of households. Higher education, especially for women, is usually associated with greater knowledge and use of sound health practices and family planning methods.

Turkmenistan's primary and secondary educational system has three levels: primary (classes 1 through 4, age 7 to 10 years), principal (classes 5 through 9, age 11 to 15 years), secondary (classes 10 and 11, age 16 to 17 years). Most schools in Turkmenistan offer all three levels of primary/secondary education. The primary and principal education levels are compulsory. Students who leave school after the principal level may continue in secondary-special (vocational) education. Students who finish all three levels of primary/secondary school can continue on in higher education at universities or in academic training classes.

### 2.3.1 Educational Attainment of Household Members

Table 2.5 presents information on the highest level of education attained by the population according to sex, age, residence, and region. The data shows the high educational level of Turkmenistan's population with about 97 percent of men and 95 percent of women having had at least some education.

Educational attainment is slightly higher among men than women, although the differences are minor. Most of household members age 6 and older have attended school, and 10 percent of men and nearly 6 percent of women have some higher education. There are noticeable attainment differences by residence, with urban residents being more likely than rural residents to have attended secondary special or higher education. Educational attainment is also significantly higher in Ashgabad City than elsewhere.

Patterns in educational attainment among female respondents (women age 15-49) are similar to those among the entire female household population. Nearly all women have attended school, with younger women being more likely than older women to have attended school and attained higher levels of schooling. The greatest differences in attainment are between urban and rural areas, and between Ashgabad City and other regions.

### 2.3.2 School Attendance Ratios

Table 2.6 presents net and gross attendance ratios by school level, sex, and residence. The net attendance ratio (NAR) indicates participation in schooling among those of official school age, which is age 7-10 for primary and 11-17 for secondary. The gross attendance ratio (GAR) indicates participation in schooling among youth of any age, from age 7-24, and is expressed as a percentage of the school-age population for that level of schooling. The GAR is always higher than the NAR for the same level, because the GAR includes participation by youth who may be older, or younger, than the official age range for that level. ${ }^{1}$ A NAR of 100 percent would indicate that all of the children in the official age range for the level are attending that level. The GAR can exceed 100 percent, if there is significant overage or underage participation at that level of schooling. The difference between these ratios indicates the incidence of overage and underage participation.

School participation among those household members of school age is generally high, though participation is lower at the secondary level. The primary NAR is slightly higher among male than female children ( 86 versus 84 percent) and at the secondary level, is virtually the same among male and female youth (both about 79 percent). The NAR at both the primary and secondary levels is comparable in urban and rural areas.

[^0]| Percent distribution of the de facto male and female household population age six and over by highest level of education attended, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Level of education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | No education | Primary/ secondary | Secondaryspecial | Higher | Don't' know/ missing | Total | Number | number of years |
| MALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6-9 | 21.9 | 78.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,154 | 0.9 |
| 10-14 | 1.1 | 98.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,969 | 4.7 |
| 15-19 | 0.5 | 93.2 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,527 | 8.5 |
| 20-24 | 0.7 | 73.7 | 17.1 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,326 | 9.6 |
| 25-29 | 0.2 | 61.9 | 26.4 | 11.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,312 | 9.8 |
| 30-34 | 1.1 | 53.7 | 30.9 | 14.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,068 | 9.9 |
| 35-39 | 0.6 | 52.0 | 31.1 | 16.1 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 881 | 10.0 |
| 40-44 | 1.0 | 52.5 | 26.7 | 19.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 789 | 9.9 |
| 45-49 | 0.8 | 44.3 | 29.0 | 25.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 636 | 11.2 |
| 50-54 | 0.1 | 45.8 | 24.2 | 29.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 479 | 11.3 |
| 55-59 | 1.5 | 47.5 | 25.7 | 25.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 279 | 11.0 |
| 60-64 | 3.1 | 58.7 | 19.8 | 17.7 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 388 | 9.5 |
| $65+$ | 8.8 | 68.2 | 9.9 | 12.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 622 | 6.7 |
| Missing/DK | 68.7 | 31.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 2.9 | 63.9 | 19.5 | 13.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 5,540 | 9.3 |
| Rural | 3.5 | 76.2 | 12.6 | 7.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 6,893 | 9.1 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 2.1 | 56.1 | 18.6 | 22.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,505 | 9.6 |
| Akhal | 2.2 | 75.6 | 14.5 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,848 | 9.1 |
| Balkan | 3.4 | 69.9 | 18.4 | 8.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,206 | 9.2 |
| Dashoguz | 3.5 | 78.5 | 10.6 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,436 | 9.2 |
| Lebap | 3.5 | 66.2 | 20.9 | 9.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,797 | 9.2 |
| Mary | 3.9 | 73.6 | 12.8 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,641 | 9.1 |
| Total | 3.2 | 70.7 | 15.7 | 10.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 12,434 | 9.2 |
| FEMALES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6-9 | 24.3 | 75.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,115 | 0.8 |
| 10-14 | 1.4 | 98.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,965 | 4.8 |
| 15-19 | 0.7 | 93.6 | 4.5 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,647 | 8.5 |
| 20-24 | 0.6 | 78.2 | 16.3 | 4.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,577 | 9.5 |
| 25-29 | 1.6 | 62.5 | 27.9 | 8.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,257 | 9.8 |
| 30-34 | 1.3 | 55.4 | 31.3 | 12.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,064 | 9.9 |
| 35-39 | 2.1 | 63.5 | 26.3 | 7.9 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 979 | 9.7 |
| 40-44 | 2.0 | 69.3 | 18.6 | 9.9 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 852 | 9.7 |
| 45-49 | 3.2 | 64.4 | 21.9 | 10.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 683 | 9.6 |
| 50-54 | 2.5 | 63.2 | 17.7 | 16.1 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 603 | 9.6 |
| 55-59 | 4.1 | 78.1 | 9.3 | 7.6 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 318 | 7.4 |
| 60-64 | 5.2 | 74.1 | 12.6 | 7.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 460 | 6.9 |
| $65+$ | 17.6 | 68.8 | 8.2 | 5.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 891 | 6.2 |
| Missing/DK | 100.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2 | 0.0 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 3.9 | 66.0 | 20.7 | 9.3 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 5,964 | 9.2 |
| Rural | 5.3 | 83.6 | 8.2 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 7,450 | 8.7 |
| Region | 3.4 | 57.1 | 21.8 | 17.2 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,709 | 9.5 |
| Ashgabad City | 5.0 | 85.8 | 7.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,969 | 8.7 |
| Akhal | 5.0 | 77.0 | 14.8 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,236 | 8.9 |
| Balkan | 4.8 | 81.1 | 10.5 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,540 | 9.0 |
| Dashoguz | 4.2 | 68.5 | 20.2 | 7.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3,106 | 9.1 |
| Lebap | 5.5 | 82.7 | 8.7 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,853 | 8.9 |
| Mary |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 4.7 | 75.8 | 13.8 | 5.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 13,414 | 9.0 |


| Table 2.6 School attendance ratios |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de facto household population, by level of schooling, sex and residence, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Net attendance ratio ${ }^{1}$ |  |  | Gross attendance ratio ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |
| Residence | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| PRIMARY SCHOOL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 86.4 | 84.0 | 85.3 | 102.1 | 98.4 | 100.3 |
| Rural | 84.9 | 84.3 | 84.6 | 100.8 | 100.6 | 100.7 |
| Total | 85.6 | 84.2 | 84.9 | 101.3 | 99.7 | 100.5 |
| SECONDARY SCHOOL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 78.8 | 80.1 | 79.4 | 86.8 | 87.1 | 87.0 |
| Rural | 78.2 | 78.3 | 78.3 | 83.6 | 81.6 | 82.5 |
| Total | 78.5 | 79.0 | 78.7 | 85.0 | 83.8 | 84.4 |
| The NAR for primary school is the percentage of the primary-school age ( $7-10$ years) population that is attending primary school. The NAR for secondary school is the percentage of the secondary-school-age (11-17 years) population that is attending secondary school. By definition the NAR cannot exceed $100 \%$. <br> ${ }^{2}$ The GAR for primary school is the total number of primary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary-school-age population. The GAR for secondary school is the total number of secondary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official secondary-school-age population. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed $100 \%$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

There is significant overage participation at the primary school level, as indicated by the gap between the net and gross attendance ratios: About 15 percent of the students are either older than age 10 or younger than age 7 , with most being overage rather than underage. At the secondary level, a far smaller proportion of students are overage ( 5 percent).

Figure 2.2 presents the age-specific attendance rates (ASAR) for the population age 7-24, by sex. The ASAR indicates participation in schooling at any level, from primary through higher education. The closer the ASAR is to 100 percent, the higher is the proportion of people of the given age that is attending school. Most of youth of primary to secondary school age (7-17) attend school, and there are no significant differences by gender. The relatively lower age-specific attendance rate (ASAR) among children age 7 ( 32 percent) reflects the fact that many of these 7 -year-olds were likely only age 6 during the school year covered by the survey, and hence were not eligible to attend school at that point in time. From age 17-24, a successively smaller proportion of individuals attend school.

Figure 2.2 Age-specific Attendance Rates (Percentage of the De Facto Household Population Age 7-24 Attending School)


TDHS 2000

### 2.4 Housing Characteristics

Table 2.7 provides information on selected housing characteristics by residence. This information is helpful in assessing the general socioeconomic conditions of the population. To assess the conditions in which respondents live, they were asked questions about certain characteristics of their households, including electricity, source of drinking water, type of sanitation facilities, time to water sources, handwashing facilities, type of fuel for cooking, quality of the floor, and ownership of a garden or dacha and animals.

As seen from Table 2.7, virtually all sampled households are supplied with electricity. The source of drinking water usually determines its quality. Fifty-five percent of households in Turkmenistan have piped water. Most other households use well water. Eighty-one percent of urban households use piped water, most of which (50 percent) have the pipes inside. In rural areas, 29 percent of households have piped water, while more than one-third of the population uses water from wells, and 20 percent uses water from open sources. Tanker trucks provide water to 6 percent of rural households. Most or urban and rural households are within 15 minutes of a source of water.

One indicator of sanitary conditions is the type of toilet in a household. In Turkmenistan, a majority of households ( 71 percent) have traditional pit toilets (latrines) and 28 percent have flush toilets. In urban areas, 55 percent of households have a flush toilet, compared with 1 percent in rural areas. Ninety-eight percent of rural households have traditional pit toilets.

Handwashing facilities are available in most households: 78 percent or more of households have water, soap or another cleaning agent, and a basin available for handwashing.

| Table 2.7 Housing characteristics |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of households by housing characteristics, according to residence, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Urban | Rural | Total |
| Electricity |  |  |  |
| Yes | 99.7 | 99.6 | 99.6 |
| No | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Missing | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Source of drinking water |  |  |  |
| Piped into residence | 49.9 | 1.1 | 25.7 |
| Piped into yard/plot | 31.1 | 27.9 | 29.5 |
| Public tap. | 8.1 | 5.6 | 6.9 |
| Open well in residence | 0.3 | 3.2 | 1.7 |
| Open well in yard/plot | 6.1 | 24.4 | 15.2 |
| Open public well | 1.6 | 10.4 | 6.0 |
| Open water | 0.6 | 20.0 | 10.2 |
| Tanker truck | 1.9 | 6.3 | 4.0 |
| Bottled water | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.5 |
| Missing | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Time to water source |  |  |  |
| $<15$ minutes (\%) | 96.3 | 88.6 | 92.5 |
| Sanitation facilities |  |  |  |
| Own flush toilet | 54.5 | 0.9 | 27.9 |
| Traditional pit toilet | 44.9 | 98.0 | 71.3 |
| No facility/bush | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| Other | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Missing | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Handwashing facilities |  |  |  |
| Water/tap in household | 90.1 | 66.0 | 78.2 |
| Soap/cleansing agent in household | 91.8 | 75.8 | 83.9 |
| Basin in household | 89.7 | 73.5 | 81.6 |
| Type of cooking fuel |  |  |  |
| Electricity | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| LPG, natural gas | 97.9 | 94.1 | 96.0 |
| Biogas | 1.3 | 4.9 | 3.1 |
| Charcoal | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Firewood, straw | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Missing | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Flooring material |  |  |  |
| Earth/sand | 0.8 | 4.1 | 2.4 |
| Wood planks | 70.7 | 90.9 | 80.7 |
| Parquet/polished wood | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Linoleum | 24.6 | 0.8 | 12.8 |
| PVC tiles | 2.7 | 4.1 | 3.4 |
| Cement | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Missing | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Household owns |  |  |  |
| A dacha or access to garden | 23.1 | 79.4 | 51.1 |
| Animals | 32.4 | 86.6 | 59.3 |
| Total | 3.174 | 3,129 | 6,303 |

Virtually all households in Turkmenistan use biogas or natural gas for cooking.

Regarding the type of flooring material, a large percentage ( 81 percent) of households have wood planks, which are slightly more common in rural households (91 percent) than urban households (71 percent). Twenty-five percent of urban households have linoleum floors.

In the TDHS 2000, households were asked if any member owned a dacha or had access to a garden from which he or she obtained fruits and vegetables during the growing season. The data indicate that 23 percent of urban households and 79 percent of rural households in Turkmenistan have access to a dacha or garden. Households were also asked about ownership of animals. Eighty-seven percent of rural households own animals, compared with only 32 percent in urban areas.

## Household Durable Goods

Table 2.8 indicates the percentage of households owning specific durable goods by residence. Ownership of a radio or a television is a measure of access to mass media; refrigerator ownership indicates the capacity for hygienic food storage; and ownership of a bicycle, motorcycle, or private car shows the means of transportation available to the household. The availability of durable consumer goods is a rough measure of household socioeconomic status.

The results show that 46 percent of households have a radio, 93 percent have a television, 86 percent have a refrigerator, 42 percent have a telephone, 13 percent have a bicycle, 18 percent have a private motorcycle, and 29 percent have a car. About 3 percent of households have none of these durable goods.

Urban-rural differentials can be seen in the ownership of specific durable goods. In general, these goods are more available in urban households than in rural households except for the car and motorcycle ownership. For example, more than half of urban households have a telephone ( 66 percent), while the proportion in rural areas is only 17 percent. Ninety-one percent of households in urban areas have a refrigerator, compared with 82 percent in rural areas. A higher proportion of both urban and rural households own a television (94 and 92 percent, respectively). Rural households are almost three times more likely to own a motorcycle than urban households due to the greater need for transportation in rural areas.

| Table 2.8 Household durable goods |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of households possessing various durable consumer goods, by residence, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
|  | Residence |  | Total |
| Durable consumer goods | Urban | Rural |  |
| Radio | 47.1 | 43.9 | 45.5 |
| Television | 94.3 | 92.1 | 93.2 |
| Telephone | 66.0 | 17.3 | 41.9 |
| Refrigerator | 90.5 | 81.5 | 86.1 |
| Bicycle | 9.9 | 16.3 | 13.1 |
| Motorcycle | 9.7 | 26.1 | 17.8 |
| Car/truck | 27.2 | 30.8 | 29.0 |
| None of the above | 2.1 | 2.9 | 2.5 |
| Number of households | 3,174 | 3,129 | 6,303 |

# WOMEN'S CHARACTERISTICS AND STATUS 

A.Y. Khaitova, B.A. Gairova, and S. Kishor

The purpose of this chapter is to present a profile of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of women age 15-49 who were identified by the TDHS 2000 Household Questionnaire as eligible respondents for the Women's Questionnaire. In addition, data are presented on women's status in Turkmenistan. This information is useful for understanding the context of reproduction and health and provides indicators of the status of women and of women's empowerment. Three aspects of women's situation are presented: education, employment, and direct measures of empowerment. While education and employment can contribute to women's empowerment, direct measures of women's empowerment allow an evaluation of women's perception of their own rights and their degree of control over their own lives.

### 3.1 Characteristics of Survey Respondents

### 3.1.1 Background Characteristics

Table 3.1 presents the percent distribution of women by age, current marital status, residence, region, highest educational level, and ethnicity. Women were asked two questions to determine their ages: "In what month and year were you born?" and "How old were you at your last birthday?" Interviewers were trained in probing techniques for situations in which respondents did not know their age or date of birth.

Results show that the percentage of women in five-year age groups declines steadily with increasing age. About 39 percent of women are in the age group 15-24 and 29 percent of women are in the age group 25-34. Married women comprise large proportions of the total women interviewed ( 62 percent), while never-married women constitute 32 percent. Two percent of women are widowed and 4 percent of women are divorced.

Forty-seven percent of respondents reside in urban areas and 53 percent live in rural areas. The percent distribution of the interviewed women by region of residence is as follows: 13 percent live in Ashgabad City, 15 percent in Akhal Region, 9 percent in Balkan Region, 21 percent in Dashoguz Region, 20 percent in Lebap Region, and 23 percent in Mary Region.

Almost all TDHS 2000 respondents had attended at least primary/secondary school, 20 percent had a secondary-special education, and 7 percent had a higher education.

Ethnically, the respondents in the TDHS 2000 are distributed as follows: ethnic Turkmens, 78 percent; ethnic Uzbeks, 11 percent; ethnic Russians, 5 percent; ethnic Kazakhs, 1 percent and other ethnic groups 5 percent.

Table 3.2 shows the distribution of women by ethnicity, religion, and residence according to region. The data indicates that Turkmens are dominant ethnic group in all survey regions. Dashoguz and Lebap regions have relatively high concentration of women of Uzbek ethnicity. Russian women make up 27 percent of the respondents in Ashgabad City and present in less than 5 percent in other survey regions.

| Table 3.1 Background characteristics of respondents |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
|  |  | Number of women |  |
| Background characteristic | Weighted percent | Weighted | $\underset{\text { weighted }}{\text { Un- }}$ |
| Age |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 19.9 | 1,574 | 1,589 |
| 20-24 | 19.5 | 1,541 | 1,580 |
| 25-29 | 15.9 | 1,256 | 1,260 |
| 35-39 | 13.4 | 1,060 | 1,059 |
| 40-44 | 12.3 | 974 845 | 958 |
| 45-49 | 8.4 | 669 | 656 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |
| Never married | 32.4 | 2,563 | 2,655 |
| Married/living together | 61.8 | 2,563 | 2,655 |
| Widowed | 2.2 | 174 | 168 |
| Divorced/separated | 3.7 | 289 | 267 |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Urban | 46.6 | 3,691 | 3,693 |
| Rural | 53.4 | 4,228 | 4,226 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 13.1 | 1,038 | 585 |
| Akhal | 14.5 | 1,145 | 1,081 |
| Balkan | 9.0 | 709 | 1,000 |
| Dashoguz | 20.6 | 1,628 | 2,833 |
| Lebap | 20.3 | 1,607 | 1,263 |
| Mary | 22.6 | 1,791 | 1,157 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| No education | 1.0 | 76 | 76 |
| Primary/secondary | 72.3 | 5,725 | 5,843 |
| Secondary-special | 19.6 | 1,556 | 1,515 |
| Higher | 7.1 | , 563 | 485 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 78.2 | 6,191 | 5,906 |
| Uzbek | 10.8 | 6,857 | 1,269 |
| Russian | 5.3 | 420 | , 299 |
| Kazakh | 1.0 | 80 | 133 |
| Other | 4.7 | 371 | 312 |
| Total | 100.0 | 7,919 | 7,919 |
| Note: Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was competed. |  |  |  |

The dominant religion in Turkmenistan is Muslim: more than 90 percent of the respondents in all survey regions except Ashgabad City reported that they are Muslims. In the capital city of Ashgabad, which has high concentration of women of Russian ethnicity, 27 percent of women said they are Christians. The majority of women in Turkmenistan reside in rural areas. An exception is Balkan region, where 80 percent of women reside in urban areas.

### 3.1.2 Educational Level of Respondents

Table 3.3 shows the percent distribution of women by the highest level of education attended according to background characteristics. Approximately 72 percent of respondents have attended primary/secondary school, 20 percent have attended secondary-special school, and 7 percent have had higher education.

There are significant differences in education between urban and rural areas and between regions. The proportion of respondents with higher education in urban areas is more than three times higher than in rural areas. This proportion is also higher in Ashgabad City compared to other regions. The proportion of respondents with secondary-special education in urban areas is more than two times higher than in rural areas This proportion is higher in Ashgabad City, Balkan and Lebap regions compared to other survey regions.

The level of education of Turkmen and Uzbek women is about similar. More than 70 percent of Turkmen and Uzbek women have primary/secondary education. Sixteen percent of Turkmen and 22 percent of Uzbek women have secondary-special education. Seven percent of Turkmen and 5 percent of Uzbek women have higher education. Among women of other ethnic groups 41 percent have attended secondary-special school, and 12 percent have had higher education.

Table 3.2 Residence, ethnicity, and religion by region
Percent distribution of women by residence, ethnicity, and religion, according to region, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Region |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Ashgabad City | Akhal | Balkan | Dashoguz | Lebap | Mary |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 100.0 | 32.0 | 79.6 | 32.8 | 44.3 | 26.5 | 46.6 |
| Rural | 0.0 | 68.0 | 20.4 | 67.2 | 55.7 | 73.5 | 53.4 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 67.4 | 94.1 | 88.7 | 59.0 | 80.1 | 85.8 | 78.2 |
| Uzbek | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 36.5 | 14.9 | 0.8 | 10.8 |
| Russian | 23.8 | 2.3 | 4.0 | 0.6 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 5.3 |
| Kazakh | 0.0 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Other | 8.3 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 8.8 | 4.7 |
| Religion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Muslim | 71.6 | 97.1 | 94.8 | 99.1 | 96.8 | 93.5 | 93.1 |
| Christian | 27.3 | 2.8 | 5.1 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 5.2 | 6.3 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Not religious | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.4 |
| Don't know | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number | 1,038 | 1,145 | 709 | 1,628 | 1,607 | 1,791 | 7,919 |

## Table 3.3 Educational attainment by background characteristics

Percent distribution of women by highest level of schooling attained, and median number of years of schooling, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Highest level of education attended |  |  | Total | Number of women | Median years of schooling |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | None/ Primary/ secondary | Secondaryspecial | Higher |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 94.0 | 4.5 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 1,574 | 8.5 |
| 20-24 | 79.3 | 15.8 | 4.9 | 100.0 | 1,541 | 9.5 |
| 25-29 | 64.2 | 28.1 | 7.8 | 100.0 | 1,256 | 9.8 |
| 30-34 | 56.8 | 31.0 | 12.2 | 100.0 | 1,060 | 9.9 |
| 35-39 | 65.4 | 26.0 | 8.6 | 100.0 | 974 | 9.7 |
| 40-44 | 71.2 | 19.2 | 9.6 | 100.0 | 845 | 9.7 |
| 45-49 | 67.6 | 21.5 | 10.9 | 100.0 | 669 | 9.6 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 60.5 | 28.0 | 11.4 | 100.0 | 3,691 | 9.7 |
| Rural | 84.3 | 12.3 | 3.3 | 100.0 | 4,228 | 9.4 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 51.7 | 27.5 | 20.8 | 100.0 | 1,038 | 9.9 |
| Akhal | 86.4 | 11.4 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 1,145 | 9.3 |
| Balkan | 73.6 | 22.1 | 4.3 | 100.0 | 709 | 9.5 |
| Dashoguz | 79.7 | 15.5 | 4.8 | 100.0 | 1,628 | 9.5 |
| Lebap | 59.1 | 31.9 | 9.0 | 100.0 | 1,607 | 9.8 |
| Mary | 84.0 | 12.2 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 1,791 | 9.4 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 76.9 | 16.4 | 6.7 | 100.0 | 6,191 | 9.5 |
| Uzbek | 73.6 | 21.6 | 4.8 | 100.0 | 857 | 9.6 |
| Other | 46.9 | 40.9 | 12.2 | 100.0 | 871 | 10.8 |
| Total | 73.2 | 19.6 | 7.1 | 100.0 | 7,919 | 9.5 |

### 3.1.3 Access to Mass Media

During the TDHS 2000 interviews, women were asked about their exposure to the mass media which is an indicator of their access to information about health and family planning.

Table 3.4 shows that 94 percent of women watch TV weekly, 33 percent listen to the radio weekly, while 31 percent read a newspaper at least once a week. There is little difference by age in access to the mass media. Women in Ashgabad City, Balkan and Dashoguz regions have more access to all three types of mass media ( 24,19 and 18 percent, respectively) than women in Akhal, Lebap and Mary regions ( 7,16 and 12 percent, respectively). There is an association between a respondent's exposure to mass media and her education level; the higher the education level, more likely they are to avail themselves of all three media.

Table 3.4 Access to mass media
Percentage of women who usually read a newspaper once a week, watch television once a week, or listen to the radio daily, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | No mass media | Mass media |  |  |  | Number <br> of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Reads a newspaper weekly | Watches television weekly | Listens to the radio daily | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { three } \\ \text { media } \end{gathered}$ |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 4.1 | 29.8 | 95.3 | 28.8 | 13.1 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 4.7 | 31.1 | 93.9 | 30.7 | 15.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 4.6 | 34.2 | 93.9 | 31.4 | 15.6 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 4.4 | 33.7 | 93.7 | 36.1 | 17.1 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 5.6 | 30.5 | 92.7 | 34.8 | 16.7 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 6.9 | 32.8 | 92.1 | 36.3 | 16.9 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 5.0 | 26.6 | 92.2 | 38.4 | 13.6 | 669 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 3.3 | 38.6 | 95.4 | 35.5 | 19.2 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 6.2 | 25.1 | 92.2 | 30.7 | 11.8 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 1.5 | 40.6 | 97.5 | 44.8 | 24.0 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 8.9 | 11.2 | 89.7 | 33.6 | 6.5 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 8.0 | 41.0 | 88.8 | 38.5 | 19.2 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 4.0 | 28.6 | 94.9 | 31.6 | 18.0 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 4.1 | 37.8 | 94.8 | 29.1 | 15.5 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 4.6 | 32.0 | 93.7 | 28.0 | 11.6 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 6.1 | 23.1 | 92.4 | 29.8 | 10.6 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 1.9 | 46.7 | 96.5 | 38.3 | 23.1 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 0.6 | 75.2 | 98.7 | 50.7 | 42.2 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 5.2 | 30.2 | 93.4 | 33.7 | 15.0 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 3.5 | 28.5 | 95.5 | 24.2 | 12.8 | 857 |
| Other | 4.3 | 42.6 | 93.8 | 35.9 | 19.5 | 871 |
| Total | 4.9 | 31.4 | 93.7 | 32.9 | 15.3 | 7,919 |

### 3.1.4 Employment Status

The TDHS 2000 asked a series of questions to determine women's employment status over the 12 months preceding the survey. For women who were employed, information was also obtained on the nature of employment including occupation and type of earnings, if any.

Like education, employment can also be a source of empowerment for women, especially if it puts them in control of income. The measurement of women's employment is difficult, however. The difficulty arises largely because some of the work that women do, especially work on family farms, family businesses or in the informal sector is often not perceived by women themselves as employment, and hence not reported as such. To avoid underestimating women's employment, the TDHS 2000 asked women several questions to ascertain their employment status. First women were asked "Aside from your own housework, are you currently working?" Women who answered "No" to this question were then asked "As you know, some women take up jobs for which they are paid in cash or kind. Others sell things, have a small business, or work on the family farm or in the family business. Are you currently doing any of these things or any other work?" Women who answered "No" to this question were asked "Have you done any work in the last 12 months?" Women are currently employed if they answered "Yes" to either of the first two questions. Women who answered "Yes" to the third question are not currently employed but have worked in the past 12 months. All employed women were asked their occupation, whether they were paid in cash, in kind, or not paid at all, and where and for whom they worked.

Table 3.5 and Figure 3.1 show that, in Turkmenistan, half of all women age $15-49$ were either currently employed or had worked during the 12 months preceding the survey. Almost all women who had worked at all during the 12 months preceding the survey, were also working at the time of the survey. Only 2 percent of women who had worked at any time during the past 12 months (1 percent of all women) were not currently working. Women's current work participation first increases with age from 27 percent for women age 15-19 to 57 percent for women age 30-34 and then plateaus at 61-62 percent for women in the older age groups (age 35-49). Urban women are slightly more likely than rural women to be employed, although the differential by residence, especially in the proportion currently employed, is small. By region, the proportion of women employed at any time in the past 12 months is highest in the Lebap Region ( 55 percent) and lowest in the Dashoguz, Akhal, and Mary regions (46-47 percent). The likelihood of employment varies sharply with education. Only 42 percent of women who have no more than secondary education worked at any time in the 12 months preceding the survey compared with 70 percent of women with secondary-special education and 80 percent of women with higher education. Uzbek women (47 percent), followed by Turkmen women ( 50 percent) are less likely than women of other ethnicities ( 60 percent) to have been employed at any time in the 12 months preceding the survey.

In Turkmenistan, almost all women who work earn cash for the work they do (Table 3.5). Overall, only 1 percent of women who are employed are not earning cash, and this proportion is never greater than 2 percent for any subgroup of employed women.

| Table 3.5 Employment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by employment status in the 12 months preceding the survey and, among those currently working, whether or not they earned cash, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employed in the 12 months preceding the survey |  |  | Not employed in the 12 months preceding the survey | Missing | Total | Number | Currently working |  | Total | Number |
| Background characteristic | Currently employed | Not currently employed |  |  |  |  | Earned cash | Did not earn cash |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 27.1 | 1.0 | 71.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,574 | 97.9 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 426 |
| 20-24 | 46.4 | 1.2 | 52.2 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,541 | 99.0 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 715 |
| 25-29 | 51.1 | 1.2 | 47.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,256 | 99.2 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 643 |
| 30-34 | 57.1 | 0.6 | 42.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,060 | 99.4 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 605 |
| 35-39 | 61.1 | 0.6 | 38.1 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 974 | 98.6 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 595 |
| 40-44 | 61.2 | 0.5 | 38.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 845 | 98.1 | 1.9 | 100.0 | 517 |
| 45-49 | 61.5 | 1.3 | 37.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 669 | 99.6 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 411 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 41.1 | 1.2 | 57.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 2,563 | 98.3 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 1,055 |
| Married/living together | 52.3 | 0.9 | 46.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 99.1 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 2,557 |
| Widowed | 68.8 | 0.4 | 30.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 174 | 97.3 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 120 |
| Divorced, separated | 62.4 | 0.6 | 37.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 289 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 181 |
| Number of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 41.3 | 1.2 | 57.2 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 2,942 | 98.5 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 1,214 |
| 1-2 | 50.7 | 0.9 | 48.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,334 | 99.5 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,183 |
| 3-4 | 57.0 | 0.7 | 42.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,710 | 98.7 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 975 |
| 5+ | 57.9 | 0.6 | 41.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 934 | 98.5 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 541 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 51.2 | 1.5 | 47.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,691 | 98.8 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 1,891 |
| Rural | 47.8 | 0.5 | 51.5 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 4,228 | 98.9 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 2,021 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 51.4 | 2.1 | 46.3 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,038 | 99.4 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 534 |
| Akhal | 46.9 | 0.1 | 52.7 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,145 | 98.6 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 537 |
| Balkan | 51.7 | 4.4 | 43.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 709 | 98.8 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 367 |
| Dashoguz | 46.3 | 0.2 | 53.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,628 | 98.4 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 754 |
| Lebap | 54.7 | 0.4 | 44.7 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,607 | 98.3 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 879 |
| Mary | 47.0 | 0.6 | 52.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,791 | 99.6 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 841 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| None/primary/secondary | 41.4 | 1.0 | 57.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 5,800 | 98.4 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 2,399 |
| Secondary-special | 68.7 | 0.9 | 30.3 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,556 | 99.5 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,068 |
| Higher | 79.0 | 0.6 | 20.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 563 | 99.4 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 445 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 48.5 | 1.0 | 50.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 6,191 | 98.7 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 3,000 |
| Uzbek | 46.2 | 0.5 | 53.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 857 | 98.4 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Other | 59.3 | 0.9 | 39.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 871 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 516 |
| Total | 49.4 | 0.9 | 49.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 7,919 | 98.9 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 3,912 |

Figure 3.1 Percent Distribution of Women Age 15-49 by Employment Status


TDHS 2000

### 3.1.5 OCCUPATION

Table 3.6 shows the occupational profiles of currently employed women by background characteristics. Over one-third ( 39 percent) of all employed women are in professional, technical, or managerial occupations, 28 percent are in agricultural occupations, 14 percent are in skilled manual occupations, and 9 percent are in the unskilled manual occupations. Sales and service occupations account for only 5 percent of women's employment. The largest variation in the proportion of women in the professional, technical, or managerial occupations is by level of education. Only 19 percent of women who have completed at most secondary school are in professional, technical, or managerial occupations compared with 66 percent of women who have secondary-special education and 86 percent of women who have higher education. Notably, these occupations also account for about half of all employed women who are divorced or separated, have 1-2 children, live in urban areas, live in Ashgabad City, belong to ethnic groups other than Turkmen and Uzbek, or are age 25-34. Working women who have no children, and those in the Dashoguz area are about equally likely to be in agricultural occupations as in professional, technical, or managerial occupations. By contrast, working women who are age 15-19, are never married, have five or more children, live in rural areas or in the Akhal or Mary regions, or have only secondary education or less, are much more likely to be in agricultural occupations than in any other kind of occupations. Sales and service occupations are relatively more important in the occupational profiles of urban women and women who are not Turkmen, whereas unskilled manual occupations are relatively more important in the occupational profiles of the oldest women, widowed or other formerly married women, women with three or more children, and women with secondary education or less, than for any other women. Women's participation in skilled manual occupations declines sharply with age and number of living children. One-fourth or more of employed women age 15-19, never-married women, and women living in the Akhal and Balkan regions are employed in skilled manual occupations.

| Table 3.6 Occupation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of currently employed women by occupation (agricultural or nonagricultural occupation) and type of nonagricultural occupation, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nonagricultural occupation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Agriculture | Professional/ Technical/ Managerial | Sales, services | Skilled manual | Unskilled manual | Missing | Total | Number |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 39.7 | 15.0 | 4.0 | 30.8 | 6.9 | 3.5 | 100.0 | 426 |
| 20-24 | 26.5 | 35.0 | 4.5 | 19.4 | 7.9 | 6.6 | 100.0 | 715 |
| 25-29 | 20.9 | 49.7 | 3.7 | 14.0 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 100.0 | 643 |
| 30-34 | 21.2 | 47.2 | 5.9 | 10.3 | 10.1 | 5.3 | 100.0 | 605 |
| 35-39 | 30.1 | 43.5 | 3.7 | 8.8 | 8.9 | 5.0 | 100.0 | 595 |
| 40-44 | 31.2 | 39.2 | 6.2 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 517 |
| 45-49 | 29.6 | 37.4 | 4.6 | 6.9 | 15.2 | 6.4 | 100.0 | 411 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 31.7 | 27.9 | 3.9 | 24.9 | 6.5 | 5.0 | 100.0 | 1,055 |
| Married/living together | 28.2 | 42.7 | 4.7 | 10.0 | 9.3 | 5.2 | 100.0 | 2,557 |
| Widowed | 18.0 | 44.6 | 8.9 | 8.1 | 16.1 | 4.3 | 100.0 | 120 |
| Divorced/separated | 3.9 | 52.8 | 6.0 | 15.2 | 13.1 | 9.1 | 100.0 | 181 |
| Number of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 29.6 | 30.4 | 4.3 | 23.7 | 6.7 | 5.2 | 100.0 | 1,214 |
| 1-2 | 14.7 | 53.6 | 4.2 | 11.2 | 7.8 | 8.5 | 100.0 | 1,183 |
| 3-4 | 28.8 | 41.1 | 6.2 | 9.4 | 11.7 | 2.8 | 100.0 | 975 |
| 5+ | 49.9 | 24.1 | 3.4 | 8.1 | 11.6 | 2.9 | 100.0 | 541 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 0.8 | 54.8 | 7.7 | 17.0 | 10.8 | 8.8 | 100.0 | 1,891 |
| Rural | 52.8 | 24.6 | 1.8 | 11.5 | 7.2 | 2.0 | 100.0 | 2,021 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.3 | 55.2 | 6.8 | 12.9 | 9.1 | 15.7 | 100.0 | 534 |
| Akhal | 36.3 | 20.4 | 2.2 | 27.6 | 9.9 | 3.7 | 100.0 | 537 |
| Balkan | 2.2 | 40.1 | 5.4 | 37.4 | 10.3 | 4.6 | 100.0 | 367 |
| Dashoguz | 40.8 | 39.0 | 4.0 | 6.1 | 7.3 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 754 |
| Lebap | 23.9 | 45.5 | 6.9 | 9.7 | 10.2 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 879 |
| Mary | 43.0 | 34.4 | 2.7 | 8.2 | 7.9 | 3.9 | 100.0 | 841 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 42.7 | 18.7 | 4.3 | 18.4 | 12.2 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 2,399 |
| Secondary-special | 5.4 | 65.8 | 5.9 | 9.8 | 5.5 | 7.6 | 100.0 | 1,068 |
| Higher | 0.4 | 86.4 | 3.3 | 1.9 | 0.0 | 7.9 | 100.0 | 445 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 32.1 | 35.8 | 3.5 | 15.6 | 9.1 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 3,000 |
| Uzbek | 23.1 | 45.1 | 8.3 | 11.3 | 8.2 | 4.0 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Other | 5.8 | 54.5 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 14.8 | 100.0 | 516 |
| Total | 27.7 | 39.2 | 4.6 | 14.2 | 9.0 | 5.3 | 100.0 | 3,912 |

### 3.1.6 Employer and Forms of Earnings

Table 3.7 shows the percent distribution of employed women by type of employer and type of earnings according to background characteristics. In Turkmenistan, 3 percent of women who are currently working are self employed, 17 percent are employed by a family member, and the vast majority, 81 percent, are employed by someone else. Almost all women who work, irrespective of the type of employer, work for cash. Although the majority of working women in all subgroups of the population are working for someone else, the type of employer does vary substantially by the background characteristics of women. The youngest women (age 15-19), followed by women age 20-24, are much more likely than women in older age groups to be working for a family member

Table 3.7 Employer and form of earnings
Percent distribution of currently employed women by employer and type of earnings, (cash, in kind, no payment), according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Self-employed |  | Employed by a nonrelative |  | Employed by a relative |  |  | Total | Number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Earns cash | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Does } \\ \text { not } \\ \text { earn } \\ \text { cash } \end{gathered}$ | Earns cash | Does <br> not <br> earn <br> cash | Earns cash | Does <br> not <br> earn <br> cash | Missing |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 3.1 | 0.7 | 58.5 | 0.1 | 36.3 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 426 |
| 20-24 | 3.4 | 0.4 | 77.2 | 0.2 | 18.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 715 |
| 25-29 | 2.1 | 0.6 | 85.6 | 0.1 | 11.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 643 |
| 30-34 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 84.6 | 0.3 | 12.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 605 |
| 35-39 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 83.6 | 0.4 | 13.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 595 |
| 40-44 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 82.9 | 1.6 | 13.9 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 517 |
| 45-49 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 85.7 | 0.4 | 12.6 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 411 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 3.1 | 0.3 | 84.8 | 0.2 | 11.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,891 |
| Rural | 1.3 | 0.2 | 76.1 | 0.7 | 21.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 2,021 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 4.9 | 0.3 | 87.4 | 0.0 | 7.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 534 |
| Akhal | 0.4 | 0.8 | 53.8 | 0.0 | 44.4 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 537 |
| Balkan | 4.4 | 0.0 | 64.9 | 0.0 | 29.5 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 367 |
| Dashoguz | 1.5 | 0.1 | 91.4 | 1.4 | 5.6 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 754 |
| Lebap | 2.2 | 0.3 | 87.6 | 0.6 | 8.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 879 |
| Mary | 1.1 | 0.2 | 81.9 | 0.2 | 16.3 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 841 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 2.3 | 0.4 | 72.0 | 0.6 | 24.0 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 2,399 |
| Secondary-special | 2.1 | 0.0 | 92.6 | 0.2 | 4.9 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,068 |
| Higher | 1.7 | 0.4 | 95.3 | 0.2 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 445 |
| Occupation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural | 0.5 | 0.1 | 71.1 | 1.1 | 26.8 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,084 |
| Nonagricultural | 2.8 | 0.3 | 83.8 | 0.2 | 12.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,828 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.2 | 0.3 | 77.8 | 0.5 | 18.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,000 |
| Uzbek | 2.1 | 0.5 | 85.1 | 0.4 | 11.1 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Other | 1.9 | 0.0 | 91.1 | 0.0 | 7.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 516 |
| Total | 2.2 | 0.3 | 80.3 | 0.4 | 16.3 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,912 |

Note: Earns cash includes both women who receive only cash and those who receive both cash and in-kind payment. Does not earn cash includes both women who receive only in-kind payment and those who receive no payment.
or to be self employed. Only 59 percent of working women age 15-19 work for someone else, compared with 83 percent or more of women age 25 or older. Rural working women ( 22 percent) are about twice as likely as urban working women (12 percent), to be working for a family member. Twenty-five percent of working women who have at most completed secondary education work for a family member, compared with 5 percent or less of working women with secondary-special or higher education. One in five Turkmen working women work for a family member compared with about one in ten or less of women from other ethnic groups. Women working in agricultural occupations are also more than twice as likely as those working in nonagricultural occupations to be employed by a family member. Working for a family member is most common, however, in the Akhal and Balkan regions. In these regions, 45 percent and 31 percent, respectively, of working women work for a family member, higher than in any other subgroup of the population. Although very few women are self employed, the proportion self employed is much higher among working women in Ashgabad City and in the Balkan Region (4-5 percent) than among women in most of the other subgroups of the population.

### 3.1.7 Decisionmaking Regarding Use of Cash Earnings

Employed women who earn cash for their work were asked who the main decisionmaker is with regard to the use of their earnings. This information allows the assessment of women's control over their own earnings. Table 3.8 shows how working women's control over their own earnings varies by background characteristics. While 24 percent of women alone decide how their earnings are to be used, the majority, 54 percent, take these decisions jointly with their partner or someone else. More than one out of five women (22 percent) have no part in the decision on how their earnings are used. The likelihood that women do not participate at all in the decision about how their earnings are to be used declines sharply with age, from 51 percent for women age 15-19 to 5 percent for women age 45-49. Among currently married women the proportion not participating in this decision is only 14 percent, but few also make this decision alone ( 19 percent). Almost all (91 percent) of widowed, divorced, or separated women tend to take this decision alone, however. In addition, working women who belong to ethnicities other than Turkmen or Uzbek ( 48 percent) or who live in Ashgabad City ( 45 percent) are also more likely than most other women to take the decision about the use of their earnings by themselves. About one-third of women who live in urban areas, have secondary-special education, live in the Balkan Region, or have 1-2 children, take these decisions alone. Notably, about one-third or more of women who are never married, have no children, live in rural areas, or live in the Mary Region do not participate at all in decisions about how their earnings are to be used.

In order to assess the relative importance of women's earnings in meeting household expenditures, TDHS 2000 asked employed women who earned cash "On average, how much of your household's expenditure do your earnings pay for: almost none, less than half, about half, more than half, or all?" This information not only allows an evaluation of the relative importance of women's earnings in the household economy, but has implications for the empowerment of women. It is expected that employment and earnings are more likely to empower women if they perceive their earnings as important for meeting the needs of their households. The variation by background characteristics in the extent to which women's earnings pay for their households' expenditures (for women who are employed and earn cash), is also shown in Table 3.8.

From Table 3.8, it is clear that when women work for cash, their earnings are critical to meeting household expenditures in a substantial proportion of cases. Specifically, in the case of 35 percent of women who earn cash, the woman's earnings alone pay for at least half of her household's expenditures. This suggests that the households of almost one in five women age 15-49 are dependent on the earnings of women alone to meet the majority of their expenditures. For women who earn cash, the likelihood that their earnings pay for at least half of their household's expenditures rises with age, from 16 percent for women age 15-19 to over 40 percent for women age 30-49. At least half of the household's expenditures are met by the woman's earnings in the case of 40 percent or more of working women with 1-4 children. Notably too, households' of at least half of the women who are divorced, separated, or widowed, who live in the Balkan Region, who have higher education, or who belong to ethnicities other than Turkmen or Uzbek depend on women's earnings to meet at least half of their expenditures. The earnings of women play a much more important role in meeting household expenditures in urban than rural areas.

Table 3.9 shows whether working women's control over their own earnings varies by the extent to which their earnings help to meet household expenditures. With the exception of women whose earnings pay for almost none of their households' expenditures, among all other women who work for cash, the proportion who alone take the decision about how their earnings are to be used increases with the extent to which their earnings pay for household expenditures. For example,

Table 3.8 Decision of use of earnings and contribution of earnings to household expenditures
Percent distribution of women receiving cash earnings by person who decides how earnings are used and by proportion of household expenditures met by earnings, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Person who decides how earnings are used |  |  |  |  | Proportion of household expenditures met by earnings |  |  |  |  | Total | Number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Self only | Jointly | Someone else | Missing | Total | Almost none | Less than half | Half or more | All | Missing |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 12.8 | 35.7 | 51.1 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 3.9 | 80.0 | 15.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 418 |
| 20-24 | 17.2 | 39.7 | 42.9 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 4.3 | 72.6 | 20.1 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 708 |
| 25-29 | 24.0 | 49.8 | 26.0 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 2.6 | 65.2 | 28.5 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 637 |
| 30-34 | 25.2 | 62.7 | 12.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.4 | 54.5 | 39.3 | 4.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 602 |
| 35-39 | 27.6 | 65.0 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 56.9 | 33.5 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 587 |
| 40-44 | 24.2 | 66.1 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.7 | 54.4 | 39.6 | 5.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 507 |
| 45-49 | 38.8 | 56.6 | 4.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.6 | 56.4 | 33.9 | 9.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 410 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 17.4 | 34.1 | 48.1 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 4.5 | 76.2 | 18.0 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,037 |
| Married or in union | 18.6 | 67.2 | 14.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 60.8 | 34.3 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,533 |
| Divorced, separated, widowed | 91.3 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.6 | 34.0 | 35.3 | 29.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 297 |
| Number of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 19.6 | 35.3 | 44.7 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 4.4 | 74.7 | 18.9 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,196 |
| 1-2 | 30.8 | 52.1 | 17.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.5 | 55.0 | 35.1 | 8.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,177 |
| 3-4 | 23.4 | 68.6 | 8.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.7 | 58.7 | 35.2 | 5.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 962 |
| $5+$ | 19.1 | 70.7 | 10.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 61.1 | 34.4 | 3.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 533 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 35.5 | 50.8 | 13.6 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 54.6 | 35.7 | 7.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,869 |
| Rural | 13.1 | 56.1 | 30.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2.5 | 70.6 | 24.7 | 2.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,998 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 44.9 | 44.6 | 10.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.0 | 56.0 | 33.3 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 530 |
| Akhal | 13.4 | 61.2 | 25.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.8 | 85.5 | 12.3 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 530 |
| Balkan | 32.1 | 52.9 | 15.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2.7 | 43.2 | 51.3 | 2.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 362 |
| Dashoguz | 20.0 | 61.0 | 18.8 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1.5 | 70.0 | 25.2 | 3.2 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 743 |
| Lebap | 24.3 | 57.2 | 18.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3.9 | 57.6 | 34.4 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 864 |
| Mary | 16.7 | 44.5 | 38.5 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 2.4 | 60.6 | 29.8 | 7.0 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 838 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 18.9 | 52.0 | 29.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2.5 | 69.2 | 24.9 | 3.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,362 |
| Secondary-special | 32.7 | 54.1 | 13.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 54.6 | 36.1 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,063 |
| Higher | 29.7 | 60.5 | 9.3 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 49.0 | 42.9 | 6.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 442 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 19.4 | 54.5 | 26.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2.4 | 66.0 | 28.3 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,961 |
| Uzbek | 26.5 | 59.0 | 14.2 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 59.9 | 29.7 | 8.3 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 389 |
| Other | 47.5 | 44.2 | 8.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 47.2 | 40.3 | 11.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 516 |
| Total | 23.9 | 53.6 | 22.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2.2 | 62.9 | 30.0 | 4.9 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,867 |

among currently married women 15 percent of women whose earnings pay for less than half of household expenditures, 21 percent of women whose earnings pay for half or more of household expenditures, and 53 percent of women whose earnings pay for all household expenditures alone take the decision on how their earnings should be used. Surprisingly, however, among currently married women, the proportion who do not participate at all in the decision on the use of their earnings first declines from 17 percent to 9 percent as contributions to household expenditures increase from less than half to half or more than half, but then rises again to 14 percent for women whose earnings are used to meet all of the household's expenditures. Among women, whose earnings meet almost none of their households' expenditures, the use of earnings is about equally likely to be decided alone by women themselves as by a husband or someone else if the woman is currently married; but if she is not currently married, she alone is most likely to decide how her earnings are to be used.

### 3.2 Direct Measures of Women's Empowerment

In addition to information on women's education, employment status, and earnings control, TDHS 2000 also obtained information on some additional direct measures of women's status and empowerment. Specifically, questions were asked on women's participation in household decisionmaking and on their opinions about when a wife should be able to refuse sex to her husband. These data provide insight into women's control over their lives and their environment and their attitudes toward traditional gender roles, which are all important aspects of women's empowerment relevant for understanding demographic and health behaviors.

These questions are used to define two different indicators of women's empowerment: women's participation in decisionmaking and their degree of acceptance of a wife's right to refuse her husband sex. The first measure requires little justification since the ability to take decisions about ones own life is essential to the concept of empowerment. Beliefs about whether and when a woman can refuse sex to her husband reflect issues of gender equity with regard to sexual rights and bodily integrity. Besides yielding an important measure of empowerment, the information about women's attitudes toward sexual rights will be useful for improving and monitoring reproductive health programs that depend on women's willingness and ability to control their own sexual lives.

### 3.2.1 Household Decisionmaking

In order to assess women's decisionmaking roles, women were asked who in their families usually has the final say in five different decisions, namely, decisions about the respondent's own health care, making large household purchases, making household purchases for daily needs, visits to family, friends, or relatives, and what food should be cooked each day. Table 3.10 shows the percent distribution of women according to who in the household usually has the final say on each one of the different types of decisions.

Most currently married women, three out of four, usually take decisions alone on what food to cook each day. Only a minority of women, however, alone have the final say on each of the other decisions. Even in decisions about their own health care, only 41 percent of women alone have the final say, and in decisions about daily household purchases, only 33 percent alone have the final say. One in ten women or less alone have the final say about visits to family or relatives or about large household purchases. In addition, for 17 percent of currently married women, husbands or someone else takes decisions about the woman's health care without her involvement in the final say. Similarly, more than one-fifth of currently married women are not involved at all (either alone or jointly with someone else in the final say) in each of the decisions about large household purchases, daily household purchases, and visits to family and relatives. Notably, women who are currently not married are even more likely than married women to not have the final say at all in each of the different decisions. For example, about half of unmarried or formerly married women do not participate in decisions about their own health care and in decisions about what food to cook; the proportion not involved at all rises to two-thirds for decisions about daily household purchases and large household purchases.

Table 3.11 shows how participation in decisionmaking varies for all women by background characteristics. Women are said to participate in a decision if they alone or jointly with a husband or someone else have the final say. The proportion of women who participate in all five decisions increases more or less steadily with age, from 18 percent for women age 15-19 to 78 percent for women age 45-49. At least 3 out of 4 women in all the age groups $30-34$ and above participate in

| Table 3.9 Control over earnings according to contribution to household expenditures |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women receiving cash earnings by person who decides how earnings are used and marital status, according to how much of household expenditures are met by earnings, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Married/living together |  |  |  |  | Not married/not living together |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contribution to household expenditures | Self only | Jointly with husband | Jointly with someone else | Husband only | Someone else only | Total | Number | Self only | ```Jointly with someone else``` | Someone else only | Missing | Total | Number |
| Proportion of household expenditures met by earnings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Almost none | (26.5) | (42.7) | (4.9) | (17.2) | (8.6) | 100.0 | 32 | 52.1 | 6.0 | 41.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 52 |
| Less than half | 15.1 | 65.8 | 2.6 | 7.6 | 9.0 | 100.0 | 1,540 | 21.4 | 32.7 | 45.5 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 891 |
| Half of more | 21.0 | 69.0 | 0.6 | 7.7 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 870 | 48.6 | 24.8 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 291 |
| All | 53.0 | 28.4 | 3.6 | 14.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 91 | 95.8 | 2.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 96 |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 18.6 | 65.2 | 2.0 | 8.0 | 6.1 | 100.0 | 2,533 | 33.9 | 27.7 | 38.1 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,334 |
| Note: Not married/not living together includes never married, divorced, widowed and separated women. Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on $25-49$ unweighted cases. <br> ${ }^{1}$ Total includes 3 cases for which proportion of household expenditures met by earnings was missing. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Table 3.10 Household decisionmaking |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by person who makes specific household decisions and marital status, according to type of decision, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Married/living together |  |  |  |  |  |  | Number | Not married/not living together |  |  |  |  |  | Total | Number |
| Household decision | Self only | Jointly with husband | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jointly } \\ & \text { with } \\ & \text { someone } \\ & \text { else } \end{aligned}$ | Husband only | Someone else only | Missing | Total |  | Self only | Jointly with husband | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jointly } \\ & \text { with } \\ & \text { someone } \\ & \text { else } \end{aligned}$ | Husband only | Someone else only | Missing |  |  |
| Own health care | 40.3 | 40.4 | 2.6 | 9.3 | 7.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 32.3 | 0.3 | 20.4 | 0.1 | 46.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3,027 |
| Large household purchases | 7.2 | 61.1 | 4.0 | 13.6 | 14.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 13.4 | 0.5 | 18.2 | 0.2 | 67.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3,027 |
| Daily household purchases | 32.3 | 39.1 | 3.6 | 10.9 | 14.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 17.4 | 0.5 | 16.3 | 0.1 | 65.6 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,027 |
| Visits to family, friends, or relatives | 9.8 | 64.2 | 3.8 | 10.4 | 11.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 17.3 | 0.7 | 24.1 | 0.1 | 57.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,027 |
| What food to cook each day | 76.3 | 9.8 | 5.4 | 0.9 | 7.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 28.9 | 0.2 | 22.8 | 0.0 | 48.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3,027 |


| 3.11 Final say in household decisions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women who say that they alone or jointly have the final say in specific hou sehold decisions, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alone or jointly have say in |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Own health care | Making large purchases | Making daily purchases | Visits to family, relatives, friends | What food to cook daily | Has final say in all specified decisions | Has final say in no specified decisions | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 41.1 | 19.9 | 22.6 | 31.0 | 43.2 | 17.7 | 43.3 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 60.9 | 35.4 | 38.8 | 45.4 | 61.4 | 28.9 | 25.2 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 76.6 | 58.6 | 60.1 | 65.0 | 82.2 | 48.1 | 9.7 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 84.8 | 77.2 | 77.5 | 80.2 | 93.5 | 63.4 | 2.9 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 88.8 | 82.4 | 83.7 | 85.6 | 96.0 | 72.7 | 2.4 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 89.9 | 83.9 | 89.8 | 91.3 | 97.6 | 73.5 | 0.6 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 90.9 | 87.7 | 90.0 | 92.1 | 95.5 | 78.4 | 1.9 | 669 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 46.3 | 22.9 | 25.2 | 34.1 | 45.2 | 19.9 | 39.3 | 2,563 |
| Married/living together | 83.3 | 72.3 | 75.0 | 77.8 | 91.6 | 61.0 | 4.8 | 4,892 |
| Widowed | 95.9 | 92.3 | 93.3 | 92.2 | 94.9 | 86.8 | 1.2 | 174 |
| Divorced, separated | 87.1 | 78.2 | 78.9 | 82.0 | 84.4 | 72.6 | 6.7 | 289 |
| Number of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 50.0 | 26.2 | 28.7 | 37.1 | 49.1 | 22.5 | 36.2 | 2,942 |
| 1-2 | 80.8 | 68.9 | 70.5 | 73.5 | 88.1 | 58.2 | 6.7 | 2,334 |
| 3-4 | 87.4 | 79.2 | 82.6 | 84.2 | 96.2 | 67.6 | 2.0 | 1,710 |
| $5+$ | 88.9 | 83.3 | 86.0 | 89.1 | 96.7 | 72.6 | 1.0 | 934 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 78.4 | 63.9 | 66.5 | 71.9 | 80.9 | 55.1 | 11.0 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 65.9 | 50.9 | 53.3 | 57.3 | 72.4 | 43.1 | 20.3 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 81.3 | 64.9 | 68.1 | 74.1 | 81.8 | 55.8 | 9.0 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 81.4 | 66.3 | 67.3 | 77.6 | 79.0 | 61.4 | 12.4 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 83.8 | 67.8 | 64.1 | 79.2 | 80.6 | 57.0 | 8.3 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 78.3 | 60.9 | 61.7 | 64.4 | 78.4 | 57.3 | 13.2 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 67.9 | 49.6 | 53.7 | 55.1 | 73.3 | 40.9 | 18.2 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 52.6 | 45.1 | 50.7 | 51.5 | 70.8 | 32.2 | 25.8 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 67.3 | 52.0 | 54.3 | 59.7 | 73.0 | 44.4 | 19.2 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 82.4 | 69.6 | 71.6 | 74.2 | 84.7 | 59.0 | 7.9 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 87.6 | 72.7 | 78.5 | 81.8 | 88.3 | 63.8 | 4.4 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 69.1 | 54.5 | 57.1 | 62.0 | 74.6 | 46.4 | 17.9 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 79.2 | 61.0 | 63.5 | 64.4 | 81.9 | 53.5 | 9.4 | 857 |
| Other | 82.9 | 70.3 | 72.4 | 78.9 | 83.6 | 60.2 | 8.8 | 871 |
| Current employment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not employed | 65.7 | 48.9 | 51.4 | 55.7 |  |  | 21.3 | 3,995 |
| For cash | 78.1 | 65.4 | 67.8 | 72.8 | 82.1 | 56.0 | 10.4 | 3,867 |
| Not for cash | (69.5) | (55.8) | (61.2) | (64.5) | (71.1) | (48.7) | (16.6) | 43 |
| Total ${ }^{1}$ | 71.7 | 57.0 | 59.4 | 64.1 | 76.4 | 48.7 | 16.0 | 7,919 |
| Note: Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on 25-49 unwe ighted cases. ${ }^{1}$ Total includes 13 cases for which information employment status was missing. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

each decision. Among younger women, however, participation varies greatly by type of decision. By marital status, never-married women are least likely to participate in each decision and widowed women are the most likely to do so. Notably, more than one-third of never-married women do not participate in all of these decisions. Participation in all decisions, as well as in each of the different decisions increases with the number of children. Twenty-three percent of women with no children participate in all decisions compared with 73 percent of women with five or more children. Urban women are more likely than rural women to participate in decisionmaking, and participation in each decision increases with education. By region, participation in all decisions varies from 61 percent for women in the Akhal Region and 56-57 percent for women in the Dashoguz, Balkan, and Ashgabad City regions, to 32 percent for women in the Mary Region. One in four women in the Mary Region and one in five in the Lebap Region do not participate in any of these decisions at all. Turkmen women are somewhat less likely to participate in each of the decisions than Uzbek women, as well as women of other ethnicities. As expected women who work, especially women who work for cash, are more likely than women who do not work, to participate in all decisions.

Women may have a say in some and not in other decisions. To assess each woman's overall degree of engagement in household decisionmaking, the total number of decisions she participates in (i.e., she alone has the final say or does so jointly with her husband or someone else) are added together. The total number of decisions a woman participates in yields a very simple measure of her empowerment in terms of decisionmaking control. Figure 3.3 shows the percent distribution of women in Turkmenistan according to this measure. Overall, about half ( 49 percent) of the women participate in all five of the decisions, and 16 percent do not participate in any of the decisions. The remainder of the women are distributed about equally among those who participate in only one, only two, only three, and only four decisions.

### 3.2.2 Women’s Agreement with Reasons for Refusing Sexual Relations

The extent of control women have over when and with whom they have sex has important implications for demographic and health outcomes. To measure women's agreement with a woman's right to refuse her husband sex, TDHS 2000 asked respondents whether a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband under four circumstances: she is tired or not in the mood, she has recently given birth, she knows her husband has sex with other women, and she knows her husband has a sexually transmitted disease. These four circumstances for which women's opinions are sought were chosen because they are effective in combining issues regarding women's rights and women's health. Table 3.12 shows the percentage of women who say that women are justified in refusing sex to their husbands for specific reasons by background characteristics. The table also shows how this indicator of women's empowerment varies with the women's participation in decisionmaking. It is worth noting that, unlike in the case of the previous indicator of empowerment, this indicator is positively related to empowerment: the more the reasons women agree with, the higher is their empowerment in terms of their belief in women's sexual rights.

Overall, 52 percent of women in Turkmenistan agree that women can refuse sex to their husbands for all of the four reasons they were asked about. Women are least likely to say that a wife is justified in refusing her husband sex if she is tired or not in the mood (61 percent) and most likely to agree that a wife is justified in refusing sex ( 75 percent) if she has recently given birth. Notably, however, 20 percent of women say that a wife is not justified in refusing her husband sex for any of the four reasons. Rural women are more likely than urban women to not agree with any of the reasons, and by region, women in the Akhal Region, followed by those in the Mary and Dashoguz regions are more likely than women in other regions to not agree with any of the reasons for refusing sex. However the women who appear least empowered in terms of this indicator are the

| Percentage of women who agree with specific reasons for justifying a wife refusing to have sexual relations with her husband according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reason justifying wife refusing sexual relations with husband |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Tired, not in the mood | Gave birth recently | Knows husband has sexual relations with other women | Knows husband has AIDS ${ }^{1}$ | Agrees with all specified reasons | Agrees with no specified reason | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 32.8 | 41.3 | 37.4 | 38.5 | 26.0 | 51.9 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 54.9 | 66.8 | 59.1 | 64.5 | 46.7 | 26.7 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 68.8 | 86.7 | 77.1 | 83.3 | 60.5 | 8.8 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 72.4 | 88.0 | 77.9 | 85.8 | 63.8 | 6.3 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 71.7 | 89.3 | 78.5 | 84.0 | 63.3 | 7.3 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 73.3 | 88.4 | 76.4 | 84.0 | 62.5 | 7.8 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 72.6 | 90.5 | 78.0 | 83.6 | 63.0 | 6.2 | 669 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 35.2 | 43.9 | 39.9 | 42.5 | 28.8 | 49.2 | 2,563 |
| Married or in union | 72.9 | 89.6 | 78.6 | 85.1 | 63.3 | 5.9 | 4,892 |
| Divorced, separated, widowed | 71.5 | 88.8 | 77.3 | 84.1 | 63.7 | 7.3 | 463 |
| No. of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 39.7 | 49.2 | 44.2 | 47.3 | 32.6 | 44.0 | 2,942 |
| 1-2 | 75.1 | 91.1 | 80.9 | 87.5 | 67.0 | 5.0 | 2,334 |
| 3-4 | 71.9 | 89.8 | 78.4 | 85.7 | 62.5 | 5.7 | 1,710 |
| $5+$ | 69.5 | 87.4 | 74.5 | 79.4 | 58.0 | 8.2 | 934 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 68.0 | 80.7 | 73.0 | 78.4 | 60.3 | 14.6 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 54.2 | 69.6 | 59.9 | 65.0 | 45.1 | 24.7 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 72.0 | 84.4 | 77.4 | 81.5 | 65.5 | 12.7 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 49.6 | 61.7 | 53.9 | 50.9 | 43.7 | 36.0 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 67.5 | 83.1 | 75.7 | 74.8 | 58.9 | 12.4 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 61.6 | 67.9 | 59.6 | 70.1 | 53.5 | 22.5 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 72.9 | 85.9 | 75.8 | 80.2 | 61.3 | 9.4 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 46.3 | 70.7 | 60.2 | 69.9 | 37.8 | 24.3 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| None/primary/secondary | 54.1 | 69.4 | 60.4 | 64.8 | 45.2 | 24.9 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 76.8 | 89.6 | 80.6 | 88.4 | 69.4 | 6.6 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 82.2 | 90.1 | 83.5 | 90.8 | 76.5 | 6.8 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 57.8 | 73.3 | 64.2 | 69.0 | 49.4 | 21.5 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 68.1 | 76.4 | 68.5 | 75.5 | 58.8 | 16.3 | 857 |
| Other | 72.8 | 83.9 | 76.2 | 83.0 | 65.1 | 13.0 | 871 |
| Current employment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not employed | 55.1 | 69.9 | 61.5 | 65.5 | 46.9 | 24.6 | 3,995 |
| For cash | 66.1 | 79.9 | 70.6 | 77.2 | 57.6 | 15.3 | 3,867 |
| Not for cash | 71.1 | 83.2 | 74.1 | 76.0 | 63.4 | 13.7 | 43 |
| Number of decisions in which women has final say ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 34.7 | 43.4 | 40.7 | 42.0 | 28.9 | 49.1 | 1,264 |
| 1-2 | 55.7 | 71.5 | 62.9 | 67.1 | 45.9 | 21.9 | 1,535 |
| 3-4 | 63.2 | 84.3 | 69.9 | 77.9 | 52.4 | 11.3 | 1,265 |
| 5 | 70.2 | 83.3 | 74.2 | 80.3 | 62.2 | 12.6 | 3,855 |
| Total ${ }^{3}$ | 60.6 | 74.8 | 66.0 | 71.2 | 52.2 | 20.0 | 7,919 |
| Note: Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on 25-49 unweighted cases <br> ${ }_{2}^{1}$ Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome <br> ${ }^{2}$ Either by herself or jointly with others <br> ${ }^{3}$ Total includes 13 cases for which information on employment status was missing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

youngest women (age 15-19), never-married women, women with no children, and women who do not participate in any household decisions. Almost half of all of these women say that women are not justified in refusing their husbands sex for any of the four reasons asked about. Employed women are more likely to agree with each of the four reasons for refusing sex, than unemployed women. Also the likelihood that women will agree with all of the four reasons increases sharply with women's participation in decision making: only 29 percent of women who do not participate in any decision say that women can refuse sex to their husbands for all of the four reasons compared with 62 percent of women who participate in all five decisions. Women in Turkmenistan, in general, score high on this measure of empowerment. Nonetheless, the fact that 48 percent of all women, as well as 23 percent of the most educated women and 38 percent of women with the highest level of decision making participation, say that there is at least one reason out of these four for which women are not justified in refusing sex to their husbands does suggest that a significant proportion of women do not feel that a wife has the right to unconditionally decide whether and when she wishes to have sex with her husband. This has implications not only for women's empowerment, but also for those health initiatives that rest implicitly on the assumption that women can control sexual encounters or feel justified in doing so.

## FERTILITY

C.M. Nazarov, A. Mukhamedova, and K. Weinstein

For the TDHS 2000 data to accurately describe the fertility status of the population of Turkmenistan, it was necessary for women to state their complete pregnancy history. To promote reporting of all pregnancies that women have had, the TDHS asked women to make separate accountings of live births, abortions (both induced and miniabortions), miscarriages, and stillbirths. The accounting of live births was achieved by asking separately about the number of sons and daughters living with the respondent, the number living elsewhere, and the number who had died. The accounting of all pregnancies was double-checked by interviewers probing for intervening pregnancies in all pregnancy intervals.

Each woman's pregnancy history was obtained in reverse chronological order, from the most recent pregnancy to the respondent's first pregnancy. The outcome of each pregnancy was recorded (live birth, induced abortion, miniabortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth), as was the date the pregnancy ended. For each pregnancy that resulted in a live birth, information was collected on the sex of the child, survival status, and age (for living children) or age at death (for deceased children). For each pregnancy that did not result in a live birth, duration of the pregnancy was collected and recorded in the calendar portion of the questionnaire. This chapter presents the findings pertaining to live births. Findings pertaining to pregnancy loss are presented in chapter 6 of this report.

### 4.1 Current Fertility

Age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) and the total fertility rate (TFR) presented in Table 4.1 and Figure 4.1 were calculated directly from the information obtained in the pregnancy history. The reported rates refer to the three-year period preceding the survey. Age-specific fertility rates were calculated by dividing the number of births to women in a five-year age interval by the number of woman-years lived in that age interval. ${ }^{1}$ The total fertility rate is a construct of the agespecific rates computed by summing the age-specific rates and multiplying by five. The TFR is expressed per woman and is calculated to provide a snapshot view of current fertility levels. The TFR is interpreted as the number of children a woman would have in her lifetime if she experienced the currently observed age-specific fertility rates during her childbearing years.

If fertility were to remain constant at current levels, Turkmen women would give birth to an average of 2.9 children. Fertility among urban women is lower than it is among rural women during most of the childbearing years, resulting in a TFR among urban women that is 0.8 children lower than among rural women. If fertility were to remain constant at current levels, urban women would have 2.5 children, while rural women would have 3.3 children. Urban women experience their peak childbearing years during their early twenties (age 20-24) while rural women go on to experience their highest rates of childbearing in their late twenties (25-29).

[^1]
## Table 4.1 Current fertility

Age-specific and cumulative fertility rates and the crude birth rate for the three years preceding the survey, by residence and ethnicity, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age group | Residence |  | Ethnicity |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Urban | Rural | Turkmen | Uzbek | Other |  |
| 15-19 | 36 | 26 | 26 | 61 | 21 | 30 |
| 20-24 | 165 | 199 | 179 | 255 | 143 | 184 |
| 25-29 | 144 | 244 | 213 | 147 | 105 | 195 |
| 30-34 | 87 | 124 | 118 | 65 | 44 | 105 |
| 35-39 | 50 | 47 | 51 | 42 | 33 | 48 |
| 40-44 | 11 | 17 | 15 | 9 | 9 | 14 |
| 45-49 | 0 | 3 | 2 | (0) | (0) | 1 |
| TFR 15-49 | 2.46 | 3.30 | 3.02 | 2.90 | 1.78 | 2.89 |
| TFR 15-44 | 2.46 | 3.28 | 3.01 | 2.90 | 1.78 | 2.88 |
| GFR | 87 | 116 | 107 | 114 | 59 | 103 |
| CBR | 20.5 | 28.2 | - | - | - | 24.6 |

Note: Rates are for the period 1-36 months preceding the survey. Rates for age group 45-49 may be slightly biased due to truncation. Rates in parentheses indicate that they are based on fewer than 250 woman-years of exposure.
TFR: Total fertility rate, expressed per woman
GFR: General fertility rate (births divided by number of women 15-44), expressed per 1,000 women
CBR: Crude birth rate, expressed per 1,000 population

Figure 4.1 Age-specific Fertility Rates by Ethnicity


Women of Turkmen and Uzbek ethnicity exhibit similar overall levels of fertility: Turkmen women exhibit a TFR of 3.0 and Uzbek women exhibit a TFR of 2.9. Women of other ethnicities exhibit a significantly lower level of fertility than either Turkmen or Uzbek women, exhibiting a TFR of only 1.8 children.

Table 4.1 also presents two other summary measures of fertility: the general fertility rate (GFR) and the crude birth rate (CBR). These measures are calculated from the birth history data for the three-year period preceding the survey and the age and sex distribution of the household population. The GFR represents the annual number of births in the population per 1,000 women age 15-44. The crude birth rate is the annual number of births in the population per 1,000 population. The CBR of 24.6 as calculated from the TDHS data is higher than that reported by the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry for 1999 of 18.5. ${ }^{2}$

Table 4.2 and Figure 4.2 present TFRs for the three years preceding the survey by background characteristics. The greatest regional variation in fertility is seen between Ashgabad City and the rest of Turkmenistan. With a TFR of 2.1, women in Ashgabad City exhibit a TFR that is one child fewer than women elsewhere in Turkmenistan, who exhibit TFRs between 2.9 and 3.1, with the exception of the Balkan Region, which exhibits a slightly lower TFR of 2.7.

| Table 4.2 Fertility by background characteristics |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total fertility rate for the three years preceding the survey, percentage currently pregnant and mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Total fertility rate | Percentage currently pregnant | Mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Urban | 2.46 | 3.65 | 4.05 |
| Rural | 3.30 | 5.07 | 5.71 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 2.10 | 3.46 | 3.25 |
| Akhal | 2.91 | 4.68 | 5.27 |
| Balkan | 2.68 | 3.41 | 4.82 |
| Dashoguz | 3.14 | 4.98 | 5.77 |
| Lebap | 2.97 | 5.40 | 4.78 |
| Mary | 3.09 | 3.79 | 4.92 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 3.03 | 4.58 | 5.40 |
| Secondary-special | 2.59 | 3.76 | 3.57 |
| Higher | 2.59 | 4.42 | 3.52 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 3.02 | 4.52 | 5.25 |
| Uzbek | 2.90 | 5.25 | 5.31 |
| Other | 1.78 | 2.80 | 2.87 |
| Total | 2.89 | 4.41 | 4.84 |
| ${ }^{\text {'Women age 15-49 years }}$ |  |  |  |

[^2]
## Figure 4.2 Total Fertility Rate by Background Characteristics



Women in Turkmenistan exhibit a childbearing pattern, observed in many societies, of lower fertility among women with higher education. The TFR declines from 3 children per woman among women with primary or secondary education to 2.6 children among women with either secondaryspecial or higher education.

Table 4.2 also shows the percentage of women who report themselves to be currently pregnant. Because women at early stages of pregnancy may not yet know they are pregnant, this proportion may be underestimated. Percentages are generally low, commensurate with fertility that is relatively low overall.

Table 4.2 also shows the mean number of children ever born (CEB) to women age 40-49. Trends in fertility can be inferred by comparing the TFR (a measure of current fertility) with the mean number of CEB (a measure of completed fertility). If there had been no change in fertility for three or more decades before the survey, the TFR and CEB would be nearly the same. That the TFR ( 2.9 children per woman) is as much as two children lower than the CEB (4.8) indicates that fertility has declined in Turkmenistan over the past three decades. The TFR is lower than the CEB among both urban and rural women and in every region, educational level, and ethnic group.

### 4.2 Fertility Trends

To examine fertility trends more directly, it is possible to look at the ASFRs over time. Age-specific fertility rates can be calculated for the preceding 20 years from the TDHS data. ${ }^{3}$ Table 4.3 presents agespecific fertility rates for five-year periods preceding the survey using data on live births from respondents' pregnancy histories. With the exception of 15 - to 19-year-olds, there is evidence of a decline in fertility for all cohorts for which rates can be calculated. The decline in fertility from 5 to 9 to 0 to 4 years prior to the survey increases from a 14 percent decline among 20 - to 24 -year-olds to a 36 percent decline among 35 - to 39 -year-olds. The TDHS data indicate that fertility among 25- to 29 -year-olds has fallen by one-quarter over the past 20 years. Figure 4.3 provides a graphical representation of these declines.


[^3]
### 4.3 Children Ever Born and Living

Table 4.4 presents the distribution of all women and currently married women by number of children ever born. The main difference between the data for currently married women and the total sample occurs among women under the age of 25 , the majority of whom are unmarried, with no children. The table also shows the mean number of children ever born by five-year age group of the mother. The mean number of children ever born among all women is only two children; among currently married women, it is three children. Again, the difference is largely due to the fact that the youngest women have not yet had their children. The mean number of children ever born rises steadily with age, reaching five children among women age 45-49.

A cursory view of the survival status of children can be made by comparing the mean number of children ever born to the mean number surviving, which is also shown in Table 4.4. Overall, 10 percent of live births had not survived to the time of the survey. The proportion of children who have not survived to the time of the survey slowly increases from 8 percent among women currently age 20-24 to 13 percent among women age 45-49.

### 4.4 Children ever born and living

Percent distribution of all women and currently married women by number of children ever born, and mean number of children ever born and mean number of ever born living children, according to five-year age group, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age group | Number of children ever born (CEB) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Number of women | Mean number of CEB | Mean number of living children |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10+ | Total |  |  |  |
| ALL WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 97.4 | 2.5 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,574 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| 20-24 | 61.4 | 21.6 | 13.3 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,541 | 0.60 | 0.55 |
| 25-29 | 21.4 | 20.6 | 36.2 | 16.1 | 4.4 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,256 | 1.66 | 1.52 |
| 30-34 | 6.7 | 9.8 | 26.4 | 30.2 | 17.8 | 5.4 | 2.8 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,060 | 2.75 | 2.51 |
| 35-39 | 5.1 | 5.3 | 14.3 | 22.5 | 22.8 | 18.3 | 7.7 | 2.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 974 | 3.61 | 3.21 |
| 40-44 | 2.6 | 3.6 | 9.3 | 13.8 | 18.2 | 18.1 | 16.5 | 8.7 | 4.9 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 100.0 | 845 | 4.68 | 4.14 |
| 45-59 | 1.4 | 6.8 | 8.7 | 11.8 | 11.1 | 18.3 | 14.4 | 12.8 | 6.8 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 100.0 | 669 | 5.05 | 4.38 |
| Total | 36.6 | 10.90 | 15.4 | 12.5 | 8.8 | 6.7 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 7,919 | 2.12 | 1.90 |
| CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 55.5 | 42.7 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 83 | 0.46 | 0.42 |
| 20-24 | 18.3 | 44.5 | 29.1 | 7.3 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 682 | 1.28 | 1.19 |
| 25-29 | 7.2 | 23.2 | 43.1 | 19.6 | 5.3 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,015 | 1.98 | 1.82 |
| 30-34 | 1.8 | 8.4 | 27.3 | 32.5 | 19.9 | 6.0 | 3.1 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 934 | 2.97 | 2.70 |
| 35-39 | 2.6 | 4.8 | 12.8 | 23.3 | 24.2 | 19.3 | 8.6 | 2.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 857 | 3.79 | 3.38 |
| 40-44 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 8.5 | 12.4 | 19.0 | 19.2 | 17.9 | 9.4 | 4.8 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 100.0 | 765 | 4.84 | 4.28 |
| 45-49 | 0.7 | 5.4 | 7.3 | 11.3 | 11.1 | 18.0 | 16.2 | 13.7 | 7.2 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 100.0 | 556 | 5.27 | 4.59 |
| Total | 6.1 | 15.3 | 22.6 | 18.6 | 13.5 | 9.9 | 6.8 | 3.7 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 4,892 | 3.18 | 2.85 |

### 4.4 Birth Intervals

The length of birth intervals is an important component of childbearing. Research has shown that children born too close to a previous birth have an increased risk of dying, especially when the interval between births is less than 24 months. Table 4.5 presents the percent distribution of second- and higher-order births in the five years prior to the survey by the number of months since the previous birth. The median birth interval length is 27.7 months, just over 2 years. Overall, 36 percent of births occur within 24 months of the previous birth (see Figure 4.4).

| Table 4.5 Birth intervals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of non-first births in the five years preceding the survey by number of months since previous birth, according to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Number of months since previous birth |  |  |  |  | Total | Median number of months | Number of births |
| Characteristic | 7-17 | 18-23 | 24-35 | 36-47 | $48+$ |  |  |  |
| Age of mother |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | * | * | * | * | * | 100.0 | * | 2 |
| 20-29 | 27.1 | 23.0 | 33.0 | 9.5 | 7.4 | 100.0 | 24.0 | 1,161 |
| 30-39 | 10.5 | 14.8 | 33.5 | 13.9 | 27.3 | 100.0 | 31.7 | 1,093 |
| 40+ | 2.6 | 6.2 | 19.5 | 17.0 | 54.8 | 100.0 | 55.0 | 146 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2-3 | 21.3 | 20.7 | 32.3 | 10.9 | 14.9 | 100.0 | 26.1 | 1,666 |
| 4-6 | 11.6 | 12.4 | 33.0 | 13.8 | 29.3 | 100.0 | 32.3 | 626 |
| $7+$ | 5.5 | 15.4 | 30.2 | 18.5 | 30.4 | 100.0 | 34.9 | 109 |
| Sex of prior birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 17.3 | 19.1 | 30.1 | 12.5 | 21.0 | 100.0 | 28.3 | 1,168 |
| Female | 18.8 | 17.5 | 34.5 | 11.4 | 17.8 | 100.0 | 27.3 | 1,233 |
| Survival of prior birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 15.2 | 18.8 | 33.1 | 12.7 | 20.3 | 100.0 | 28.3 | 2,113 |
| No | 38.7 | 14.7 | 27.6 | 6.8 | 12.2 | 100.0 | 22.9 | 288 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 14.7 | 15.2 | 29.5 | 12.9 | 27.6 | 100.0 | 29.9 | 920 |
| Rural | 20.1 | 20.2 | 34.2 | 11.4 | 14.2 | 100.0 | 26.4 | 1,481 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 14.4 | 11.9 | 34.9 | 9.2 | 29.6 | 100.0 | 30.0 | 220 |
| Akhal | 15.7 | 19.0 | 31.8 | 12.4 | 21.0 | 100.0 | 27.9 | 340 |
| Balkan | 12.3 | 12.2 | 28.1 | 16.6 | 30.7 | 100.0 | 34.8 | 177 |
| Dashoguz | 17.3 | 21.5 | 35.7 | 11.1 | 14.3 | 100.0 | 26.6 | 564 |
| Lebap | 18.2 | 18.9 | 30.2 | 14.2 | 18.5 | 100.0 | 27.3 | 480 |
| Mary | 22.7 | 18.4 | 31.7 | 10.5 | 16.7 | 100.0 | 26.9 | 620 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 18.4 | 18.9 | 34.1 | 11.6 | 17.0 | 100.0 | 27.4 | 1,679 |
| Secondary-special | 17.9 | 18.2 | 27.6 | 12.7 | 23.6 | 100.0 | 28.2 | 538 |
| Higher | 14.9 | 13.0 | 30.9 | 13.7 | 27.5 | 100.0 | 30.6 | 184 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkman | 18.8 | 18.8 | 32.6 | 11.9 | 17.8 | 100.0 | 27.3 | 1,994 |
| Uzbek | 14.9 | 18.1 | 34.5 | 14.0 | 18.6 | 100.0 | 28.2 | 276 |
| Other | 13.9 | 10.5 | 24.2 | 8.2 | 43.2 | 100.0 | 36.5 | 132 |
| Total | 18.0 | 18.3 | 32.4 | 12.0 | 19.3 | 100.0 | 27.7 | 2,401 |

Note: First births are excluded. The interval for multiple births is the number of months since the preceding pregnancy that ended in a live birth. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.


Two-thirds of closely spaced births occur to women who are in their twenties. Half the births these women had were born within 24 months of the previous birth. Because these are young women, the lowest birth orders (two or three births) also show the greatest likelihood of being born soon after the previous birth. Births that occur after a prior death are more likely than births following a living child to be born within 24 months: half versus one-third, respectively.

Table 4.5 shows that the distribution of births by birth interval length varies by other background characteristics as well. Forty percent of births born to rural women were born within 24 months of the previous birth, whereas 30 percent of births to urban women were born so soon thereafter. Births to women in the regions of Mary, Dashoguz, Lebap, and Akhal are all more likely to be born within 24 months of the previous birth ( 35 to 41 percent are born within this interval) than are births to women in Ashgabad City or the Balkan Region, where one-quarter of births are born within this interval. A differential of the same magnitude is observed by education and ethnicity. Thirty-seven percent of births to women with primary, secondary, or secondary-special education are born within 24 months of the previous birth, whereas 28 percent of births to women with higher education are born within this interval. Thirty-eight percent of births to Turkmen women and 33 percent of births to Uzbek women are born within 24 months of the previous birth, whereas 24 percent of births born to women of other ethnicities are born within this interval.

### 4.5 Age at First Birth

The age at which childbearing begins has important demographic consequences for society as a whole as well as for the health and welfare of mother and child. Early initiation into childbearing is generally associated with large family size and rapid population growth when family planning is not widely practiced.

Table 4.6 presents the percent distribution of women by age at first birth according to current age. Initiation into childbearing is heavily concentrated within the ages of 20-24. Women now in their twenties and thirties are less likely than women now in their forties to have begun childbearing in their teens. So while initiation into childbearing is concentrated within the early twenties, there has been a slight shift, resulting in a median age of initiation among women in their late twenties and thirties that is 1 year later than the median age among women in their early forties and 1.5 years later than women in their late forties.

| Table 4.6 Age at first birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women 15-49 by age at first birth, according to current age, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Women with |  |  | Age at | first birt |  |  |  | Number | Median age at |
| Current age | births | $<15$ | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-21 | 22-24 | $25+$ | Total | women | birth |
| 15-19 | 97.4 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.6 | na | na | na | 100.0 | 1,574 | a |
| 20-24 | 61.4 | 0.1 | 1.8 | 12.6 | 14.8 | 9.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,541 | a |
| 25-29 | 21.4 | 0.1 | 1.7 | 11.0 | 22.4 | 30.6 | 12.9 | 100.0 | 1,256 | 23.3 |
| 30-34 | 6.7 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 9.1 | 21.8 | 38.1 | 23.5 | 100.0 | 1,060 | 23.4 |
| 35-39 | 5.1 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 8.6 | 24.7 | 34.9 | 25.3 | 100.0 | 974 | 23.3 |
| 40-44 | 2.6 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 17.7 | 30.0 | 30.6 | 18.0 | 100.0 | 845 | 22.1 |
| 45-49 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 3.9 | 21.5 | 28.8 | 28.7 | 15.6 | 100.0 | 669 | 21.7 |
| na $=$ Not applicable <br> ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Median not included because less than 50 percent of the women in the age group $x$ to $x+4$ had a birth by age $x$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

This slight increase among women age 25-39, compared with women in their forties, can also be seen in Table 4.7, which presents the median age at first birth for cohorts age 25 and above across background characteristics. The only other differential of note is by ethnicity. Turkmen women initiate childbearing, on average, at a later age than do Uzbek women or women of other ethnicities. Turkmen women age 25-29 have a median age at first birth (23.7) that is two years later than Uzbek women (21.6) or women of other ethnicities (21.4).

| Table 4.7 Median age at first birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Median age at first birth among women age 25-49 years, by current age and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current age |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Ages } \\ 25-49 \end{gathered}$ |
| Background characteristic | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 22.8 | 23.1 | 23.2 | 22.1 | 21.9 | 22.7 |
| Rural | 23.6 | 23.7 | 23.3 | 22.1 | 21.6 | 23.0 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 23.2 | 22.8 | 23.7 | 22.3 | 22.5 | 23.0 |
| Akhal | 23.6 | 23.2 | 23.2 | 22.2 | 21.5 | 22.9 |
| Balkan | 23.7 | 24.3 | 24.0 | 23.0 | 21.6 | 23.5 |
| Dashoguz | 23.9 | 24.3 | 23.5 | 21.9 | 21.8 | 23.2 |
| Lebap | 22.3 | 22.7 | 22.6 | 22.5 | 21.1 | 22.3 |
| Mary | 23.4 | 23.5 | 22.8 | 21.7 | 21.7 | 22.8 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 23.1 | 23.3 | 23.0 | 21.7 | 21.4 | 22.5 |
| Secondary-special | 23.0 | 23.2 | 23.4 | 22.7 | 21.7 | 23.0 |
| Higher | a | 24.4 | 24.8 | 25.1 | 24.5 | 24.8 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 23.7 | 23.7 | 23.5 | 22.3 | 21.7 | 23.2 |
| Uzbek | 21.6 | 22.4 | 21.9 | 21.5 | 21.4 | 21.7 |
| Other | 21.4 | 21.7 | 22.4 | 21.6 | 21.7 | 21.8 |
| Total | 23.3 | 23.4 | 23.3 | 22.1 | 21.7 | 22.9 |
| $\overline{\text { Note: }}$ The medians for cohorts 15-19 and 20-24 could not be determined because half the women have not had a birth before reaching age 15 and age 20, respectively. <br> ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Omitted because less than 50 percent of the women in the age group $x$ to $x+4$ have had a birth by age $x$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 4.6 Pregnancy and Motherhood among Women Age 15-19

Fertility among women age 15-19 warrants special attention because young mothers at this age as, well as their children, are at high risk of encountering social and health problems. There has been much research done on this topic, but the causality of the problems has proven difficult to identify. Children born to young mothers are associated with higher levels of illness and mortality during childhood than are children born to older mothers.

Table 4.8 presents the percentage of women age 15-19 who are mothers or pregnant with their first child. The TDHS reports that early childbearing is minimal in Turkmenistan, almost nonexistent before the age of 19. Twelve percent of women age 19 have begun childbearing in Turkmenistan.

| Table 4.8 Pregnancy and motherhood among women age 15-19 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women 15-19 who are mothers or pregnant with their first child, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Percentage who are: |  | Percentage who have begun child bearing | Number <br> of women |
| Background characteristic | Mothers | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pregnant with } \\ & \text { 1st child } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 296 |
| 16 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 319 |
| 17 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.3 | 320 |
| 18 | 3.1 | 2.4 | 5.5 | 307 |
| 19 | 8.3 | 3.3 | 11.7 | 333 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 2.8 | 1.0 | 3.8 | 659 |
| Rural | 2.5 | 2.1 | 4.6 | 915 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 2.8 | 1.5 | 4.3 | 1,480 |
| Secondary-special | 0.0 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 71 |
| Higher | * | * | * | 23 |
| Region ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 157 |
| Akhal | 3.4 | 2.1 | 5.5 | 241 |
| Balkan | 4.1 | 2.9 | 7.0 | 128 |
| Dashoguz | 2.4 | 1.3 | 3.7 | 336 |
| Lebap | 2.8 | 2.2 | 5.0 | 349 |
| Mary | 2.8 | 1.3 | 4.1 | 364 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.5 | 1.4 | 3.9 | 1,263 |
| Uzbek | 4.3 | 2.0 | 6.3 | 178 |
| Other | 1.8 | 3.6 | 5.4 | 132 |
| Total | 2.6 | 1.6 | 4.3 | 1,574 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. |  |  |  |  |

A primary function of reproductive health programs is to advocate conscious entry into parenthood for both men and women, i.e., to grant families the right to define their desired number of children and provide the means to achieve that goal. This involves the control of reproductive behavior, including conception, preservation of the fetus, and childbearing, as well as prevention of conception and interruption of pregnancy. Contraception not only helps couples avoid undesired pregnancies but also allows them to control the timing of their childbearing. By controlling the time they enter into parenthood, the time they stop childbearing, and the intervals between births, couples can achieve their ultimate desired family size. Appropriate spacing of pregnancies and births has positive effects on the overall health of both mother and child and is also a contributing factor in the reduction of maternal and infant mortality and secondary sterility. The efficacy of contraception depends on people's knowledge of methods and on the availability of methods to meet the varying needs of a wide spectrum of potential users. Availability of methods, in turn, depends on the quality and quantity of service providers and on available financial and technical resources.

The topics addressed in this chapter include knowledge of contraceptive methods, sources of supply, use of methods in the past and present, reasons for nonuse, desire to use in the future, and attitudes and exposure to messages about contraception. These data can serve as an information base for the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry to better define the need for contraceptives and better define the allocation of resources.

### 5.1 Knowledge of Contraceptive Methods

Determining levels of knowledge and use of contraceptive methods was one of the major objectives of the TDHS survey. Data on contraceptive knowledge were collected by asking the respondent to name ways or methods by which a couple could delay or avoid pregnancy. If the respondent did not mention a particular method spontaneously, the interviewer would describe the unmentioned method and ask whether the respondent had heard of such a method. Thus, knowledge of a contraceptive method is defined simply as having heard of a method.

Contraceptive methods include both modern and traditional methods. Modern methods include the pill, the IUD, injectables, female and male sterilization, implants, barrier methods (diaphragm, foam, jelly, and both male and female condoms ${ }^{1}$ ), emergency contraception, and the lactational amenorrhea method (LAM). ${ }^{2}$ Traditional methods include periodic abstinence (rhythm method) and withdrawal.

[^4]Information on knowledge of contraception is presented in Table 5.1. Every married woman has heard of the IUD ( 99 percent). Five modern methods are known to more than two-thirds of married women: the IUD (99 percent), LAM ( 88 percent), the pill (79 percent), injectables ( 75 percent), and the condom ( 68 percent). Female sterilization is known to 42 percent of married women. The remaining modern methods are known only to a minority of married women. Knowledge of a traditional method of contraception is substantial, but not universal; 39 percent of married women have heard of periodic abstinence, and 47 percent have heard of withdrawal. The mean number of methods known, also shown in Table 5.1, is a rough indicator of the breadth of knowledge of family planning methods. Married women know an average of six methods.

| Table 5.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of all women, of currently married women, of sexually active unmarried women, of sexually inactive unmarried women, and of women with no sexual experience who know any specific contraceptive method, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Unmarried women |  |  |  |  |
| Contraceptive method | All women | Currently married women | Sexually active | Not sexually active | Women with no sexual experience |
| Any method | 93.5 | 99.3 | * | 98.7 | 81.5 |
| Any modern method | 93.5 | 99.3 | * | 98.7 | 81.5 |
| Pill | 67.1 | 79.2 | * | 78.8 | 41.8 |
| IUD | 92.3 | 98.5 | * | 97.9 | 79.4 |
| Injection | 62.9 | 75.0 | * | 69.2 | 38.6 |
| Diaphragm/cervical cap | 7.7 | 9.3 | * | 16.9 | 2.9 |
| Foam/jelly | 13.4 | 16.3 | * | 24.8 | 5.9 |
| Female condom | 6.3 | 7.5 | * | 10.4 | 3.4 |
| Male condom | 59.6 | 68.4 | * | 69.7 | 41.1 |
| Female sterilization | 34.2 | 42.3 | * | 44.1 | 17.0 |
| Male sterilization | 8.9 | 10.9 | * | 16.1 | 3.7 |
| Implants | 3.2 | $4.0$ | * | 3.3 | 1.6 |
| Emergency contraception | 7.7 | 9.6 | * | $12.9$ | 3.1 |
| Lactational amenorrhea (LAM) | 64.6 | 87.5 | * | 80.6 | 17.9 |
| Any traditional method | 44.6 | 61.2 | * | 57.1 | 10.6 |
| Periodic abstinence | 28.9 | 38.6 | * | 40.8 | 8.2 |
| Withdrawal | 33.2 | 46.7 | * | 40.8 | 6.2 |
| Other | 4.8 | 6.8 | * | 8.8 | 0.3 |
| Mean number of methods known | $4.9$ | $6.0$ | * | $6.1$ | $2.7$ |
| Number of women | $7,919$ | $4,892$ | 6 | $460$ | 2,561 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that a fig Unmarried sexually active: Unma survey. <br> Unmarried not sexually active: Un intercourse in the 30 days precedi Women with no sexual experienc LAM: Knowledge of lactational a woman must be exclusively or full postpartum amenorrheic and who do not hold. | based on men who <br> women urvey. en who hea meth stfeeding use anot | er than 25 ve had sex <br> o have had <br> e never had includes wo less than contracept | weighted intercour <br> xual inter <br> xual inter en who months method | es and h n the 30 <br> urse but <br> urse. <br> $w$ that to tpartum, n any of | en suppress preceding not had sex <br> the method postpartum, revious crite |

Unmarried women are classified into three categories: unmarried women who have had sexual intercourse at some time in the past but are not currently sexually active, unmarried women who are currently sexually active, and finally, those who have never had sexual intercourse. Unmarried women who have had sexual intercourse at some time but are not currently sexually active have essentially the same levels of knowledge as currently married women. This is not surprising since most of these women are formerly married, either currently widowed or divorced. Unmarried women are considered to be not sexually active if they have not had intercourse in the 30 days preceding the survey. There were only six unmarried women who have had sexual intercourse who are currently sexually active, too few to show in the table.

One method stands out as being known to women who have never had sexual intercourse; more than three-quarters of such women have heard of the IUD. All other methods are known to fewer than half the women who have never had sexual intercourse. Women who have never had sexual intercourse have heard of an average of 2.7 methods. For purposes of communicating information about methods of contraception, women of reproductive age who have not yet engaged in sexual intercourse are an audience as important as sexually active women because they are certain to engage in sexual activity in the near future.

Table 5.2 presents the percentage of currently married women who know of at least one method of contraception (modern or traditional) and the percentage who know of at least one modern method, by background characteristics. Essentially every married woman knows of at least one modern method of contraception. The only category of women for whom knowledge is less than universal is women age 15-19, among whom nine out of ten know of a method.

### 5.2 Ever Use of Contraception

All respondents who had heard of a method of contraception were asked whether they (or a partner with them) had ever used the method; each method was inquired about separately. An additional probe was made for women who reported no contraceptive use. The results are presented in Table 5.3 for all women and for currently married women by five-year age groups.

Overall, 89 percent of currently married women have used a method of contraception at some time in their life, 87 percent have used a modern method. Most of women who have ever used a method have used either the IUD (61 percent of married women) or LAM ( 63 percent of married women). Other modern methods have been used by comparatively few married women. Condoms are the next most commonly used modern method with 10 percent of currently married women having used a condom at some time. Other modern methods have been used at some time by fewer than 10 percent of married women.

Although more women have used modern methods more often than traditional methods, one-quarter of married women have in fact used a traditional method at some time. Sixteen percent of currently married women have used withdrawal, and 8 percent have used periodic abstinence.

Only 59 percent of all women age 15-49 have used a method of contraception at some time. Levels of ever use among all women are lower than among currently married women because most of women who are not married have not yet had sexual intercourse and have not yet had cause to use a method. Thirty-two percent of respondents have never had sexual intercourse. Knowledge of contraception among these women is important since most of women who have not yet had sexual intercourse will do so at some time in the future, but statistics on use do not yet apply to these women.

| Table 5.2 Knowledge of contraceptive methods by background characteristics |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of currently married women who know at least one contraceptive method and who know at least one modern method, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Knows any method | Knows any modern method | Number <br> of women |
| Age |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 91.2 | 91.2 | 83 |
| 20-24 | 99.0 | 99.0 | 682 |
| 25-29 | 99.9 | 99.8 | 1,015 |
| 30-34 | 99.8 | 99.8 | 934 |
| 35-39 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 857 |
| 40-44 | 99.4 | 99.4 | 765 |
| 45-49 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 556 |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Urban | 99.1 | 99.1 | 2,307 |
| Rural | 99.6 | 99.5 | 2,585 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 98.9 | 98.9 | 639 |
| Akhal | 99.6 | 99.6 | 699 |
| Balkan | 98.1 | 98.1 | 424 |
| Dashoguz | 99.2 | 99.2 | 950 |
| Lebap | 99.3 | 99.2 | 1,030 |
| Mary | 100.0 | 100.0 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 99.1 | 99.1 | 3,347 |
| Secondary-special | 99.9 | 99.9 | 1,149 |
| Higher | 99.7 | 99.7 | 396 |
| Ethnicity | 99.4 | 99.4 | 3,776 |
| Turkmen | 98.7 | 98.7 | 554 |
| Uzbek Other | 99.6 | 99.6 | 563 |
| Total | 99.3 | 99.3 | 4,892 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Female sterilization, pill, IUD, injectables, implants, male condom, female condom, diaphragm, foam or jelly, lactational amenorrhea method (LAM), and emergency contraception. |  |  |  |

### 5.3 Current Use of Contraception

Table 5.4 presents levels of current use of contraception for all women and for currently married women by five-year age groups. Figure 5.1 shows the distribution of currently married women by method currently used.

More than half of currently married women (53 percent) are currently using a modern method of contraception, while only 9 percent are using a traditional method. As discussed in the section on ever use, most of women who are not married have not yet had sexual intercourse, so the discussion of use will focus on married women.

## Table 5.3 Ever use of contraception

Percentage of all women and of currently married women who have ever used any contraceptive method, by specific method and age, Turkmenistan 2000


## Table 5.4 Current use of contraception

Percent distribution of all women and currently married women, by contraceptive method currently used, according to age, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age | Any method | Modern method |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Traditional method |  |  |  | Not using a method Total |  | Number of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Any modern method | Pill | IUD | Injectables | Foam/ jelly | Male condom | Female sterilization | Lactational amenorrhea (LAM) | Any traditional method | Periodic abstinence | Withdrawal | Other |  |  |  |
| ALL WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 98.5 | 100.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 24.1 | 21.6 | 0.3 | 12.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 8.4 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 75.9 | 100.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 50.2 | 45.0 | 1.5 | 29.1 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 10.9 | 5.2 | 0.8 | 3.8 | 0.7 | 49.8 | 100.0 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 63.2 | 54.8 | 1.2 | 42.2 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 6.3 | 8.4 | 1.7 | 5.4 | 1.3 | 36.8 | 100.0 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 66.9 | 57.2 | 1.1 | 46.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 9.6 | 3.0 | 5.2 | 1.4 | 33.1 | 100.0 | 974 |
| $40-44$ | 63.4 | 52.5 | 1.5 | 42.9 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 2.2 | 3.6 | 0.7 | 10.9 | 3.4 | 6.7 | 0.8 | 36.61 | 100.0 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 33.1 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 22.3 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 3.2 | 0.1 | 6.5 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 1.0 | 66.91 | 100.0 | 669 |
| Total | 39.2 | 33.8 | 0.8 | 24.9 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 1.3 | 3.3 | 0.8 | 60.81 | 100.0 | 7,919 |

## CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN

| 15-19 | 26.6 | 20.9 | 0.0 | 5.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 13.9 | 5.6 | 0.0 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 73.4 | 100.0 | 83 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20-24 | 52.7 | 47.1 | 0.8 | 25.7 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 18.9 | 5.6 | 0.6 | 3.3 | 1.7 | 47.3 | 100.0 | 682 |
| 25-29 | 61.5 | 55.0 | 1.9 | 35.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 0.7 | 13.3 | 6.5 | 1.0 | 4.7 | 0.9 | 38.5 | 100.0 | 1,015 |
| 30-34 | 70.3 | 60.8 | 1.3 | 46.6 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 3.2 | 1.3 | 7.2 | 9.5 | 1.9 | 6.1 | 1.5 | 29.7 | 100.0 | 934 |
| 35-39 | 74.1 | 63.2 | 1.3 | 51.4 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 10.9 | 3.4 | 5.9 | 1.6 | 25.9 | 100.0 | 857 |
| 40-44 | 67.5 | 55.5 | 1.6 | 45.5 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 3.4 | 0.7 | 12.0 | 3.7 | 7.4 | 0.8 | 32.5 | 100.0 | 765 |
| 45-49 | 37.8 | 30.0 | 0.0 | 25.8 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 7.8 | 2.3 | 4.3 | 1.2 | 62.2 | 100.0 | 556 |
| Total | 61.8 | 53.1 | 1.2 | 39.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 7.9 | 8.7 | 2.1 | 5.3 | 1.3 | 38.2 | 100.0 | 4,892 |

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

Figure 5.1 Current Use of Contraception among Currently Married Women Age 15-49


The IUD is by far the most commonly used method-39 percent of currently married women are using the IUD. The next most commonly used method is LAM, reported by 8 percent of married women to be their current method; 15 percent of women age 15-29 are using LAM. Other modern methods of contraception account for only a small amount of use among currently married women: condoms and female sterilization ( 2 percent each) and pills and injectables ( 1 percent each). The use of contraception in Turkmenistan relies heavily on a single method, the IUD, although other methods are known (the pill, injectables and condoms are each known to more than 60 percent of married women).

One out of every two married women age 35-39 is using the IUD, the peak age of use. Use of a modern method of contraception increases steadily by age, peaking at age 35-39, and then declines. The desire to avoid pregnancy varies greatly over the course of one's reproductive life; use of contraception in relation to the fertility preferences of women is discussed in the next chapter.

Levels of contraceptive use by background characteristics of respondents are presented in Table 5.5 and Figure 5.2 for currently married women. Perhaps the most significant finding of Table 5.5 is that the level of use of the IUD observed for the population as a whole is maintained across background characteristics of respondents. Although there is some variation, level of use of the IUD is of the same magnitude across residence, region, education, and ethnicity. Since use of the IUD largely overwhelms use of any other method, use of a modern method is also largely maintained across background characteristics.

The greatest variation in use is seen by number of living children. It is rare for married women with no children to be using a method (only 5 percent are using a modern or traditional method). Nearly half the women with one child are using a method of contraception (48 percent), and by the time they have three living children, three out of four women are using either a modern or traditional method of contraception.

Table 5.5 Current use of contraception by background characteristics
Percent distribution of currently married women by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

|  | Modern method |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Traditional method |  |  |  | Not using a method Total |  | Number of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Background characteristic | Any method | Any modern method | Pill | IUD | Injectables | Foam/ jelly | Male condom | Female sterili- <br> zation | Lactational amenorrhea (LAM) | Any traditional method | Periodic abstinence | Withdrawal | Other |  |  |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 62.3 | 52.6 | 2.0 | 38.2 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 3.4 | 1.9 | 5.6 | 9.7 | 3.2 | 4.8 | 1.7 | 37.7 | 100.0 | 2,307 |
| Rural | 61.4 | 53.5 | 0.5 | 39.8 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 1.7 | 10.0 | 7.8 | 1.1 | 5.8 | 0.9 | 38.6 | 100.0 | 2,585 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 59.7 | 51.8 | 3.2 | 34.9 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 6.4 | 0.8 | 5.0 | 7.9 | 4.3 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 40.3 | 100.0 | 639 |
| Akhal | 66.3 | 60.9 | 2.2 | 43.5 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 8.4 | 5.4 | 0.9 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 33.7 | 100.0 | 699 |
| Balkan | 61.1 | 48.7 | 0.3 | 37.2 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 6.7 | 12.4 | 2.0 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 38.9 | 100.0 | 424 |
| Dashoguz | 55.8 | 54.8 | 0.5 | 40.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 11.8 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 44.2 | 100.0 | 950 |
| Lebap | 62.9 | 48.5 | 0.5 | 36.1 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 6.2 | 14.4 | 3.3 | 8.7 | 2.4 | 37.1 | 100.0 | 1,030 |
| Mary | 64.5 | 53.3 | 1.1 | 40.7 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 2.2 | 8.1 | 11.2 | 2.0 | 8.1 | 1.1 | 35.5 | 100.0 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 60.1 | 52.6 | 1.0 | 39.0 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 8.9 | 7.5 | 1.0 | 5.3 | 1.2 | 39.9 | 100.0 | 3,347 |
| Secondary-special | 64.7 | 54.5 | 1.9 | 39.8 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 6.3 | 10.2 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 1.5 | 35.3 | 100.0 | 1,149 |
| Higher | 68.0 | 53.1 | 1.5 | 37.0 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 8.2 | 1.5 | 4.2 | 14.8 | 5.2 | 8.4 | 1.2 | 32.0 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 61.7 | 53.0 | 0.7 | 39.6 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 1.6 | 5.9 | 1.2 | 38.3 | 100.0 | 3,776 |
| Uzbek | 61.4 | 56.1 | 1.2 | 42.3 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 9.7 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 38.6 | 100.0 | 554 |
| Other | 62.8 | 50.7 | 4.5 | 32.0 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 5.4 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 12.1 | 5.3 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 37.2 | 100.0 | 563 |
| Number of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 5.3 | 4.7 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 94.7 | 100.0 | 330 |
| 1 | 47.7 | 40.4 | 1.8 | 18.5 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 2.8 | 0.8 | 15.7 | 7.4 | 0.8 | 4.6 | 2.0 | 52.3 | 100.0 | 821 |
| 2 | 69.6 | 60.5 | 1.6 | 45.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 2.6 | 4.9 | 1.6 | 30.4 | 100.0 | 1,264 |
| 3 | 74.8 | 64.8 | 0.8 | 49.8 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 1.9 | 8.3 | 10.0 | 3.1 | 5.4 | 1.5 | 25.2 | 100.0 | 927 |
| 4+ | 67.2 | 57.1 | 0.9 | 46.4 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 4.8 | 10.1 | 2.1 | 7.1 | 0.8 | 32.8 | 100.0 | 1,550 |
| Total | 61.8 | 53.1 | 1.2 | 39.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 7.9 | 8.7 | 2.1 | 5.3 | 1.3 | 38.2 | 100.0 | 4,892 |

Figure 5.2 Percentage of Married Women 15-49 Currently Using Contraception by Background Characteristics


Other findings of note that are elucidated in Table 5.5 include the higher use of condoms among women with higher education (8 percent of married women with higher education are using condoms). Women using condoms are most likely to be women of ethnicities other than Turkmen or Uzbek. Use of LAM and use of traditional methods also vary by education. Nine percent of women with primary or secondary education report themselves to be using LAM, and use declines with increasing education, down to 4 percent among women with higher education. Use of traditional methods, on the other hand, increases with increasing education. Eight percent of women with primary or secondary education report themselves to be using a traditional method of contraception, and use increases to 15 percent among women with higher education. The percentage of married women not currently using a method of contraception decreases with increasing education, from 40 percent among women with primary or secondary education to 32 percent among women with higher education.

Of course, socioeconomic characteristics are not the only factors that influence contraceptive use. A woman's ability to use contraceptive methods to control her fertility is also likely to be affected by her status and degree of empowerment. The TDHS survey collected information on indicators of women's empowerment: number of decisions in which the respondent has the final say and the number of reasons for which a woman can refuse to have sexual relations with her husband. The first of these indicators, which ranges from 0 to 5 , is based on the total number of decisions from among five specified decisions (see Table 3.9 for the list of specific decisions) that the respondent participates in. This indicator is positively related to women's empowerment and reflects the degree of decisionmaking control women are able to exercise in areas that affect their own life and environment. The second measure, which ranges from 0 to 4 , is the total number of circumstances from among four specified circumstances (see Table 3.11 for the list of circumstances) in which the respondent feels that a woman is justified in refusing sexual relations with her husband. This indicator reflects perceptions of sexual roles and women's rights over their body and sexuality and relates positively to women's sense of self and empowerment.

Table 5.6 shows how current use of contraception by currently married women age 15-49 varies by each of these indicators of women's empowerment. Women who are more empowered are expected to be better able to control all aspects of their lives including being better able to meet their fertility goals. Table 5.6 shows that women's contraceptive use is strongly associated with women's participation in household decisionmaking. Only 44 percent of women who do not participate in any household decisions are using a contraceptive method, compared with 63 to 64 percent of women who participate in almost all or all (three to five) of the decisions. Of particular interest is the fact that the use of the IUD, the most popular modern method, as well as the use of traditional methods, particularly withdrawal, increases sharply with women's participation in household decisionmaking. Women not participating in any decisions are only about half as likely as women participating in all decisions to use each of these methods. The use of LAM, however, which accounts for 13 percent of all contraceptive use, is inversely related to women's participation in decisionmaking. Women's contraceptive use does not, however, appear to vary consistently or strongly with the other indicator of empowerment.

### 5.4 Number of Children at First Use of Contraception

To make some assessment of the motivations behind contraception, women were asked how many living children they had at the time they first used a method. Women who use a method before ever having a child presumably want to delay their childbearing to some time in the future. Women who first employ a method after they have had one or two children may either want to delay the next child (child spacing) or limit their childbearing to one or two children. Women who use a method for the first time after having several children are more likely to want to stop childbearing, rather than simply space their childbearing.

```
5.6 Current use of contraception by women's status
Percent distribution of currently married women by contraceptive method currently used, according to indicators of women's status, Turkmenistan 2000
```



| Number of decisions with <br> woman having final say ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 44.1 | 39.6 | 0.6 | 22.7 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 12.8 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 1.1 | 55.9 | 100.0 | 235 |
| $1-2$ | 57.6 | 51.2 | 0.2 | 34.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 13.6 | 6.4 | 1.5 | 3.7 | 1.3 | 42.4 | 100.0 | 675 |
| $3-4$ | 62.8 | 53.1 | 1.3 | 38.8 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 2.1 | 5.8 | 1.8 | 37.2 | 100.0 | 998 |
| 5 | 63.8 | 54.6 | 1.5 | 41.5 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 6.4 | 9.3 | 2.4 | 5.7 | 1.1 | 36.2 | 100.0 | 2,984 |


| Number of reasons to refuse sexual relations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 61.8 | 58.7 | 1.0 | 43.7 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 9.3 | 3.1 | 0.6 | 2.2 | 0.3 | 38.2 | 100.0 | 288 |
| 1-2 | 58.1 | 51.4 | 0.4 | 37.8 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 2.2 | 1.3 | 9.2 | 6.7 | 0.8 | 5.1 | 0.9 | 41.9 | 100.0 | 700 |
| 3-4 | 62.5 | 53.0 | 1.4 | 38.9 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 7.6 | 9.5 | 2.4 | 5.6 | 1.4 | 37.5 | 100.0 | 3,905 |
| Total | 61.8 | 53.1 | 1.2 | 39.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 7.9 | 8.7 | 2.1 | 5.3 | 1.3 | 38.2 | 100.0 | 4,892 |

[^5]Table 5.7 presents the percent distribution of all ever-married women by the number of living children they had at the time they first used contraception. Use of contraception to delay the first pregnancy is uncommon in Turkmenistan (only 2 percent of women have done so). However, beginning use at low parities is fairly common and has been becoming more common over time. Forty-seven percent of women in their forties first used contraception after having one child, while as many as 60 percent of women in their twenties initiated use of contraception after having their first child. Table 5.7 also presents the median number of children at first use of contraception, but because this median is calculated only among those who have ever used a method of contraception, the reader should note that the medians among young women are biased toward low numbers since young women who have used contraception must have done so at low parities.

| Percent distribution of ever-married women by number of living children at the time of first use of contraception and median number of children at first use, according to current age, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current age | Never used contracaption | Number of living children at time of first use of contraceptive |  |  |  |  |  |  | Median number of children at first use of contraception | Number of women |
| 15-19 | 63.9 | 1.1 | 35.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 0.5 | 93 |
| 20-24 | 25.2 | 2.8 | 60.4 | 9.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 0.6 | 729 |
| 25-29 | 10.8 | 2.9 | 60.9 | 20.8 | 3.7 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 0.7 | 1,065 |
| 30-34 | 7.6 | 0.9 | 52.8 | 22.3 | 10.7 | 5.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 0.9 | 1,015 |
| 35-39 | 8.2 | 0.3 | 46.6 | 19.5 | 10.8 | 14.4 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1.0 | 950 |
| 40-44 | 7.1 | 0.6 | 46.7 | 14.8 | 10.3 | 20.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.0 | 838 |
| 45-49 | 12.3 | 1.3 | 47.8 | 9.1 | 6.1 | 23.1 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 0.9 | 665 |
| Total | 12.2 | 1.5 | 52.4 | 16.5 | 7.2 | 9.8 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 0.8 | 5,356 |

[^6]
### 5.5 Knowledge of the Fertile Period

Knowledge of reproductive physiology is an important prerequisite for successful practice of coitus-associated methods such as withdrawal, condoms, and vaginal methods. To successfully practice periodic abstinence, a woman must know at which point during the ovulation cycle she is most likely to become pregnant. All women were asked whether they thought there was a time during their monthly cycle that they were more likely to become pregnant, and if so, to identify when that was. Table 5.8 presents the percent distribution of both users and nonusers of periodic abstinence by their knowledge of the fertile period.

| Table 5.8 Knowledge of fertile period |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who use periodic abstinence, of women who do not use periodic abstinence, and of all women, by knowledge of fertile period during the ovulatory cycle, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Perceived fertile period | Users of periodic abstinence | Nonusers of periodic abstinence | All women |
| Just before period begins | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| During menstrual period | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Right after period has ended | 7.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| Halfway between periods | 88.5 | 23.9 | 24.8 |
| No special time | 1.2 | 32.7 | 32.3 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Don't know | 2.5 | 34.2 | 33.7 |
| Missing | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 102 | 7,817 | 7,919 |

Only one-quarter of all women properly identified the middle of the cycle as the most likely time to become pregnant. Most of the remaining respondents said either that there is no time that is more likely than another ( 32 percent of all women) or simply did not know ( 34 percent of all women). On the other hand, most women who are using periodic abstinence do know of the varying likelihood to become pregnant. Eighty-nine percent of women who are using periodic abstinence could properly identify the time during which they are most fertile.

### 5.6 Source of Contraceptive Methods

All women currently using a modern method were asked where they most recently obtained their method. ${ }^{3}$ Table 5.9 shows the percent distribution of all current users of modern contraceptives by the source from which they most recently obtained their method.

Nearly all women obtained their contraceptives through the public sector (99 percent). Forty-four percent obtained their method from a health clinic, 35 percent obtained their method from a hospital, and 16 percent obtained their method from a women's consulting center.

[^7]| Table 5.9 Source of supply |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of current users of modern contraceptive methods by most recent source of supply, according to specific method, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source | Pill | IUD | Injectables | Male condom | Female sterilization | All modern methods |
| Public sector | (96.4) | 99.2 | (100.0) | 84.0 | 100.0 | 98.5 |
| Government hospital | (25.0) | 34.3 | (13.1) | 1.1 | 93.4 | 34.8 |
| Rural and urban health clinic | (29.2) | 46.8 | (69.8) | 19.9 | 0.6 | 43.5 |
| Women's consulting center | (15.4) | 17.6 | (15.0) | 1.6 | 0.0 | 16.0 |
| Public pharmacy | (26.8) | 0.6 | (0.0) | 57.2 | 0.0 | 3.8 |
| Other public | (0.0) | 0.1 | (2.1) | 4.2 | 6.0 | 0.6 |
| Private medical sector | (3.6) | 0.6 | (0.0) | 9.8 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Private hospital/clinic | (0.0) | 0.5 | (0.0) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Private pharmacy | (3.0) | 0.0 | (0.0) | 2.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Private doctor | (0.7) | 0.1 | (0.0) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Other private medical | (0.0) | 0.0 | (0.0) | 7.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Other | (0.0) | 0.0 | (0.0) | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Don't know | (0.0) | 0.1 | (0.0) | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 60 | 1,971 | 49 | 100 | 104 | 2,286 |
| Note: Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on 25-49 unweighted cases. Includes 2 users of foam/jelly. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source of supply does vary depending on the method being used. Pill users exhibit the greatest variation in where they get their method; they report having last obtained their method from government hospitals ( 25 percent), health clinics ( 29 percent), women's consulting centers ( 15 percent), and public pharmacies ( 27 percent). The majority of condom users obtain their method from public pharmacies ( 57 percent). The majority of women who use injectables obtain their method from health clinics ( 70 percent). Most of users are using the IUD and nearly half obtain the method from health clinics; one-third of IUD users obtain their method from hospitals, and the remainder obtain their method from women's consulting centers.

### 5.7 Informed Choice

Ideally, women would become users of contraceptives only after having obtained all the information pertaining to method use that would lead one to make an informed choice about using a method. This would include the decision whether to use contraception, as well as which method to use. An informed choice would be one that is made with the knowledge of what methods are available to choose from, as well as all risks associated with each method.

The TDHS survey asked women who are currently using a modern method of contraception whether they were informed of the possible side effects of the method they are using, and if so, whether they were informed of what they should do if they experience any side effects. The results are presented in Table 5.10. Most of users of modern methods in Turkmenistan are using the IUD, among whom only half report that they were informed about possible side effects and what to do in the event they experience side effects. Women in Ashgabad City are the least likely of all regions (38 percent) to have been informed about side effects, while women in the Lebap Region are the most likely to have been told about side effects ( 65 percent). Users of the pill and injectables are much more likely to have been told about side effects and what to do if they experience them (about 80 percent were so informed), although they do constitute a minority of all users.

Women who are using female sterilization were asked whether they were informed that they would no longer be able to bear children after the operation. Eighty-eight percent of sterilized women were informed that they would not be able to bear children after the sterilization operation.

Women were also asked whether they were told about other methods of family planning they could use, other than the one they were using. Only 41 percent of women reported having been told about alternatives to their method. Of course, in Turkmenistan, this is also highly dependent on the availability of other methods.

| Table 5.10 Informed choice |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of current users of modern contraceptive methods who were informed that sterilization is permanent, who were informed about the side effects of the method used, who were informed what to do if side effects were experienced, and who were informed of other methods that could be used for contraception, by specific method, initial source of method, and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Method, source, background characteristic | Informed that sterilization is permanent ${ }^{1}$ | Informed about side effects of method used ${ }^{2}$ | Informed what to do if experience side effects ${ }^{2}$ | Informed of other methods that could be used ${ }^{3}$ |
| Method |  |  |  |  |
| Pill | - | (82.8) | 77.5 | (77.7) |
| IUD | - | 48.4 | 46.9 | 38.1 |
| Injectables |  | (83.8) | (83.8) | (83.8) |
| Female sterilization | 87.7 | 37.4 | 31.6 | 16.2 |
| Other ${ }^{4}$ | - | - | - | 48.0 |
| Initial source of method | 87.7 | 49.7 | 47.9 | 40.5 |
| Government hospital | 87.5 | 45.1 | 43.7 | 36.1 |
| Rural and urban health clinic | c | 53.9 | 52.1 | 43.7 |
| Women's consulting center | ${ }_{*}^{*}$ | 47.5 | 44.8 | 39.9 |
| Public pharmacy |  | * | ${ }_{*}^{*}$ | * |
| Other public | * | * | * | * |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 83.3 | 46.0 | 43.4 | 39.1 |
| Rural | (93.0) | 53.1 | 52.1 | 41.8 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | * | 37.9 | 32.3 | 35.8 |
| Akhal | * | 45.0 | 45.0 | 29.3 |
| Balkan | * | 45.9 | 44.9 | 32.0 |
| Dashoguz | * | 53.0 | 52.3 | 47.8 |
| Lebap | * | 64.5 | 62.2 | 52.8 |
| Mary | * | 45.0 | 43.5 | 37.1 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 92.5 | 46.9 | 45.5 | 36.9 |
| Secondary-special | (82.3) | 56.7 | 54.6 | 48.4 |
| Higher |  | 49.8 | 44.9 | 48.0 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 94.0 | 50.0 | 48.6 | 39.5 |
| Uzbek | * | 55.4 | 53.9 | 49.0 |
| Other | * | 41.2 | 36.6 | 38.1 |
| Total | 87.7 | 49.6 | 47.8 | 40.5 |
| Number of women | 104 | 2,184 | 2,184 | 2,577 |
| Note: Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. ${ }^{1}$ Among users of sterilization <br> ${ }^{2}$ Among users of female sterilization, pill, IUD, injectables and implants <br> ${ }^{3}$ Among users of female sterilization, pill, IUD, injectables, implants, vaginal methods and LAM. <br> ${ }^{4}$ Users of foam/jelly or LAM |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

### 5.8 Discontinuation within 12 Months of Use

The circumstances surrounding the discontinuation of contraception is of interest because it can inform strategies to reach the target population. Table 5.11 presents first-year contraceptive discontinuation rates by reason for discontinuing a method, according to each method discontinued. This is the proportion of women who have started using a contraceptive method at some time in the 5 years prior to the survey, but then stopped using that method within 12 months of having started it. One would expect the rates to vary by method by virtue of the nature of the methods. For example, the IUD is not generally intended as a short-term method, and so a low discontinuation rate of 12 percent is to be expected. On the other hand, coitus-related methods are more easily discontinued; 59 percent of condom users discontinued within one year of use. Nearly half of those who did discontinue use of condoms switched to another method. Although one might assume that the desire to become pregnant might be one of the main reasons for discontinuing use of a method of contraception, only 3 percent of users discontinued within 12 months of initiating use for that reason.

| Proportion of contraceptive users who discontinue use of a method by 12 months after beginning its use in the five years preceding the survey, by reason for discontinuation, according to specific method, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reason for discontinuation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Method discontinued | Method failure | Desire to become pregnant | Switched to another method ${ }^{1}$ | Other | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { reasons } \end{gathered}$ |
| Pill | 6.6 | 12.3 | 26.6 | 27.3 | 72.8 |
| IUD | 0.8 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 5.9 | 11.7 |
| Condom | 2.3 | 16.9 | 27.9 | 11.3 | 58.5 |
| Withdrawal | 12.0 | 3.4 | 8.7 | 19.6 | 43.6 |
| Lactational amenorrhea | 0.6 | 0.5 | 22.3 | 61.3 | 84.6 |
| Other | 16.3 | 6.3 | 12.8 | 10.0 | 45.4 |
| All methods | 2.2 | 2.5 | 15.3 | 38.0 | 58.0 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Note: Discontinuation rates are based on multiple decrement life table calculations. } \\ & { }^{1} \text { Used a different method in the month following discontinuation or said that they wanted a more } \\ & \text { effective method and started another method within two months of discontinuation. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 5.12 presents the distribution of all discontinuations in the five years prior to the survey by main reason for discontinuation and presents these distributions for each method. The main reasons given for discontinuing use of the IUD are wanting to become pregnant and health concerns, each reported for one-third of discontinuations. Note that there is a large quantity of reported LAM discontinuations; these may be more the result of collection teams recording uses of LAM whenever women were breastfeeding than being cases of women being taught how to meet the requirements of LAM. Ninety-two percent of LAM discontinuations had no accompanying reasons reported for discontinuation.

## Table 5.12 Reasons for discontinuing contraceptive methods

Percent distribution of discontinuations of contraceptive methods in the five years preceding the survey by main reason for discontinuation, according to specific method, Turkmenistan 2000

| Reason for discontinuation | Method discontinued |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pill | IUD | Injectables | Diaph. foam/ jelly | Condom | Periodic abstinence | With drawal | Lactational amenorrhea | Other | All methods |
| Became pregnant while using | 8.3 | 4.8 | 0.0 | * | 5.4 | 19.7 | 25.4 | 1.0 | 27.3 | 4.7 |
| Wanted to become pregnant | 13.4 | 33.0 | 10.2 | * | 26.6 | 14.9 | 11.7 | 0.5 | 14.2 | 10.3 |
| Husband disapproved | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.0 | * | 19.7 | 2.9 | 5.9 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Side effects | 21.1 | 10.5 | 17.0 | * | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.2 |
| Health concerns | 22.1 | 34.6 | 29.6 | * | 1.4 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 8.8 |
| Access/availability | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | * | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Wanted a more effective method | 12.3 | 4.4 | 11.9 | * | 23.2 | 8.0 | 10.1 | 2.5 | 20.0 | 5.1 |
| Inconvenient to use | 6.2 | 0.3 | 0.0 | * | 6.6 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Infrequent sex/husband away | 4.2 | 3.6 | 2.9 | * | 3.9 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Cost too much | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | * | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Difficult to get pregnant/menopausal | 0.0 | 3.9 | 0.0 | * | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| Marital dissolution/separation | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | * | 3.0 | 2.2 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Other | 0.0 | 1.5 | 2.6 | * | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 3.9 | 20.0 | 3.2 |
| Don't know | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | * | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Missing | 9.1 | 2.8 | 25.8 | * | 8.8 | 45.2 | 44.8 | 91.9 | 17.2 | 60.4 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of discontinuations | 140 | 1,090 | 76 | 13 | 158 | 85 | 308 | 2,949 | 121 | 4,940 |

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

### 5.9 Intention to Use Contraception among Nonusers

Intentions of women to use a method of contraception in the future provide a basis for forecasting potential need for contraceptives. The TDHS survey asked currently married nonusers of contraception whether they intend to use a method of contraception at some time in the future. Table 5.13 presents the results according to the number of living children the nonusers have.

## Table 5.13 Future use of contraception

Percent distribution of currently married women who are not using a contraceptive method by intention to use in the future, according to number of living children, Turkmenistan 2000

|  | Number of living children ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Intention | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | $4+$ | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Intends to use later | 18.4 | 61.2 | 60.1 | 46.1 | 24.1 | 46.6 |
| Unsure as to intention | 32.6 | 22.5 | 14.3 | 12.0 | 10.4 | 13.5 |
| Does not intend to use | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 40.5 | 65.1 | 38.9 |
| Missing | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
|  | 197 | 432 | 424 | 278 | 537 | 1,868 |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of women |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{1}$ Includes current pregnancy |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Overall, 47 percent of currently married nonusers do intend to use a method of contraception at some time in the future, 39 percent state that they do not intend to use a method, and 14 percent say that they are not sure about future use. Women with one or two children are more likely to intend to use a method at some time in the future than are women with three or more children. In fact, most women with one or two children intend to use a method at some time in the future ( 60 percent). Most ( 89 percent) of women who intend to use a method at some time in the future report that they intend to use the IUD (Table 5.14).

### 5.10 Reasons for Nonuse of Contraception

As was seen in Table 5.13, the percentage of married women who do not intend to use a method of family planning increases as the number of children increases, from 23 percent among women with one child up to 65 percent among women with four or more children. Since motivations to use family planning change over one's reproductive lifespan, Table 5.15 presents reasons nonusers state for having no intention to use family planning for women below and above age 30 . The most common reason stated for not intending to use a method among younger nonusers is wanting more children ( 41 percent). Women over the age of 30 are as likely to report being opposed to the use of contraception as being menopausal for their reason for nonuse (each about 30 percent). Few women over the age of 30 report wanting children as the reason for not using contraception.

### 5.11 Exposure to Family Planning Messages in the Media

Mass media provide an opportunity to communicate information to a broad spectrum of the population. All TDHS respondents were asked whether they had heard a message about the benefits of spacing their children and using contraception on the radio or television in the few months prior to the survey. They were also asked whether they had seen a message in a newspaper or magazine. The results for the electronic media are presented in Table 5.16 and for the print media in Table 5.17.

| Table 5.16 Exposure to messages about contraception on radio and television |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by whether or not they have heard a radio or television message about contraception in the last few months prior to the interview, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heard message about contraception on radio or television |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Both | Radio only | Television only | Neither | Missing | Total | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 7.5 | 0.4 | 17.8 | 73.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 12.0 | 0.6 | 24.1 | 62.8 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 16.6 | 0.5 | 27.0 | 56.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 16.7 | 0.4 | 29.1 | 53.3 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 17.4 | 0.3 | 24.2 | 57.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 17.6 | 0.5 | 27.5 | 54.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 15.8 | 0.7 | 26.3 | 57.1 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 669 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 15.8 | 0.4 | 27.2 | 56.4 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 12.5 | 0.5 | 22.2 | 64.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 19.7 | 0.4 | 35.5 | 44.1 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 1.0 | 0.5 | 23.1 | 75.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 3.0 | 0.1 | 20.9 | 76.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 29.0 | 1.2 | 11.2 | 58.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 11.6 | 0.2 | 18.4 | 69.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 12.1 | 0.3 | 38.2 | 48.8 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 12.0 | 0.5 | 22.2 | 64.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 18.7 | 0.6 | 29.1 | 51.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 22.2 | 0.0 | 35.9 | 41.7 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 12.4 | 0.5 | 23.7 | 63.1 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 22.4 | 0.5 | 15.5 | 61.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 857 |
| Other | 17.3 | 0.5 | 39.6 | 42.3 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 871 |
| Total | 14.0 | 0.5 | 24.5 | 60.7 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 7,919 |

Television is the most common of the three sources of messages about the benefits of spacing children and using contraception (television, radio, or print media). Nine out of ten women in Turkmenistan report watching television weekly; one out of three women report listening to the radio weekly (data presented in Chapter 2). Overall, 39 percent of respondents have seen a television message in the few months prior to the survey. Fifteen percent of respondents had heard a message on the radio. Exposure to television messages varies by residence. Twice as many respondents in Ashgabad City and Mary Region (50-55 percent) had seen a television message as had respondents in the Akhal and Balkan regions ( 24 percent). Although television messages are independent of the educational level of the audience, the likelihood that a respondent has seen a message increases with increasing education. Thirty-four percent of respondents with primary or secondary education, respectively, have recently seen a family message, while 48 and 58 percent of women with secondary-special and higher education, respectively, have seen such a message.

| Table 5.17 Exposure to messages about the use of contraception in print media |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who saw a message about contraception in the print media (newspaper or magazines) in the last few months prior to the interview, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Saw a contraceptive message in print media |  |  | Total | Number of women |
|  | Yes | No | Missing |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 17.4 | 82.4 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 23.9 | 75.6 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 30.9 | 69.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 28.1 | 71.4 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 29.5 | 70.1 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 29.4 | 70.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 25.9 | 74.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 669 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 31.3 | 68.5 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 20.8 | 78.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 37.7 | 62.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 2.8 | 97.0 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 21.1 | 78.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 37.2 | 62.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 27.4 | 72.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 23.3 | 75.9 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 19.9 | 79.8 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 38.7 | 61.2 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 49.8 | 50.0 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 22.7 | 77.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 31.2 | 68.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 857 |
| Other | 41.6 | 58.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 871 |
| Total | 25.7 | 74.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 7,919 |

Overall, 30 percent of women report reading a newspaper or magazine on a weekly basis (data presented in Chapter 2). Twenty-six percent of respondents report having recently seen a message concerning the spacing of children or use of contraception message in a newspaper or magazine. Women in Ashgabad City and the Dashoguz Region are the most likely to have read such a message ( 38 percent), while women in the Akhal Region are very unlikely to have seen such a message ( 3 percent). Women of other ethnicities are more likely than Turkmen or Uzbek women to have recently seen a message in print, they are also more likely to have seen a television message. Not surprisingly, the likelihood of having seen a message in the print media climbs with increasing education, from 20 to 50 percent.

### 5.12 Contact of Nonusers with a Service Provider

Successful adoption of a contraception method first necessitates information about what is available. Messages in the electronic and print media may be able to inform a wide audience, but personal contact with individuals is also necessary. Whenever a woman of reproductive age walks
into a health facility, health care professionals could see this as an opportunity to discuss the contraceptive needs of that individual. To assess whether women are discussing family planning with health care professionals, the THDS survey asked women whether they had visited a health care facility within the previous 12 months (either for themselves or their child) and if so, had they spoken with any staff member at the facility about contraception. Women were also asked whether they had been visited by a fieldworker in the previous 12 months who had discussed contraception with them. The results are presented in Table 5.18 for those women who are not using a method.

Most of nonusers have not discussed the use of contraception in the previous year with a health care provider or fieldworker ( 83 percent). This may either be because they had no need to visit a health facility or because they did visit a health facility but did not discuss the use of contraception with anyone, and they were not visited by a fieldworker. It is important to note that half of the nonusers are women under age 25 ( 56 percent) and are surely going to be in need of contraception in the near future. Perhaps the easiest and most cost-efficient population to reach is that which presents itself to a health facility. One in five nonusers attended a health facility at some time in the previous year but did not speak to anyone there about the use of contraception. These represent missed opportunities. In Ashgabad City, 30 percent of nonusers had visited a health facility but had spoken with no one about the use of contraception.

Table 5.18 Contact of nonusers with providers
Percent distribution of women who are not using contraception by whether or not they were visited by a health worker or spoke with a health facility staff member about contraceptive methods during the 12 months prior to the interview, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Characteristic | Visited by a health worker |  |  |  |  |  | Missing | Visited by a health worker | Neither visited by health worker nor discussed contraception at health facility ${ }^{2}$ | Total | Number of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes |  |  | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Attend disc con | facility, se of ion | Did not attend health facility | Attended health facility, discussed use of contraception ${ }^{1}$ |  | Did not attend health facility |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yes | No |  | Yes | No |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 5.0 | 0.4 | 13.5 | 79.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 92.5 | 100.0 | 1,550 |
| 20-24 | 3.9 | 1.3 | 6.5 | 2.2 | 22.7 | 63.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 100.0 | 1,170 |
| 25-29 | 10.0 | 2.8 | 7.6 | 6.3 | 27.6 | 45.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 73.3 | 100.0 | 625 |
| 30-34 | 10.4 | 3.1 | 8.8 | 4.8 | 25.1 | 47.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 72.4 | 100.0 | 390 |
| 35-39 | 12.4 | 2.3 | 8.2 | 6.2 | 23.3 | 46.9 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 70.2 | 100.0 | 323 |
| 40-44 | 4.5 | 2.2 | 12.7 | 2.5 | 24.3 | 53.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 77.8 | 100.0 | 309 |
| 45-49 | 4.8 | 1.4 | 10.1 | 2.1 | 29.2 | 52.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 81.6 | 100.0 | 447 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 5.5 | 1.4 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 25.4 | 58.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 84.1 | 100.0 | 2,182 |
| Rural | 4.9 | 1.5 | 8.7 | 2.1 | 17.8 | 64.9 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 82.7 | 100.0 | 2,632 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 3.3 | 0.6 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 30.2 | 59.3 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 89.5 | 100.0 | 633 |
| Akhal | 1.6 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 24.5 | 70.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 94.8 | 100.0 | 679 |
| Balkan | 0.7 | 0.4 | 2.2 | 4.3 | 15.7 | 76.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 92.2 | 100.0 | 440 |
| Dashoguz | 6.9 | 1.7 | 12.3 | 2.6 | 10.3 | 66.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 76.4 | 100.0 | 1,086 |
| Lebap | 8.7 | 2.2 | 13.0 | 3.0 | 25.2 | 47.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 73.1 | 100.0 | 942 |
| Mary | 5.5 | 2.3 | 5.2 | 1.9 | 24.1 | 60.9 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 85.0 | 100.0 | 1,034 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 3.9 | 1.2 | 7.1 | 2.3 | 20.0 | 65.4 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 85.4 | 100.0 | 3,745 |
| Secondary-special | 9.3 | 2.7 | 8.0 | 4.1 | 25.6 | 50.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 75.9 | 100.0 | 782 |
| Higher | 10.3 | 1.7 | 6.3 | 3.4 | 25.9 | 51.5 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 77.4 | 100.0 | 288 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 5.0 | 1.5 | 7.0 | 2.4 | 21.2 | 62.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 84.0 | 100.0 | 3,809 |
| Uzbek | 7.8 | 1.9 | 10.2 | 3.1 | 13.9 | 63.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 76.9 | 100.0 | 508 |
| Other | 3.7 | 1.0 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 29.3 | 55.7 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 85.0 | 100.0 | 497 |
| Total | 5.2 | 1.5 | 7.2 | 2.7 | 21.3 | 62.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 83.4 | 100.0 | 4,815 |

${ }^{1}$ Spoke with a health facility staff member about contraceptive methods.
${ }^{2}$ Was not visited by a health worker and either did not attend a health facility in preceding 12 months or attended facility but did not speak with a staff member about use of contraception.

### 5.13 Spousal Communication on the Use of Contraception

Although husband and wife discussion of an agreement to use contraception is not a necessary precondition for employing certain methods, its occurrence may increase the likelihood of use. Table 5.19 presents the percent distribution of currently married women by the number of times they have discussed the use of contraception with their husband in the previous year. One-third of wives have not discussed the use of contraception with their husband in the previous year. Twenty-five to 30 percent of women in their peak childbearing years (women in their twenties) have not discussed method use with their husband in the previous year.

| Table 5.19 | Discussions about contraception with husband |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Percent distribution of currently married women who know a contraceptive |  |
| method by the number of times contraception was discussed with their |  |
| husband in the past year, according to current age, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |

A woman may not be willing to discuss method use with her spouse if she believes him to hold a negative attitude toward the use of contraception. Married women were asked whether they themselves approve or disapprove of a couple using family planning and also whether they perceive their husband to approve or disapprove of family planning. Percent distribution of married women and their perceptions are presented in Table 5.20. The lowest approval rating among married women is among those age 15-19, among whom only three-quarters report that they approve of the use of contraception. Eighteen percent of married 15- to 19-year-old women report that they are unsure whether they approve of method use. They are also the most likely not to know the attitude of their husband toward method use ( 29 percent). Women embarking on their reproductive careers are a target audience for counseling on the use of contraception. Women in the Akhal Region are the most likely not to know the attitudes of their husband toward method use (13 percent), while the women in Ashgabad City are the most likely to report that their husband does not approve of method use ( 8 percent). The overwhelming majority of women (nine out of ten) in Turkmenistan approve of method use, and about eight out of ten report that their husband also approves of method use.

## Table 5.20 Attitudes of couples toward family planning

Percent distribution of currently married wom en who know of a method of contraception, by approval of the use of contraception and their perception of their husband's attitude toward the use of contraception, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Wife approves of contraception |  |  | Wife disapproves of contraception |  |  | Wifeunsure | Total | Total approval |  | Number of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Husband approves | Husband disapproves | Husband's attitude unknown | Husband approves | Husband disapproves | Husband's attitude unknown |  |  | Wife approves | Husbands approves ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 40.5 | 5.6 | 28.3 | 1.6 | 5.0 | 0.8 | 18.1 | 100.0 | 74.4 | 47.7 | 75 |
| 20-24 | 73.6 | 3.2 | 12.1 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 7.8 | 100.0 | 88.9 | 76.4 | 675 |
| 25-29 | 81.7 | 2.8 | 8.3 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 4.5 | 100.0 | 92.9 | 84.2 | 1,014 |
| 30-34 | 85.3 | 2.5 | 5.2 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 3.3 | 100.0 | 92.9 | 88.0 | 932 |
| 35-39 | 83.4 | 1.8 | 5.3 | 0.8 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 6.0 | 100.0 | 90.5 | 86.3 | 851 |
| 40-44 | 83.4 | 1.5 | 6.0 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 4.9 | 100.0 | 91.0 | 87.2 | 761 |
| 45-49 | 74.8 | 3.0 | 7.6 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 2.7 | 5.8 | 100.0 | 85.4 | 79.2 | 552 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 81.3 | 2.8 | 6.9 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 4.6 | 100.0 | 91.0 | 84.7 | 2,286 |
| Rural | 79.6 | 2.2 | 8.2 | 0.9 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 6.1 | 100.0 | 90.0 | 82.5 | 2,574 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 78.3 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 1.4 | 4.1 | 1.4 | 4.9 | 100.0 | 88.1 | 81.6 | 632 |
| Akhal | 79.0 | 1.8 | 12.4 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 4.6 | 100.0 | 93.2 | 79.9 | 696 |
| Balkan | 81.6 | 1.7 | 6.6 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 5.7 | 100.0 | 89.9 | 84.6 | 416 |
| Dashoguz | 80.0 | 3.3 | 6.6 | 0.8 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 5.5 | 100.0 | 89.9 | 82.8 | 943 |
| Lebap | 83.3 | 1.8 | 4.5 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 6.7 | 100.0 | 89.6 | 88.1 | 1,023 |
| Mary | 79.8 | 2.6 | 9.2 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 4.8 | 100.0 | 91.7 | 83.0 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 77.3 | 2.5 | 9.0 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 6.5 | 100.0 | 88.8 | 80.9 | 3,317 |
| Secondary-special | 85.9 | 2.9 | 4.5 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 3.5 | 100.0 | 93.3 | 88.1 | 1,147 |
| Higher | 90.3 | 1.3 | 4.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 96.3 | 92.4 | 395 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 79.6 | 2.2 | 8.0 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 5.9 | 100.0 | 89.9 | 83.0 | 3,753 |
| Uzbek | 83.8 | 2.3 | 5.7 | 1.4 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 91.8 | 86.9 | 546 |
| Other | 82.2 | 4.3 | 6.5 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 3.4 | 100.0 | 93.0 | 83.9 | 561 |
| Total | 80.4 | 2.5 | 7.6 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 5.4 | 100.0 | 90.5 | 83.5 | 4,860 |

Includes women who are unsure about their own attitude but who know their husband's attitude.

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Induced abortion as a means of fertility control has a long history in Turkmenistan, as it does in other republics of the former Soviet Union. Induced abortion was legal when the Turkmen S.S.R. formally became one of the USSR's constituent republics; it had been declared legal in the Soviet Union in 1920. In 1936, the Soviet Union adapted pronatalist policies and declared induced abortion illegal. The decision was reversed in 1955 when abortion for nonmedical reasons was again legalized throughout the former Soviet Union.

Information about induced abortion was collected in the reproductive section of the questionnaire (see Appendix E). The section began with a series of questions to determine the total number of live births, induced abortions, miscarriages, and stillbirths that a respondent has had. When reporting the number of abortions, respondents were told to include pregnancies terminated by vacuum aspiration (i.e., miniabortions). ${ }^{1}$ Next, an event-by-event pregnancy history was collected. For each pregnancy, the type of outcome and year and month of termination were recorded.

The pregnancy history was structured to ensure as complete reporting of abortions as possible, especially for the period just prior to the survey. Data were collected in reverse chronological order (i.e., information was first collected about the most recent pregnancy and then about the next to last and so on). This procedure was designed to result in more complete reporting of events for the years immediately prior to the survey than collecting information in chronological order would. At the end of the pregnancy history, interviewers were required to check the consistency between the aggregate data collected at the outset of the reproductive section and the number of events reported in the pregnancy history. Finally, interviewers were required to probe pregnancy intervals of four years or more to detect omitted events.

### 6.1 Pregnancy Outcomes

Table 6.1 shows the percent distribution of outcomes for pregnancies terminating during the three-year period preceding the survey (mid-1997 to mid-2000). In Turkmenistan, 72 percent of pregnancies end in a live birth and 28 percent end in fetal loss (i.e., one in four pregnancies ends in an induced abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth). Induced abortion is the most common type of pregnancy loss, accounting for 65 percent of all pregnancy losses, 18 percent of all pregnancy outcomes.

Table 6.1 also shows the percent distributions of pregnancy outcomes by background characteristics. Women of all characteristics shown have used induced abortion as a means of fertility control, but the extent to which they do so varies substantially. For example, urban women abort 25 percent of their pregnancies, while rural women abort 13 percent.

[^8]| Table 6.1 Pregnancy outcomes by background characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of pregnancies ending during the three years preceding the survey, by type of outcome, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Pregnancy outcome |  |  |  |  | Number of pregnancies |
| Background characteristic | Live birth | Induced abortion | Miscarriage | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Still- } \\ & \text { birth } \end{aligned}$ | Total |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 63.3 | 25.1 | 10.8 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,309 |
| Rural | 78.1 | 13.1 | 8.0 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 1,643 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 60.4 | 29.3 | 10.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 352 |
| Akhal | 79.3 | 10.7 | 9.5 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 385 |
| Balkan | 74.1 | 20.4 | 5.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 219 |
| Dashoguz | 78.4 | 12.8 | 7.3 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 599 |
| Lebap | 67.1 | 22.0 | 10.5 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 654 |
| Mary | 70.5 | 18.0 | 10.1 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 743 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 75.3 | 14.0 | 9.8 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 2,015 |
| Secondary-special | 63.5 | 27.1 | 8.5 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 697 |
| Higher | 63.1 | 29.9 | 7.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 240 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 73.4 | 16.1 | 9.8 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 2,357 |
| Uzbek | 74.4 | 16.7 | 8.1 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 335 |
| Other | 50.7 | 41.4 | 6.1 | 1.8 | 100.0 | 259 |
| Total | 71.6 | 18.4 | 9.2 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 2,952 |

Recourse to induced abortion also varies substantially by region, education, and ethnicity. The proportion of pregnancies ending in abortion is highest in Ashgabad City (29 percent) and lowest in the Akhal Region (11 percent) and the Dashoguz Region (13 percent); the three regions of Mary, Balkan, and Lebap fall in the midrange, aborting 18 to 22 percent of pregnancies. The proportion of pregnancies ending in abortion is also higher among women with higher education (30 percent) than it is among women with primary or secondary education (14 percent). Substantially more pregnancies end in abortion among women of other ethnicities (41 percent) than among women of Turkmen (16 percent) or Uzbek (17 percent) ethnicity.

Table 6.2 shows the percent distribution of pregnancy outcomes by selected indicators of women's status. These indicators are intended to reflect women's sense of empowerment. Women who are more empowered are expected to be better able to maintain control over their own lives, including being better able to meet their fertility goals. The two indicators reported in Table 6.2 are the following: the number of decisions in which the respondent participates in the final say of the household and the number of reasons for which a woman can refuse to have sexual relations with her husband. The first indicator is intended to reflect the degree of decisionmaking control women are able to exercise in areas that affect their own life and environment. The second indicator is intended to reflect perceptions of sexual roles and women's rights over their body and sexuality. See Chapter 3 for more details about the components of the indicators.

Table 6.2 Pregnancy outcomes by women's status
Percent distribution of pregnancies ending during the three years preceding the survey, by type of outcome, according to selected indicators of women's status, Turkmenistan 2000

| Indicator of women's status | Pregnancy outcome |  |  |  | Total | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number } \\ \text { of } \\ \text { pregnancies } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Live birth | Induced abortion | Miscarriage | Stillbirth |  |  |
| Number of decisions with woman having final say |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 82.4 | 6.8 | 10.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 217 |
| 1-2 | 79.7 | 9.3 | 10.0 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 546 |
| 3-4 | 70.1 | 19.3 | 9.2 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 646 |
| 5 | 67.8 | 22.9 | 8.8 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 1,543 |
| Number of reasons to refuse sexual relations |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 75.7 | 16.7 | 7.2 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 153 |
| 1-2 | 73.3 | 15.8 | 10.7 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 466 |
| 3-4 | 70.9 | 19.0 | 9.1 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 2,333 |
| Total | 71.6 | 18.4 | 9.2 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 2,952 |

The first indicator is positively associated with the percentage of pregnancies that end in abortion; that is to say, the percentage of abortions increases as the number of decisions in which the respondent participates increases. The increase is fairly steady. The second indicator shows no clear pattern in relation to pregnancy outcomes. Interpretation of these results should be done carefully since the realm of fertility control and decisionmaking is more complex than can be summarized here.

### 6.2 Lifetime Experience with Induced Abortion

Table 6.3 shows the lifetime experience of women with abortion. It should be noted that the statistics on the proportion of women who have ever had an abortion are based on all women 15-49 irrespective of their exposure to the risk of pregnancy.

Overall, 18 percent of women of reproductive age in Turkmenistan have had at least one abortion. Of course, the percentage who have had an abortion increases with age, a significant proportion of the youngest women have not yet had intercourse (for example, 94 percent of those under the age of 20 have never had intercourse). One-third of women age 35 and over have had an abortion. There are significant differentials across background characteristics in the percentage of women who have had at least one abortion. Urban women are much more likely than rural women to have had an abortion: one in four versus one in ten. Regional variation ranges from 11 percent of women in the Akhal and Dashoguz regions having had an abortion to 29 percent in Ashgabad City. Women with secondary-special or higher education are twice as likely to have had an abortion as women with primary or secondary education are ( 30 percent and 13 percent, respectively). Forty-three percent of women of other ethnicities have had an abortion, whereas 14 percent of Turkmen women have done so.

| Table 6.3 Lifetime experience with induced abortion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women who have had at least one induced abortion and, among these women, the percent distribution by the number of induced abortions and the mean number of induced abortions, according to selected background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Percentage of women who had an induced abortion |  | Number | Among women who have had an abortion, percent distribution of women by number of abortions |  |  |  |  | Mean number of abortions | Number of women who had an abortion |
|  |  | women | $\overline{1}$ | 2-3 | 4-5 | $6+$ | Total |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 0.1 | 1,574 | * | * | * | * | * | * | 1 |
| 20-24 | 5.0 | 1,799 | 75.0 | 22.5 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 90 |
| 25-34 | 21.6 | 2,058 | 61.2 | 33.9 | 4.4 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1.6 | 444 |
| $35+$ | 34.6 | 2,488 | 44.7 | 43.0 | 8.2 | 4.1 | 100.0 | 2.1 | 861 |
| No. of living children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 0.6 | 2,942 | * | * | * | * | * | * | 18 |
| 1 | 18.7 | 946 | 56.1 | 32.3 | 11.0 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 176 |
| 2-3 | 30.7 | 2,381 | 50.2 | 38.5 | 8.1 | 3.2 | 100.0 | 2.0 | 731 |
| 4-5 | 30.3 | 1,199 | 54.7 | 40.4 | 2.9 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 363 |
| $6+$ | 24.1 | 451 | 49.2 | 43.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 100.0 | 2.1 | 109 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 25.3 | 3,691 | 45.0 | 42.5 | 8.7 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 2.1 | 934 |
| Rural | 10.9 | 4,228 | 66.2 | 31.1 | 2.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1.5 | 461 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 28.9 | 1,038 | 37.7 | 45.4 | 12.1 | 4.8 | 100.0 | 2.4 | 300 |
| Akhal | 10.7 | 1,145 | 49.7 | 45.1 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 1.8 | 123 |
| Balkan | 16.4 | 709 | 57.0 | 35.7 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 100.0 | 1.8 | 115 |
| Dashoguz | 10.7 | 1,628 | 62.1 | 32.6 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 174 |
| Lebap | 21.1 | 1,607 | 51.0 | 39.9 | 5.7 | 3.4 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 339 |
| Mary | 19.2 | 1,791 | 59.4 | 33.6 | 6.3 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 344 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | y 12.9 | 5,800 | 59.5 | 35.0 | 4.1 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 748 |
| Secondary-special | - 30.8 | 1,556 | 43.5 | 42.8 | 9.4 | 4.4 | 100.0 | 2.2 | 479 |
| Higher | 29.6 | 563 | 42.7 | 44.1 | 10.0 | 3.2 | 100.0 | 2.2 | 167 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 14.0 | 6,191 | 59.6 | 35.1 | 3.6 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 867 |
| Uzbek | 18.2 | 857 | 55.8 | 38.7 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 156 |
| Other | 42.7 | 871 | 32.5 | 47.2 | 14.9 | 5.4 | 100.0 | 2.5 | 372 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 0.0 | 2,563 | * | * | * | * | * | * | 0 |
| Married | 25.6 | 4,892 | 52.2 | 39.1 | 6.2 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 100.0 | 1,252 |
| Ever-married | 31.4 | 463 | 49.7 | 35.2 | 10.1 | 4.9 | 100.0 | 2.3 | 145 |
| Total | 17.6 | 7,919 | 52.0 | 38.7 | 6.6 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 1.9 | 1,396 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 6.3 also presents information on repeat use of induced abortion. Among women who have ever had an abortion, half ( 48 percent) have had more than one. Patterns of repeat abortion are similar to patterns of exposure to abortion. Wherever percentages of women who have had an abortion are higher, percentages with more than one abortion are likely to be higher. For example, urban women are more likely to have had an abortion ( 25 versus 11 percent), and among those who have had an abortion, they are also more likely to have had more than one abortion ( 55 versus 34 percent) than rural women are. The same is true for education and ethnicity.

### 6.3 Rates of Induced Abortion

Rates of abortion for the three-year period prior to the survey (i.e., from mid-1997 to mid2000) are shown in this section. Age-specific rates represent the probability that a woman of a particular age will have an abortion in a period of one calendar year. These rates are shown per 1,000 women.

Table 6.4 shows age-specific rates of abortion for all of Turkmenistan, by urban-rural residence and by ethnicity. The age pattern of the rates is similar in each population subgroup. Rates are nearly nonexistent among the youngest women, increase during the primary years of childbearing, peak at just after the primary years of childbearing, and then decline. This pattern prevails among each ethnic group and residence group. For example, urban women attain their peak childbearing years at age 20-24 (165 births per 1,000 women) and their peak abortion rates at age 25-29 ( 63 abortions per 1,000 women). Rural women attain their peak childbearing years at age 25-29 (244 births per 1,000 women) and their peak abortion rates at age 30-34 (43 abortions per 1,000 women). Turkmen women attain their peak childbearing years at age 25-29 (213 births per 1,000 women) and their peak abortion rates at age $30-34$ ( 44 abortions per 1,000 women). The same pattern is true for Uzbek women and women of other ethnicities. At the national level, childbearing peaks at age 25-29 (195 births per 1,000 women), and the induced abortion rate peaks at age 30-34 (49 abortions per 1,000 women); national rates are shown in Figure 6.1.

| Table 6.4 Induced abortion rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age-specific induced abortion rates, total abortion rates, and general abortion rates for the three-year period before the survey, by residence and ethnicity, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Resi |  |  | hnicity |  |  |
| Age group | Urban | Rural | Turkmen | Uzbek | Other | Total |
| 15-19 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 20-24 | 27 | 11 | 15 | 15 | 48 | 18 |
| 25-29 | 63 | 33 | 42 | 50 | 96 | 48 |
| 30-34 | 55 | 43 | 44 | 51 | 83 | 49 |
| 35-39 | 38 | 33 | 36 | 32 | 37 | 35 |
| 40-44 | 20 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 41 | 18 |
| 45-49 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (0) | (0) | 0 |
| Rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total abortion rate 15-49 | 1.02 | 0.69 | 0.75 | 0.81 | 1.53 | 0.85 |
| Total abortion rate 15-44 | 1.02 | 0.69 | 0.75 | 0.81 | 1.53 | 0.85 |
| General abortion rate | 34 | 20 | 23 | 24 | 50 | 26 |
| Note: Rates in parentheses indicate that they are based on fewer than 250 unweighted woman-years of exposure. Total abortion rate is induced abortions expressed per woman; general abortion rate is induced abortions divided by the number of women 15-44 expressed per 1,000 women. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Age-specific abortion rates can be expressed in a summary index called the total abortion rate (TAR). This rate is interpreted as the number of abortions a woman would have during her lifetime if she moved through her reproductive years experiencing the current age-specific rates. For Turkmenistan, the total abortion rate for the period from mid-1997 to mid-2000 is 0.85 abortions per woman. This level falls between rates estimated in nationally representative surveys conducted in Kazakhstan (mid-1996 to mid-1999) of 1.44 abortions per woman (APM and MI, 1999) and Uzbekistan (mid-1993 to mid-1996) of 0.67 abortions per woman (IOG and MI, 1997).


Total abortion rates by background characteristics of respondents are shown in Table 6.5 and Figure 6.2. There are greater differentials in rates of abortion by region, education, and ethnicity than by urban-rural residence; TARs differ by approximately a factor of two by the former characteristics. The lowest TAR of only 0.48 is seen in the Akhal Region and the highest is double that in the Lebap Region at 1.16 abortions per woman. Women with higher education (1.25 abortions per woman) have a TAR nearly double that of women with primary or secondary education ( 0.68 abortions per woman). Finally, women of other ethnicities (who make up 11 percent of the sample) have a TAR of 1.53 abortions per woman, which is double that of Turkmen women ( 0.75 abortions per woman).


### 6.4 Trends in Induced Abortion

Trends in induced abortion can be observed by comparing the total abortion rate with the mean number of abortions reported by women who are nearing the end of their fertile years (i.e., women age 40-49). Table 6.5 indicates that at the national level, the TAR ( 0.85 abortions per woman) is about the same as the mean number of abortions reported by women age 40-49 (0.82 abortions per woman).

Table 6.5 implies that resorting to inducing abortions has actually increased among some population subgroups, while it has decreased among others. The TARs are greater than the mean number of abortions reported by older women among women in rural areas ( 0.7 versus 0.4 ), all regions other than Ashgabad City, women with higher education (1.3 versus 1.0), and among Turkmen women ( 0.8 versus 0.5 ). The TARs are less than the mean number of abortions reported by older women, implying some movement away from induced abortion, among women in urban areas ( 1.0 versus 1.2), women in Ashgabad City ( 1.2 versus 1.6), women with secondary-special education ( 1.2 versus 1.5), and women of other ethnicities ( 1.5 versus 2.0).

The TDHS data allow for a more direct assessment of time trends in abortion. Table 6.6 shows age-specific rates of induced abortion for consecutive five-year periods prior to the survey. The age-specific rates show an increase in abortion rates among women age 25 and older. The agespecific rates can be summarized in terms of the TAR restricted to women age 15-44. The TAR increased by 14 percent between the periods 5 to 9 and 0 to 4 years before the survey, from 0.7 to 0.8 abortions per woman.

| Table 6.5 Induced abortion by background characteristics |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total induced abortion rates for the three-year period preceding the survey, and mean number of induced abortions had by women age 40-49, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Total induced abortion rate ${ }^{1}$ | Mean number of abortions to women age 40-49 |
| Residence |  |  |
| Urban | 1.02 | 1.21 |
| Rural | 0.69 | 0.38 |
| Region |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 1.12 | 1.58 |
| Akhal | 0.48 | 0.40 |
| Balkan | 0.75 | 0.62 |
| Dashoguz | 0.60 | 0.47 |
| Lebap | 1.16 | 1.00 |
| Mary | 0.94 | 0.77 |
| Education |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 0.68 | 0.59 |
| Secondary-special | 1.17 | 1.51 |
| Higher | 1.25 | 0.99 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |
| Turkmen | 0.75 | 0.53 |
| Uzbek | 0.81 | 0.83 |
| Other | 1.53 | 2.02 |
| Total | 0.85 | 0.82 |
| ${ }^{\text {Women age 15-49 }}$ |  |  |

### 6.5 Use of Contraception before Abortion

For each pregnancy terminated by abortion in the three years preceding the survey, respondents were asked whether they were using a method of contraception at the time they became pregnant, and if so, what method. Table 6.7 shows the relevant statistics. Nearly one-third of abortions ( 32 percent) are reported to be preceded by a contraceptive failure. Although this is much higher than the level reported in Uzbekistan (12 percent of abortions were reported to be preceded by a contraceptive failure), most of the difference is that in Turkmenistan, a substantial proportion of women reported contraceptive failures after the use of withdrawal and the lactational amenorrhea method. ${ }^{2}$ Women reported 9 percent of abortions to be preceded by use of withdrawal and 7 percent of abortions to have been preceded by use of the lactational amenorrhea method. Reports of induced abortions preceded by use of the IUD ( 10 percent) are not that dissimilar from the level reported in Uzbekistan (7 percent) (IOG and MI, 1997).

[^9]| Table 6.6 Trends in age-specific induced abortion |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age-specific induced abortion rates, for five-year periods preceding the survey, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Num | of yea | ceding | survey |
| Age group | 0-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 |
| 15-19 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 20-24 | 21 | 21 | 20 | 25 |
| 25-29 | 40 | 38 | 41 | 48 |
| 30-34 | 44 | 40 | 45 | [56] |
| 35-39 | 32 | 23 | [40] | - |
| 40-44 | 18 | [9] | - | - |
| 45-49 | [0] | - | - | - |
| TAR 15-49 | 0.78 | - | - | - |
| TAR 15-44 | 0.78 | 0.68 |  |  |
| Note: Age-specific induced abortion rates are per 1,000 women. <br> Estimates in brackets are truncated. <br> TAR: Total abortion rate expressed per woman. |  |  |  |  |

## Table 6.7 Use of contraception prior to pregnancy

Percent distribution of pregnancy outcomes during the three years preceding the survey, by contraceptive method used (if any) at the time of conception, Turkmenistan 2000

|  | Result of the pregnancy |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Contraceptive <br> method | Live <br> birth | Induced <br> abortion | Mis- <br> carriage | Still- <br> birth | All <br> preg- <br> nancies |
| No contraception | 89.8 | 67.9 | 82.0 | $(93.4)$ | 85.1 |
| Any method | 10.2 | 32.1 | 18.0 | $(6.6)$ | 14.9 |
| Any modern method | 2.4 | 13.3 | 8.0 | $(1.2)$ | 4.9 |
| Pill | 0.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | $(0.0)$ | 0.5 |
| IUD | 1.8 | 9.8 | 6.0 | $(1.2)$ | 3.7 |
| Injection | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | $(0.0)$ | 0.0 |
| Condom | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.7 | $(0.0)$ | 0.6 |
| Foam/jelly | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | $(0.0)$ | 0.1 |
|  | 7.8 | 18.9 | 10.0 | $(5.4)$ | 10.0 |
| Any traditional method | 4.1 | 6.7 | 4.1 | $(0.0)$ | 4.6 |
| $\quad$ Lactational amenorrhea | 0.4 | 1.9 | 0.9 | $(0.0)$ | 0.7 |
| Periodic abstinence | 2.4 | 9.0 | 4.9 | $(5.4)$ | 3.9 |
| Withdrawal | 0.9 | 1.3 | 0.0 | $(0.0)$ | 0.9 |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of pregnancies | 2,093 | 541 | 275 | 23 | 2,933 |

Note: Parentheses indicate that a figure is based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

### 6.6 Service Providers and Medical Procedures

All women who had an abortion in the three years preceding the survey were asked where the abortion was performed and what method was used. Table 6.8 indicates that 87 percent of abortions were performed in a hospital and 6 percent were performed in a women's consulting center. Most abortions are performed using vacuum aspiration (72 percent), while 28 percent are done after dilation and curretage.

All women who reported an abortion in the three years preceding the survey were also asked how far into the pregnancy the procedure was performed. Table 6.9 indicates that about two-thirds of abortions are performed at two months of pregnancy. The greatest variation in timing is seen across regions. The percentage of abortions done at three or more months is highest

Table 6.8 Source of services and procedures used for induced abortion

Percent distribution of induced abortions during the three years preceding the survey by source of services and type of procedure, Turkmenistan 2000

| Characteristic | Percent |
| :--- | ---: |
| Source of services |  |
| $\quad$ Delivery hospital | 24.3 |
| Government hospital | 39.9 |
| Fee for service department of | 22.5 |
| hospital | 6.2 |
| Women's consulting center | 0.6 |
| Family group practice | 6.5 |


| Abortion procedure |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Dilation and curettage | 28.1 |
| Vacuum aspiration | 71.9 |
| Total | 100.0 |
| Number of induced abortions | 541 | in the Akhal Region (although the figure is based on a small number of cases) and lowest in the Lebap Region. Women in the Lebap Region exhibited the highest total abortion rate, and they are also the most likely to abort at two months duration (82 percent).

### 6.7 Attitudes toward Abortion

In an attempt to assess women's satisfaction with undergoing an induced abortion in order to control fertility, the TDHS survey asked all respondents three questions about their stance on abortion. The first question was of a general nature, "Do you approve or disapprove of a woman having an abortion?" The second question was more pointed, asking the respondent, "Would you have an abortion if you unintentionally become pregnant sometime in the future?" The third question was asked to assess satisfaction with abortion as a means of fertility control, asking, "Would you prefer to use a method in the future or rely on abortion or do neither?" Table 6.10 indicates that most women, in general, actually disapprove of abortion ( 61 percent). Nearly onequarter ( 23 percent) of women say that they would have an abortion if they were to become pregnant unintentionally; an additional one-quarter of women report not knowing what they would do if they became unintentionally pregnant. Almost no one reports a preference to rely on abortion as a method of fertility control; two-thirds of women report they would prefer to use a contraceptive method.

## Table 6.9 Timing of induced abortion

Percent distribution of induced abortions during the three years preceding the survey, by duration of pregnancy in months, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Number of months pregnant |  |  |  | Number <br> of abortions |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | $3+$ | Total |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 1.2 | 64.7 | 34.1 | 100.0 | 327 |
| Rural | 2.7 | 60.3 | 36.9 | 100.0 | 215 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.0 | 75.7 | 24.3 | 100.0 | 103 |
| Akhal | (0. 0) | (15.2) | (84.8) | 100.0 | 41 |
| Balkan | 0.0 | 78.1 | 21.9 | 100.0 | 45 |
| Dashoguz | 1.0 | 65.9 | 33.1 | 100.0 | 77 |
| Lebap | 1.5 | 82.3 | 16.2 | 100.0 | 144 |
| Mary | 5.1 | 40.0 | 54.9 | 100.0 | 132 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 1.5 | 60.1 | 38.3 | 100.0 | 281 |
| Secondary-special | 2.5 | 63.8 | 33.7 | 100.0 | 189 |
| Higher | 1.0 | 71.7 | 27.2 | 100.0 | 72 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 1.4 | 63.2 | 35.4 | 100.0 | 378 |
| Uzbek | 1.3 | 67.0 | 31.7 | 100.0 | 56 |
| Other | 3.4 | 60.1 | 36.5 | 100.0 | 107 |
| Total | 1.8 | 63.0 | 35.2 | 100.0 | 541 |



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This chapter addresses the principal factors, other than contraception and abortion, that affect a woman's risk of becoming pregnant. These include nuptiality, sexual activity, postpartum amenorrhea, and abstinence from sexual relations. Marriage is an overall indicator of exposure to the risk of pregnancy. More direct measures of exposure relate directly to sexual activity: age at first sexual intercourse and the frequency of intercourse. Postpartum amenorrhea and abstinence affect the interval between births. These factors determine the length and pace of reproductive activity and are therefore important in understanding fertility.

### 7.1 Marital Status

Table 7.1 and Figure 7.1 show the distribution of all women by marital status at the time of the survey. The term "married" refers to legal or formal marriage (civil or religious), while "living together" refers to informal unions. In subsequent tables, these two categories are combined and referred to collectively as "currently married" or "currently in union." Women who are widowed, divorced, or not living together (separated) make up the remainder of the "ever-married" or "ever in union" category.

| Table 7.1 Current marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by current marital status, according to age, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Marita | l status |  |  |  |  |
| Age | Never married | Married | Living together | Widowed | Divorced | Separated | Total | Number |
| 15-19 | 94.1 | 5.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 52.7 | 43.3 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 2.3 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 15.2 | 77.3 | 3.5 | 0.6 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 4.2 | 85.6 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 4.7 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 2.5 | 85.4 | 2.6 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 0.8 | 87.5 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 0.5 | 79.6 | 3.6 | 10.1 | 4.9 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 669 |
| Total | 32.4 | 59.7 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 7,919 |
| Note: Figures may not add to 100.0 due to rounding. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Marriage is nearly universal in Turkmenistan. Although it is rare for a woman age 15-19 to be married, nearly half the women age 20-24 are currently married. Nine out of ten women age 30-44 are currently married. By age 45-49 the percentage of women married begins to decline as the number of widows begins to increase. Only 4 percent of women are divorced or separated. Overall, 60 percent of women of reproductive age are currently married; most of the unmarried women are age 15-24 and have not yet married.


### 7.2 Age at First Marriage

Marriage generally marks the point in a woman's life when childbearing first becomes welcome; it is therefore an important demographic and social indicator. Information on age at first marriage was obtained by asking all ever-married respondents the month and year they started living with their first spouse.

Table 7.2 presents the cumulative distributions of women married by specific ages for successive age groups. ${ }^{1}$ These data allow an examination of cohort trends in age at marriage. Half the women now age 45-49 had married by the time they were age 20 , whereas only one-quarter of women now in their twenties had married by age 20. Three-quarters of the women now age 45-49 had married by the time they were age 22, whereas only half of the women now age 25-39 had married by age 22. Figure 7.2 graphically portrays the cumulative distributions for successive age groups.

These findings are also reflected in the increasing median age at marriage, also shown in Table 7.2. The median age has increased from 20 among women age $45-49$ to 20.8 among women age 40-44 to around 22 for women age 25-39. About half the women in Turkmenistan wait until after the age of 22 to marry. Table 7.3 presents the median age at marriage for women age 25-49 by selected background characteristics.

[^10]
## Table 7.2 Age at first marriage

Percentage of women who were first married by specific exact ages and median age at first marriage, according to current age, Turkmenistan 2000

| Current age | Percentage who were first married by exact age: |  |  |  |  | Percentage who had never married | Number of women | Median age at first marriage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 25 |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 0.1 | na | na | na | na | 94.1 | 1,574 | a |
| 20-24 | 0.0 | 9.1 | 26.2 | na | na | 52.7 | 1,541 | a |
| 25-29 | 0.2 | 6.5 | 26.4 | 51.5 | 77.4 | 15.2 | 1,256 | 21.9 |
| 30-34 | 0.7 | 4.4 | 22.3 | 48.9 | 82.2 | 4.2 | 1,060 | 22.1 |
| 35-39 | 0.1 | 4.8 | 23.5 | 51.5 | 81.5 | 2.5 | 974 | 21.9 |
| 40-44 | 0.3 | 9.0 | 38.8 | 66.7 | 88.4 | 0.8 | 845 | 20.8 |
| 45-49 | 0.6 | 16.8 | 49.1 | 75.6 | 90.8 | 0.5 | 669 | 20.1 |
| 20-49 | 0.3 | 7.9 | 29.2 | na | na | 17.0 | 6,345 | a |
| 25-49 | 0.4 | 7.5 | 30.2 | 57.0 | 83.1 | 5.6 | 4,804 | 21.5 |

na = Not applicable
Omitted because less than 50 percent in the age group $x$ to $x+n$ had married by age $x$.

Figure 7.2 Percentage of Women Married by Exact Age $15,18,20,22$, and 25


Perhaps the most notable finding in Table 7.3 is the fact that the increasing median age at marriage is due to the behavior of Turkmen women, whose median age at marriage has increased from 20 to 21 to 22 years of age over recent decades. Median ages at marriage among Uzbek women and women of other ethnicities show no clear pattern of change over time, hovering at 21 and 20 years of age. Women currently age 25-29 exhibit an urban-rural differential that did not exist among the older cohorts; urban women are marrying on average one year earlier than rural women. Another differential in Table 7.3 is one that is observed in many societies-age at marriage increases with increasing education. Among women over the age of 40, the median age at marriage increases by nearly four years with increasing education, from age 20 to age 24. The differential in median age at marriage is more dichotomous among younger women; for example, women age $25-29$ with primary, secondary, or secondary-special education exhibit a median age of nearly 22 , while women with higher education exhibit a median age of marriage of 24 years.

| Table 7.3 Median age at first marriage |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Median age at first marriage among women age 25-49 years, by current age and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current age |  |  |  |  | Women |
| characteristic | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 25-49 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 21.4 | 21.7 | 21.9 | 20.8 | 20.1 | 21.2 |
| Rural | 22.3 | 22.4 | 21.9 | 20.7 | 20.0 | 21.6 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 21.5 | 21.4 | 22.3 | 20.6 | 20.4 | 21.2 |
| Akhal | 22.3 | 21.8 | 21.5 | 20.5 | 19.7 | 21.3 |
| Balkan | 22.4 | 23.0 | 22.4 | 21.0 | 19.6 | 21.9 |
| Dashoguz | 22.4 | 22.9 | 22.2 | 20.7 | 20.3 | 21.8 |
| Lebap | 21.1 | 21.5 | 21.4 | 21.5 | 19.8 | 21.2 |
| Mary | 21.9 | 22.2 | 21.6 | 20.5 | 20.2 | 21.5 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 21.7 | 21.9 | 21.5 | 20.3 | 19.8 | 21.1 |
| Secondary special | 21.7 | 21.9 | 22.1 | 21.5 | 20.1 | 21.6 |
| Higher | 23.9 | 23.2 | 23.7 | 23.6 | 22.5 | 23.4 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 22.4 | 22.4 | 22.1 | 20.9 | 20.0 | 21.8 |
| Uzbek | 20.5 | 20.8 | 20.6 | 20.2 | 20.1 | 20.5 |
| Other | 19.9 | 20.4 | 21.0 | 20.3 | 20.2 | 20.4 |
| Total | 21.9 | 22.1 | 21.9 | 20.8 | 20.1 | 21.5 |

Note: Medians for women age 15-19 and 20-24 could not be determined because less than 50 percent of those women were married by age 15 and 20, the lower boundary of the age groups, respectively.

### 7.3 Exposure to Intercourse Before and After Marriage

Before settling on marriage as a proxy for exposure to intercourse, it is best to verify that the two events coincide, i.e., to verify whether or not some women engage in sexual relations prior to marriage. If women do engage in sexual relations prior to marriage, then the proportion of married women would underestimate the percentage of women who are sexually active. The TDHS survey asked women to state the age at which they first had sexual intercourse. The results, presented in Tables 7.4 and 7.5 , mirror almost exactly the figures relating to age at marriage, indicating that in Turkmenistan, first exposure to sexual intercourse coincides with marriage.

Table 7.4 Age at first sexual intercourse
Percentage of women who had first sexual intercourse by exact age $15,18,20,22$, and 25 , and median age at first intercourse, according to current age, Turkmenistan 2000

| Current age | Percentage who had first intercourse by exact age: |  |  |  |  | Percentage who never had intercourse | Number of women | Median age at first intercourse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 25 |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 0.1 | na | na | na | na | 94.1 | 1,574 | a |
| 20-24 | 0.0 | 9.0 | 25.9 | na | na | 52.6 | 1,541 | a |
| 25-29 | 0.2 | 6.7 | 25.7 | 49.7 | 74.9 | 15.2 | 1,256 | 22.0 |
| 30-34 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 21.4 | 47.0 | 79.9 | 4.2 | 1,060 | 22.2 |
| 35-39 | 0.0 | 4.8 | 22.8 | 49.3 | 78.5 | 2.5 | 974 | 22.1 |
| 40-44 | 0.3 | 9.0 | 38.5 | 65.5 | 86.5 | 0.8 | 845 | 20.8 |
| 45-49 | 0.6 | 16.1 | 46.6 | 72.6 | 86.7 | 0.5 | 669 | 20.2 |
| 20-49 | 0.3 | 7.9 | 28.5 | 51.4 | 72.3 | 17.0 | 6,345 | a |
| 25-49 | 0.3 | 7.5 | 29.3 | 55.0 | 80.4 | 5.6 | 4,804 | 21.6 |

na $=$ Not applicable
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Omitted because less than 50 percent in the age group $x$ to $x+n$ had intercourse by age $x$.

Table 7.6 also confirms that women who have not yet married are not yet engaging in sexual relations. All single women reported that they have not yet had sexual intercourse. But marriage can also be an insufficient proxy for exposure to intercourse by not including women who engage in sexual relations after marriage, i.e., not including widowed and divorced women, although in Turkmenistan only 6 percent of women of reproductive age are widowed or divorced. The TDHS survey asked all women whether they are engaging in sexual relations, regardless of marital status. Table 7.6 presents the percent distribution of all nonmarried women by sexual relationship. Most ( 85 percent) of the nonmarried population in Turkmenistan are the women who have not yet married and not yet engaged in a sexual relationship. The majority of the widowed and divorced population also report themselves to have no sexual partner. Overall, only 3 percent of nonmarried women of reproductive age report themselves to have a regular sexual partner.

| Table 7.5 Median age at first intercourse |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Median age at first sexual intercourse among women age 25-49 years, by current age and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Current age |  |  |  |  | Women |
| characteristic | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 25-49 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 21.6 | 21.8 | 22.1 | 20.8 | 20.3 | 21.4 |
| Rural | 22.4 | 22.6 | 22.0 | 20.7 | 20.1 | 21.8 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 21.9 | 21.4 | 22.4 | 20.6 | 20.4 | 21.3 |
| Akhal | 22.4 | 21.9 | 21.6 | 20.5 | 19.7 | 21.4 |
| Balkan | 23.0 | 23.1 | 22.6 | 21.0 | 19.9 | 22.1 |
| Dashoguz | 22.6 | 23.1 | 22.4 | 20.8 | 20.5 | 22.0 |
| Lebap | 21.3 | 21.9 | 21.6 | 21.6 | 20.0 | 21.4 |
| Mary | 21.9 | 22.3 | 21.9 | 20.5 | 20.4 | 21.5 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 21.9 | 22.1 | 21.7 | 20.4 | 19.9 | 21.2 |
| Secondary special | 21.9 | 22.0 | 22.2 | 21.5 | 20.3 | 21.8 |
| Higher | 24.0 | 23.2 | 23.7 | 23.8 | 22.7 | 23.5 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 22.4 | 22.5 | 22.3 | 21.0 | 20.2 | 21.9 |
| Uzbek | 20.8 | 21.0 | 20.7 | 20.4 | 20.5 | 20.7 |
| Other | 19.8 | 20.4 | 21.5 | 20.3 | 20.2 | 20.4 |
| Total | 22.0 | 22.2 | 22.1 | 20.8 | 20.2 | 21.6 |
| Note: Medians for women age 15-19 and 20-24 could not be determined because less than 50 percent of the women had had intercourse for the first time by age 15 and 20, respectively. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 7.4 Recent Sexual Activity

In the absence of contraceptive use, frequency of sexual intercourse is a direct determinant of pregnancy; therefore, knowledge of frequency is a useful indicator of exposure to pregnancy. Table 7.7 shows the percent distribution of women by sexual activity in the four weeks prior to the survey and the duration of abstinence by whether or not the women have recently had a birth (i.e., whether they are postpartum). Women are considered to be sexually active if they have had sexual intercourse at least once in the four weeks prior to the survey.

Overall, 56 percent of all women interviewed were sexually active in the four weeks preceding the survey. Fewer than 2 percent of women are postpartum abstaining, 10 percent of women are not sexually active for reasons unrelated to childbirth, and 32 percent of women have never had sexual intercourse. Most of the women who are not sexually active are women in their teens and twenties who have never had intercourse.

Not surprisingly, women who are using a method of family planning are more likely to be sexually active than women who are not using a method. The IUD is by far the most commonly used method, and 92 percent of women with an IUD report themselves to be sexually active. Onethird of women who are not using any method are sexually active.

### 7.6 Sexual relationships of nonmarried women

Percent distribution of women who are not currently married or living with a man by type of current sexual relationship, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Never married women $\qquad$ <br> No sexual partner | Formerly married women |  |  |  | Total | Number <br> of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \overline{\text { Regular }} \\ & \text { sexual } \\ & \text { partner } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Occasional } \\ & \text { sexual } \\ & \text { partner } \end{aligned}$ | No sexual partner | Missing |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 99.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,491 |
| 20-24 | 94.5 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 3.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 859 |
| 25-29 | 79.2 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 13.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 241 |
| 30-34 | 35.4 | 11.9 | 1.1 | 51.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 126 |
| 35-39 | 20.7 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 69.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 117 |
| 40-44 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 0.0 | 80.9 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 80 |
| 45-49 | 2.8 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 89.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 113 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 76.4 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 18.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,383 |
| Rural | 91.6 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 7.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,643 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 70.9 | 5.0 | 0.4 | 23.3 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 399 |
| Akhal | 89.2 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 447 |
| Balkan | 82.9 | 3.5 | 0.0 | 13.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 285 |
| Dashoguz | 89.3 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 8.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 678 |
| Lebap | 83.3 | 4.1 | 0.0 | 12.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 577 |
| Mary | 87.3 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 11.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 641 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 89.3 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 8.8 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 2,453 |
| Secondary-special | 62.1 | 7.7 | 0.4 | 29.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 407 |
| Higher | 71.7 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 25.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 166 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 87.6 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 9.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,145 |
| Uzbek | 81.7 | 4.3 | 0.5 | 13.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 303 |
| Other | 64.7 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 31.9 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 308 |
| Total | 84.7 | 2.6 | 0.1 | 12.5 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 3,027 |

Note: Formerly married refers to widowed or divorced women and women not currently living together with a man.

### 7.5 Postpartum Amenorrhea, Abstinence, and Insusceptibility

Postpartum amenorrhea refers to the interval between childbirth and the return of menstruation. During this period, the risk of pregnancy is reduced. The duration of reduced risk of conception largely depends on two factors: the length and intensity of breastfeeding, which tends to suppress the resumption of ovulation, and the length of time before the resumption of sexual intercourse. Women who are either amenorrheic or abstaining (or both) are considered insusceptible to the risk of pregnancy.

The percentage of births during the last three years whose mothers are presently postpartum amenorrheic, abstaining, or insusceptible is shown in Table 7.8 by the number of months since birth. These distributions are based on current status data, i.e., on the proportion of births occurring $x$ months before the survey for which mother is still amenorrheic, abstaining, or insusceptible. The estimates of the median and mean durations shown in Tables 7.8 and 7.9 are calculated from the current status proportions at each time period. The data are grouped in twomonth intervals to minimize fluctuations in the estimates.

| Table 7.7 Recent sexual activity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by sexual activity in the four weeks preceding the survey, and among those not sexually active, the duration of abstinence and whether postpartum or not postpartum abstaining, according to background characteristics and contraceptive method currently used, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not sexually active in last 4 weeks |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic/ contraceptive method |  | A $\overline{\mathrm{b} s t}$ (postp | aining partum) | Abst (not po | ining <br> stpartum) | Never |  |  | Number |
|  | 4 weeks | 0-1 years | $2+$ years | 0-1 years | $2+$ years | sex | Missing | Total | women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 3.9 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 94.1 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 37.8 | 3.0 | 0.2 | 5.1 | 1.1 | 52.6 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 74.1 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 5.6 | 1.5 | 15.2 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 1,256 |
| 30-34 | 82.4 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 4.2 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 1,060 |
| 35-39 | 83.3 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 6.2 | 6.4 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 974 |
| 40-44 | 81.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 10.3 | 6.4 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 845 |
| 45-49 | 71.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 13.7 | 12.9 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 669 |
| Duration of union (years) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 99.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,563 |
| 0-4 | 80.5 | 6.5 | 0.4 | 10.7 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 1,132 |
| 5-9 | 86.9 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 7.0 | 3.5 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 1,188 |
| 10-14 | 86.8 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 976 |
| 15-19 | 84.5 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 7.3 | 6.7 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 791 |
| 20-24 | 81.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 9.5 | 8.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 633 |
| $25+$ | 70.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 15.8 | 12.2 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 635 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 56.1 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 7.9 | 5.3 | 28.6 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 55.7 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 4.4 | 2.3 | 35.6 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 54.4 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 9.3 | 6.5 | 27.1 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 56.2 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 34.8 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 54.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 6.0 | 4.4 | 33.2 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 53.0 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 4.7 | 3.0 | 37.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 58.4 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 6.4 | 3.4 | 29.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 57.3 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 6.2 | 2.9 | 31.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 52.0 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 5.5 | 2.9 | 37.7 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 67.6 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 7.5 | 6.1 | 16.2 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 63.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 7.2 | 4.6 | 21.2 | 1.5 | 100.0 | 563 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 55.4 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 5.6 | 3.0 | 34.2 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 6,191 |
| Uzbek | 58.4 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 5.2 | 3.9 | 28.9 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 857 |
| Other | 57.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 9.8 | 7.9 | 22.7 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 871 |
| Contraceptive method |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No method | 33.6 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 6.1 | 5.1 | 53.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 4,815 |
| Pill | (96.7) | (0.0) | (0.0) | (3.3) | (0.0) | (0.0) | (0.0) | 100.0 | 60 |
| IUD | 91.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.1 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 1,971 |
| Sterilization | 71.8 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 15.0 | 10.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 104 |
| Periodic abstinence | 95.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 102 |
| Other | 88.7 | 6.1 | 0.0 | 4.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 867 |
| Total | 55.9 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 32.3 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 7,919 |


| Table 7.8 Postpartum amenorrhea, abstinence, and insusceptibility |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of births in the three years preceding the survey for which mothers are postpartum amenorrheic, abstaining, and insusceptible, by number of months since birth, and median and mean durations, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Months since birth | Amenorrheic | Abstaining | Insusceptible | Number of births |
| $<2$ | 89.1 | 76.3 | 92.5 | 97 |
| 2-3 | 72.3 | 16.7 | 75.8 | 136 |
| 4-5 | 59.9 | 6.0 | 62.9 | 126 |
| 6-7 | 44.9 | 2.3 | 45.9 | 118 |
| 8-9 | 31.9 | 1.1 | 31.9 | 112 |
| 10-11 | 31.4 | 3.7 | 34.2 | 130 |
| 12-13 | 17.6 | 0.9 | 18.5 | 141 |
| 14-15 | 21.7 | 2.0 | 22.4 | 98 |
| 16-17 | 10.5 | 0.3 | 10.8 | 117 |
| 18-19 | 8.2 | 0.0 | 8.2 | 113 |
| 20-21 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 107 |
| 22-23 | 3.4 | 1.2 | 4.0 | 114 |
| 24-25 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 7.4 | 136 |
| 26-27 | 4.6 | 0.6 | 5.2 | 119 |
| 28-29 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 113 |
| 30-31 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 92 |
| 32-33 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 117 |
| 34-35 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 107 |
| Total | 22.9 | 5.9 | 24.1 | 2,093 |
| Median | 5.9 | 1.7 | 6.2 | - |
| Mean | 8.4 | 2.7 | 8.8 | - |

Although both postpartum amenorrhea and postpartum abstinence are fairly short in duration, the former is longer than the latter and is therefore the principal determinant of the length of postpartum insusceptibility. Nearly all women ( 93 percent) are insusceptible to pregnancy in the first two months after a birth but become susceptible to the risk of pregnancy steadily thereafter. Few women abstain for more than two or three months after a birth. The median duration of abstinence is only 1.7 months. By 4 to 5 months after a birth, one-third of women are already susceptible to the risk of pregnancy, and by 10 to 11 months, two-thirds of women are once again susceptible to the risk of pregnancy. The median duration of insusceptibility is 6.2 months; half of women are once again susceptible to pregnancy just 6 months after giving birth.

Table 7.9 presents the median durations of postpartum amenorrhea, abstinence, and insusceptibility by background characteristics. Median durations of postpartum abstinence are generally short, varying from one to three months. Median durations of amenorrhea do vary by residence, region, education, and ethnicity. Rural women exhibit a median duration of amenorrhea that is nearly two months longer than urban women (1.8), and women in the Dashoguz Region exhibit a median that is three months longer than the median among women in Ashgabad City. Median durations of amenorrhea decrease with increasing education, from 6.5 months among women with primary or secondary education to 3.6 months among women with higher education. With a median duration of four months of amenorrhea, women of other ethnicities have shorter durations of amenorrhea than Turkmen or Uzbek women do.


### 7.6 Menopause

After age 30, the risk of pregnancy declines with age as increasing proportions of women become menopausal. Although the onset of menopause is difficult to determine for an individual woman, there are ways of estimating it for a population as a whole. Table 7.10 presents data on the percentage of women age 30 and over who are menopausal, that is, who have not menstruated for six months or longer in the period preceding the survey or who reported being menopausal. Few women are menopausal before reaching their forties, after which time the proportion of menopausal women increases with age, from 8 percent among women age $42-43$ to 54 percent among women age 48-49.

| Table 7.10  <br> Menopause  <br> Prevalence of menopause among women age  <br> 30-49, by age,  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Aurkmenistan 2000 |

Note: Percentage of nonpregnant, nonamenorrheic, currently married women whose last menstrual period occurred six or more months preceding the survey or who report that they are menopausal.

## FERTILITY PREFERENCES

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Understanding the fertility desires in a population is important for estimating the need for contraceptive services and for predicting the general course of future fertility. This chapter presents data on the fertility preferences of women and their need for contraceptive services. Data are also presented on the ideal family size reported by respondents. The data on ideal family size, in conjunction with the number of children that respondents currently have, allow the estimation of unwanted fertility in the population.

### 8.1 Fertility Preferences

Respondents to the TDHS were asked whether they wanted to have another child, and if so, how soon. Table 8.1 and Figure 8.1 show the percent distribution of currently married women by their fertility preferences. The salient finding is that 60 percent of currently married women either want no more children ( 53 percent), are infecund ( 5 percent), or are sterilized ( 2 percent). Another 32 percent of women want another child either soon (13 percent) or after two years ( 17 percent) or are unsure about the desired timing of another child ( 2 percent). A final 8 percent of women are undecided about having another child. It is clear that the majority of fecund currently married women, 70 percent, want to either limit or space their childbearing and are potentially in need of contraceptive services.

Table 8.1 Fertility preferences by number of living children
Percent distribution of currently married women by desire for children, according to number of living children, Turkmenistan 2000

| Desire for children | Number of living children ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | $6+$ |  |
| Have another soon ${ }^{2}$ | 53.1 | 29.9 | 13.3 | 6.8 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 12.8 |
| Have another later ${ }^{3}$ | 2.4 | 40.3 | 25.9 | 13.2 | 4.2 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 17.1 |
| Have another, undecided when | 4.2 | 5.1 | 2.6 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 2.2 |
| Undecided | 3.5 | 7.8 | 11.8 | 10.3 | 4.6 | 1.8 | 3.4 | 7.8 |
| Wants no more | 2.7 | 10.3 | 40.9 | 62.7 | 83.6 | 89.1 | 89.6 | 53.2 |
| Sterilized | 0.5 | 0.8 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| Declared infecund | 32.6 | 5.9 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 1.8 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| Missing | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 215 | 824.0 | 1,304 | 971 | 686 | 468 | 424 | 4,892 |

[^11]Figure 8. 1 Fertility Preferences of Currently Married Women Age 15-49


Table 8.1 also shows that the desire for having a child or having another child is strongly related to the number of living children the woman has. Fifty-three percent of woman who have no living children want to have a child within two years. This figure declines to 30 and 13 percent, respectively, for women with one and two living children.

Table 8.2 shows the fertility preferences of currently married women by age. As expected, older women are much more likely to want no more children than younger women. The proportion of married women who want no more children is only 6 percent among women 15-19, increases to 15 percent among those 20-24, and reaches 87 percent among women 40-44.

Although younger women generally desire to have additional children, they nevertheless have a need for contraception. Among women in the age groups 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29, more than 30 percent report wanting another child but only after waiting at least two years. Thus, a substantial proportion of women under age 30 have a potential need for contraceptive services to space their children.

Table 8.3 indicates the percentage of currently married women who want no more children by number of living children and background characteristics (residence, region, education, and ethnicity). The results indicate that urban women express a desire to limit family size at lower parities than rural women. For example, 52 percent of urban women with two children want to stop childbearing, compared with 32 percent of rural women with two children. The urban-rural differential in the desire for children narrows among women with four or more children.

Table 8.2 Fertility preferences by age
Percent distribution of currently married women by desire for children, according to age, Turkmenistan 2000

| Desire for children | Age |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 |  |
| Have another soon ${ }^{1}$ | 30.8 | 23.5 | 19.8 | 15.7 | 8.2 | 2.6 | 0.9 | 12.8 |
| Have another later ${ }^{2}$ | 39.5 | 45.7 | 31.8 | 14.7 | 3.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 17.1 |
| Have another, undecided when | 9.8 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 2.2 |
| Undecided | 8.2 | 8.3 | 13.4 | 10.9 | 5.6 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 7.8 |
| Wants no more | 5.5 | 15.3 | 27.4 | 49.4 | 73.8 | 86.9 | 82.1 | 53.2 |
| Sterilized | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.8 | 1.8 |
| Declared infecund | 6.1 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 11.3 | 5.0 |
| Missing | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 83 | 682 | 1,015 | 934 | 857 | 765 | 556 | 4,892 |
| Wants next birth within 2 years <br> ${ }^{2}$ Wants to delay next birth for 2 or more years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Table 8.3 Desire to limit childbearing by background characteristics

Percentage of currently married women who want no more children, by number of living children and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

|  | Number of living children $^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Background <br> characteristic | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | $6+$ | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Differentials in the desire to limit childbearing are also strongly associated with place of residence, with women residing in the capital city having distinctly lower fertility desires. In Ashgabad City, among currently married women with two living children, 59 percent want no more children. In all other regions, among women with two living children, the percentage wanting no more children is between 37 and 44 percent.

In terms of education, among women with one, two, or three living children, greater percentages with a higher or secondary special education report wanting no more children than women with a primary/secondary education.

### 8.2 Need for Contraceptive Services

Currently married, fecund women who either want no more children or want to wait at least two years before having another child, but who are not using contraception, are considered to have an unmet need for contraception. ${ }^{1}$ Current users of family planning methods are said to have a met need for contraception. The total demand for contraception is the sum of met and unmet need for contraception.

Table 8.4 shows estimates of unmet need, met need, and total demand for contraception among currently married women. Among all currently married women, 10 percent have an unmet need for contraceptive services; half of this need represents desire to space the next birth, and half represents a desire to limit childbearing. On the other hand, 62 percent of women are in the category of having met their need for contraception. One-third of these women want to space their next birth, and two-thirds want to limit their childbearing.

Overall, the total demand for contraception comprises 72 percent of married women in Turkmenistan. A high proportion of the total demand for contraception is being met. Eighty-six percent of currently married women with a need for contraception are current users.

There is relatively little variation in the statistics on unmet and met need by urban-rural residence, region, education, or ethnicity. However, as expected, there are differences across age groups. Both unmet need and met need for spacing decline with increasing age. Alternatively, both unmet need and met need for limiting increase with increasing age.

### 8.3 Ideal Family Size

The discussion so far in this chapter focused on the respondent's future fertility preferences within the framework of the number of living children that she already has. The topic of this section, ideal family size, is meant to measure fertility desires independent of the number of children that a respondent already has. To collect the relevant data, a somewhat different question was asked for respondents with no living children and for those with living children. The former group was asked directly how many children they would like to have if they could choose the number. Respondents who already had living children were asked how many children they would like to have if they could go back to the time when they had no children and could choose the number to have. ${ }^{2}$

[^12]
## Table 8.4 Need for contraception among currently married women

Percentage of currently married women with an unmet need for contraception, and with met need for contraception, and the total demand for contraception, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Unmet need for contraception ${ }^{1}$ |  |  | Met need for contraception (currently using) ${ }^{2}$ |  |  | Total demand for contraception ${ }^{3}$ |  |  | Percentage of demand satisfied | Number <br> of women |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For spacing | For limiting | Total | For spacing | For limiting | Total | For spacing | For limiting | Total |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 13.1 | 1.2 | 14.3 | 23.2 | 3.4 | 26.6 | 36.3 | 4.6 | 40.9 | 65.0 | 83 |
| 20-24 | 12.8 | 1.0 | 13.8 | 41.5 | 11.1 | 52.7 | 55.2 | 12.1 | 67.3 | 79.5 | 682 |
| 25-29 | 8.5 | 1.9 | 10.4 | 39.6 | 21.8 | 61.5 | 48.7 | 23.7 | 72.4 | 85.6 | 1,015 |
| 30-34 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 10.6 | 29.2 | 41.1 | 70.3 | 34.7 | 46.4 | 81.0 | 86.9 | 934 |
| 35-39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40-44 | 2.0 | 6.2 | 8.2 | 8.9 | 65.2 | 74.1 | 10.8 | 71.5 | 82.4 | 90.1 | 857 |
| 45-49 | 0.4 | 8.9 | 9.3 | 2.0 | 65.5 | 67.5 | 2.5 | 74.4 | 76.8 | 87.9 | 765 |
|  | 0.1 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 1.2 | 36.7 | 37.8 | 1.3 | 44.3 | 45.6 | 82.9 | 556 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 4.2 | 5.1 | 9.3 | 22.5 | 39.8 | 62.3 | 27.1 | 44.9 | 72.1 | 87.0 | 2,307 |
| Rural | 6.1 | 4.7 | 10.8 | 21.5 | 39.9 | 61.4 | 27.7 | 44.6 | 72.3 | 85.0 | 2,585 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 4.4 | 4.6 | 9.0 | 20.7 | 39.0 | 59.7 | 25.6 | 43.6 | 69.3 | 87.0 | 639 |
| Akhal | 3.9 | 3.3 | 7.2 | 22.6 | 43.6 | 66.3 | 26.5 | 47.0 | 73.5 | 90.2 | 699 |
| Balkan | 3.9 | 4.8 | 8.7 | 29.8 | 31.3 | 61.1 | 34.5 | 36.2 | 70.7 | 87.7 | 424 |
| Dashoguz | 6.9 | 6.1 | 12.9 | 18.9 | 36.9 | 55.8 | 25.9 | 43.0 | 68.9 | 81.2 | 950 |
| Lebap | 6.2 | 4.4 | 10.6 | 22.0 | 40.9 | 62.9 | 28.7 | 45.3 | 74.0 | 85.6 | 1,030 |
| Mary | 4.7 | 5.6 | 10.3 | 22.0 | 42.5 | 64.5 | 26.7 | 48.1 | 74.8 | 86.2 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No/primary/secondary | 5.3 | 5.0 | 10.3 | 20.7 | 39.3 | 60.1 | 26.3 | 44.4 | 70.7 | 85.4 | 3,347 |
| Secondary-special | 4.6 | 5.4 | 10.0 | 25.0 | 39.7 | 64.7 | 29.9 | 45.1 | 75.1 | 86.6 | 1,149 |
| Higher | 6.2 | 2.5 | 8.7 | 23.8 | 44.2 | 68.0 | 30.0 | 46.7 | 76.7 | 88.6 | 396 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 5.4 | 4.9 | 10.3 | 22.3 | 39.5 | 61.7 | 27.9 | 44.4 | 72.3 | 85.8 | 3,776 |
| Uzbek | 6.6 | 4.1 | 10.6 | 24.9 | 36.5 | 61.4 | 31.5 | 40.6 | 72.1 | 85.2 | 554 |
| Other | 3.0 | 5.6 | 8.5 | 17.3 | 45.5 | 62.8 | 20.7 | 51.1 | 71.8 | 88.1 | 563 |
| Total | 5.2 | 4.9 | 10.1 | 22.0 | 39.8 | 61.8 | 27.5 | 44.7 | 72.2 | 86.0 | 4,892 |

${ }^{1}$ Unmet need for spacing includes pregnant wo men whose pregnancy was mistimed, amenorrheic women who are not using family planning and whose last birth was mistimed, and fecund women who are neither pregnant nor amenorrheic and who are not using any method of family planning and say they want to wait two or more years for their next birth. Also included in unmet need for spacing are fecund women who are not using any method of family planning and say they are unsure whether they want another child or who want another child but are unsure when to have the birth unless they say it would not be a problem if they discovered they were pregnant in the next few weeks. Unmet need for limiting refers to pregnant women whose pregnancy was unwanted, amen orrheic women whose last child was unwanted, and to fecund women who are neither pregnant nor amenorrheic and who are not using any method of family planning and who want no more children. Excluded from the unmet need category are pregnant and amenorrheic women who became pregnant wile using a method (these women are in need of better contraception).
${ }^{2}$ Using for spacing is defined as women who are using some method of family planning and say they want to have another child or are undecided whether to have another. Using for limiting is defined as women who are using and who want no more children. Note that the specific methods used are not taken into account here.
${ }^{3}$ Nonusers who are pregnant or amenorrheic and whose pregnancy was the result of a contraceptive failure are not included in the category of unmet need, but are included in the total demand for contraception (since they would have been using had their method not failed).

Table 8.5 shows statistics on ideal family size for all women and for currently married women. For all women, the mean ideal number of children is 3.3 , while for currently married women, the figure is 3.7-higher by almost half a child.

Table 8.5 also shows the ideal family size by the number of children that the respondent already has. Among all women, the mean ideal number of children increases steadily from 2.7 for childless women to 6.0 for women with 6 or more children.

| Table 8.5 Ideal number of children |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of all women by ideal number of children and mean ideal number of children for all women and for currently married women, according to number of living children, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Num | of livin | iildren ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| of children | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | $6+$ | Total |
| 0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| 1 | 2.6 | 5.1 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 1.9 |
| 2 | 53.3 | 47.5 | 36.9 | 13.7 | 6.4 | 4.5 | 3.8 | 34.3 |
| 3 | 11.6 | 14.3 | 16.3 | 19.7 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 11.8 |
| 4 | 21.8 | 26.9 | 39.8 | 51.4 | 68.3 | 31.8 | 19.1 | 34.3 |
| 5 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 7.0 | 7.8 | 29.9 | 5.8 | 4.9 |
| 6+ | 0.9 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 3.5 | 10.1 | 23.2 | 53.8 | 6.8 |
| Nonnumeric response | 8.3 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 3.8 | 4.9 | 7.5 | 16.2 | 5.9 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 2,826 | 949 | 1,427 | 1,038 | 734 | 491 | 454 | 7,919 |
| Mean ideal number for ${ }^{2}$ : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All women | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 6.0 | 3.3 |
| Number of women | 2,950 | 929 | 1,399 | 999 | 698 | 454 | 380 | 7,449 |
| Currently married women | 3.2 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 6.0 | 3.7 |
| Number of women | 200 | 805 | 1,280 | 937 | 657 | 435 | 357 | 4,670 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Includes current pregnancy |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{2}$ The means exclude women who gave nonnumeric responses. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The mean ideal family size for all women by five-year age group and background characteristics is shown in Table 8.6. The ideal number of children increases with increasing age of respondents. Women age 15-19 report an ideal of 2.6 children; that number increases to 4.6 for women age 45-49. The differentials by background characteristics are all in the expected direction. Rural women and less-educated women report higher ideal numbers of children than urban women and more-educated women. The greatest differentials are by region: the mean ideal number of children for women in Ashgabad City (2.9) is lower than those for women in all other regions (between 3.3 and 3.5).

| Mean ideal number of children for all women by age and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Background characteristic | Age |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
|  | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 3.1 |
| Rural | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 2.9 |
| Akhal | 2.6 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 3.5 |
| Balkan | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 3.4 |
| Dashoguz | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 4.0 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| Lebap | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 3.3 |
| Mary | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 4.6 | 3.4 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No/Primary/secondary | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 4.0 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 3.4 |
| Secondary-special | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.2 |
| Higher | * | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 3.4 |
| Uzbek | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 3.5 |
| Other | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| Total | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 3.3 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 8.4 UnPlanned and Unwanted Fertility

Several indicators of the level of unwanted fertility can be derived from the TDHS data. Respondents were asked a series of questions about each child who was born in the five years preceding the survey-and, if pregnant, their current pregnancy-to determine whether the pregnancy was wanted then (planned), wanted later (mistimed), or not wanted (unplanned). It is worth noting that the data collected may underestimate unplanned childbearing since women may rationalize unplanned births and report them as planned.

Table 8.7 shows the percent distribution of births in the five years before the survey by whether the birth was wanted then, wanted later, or not wanted. More than 96 percent of births in the last five years were wanted, i.e., either wanted then ( 94 percent) or wanted later ( 2 percent). As expected, the percentage of unwanted births (slightly more than 1 percent) increases with the birth order and the age of the respondent.

Table 8.8 presents wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the three-year period before the survey for various population subgroups. Wanted fertility rates indicate the level of fertility that would result if all unwanted births were prevented. Unwanted births are those that exceed the ideal family size that was reported by a respondent. The comparison of wanted fertility rates with observed total fertility rates indicates the extent to which women successfully control their fertility.

| Table 8.7 Fertility planning status |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of births (including current pregnancy) in the five years preceding the survey by fertility planning status, according to birth order and mother's age at birth, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Birth order | Planning status of birth |  |  |  |  | Numb |
| and mother's age at birth | Wanted then | Wanted later | Wanted no more | Missing | Total | of births |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 97.1 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 100.0 | 1,282 |
| 2 | 92.6 | 4.1 | 0.9 | 2.4 | 100.0 | 1,137 |
| 3 | 93.8 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 100.0 | 709 |
| 4+ | 92.7 | 1.3 | 3.3 | 2.6 | 100.0 | 805 |
| Age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <19 | 97.1 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.6 | 100.0 | 247 |
| 20-24 | 94.3 | 2.7 | 0.6 | 2.4 | 100.0 | 1,481 |
| 25-29 | 94.6 | 2.6 | 0.7 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 1,291 |
| 30-34 | 94.4 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 100.0 | 597 |
| 35-39 | 94.0 | 0.5 | 3.4 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 244 |
| 40-44 | 82.6 | 0.0 | 16.0 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 68 |
| 45-49 | * | * | * | * | 100.0 | 3 |
| Total | 94.3 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 3,933 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 births (and current pregnancies) and has been suppressed. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

In Turkmenistan, wanted fertility rates are somewhat less than observed total fertility rates at the national level ( 2.7 verses 2.9 children per woman) as well as for population subgroups. It appears that, on average, women are only marginally exceeding their reported ideal family size.

| Table 8.8 Wanted fertility rates |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the three years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Total wanted fertility rate | Total fertility rate |
| Residence |  |  |
| Urban | 2.29 | 2.46 |
| Rural | 3.00 | 3.30 |
| Region |  |  |
| Ashbagad City | 1.96 | 2.10 |
| Akhal | 2.75 | 2.91 |
| Balkan | 2.53 | 2.68 |
| Dashoguz | 2.88 | 3.14 |
| Lebap | 2.66 | 2.97 |
| Mary | 2.81 | 3.09 |
| Education |  |  |
| No/primary/secondary | 2.80 | 3.03 |
| Secondary-special | 2.37 | 2.59 |
| Higher | 2.29 | 2.59 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.78 | 3.02 |
| Uzbek | 2.71 | 2.90 |
| Other | 1.56 | 1.78 |
| Total | 2.66 | 2.89 |
| Note: Rates are based on births to women 15-49 in the period 1-36 months preceding the survey. The total fertility rates are the same as those presented in Table 4.2. |  |  |

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This chapter presents mortality rates for infancy and early childhood based on data from the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry and from the TDHS 2000. For Turkmenistan as a whole, mortality rates are shown for the period from 1985 to 2000. To identify population subgroups exposed to particularly high mortality, mortality estimates are presented by the background characteristics of mothers and by demographic characteristics. Perinatal mortality rates are also shown in this chapter.

### 9.1 Mortality Rates Based on MOHMI Data

Turkmenistan has a long history of demographic and health data collection-primarily through the use of national registration systems. For births and infant deaths, MOHMI collects the data from local health officials who primarily document events occurring in health facilities. The reports are forwarded up the reporting hierarchy to the regional level and to MOHMI. Official government statistics on infant mortality are published in annual statistical reports.

Mortality rates for the main subintervals of infancy based on MOHMI data are shown in Table 9.1. The estimates are expressed per 1,000 live births. Estimates are shown for single calendar years and for five-year calendar periods. The following rates are shown:

- Neonatal mortality (NN): the probability of dying under 28 days after birth.
- Postneonatal mortality (PNN): the difference between infant and neonatal mortality.
- Infant mortality $\left(\mathrm{q}_{0}\right)$ : the probability of dying between birth and exact age one.

There is a clear declining trend in all of the mortality rates. Similarly, a decline is indicated by the infant mortality rates for five-year periods. Overall, between the period 1986-90 and the period 1996-00, infant mortality declined from 53 to 32 per 1,000, a decline of approximately 40 percent.

It is important to note that MOHMI data on births and infant deaths are recorded according to protocols that were established during the time of the former Soviet Union. The definitions of live birth and infant death in those protocols differ from the definitions currently advocated by the World Health Organization. The most important difference is for pregnancies ending at a gestational age of less than 28 weeks. The Soviet protocols classify such pregnancies as miscarriages (even if signs of life are present at the time of delivery) unless the child survives for seven days. ${ }^{1}$ On the other hand, the World Health Organization defines a birth showing any sign of life (i.e., breathing, beating of the heart, or movement of voluntary muscles) as a live birth, irrespective of the gestational age at termination of the pregnancy (WHO, 1993).

[^13]| Table 9.1 Infant mortality rates, government of |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turkmenistan |  |  |  |
| Neonatal, postneonatal, and infant mortality rates, 1985-2000 |  |  |  |
| Calendar year | Neonatal mortality (NN) | Postneonatal mortality (PNN) | Infant mortality $\left({ }_{1} q_{0}\right)$ |
| 2000 | 6.5 | 14.8 | 21.3 |
| 1999 | 8.1 | 17.3 | 25.4 |
| 1998 | 8.0 | 24.8 | 32.8 |
| 1997 | 9.5 | 28.4 | 37.9 |
| 1996 | 11.0 | 31.0 | 42.0 |
| 1995 | 8.4 | 34.4 | 42.8 |
| 1994 | 11.9 | 31.0 | 42.9 |
| 1993 | 14.0 | 30.2 | 44.2 |
| 1992 | 12.8 | 30.4 | 43.2 |
| 1991 | 15.3 | 31.6 | 46.9 |
| 1990 | na | na | 45.2 |
| 1989 | na | na | 54.8 |
| 1988 | na | na | 54.1 |
| 1987 | na | na | 55.7 |
| 1986 | na | na | 57.3 |
| 1985 | na | na | 51.5 |
| Mean 1996-00 | O 8.6 | 23.3 | 31.9 |
| Mean 1991-95 | 512.5 | 31.5 | 44.0 |
| Mean 1986-90 | 0 na | na | 53.4 |
| Sources: 1985-1998. World Health Organization, Database; 1999-2000 Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health, Ashgabad, Turkmenistan na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |

A second difference between the Soviet protocols and WHO's definitions concerns pregnancies ending at 28 or more weeks of gestation. According to the definitions of the Soviet protocols, these events are classified as live births if the child breathes and as stillbirths if breathing is not evident at delivery. The World Health Organization defines these events as live births if any sign of life is present at delivery (i.e., breathing, beating of the heart, or movement of voluntary muscles) and otherwise as stillbirths.

Official government infant mortality rates in other republics of the former Soviet Union, based on registration systems similar to that which exists in Turkmenistan, have been found to be lower than estimates from population-based household surveys. For example, the survey infant mortality rate (IMR) estimate from the Kazakhstan DHS of 62 per 1,000 (1992-1997) was more than double the rate based on government statistics, 26 per 1,000 (APM and MI, 2000). Similarly, the survey estimate from the Kyrgyz Republic DHS of 61 per 1,000 was about double the rate based on government statistics, 29 per 1,000 (RIOP and MI, 1998).

### 9.2 Mortality Rates Based on TDHS Data

In the TDHS, survey respondents were asked to report all of their pregnancies and the outcome of each pregnancy in terms of the international definitions advocated by the World Health Organization. Live birth was defined as any birth irrespective of the duration of pregnancy that, after separation from the mother, showed any sign of life such as breathing, beating of the heart, or movement of voluntary muscles. For each live birth, questions were asked about the date of birth (month and year), sex, survivorship status, and current age (for surviving children) or age at death (for deceased children). Infant death was defined as the death of a child under one year of age (WHO, 1993).

Mortality rates from the TDHS are shown in Table 9.2. In addition to estimates of neonatal, postneonatal, and infant mortality, mortality rates for the early childhood years are shown:

- Child mortality $\left({ }_{4} q_{1}\right)$ : the probability of dying between exact ages one and five.
- Under-five mortality $\left({ }_{5} q_{0}\right)$ the probability of dying between birth and exact age five.

All the rates in Table 9.2 are expressed as deaths per 1,000 live births, except child mortality ( ${ }_{4} \mathrm{q}_{1}$ ), which is expressed as deaths per 1,000 children surviving to age one.

The accuracy of mortality estimates from the TDHS depends on 1) the completeness and accuracy with which births and deaths are reported (i.e., nonsampling error) and 2) the sampling variability of the estimated rates. An assessment of nonsampling error is considered next. Sampling variability is discussed later in this section.

In a retrospective survey such as the TDHS, respondents are required to report events that occurred in the past. It is well established that the most likely source of error is the underreporting of deceased children. Based on the plausible assumption that survey respondents do not overreport deceased children, this review of data quality focuses on event underreporting.

When deceased children are underreported, it is typically most substantial for deaths that occur in early infancy (i.e., in the neonatal period) or long before the survey. The underreporting of neonatal deaths can result in an abnormally low ratio of neonatal mortality to infant mortality (United Nations, 1982). To detect underreporting of deceased children in the TDHS, the survey values of the neonatal/infant mortality ratio were compared with values for national populations known to have relatively complete reporting of infant deaths. ${ }^{2}$

Neonatal and infant mortality rates from the TDHS are shown in Table 9.2. The value of the neonatal/infant mortality ratio for the periods 1985-1990, 1990-1995, and 1995-2000 are 0.32, 0.46 , and 0.46 , respectively. In countries with relatively complete mortality data at a level of infant mortality between 70 and 80 per 1,000 (about the level of infant mortality estimated by the TDHS), the value of this ratio is typically greater than $0.45 .^{3}$ The ratio for the Turkmenistan survey for 1985-1990 (0.32) is less than this value, which suggests underreporting of neonatal deaths for that

[^14]Table 9.2 Infant and child mortality
Infant and child mortality rates by five-year periods preceding the survey, Turkmenistan 2000

| Years preceding survey | Calendar period ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Neonatal mortality ( NN ) | Postneonatal mortality (PNN) | Infant mortality $\left({ }_{1} q_{0}\right)$ | Child mortality $\left(4 q_{1}\right)$ | Underfive mortality $\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{q}_{0}\right)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0-4 | 1995-2000 | 33.8 | 40.1 | 73.9 | 22.0 | 94.3 |
| 5-9 | 1990-1995 | 32.1 | 37.4 | 69.5 | 14.2 | 82.7 |
| 10-14 | 1985-1990 | 26.9 | 56.8 | 83.7 | 17.6 | 99.8 |

${ }^{a}$ Periods are from midyear to midyear. Fieldwork for the survey was conducted in the summer of 2000, so the period 1995-2000 refers to the period from midyear 1995 to midyear 2000.
period. For the periods 1990-1995 and 1995-2000, periods that are closer to the survey date and for which respondents may be less susceptible to recall error, the ratios are slightly greater than 0.45 . Accordingly, this inspection of the data does not suggest substantial underreporting of neonatal deaths for the periods 1990-1995 and 1995-2000.

At the national level, the estimate of infant mortality for the period 1995-00 was 74 per 1,000 live births. The estimates of neonatal and postneonatal mortality were 34 and 40 per 1,000 births, respectively. The estimate of child mortality (age one to exact age five) was much lower: 22 per 1,000. The overall under-five mortality rate for the period was 94 per 1,000.

The survey estimates of mortality are subject to sampling variability. Sampling variability arises because a different sample of women, with different experience of child mortality, would have produced different mortality estimates. Sampling error is concerned with how different such an estimate might be. The survey estimate of infant mortality for 1995-2000 (74 per 1,000) has a standard error of 5.4 and a 95 percent confidence interval of 63.2 to 84.7 per $1,000 .{ }^{4}$ Thus, the point estimate of 74 per 1,000 cannot be considered exact, and due to sampling variability, the true estimate could be higher or lower.

Over the 15 years prior to the survey, the TDHS estimates indicate a decline in infant mortality: from 84 per 1,000 (1985-1990) to 74 per 1,000 (1995-2000). This represents a 12 percent decline. The overall under-five mortality rate declined during the period from 100 per 1,000 to 94 per 1,000 . The estimated rates suggest improving mortality conditions from the late 1980s to the late 1990s.

### 9.3 Comparison of Mortality Rates

Mortality rates over the past 15 years based on MOHMI data and the TDHS data are shown in Figure 9.1. Two points should be noted. First, MOHMI rates are between 35 and 50 percent lower than the survey estimates. The estimates based on MOHMI data lie outside of the 95 percent confidence interval for the survey estimates, which indicates that sampling variability of the survey estimates cannot fully account for the differences in the estimated rates. The second point to note is that the time trends of the two sets of rates are similar. Both sets of rates show a declining trend in infant mortality over the last 15 years. Thus, both time trends indicate improvements in the survivorship of infants.

[^15]Figure 9.1 Trends in Infant Mortality


With the available data, it is not possible to conclusively determine the reasons for the differences between MOHMI rates and those of the TDHS. The best way to resolve the issue of the differences is to conduct a longitudinal survey in which a sample of households are visited periodically (say, every three months) for a period of 18 to 24 months. Pregnant women would be identified in each round of the survey, and in subsequent rounds, the outcome of those pregnancies and the survivorship of live births would be determined. One of the main recommendations of this report is that a longitudinal survey be conducted as soon as practicable.

### 9.4 Socioeconomic Differentials in Childhood Mortality

Table 9.3 shows infant and child mortality rates by selected socioeconomic variables (urbanrural residence, region, education, and ethnicity). The estimated rates are for the ten-year period preceding the survey. A ten-year period is used to calculate the rates for population subgroups to reduce the sampling variability.

The rates for residence show a pattern that is similar to that found in most countries of the world. The mortality estimates for rural areas exceed the estimates for urban areas at all ages. The estimate of infant mortality for rural areas (80 per 1,000) exceeds the estimate for urban areas (60 per 1,000 ).

There is substantial variation in the mortality estimates by region. Infant mortality estimates are highest for the Mary and Dashoguz regions ( 99 and 80 per 1,000, respectively) and lowest for Ashgabad City and Lebap (48 and 49 per 1,000, respectively). It is surprising that the infant mortality estimates for Ashgabad City and Lebap are so similar.

Mortality estimates by mother's education display the expected differentials. The rates of infant mortality for women with a primary/secondary education (77 per 1,000 ) exceed the rates for women with a secondary-special education ( 59 per 1,000 ) or higher education ( 61 per 1,000 ).

| Table 9.3 Infant and child mortality by background characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Infant and child mortality rates for the ten-year period preceding the survey, by background, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Neonatal mortality ( NN ) | Postneonatal mortality (PNN) | Infant mortality $\left({ }_{1} q_{0}\right)$ | Child mortality $\left(4 q_{1}\right)$ | Under-five mortality $\left({ }_{5} q_{0}\right)$ |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 32.2 | 27.9 | 60.1 | 13.4 | 72.7 |
| Rural | 33.4 | 46.5 | 79.9 | 21.6 | 99.8 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | (33.4) | (14.3) | (47.7) | (11.7) | (58.8) |
| Akhal | 29.9 | 44.5 | 74.4 | 9.7 | 83.4 |
| Balkan | 30.0 | 20.9 | 50.9 | 12.2 | 62.5 |
| Dashoguz | 29.5 | 50.9 | 80.4 | 18.8 | 97.7 |
| Lebap | 20.9 | 27.7 | 48.6 | 18.9 | 66.6 |
| Mary | 48.9 | 49.7 | 98.6 | 26.8 | 122.7 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| No education | * | * | * | * | * |
| Primary/secondary | 32.8 | 43.7 | 76.5 | 22.1 |  |
| Secondary-special | $28.4$ | $30.2$ | $58.6$ | $9.7$ | $67.7$ |
| Higher | (45.9) | (15.2) | (61.2) | (6.7) | (67.5) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 33.8 | 39.7 | 73.5 | 19.5 | 91.5 |
| Uzbek | 22.4 | 38.1 | 60.5 | 10.2 | 70.0 |
| Other | 38.9 | 29.0 | 68.0 | 13.9 | 80.9 |
| Total | 32.9 | 38.7 | 71.6 | 18.0 | 88.3 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that the rate is based on fewer than 250 unweighted births and has been suppressed. Figures in parentheses are based on 250 to 499 unweighted births. |  |  |  |  |  |

### 9.5 Demographic Differentials in Childhood Mortality

The relationship between early childhood mortality and selected demographic variables is shown in Table 9.4. As was the case with the socioeconomic differentials, the rates are shown for the ten-year period preceding the survey.

In Turkmenistan, as in almost all populations, the infant mortality rate for male children (83 per 1,000 ) exceeds the rate for female children ( 60 per 1,000 ).

The relationship between mortality and mother's age at birth indicates a clear relationship, with births to women under age 20 having higher mortality than births to older women. On the other hand, the data show only a weak association between a child's birth order and the risk of mortality.

Among the demographic variables in Table 9.4, the strongest association with mortality is shown by the length of the preceding birth interval. For births occurring less than two years after a previous birth, the risk of death before reaching age five ( 119 per 1,000 ) is 50 percent greater than for births following a two- to three-year interval and 100 percent greater than for births following a four-year birth interval. This relationship suggests that some reduction in mortality would result if the proportion of births occurring after a birth interval of less than two years were reduced.

| Table 9.4 Infant and child mortality by demographic characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Infant and child mortality rates for the ten-year period preceding the survey, by demographic characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Demographic characteristic | Neonatal mortality (NN) | Postneonatal mortality (PNN) | Infant mortality $\left({ }_{1} q_{0}\right)$ | Child mortality $\left(4 q_{1}\right)$ | Under-five mortality $\left({ }_{5} q_{0}\right)$ |
| Sex of child |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 36.6 | 46.4 | 83.0 | 19.0 | 100.5 |
| Female | 29.0 | 30.7 | 59.7 | 17.0 | 75.6 |
| Age of mother at birth |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | (51.1) | (35.4) | (86.5) | (24.1) | (108.6) |
| 20-29 | 29.6 | 40.1 | 69.7 | 19.1 | 87.5 |
| 30-39 | 38.2 | 36.4 | 74.5 | 14.6 | 88.0 |
| 40-49 | * | * | * | * | * |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 31.9 | 35.1 | 67.0 | 15.2 | 81.2 |
| 2-3 | 31.9 | 40.6 | 72.5 | 21.2 | 92.2 |
| 4-6 | 34.5 | 41.3 | 75.7 | 17.5 | 91.9 |
| 7+ | (41.2) | (32.8) | (74.0) | (11.8) | (84.9) |
| Previous birth interval |  |  |  |  |  |
| $<2 \mathrm{yrs}$ | 39.3 | 54.9 | 94.2 | 27.7 | 119.3 |
| 2-3 yrs | 26.8 | 37.1 | 63.9 | 15.6 | 78.6 |
| $4+\mathrm{yrs}$ | 33.2 | 15.8 | 49.0 | 8.8 | 57.4 |
| Total | 32.9 | 38.7 | 71.6 | 18.0 | 88.3 |

Note: An asterisk indicates that the rate is based on fewer than 250 unweighted and has been suppressed. Figures in parentheses are based on 200 to 499 unweighted births.

### 9.6 Mortality Differentials by Women's Status

Several questions were included in the Turkmenistan DHS survey in order to develop indicators of women's status and empowerment. A woman's status is an important determinant of her ability to access information, make decisions, and act effectively in her own interest and in the interest of those who depend on her. It follows that if women, the primary caretakers of children, enjoy high status the health and survival of their infants should be enhanced.

A series of questions were asked about the respondent's participation in household decisionmaking. An indicator was developed that scales a woman's participation in decisionmaking. The higher the score on this indicator, the higher a woman's status and the more empowered she is to care for her children. Table 9.5 shows mortality rates for values of this indicator. The table indicates that as the number of decisions for which a mother has the final say increases, infant and child mortality declines.

Table 9.5 Infant and child mortality by women's status
Infant and child mortality rates for the ten-year period preceding the survey, by women's status, Turkmenistan 2000

| Women's <br> status indicator | Neonatal <br> mortality <br> $(\mathrm{NN})$ | Postneonatal <br> mortality <br> $(\mathrm{PNN})$ | Infant <br> mortality <br> $\left(\mathrm{q}_{0}\right)$ | Child <br> mortality <br> $\left({ }_{4} \mathrm{q}_{1}\right)$ | Under-five <br> mortality <br> $\left({ }_{5} \mathrm{q}_{0}\right)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of decisions with <br> woman having final say |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | $(52.4)$ | $(50.6)$ | $(103.1)$ | $*$ | $*$ |
| $1-2$ | 36.6 | 51.7 | 88.2 | 27.4 | 113.2 |
| $3-4$ | 37.1 | 38.2 | 75.3 | 14.9 | 89.1 |
| 5 | 29.2 | 35.1 | 64.3 | 16.7 | 79.9 |
| $\quad$ Total | 32.9 | 38.7 | 71.6 | 18.0 | 88.3 |

Note: An asterisk indicates that the rate is based on fewer than 250 cases and has been suppressed. Figures in parentheses are based on 250 to 499 births.

### 9.7 Perinatal Mortality

Perinatal mortality rates indicate the level of mortality from the time of prenatal viability (i.e., the late fetal period beginning at 28 weeks of gestation) through labor, delivery, and the early neonatal period of life (i.e., the first week of life). Pregnancies that terminate without signs of life after the 28th week of gestation are referred to as stillbirths. Stillbirths and early neonatal deaths share many of the same underlying causes leading to mortality (e.g., congenital malformations), and for this reason, these events are aggregated into the perinatal mortality rate.

Perinatal mortality rates are reported for the five-year period preceding the survey (i.e.,mid1995 to mid-2000). It should be noted that data quality is always an issue when considering perinatal mortality rates, because both stillbirths and early neonatal deaths are susceptible to underreporting.

Table 9.6 shows perinatal mortality rates per 1,000 pregnancies for all Turkmenistan as well as by background characteristics. The overall perinatal mortality rate is 35 per 1,000. In general, perinatal mortality rates display the same pattern as neonatal mortality rates (Tables 9.3 and 9.4).

| Table 9.6 Perinatal mortality |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of stillbirths and early infant deaths, and the perinatal mortality rate for the five-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Number of stillbirths | Number of early neonatal deaths | Perinatal mortality rate | Number of pregnancies of $7+$ months duration |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 22.8 | 32.6 | 38.6 | 1,435 |
| Rural | 23.1 | 48.8 | 32.8 | 2,194 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 3.2 | 6.9 | * | 359 |
| Akhal | 5.3 | 11.5 | (32.8) | 513 |
| Balkan | 1.8 | 8.4 | (36.5) | 279 |
| Dashoguz | 14.6 | 10.2 | 30.5 | 815 |
| Lebap | 6.3 | 9.4 | 21.3 | 735 |
| Mary | 14.7 | 35.0 | 53.6 | 928 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| No education | 0.0 | 0.0 | * | 33 |
| Primary/secondary | 33.1 | 60.2 | 37.0 | 2,523 |
| Secondary-special | 12.8 | 12.4 | 31.3 | 806 |
| Higher | 0.0 | 8.8 | * | 267 |
| Age of mother at birth |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 3.2 | 9.2 | * | 227 |
| 20-29 | 27.0 | 50.0 | 30.1 | 2,560 |
| 30-39 | 13.4 | 20.0 | 43.0 | 776 |
| 40-49 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 67.6 | 66 |
| Previous pregnancy interval |  |  |  |  |
| $1{ }^{\text {st }}$ pregnancy | 18.6 | 17.3 | 33.3 | 1,077 |
| $<15$ months | 6.0 | 21.3 | 57.3 | 476 |
| 15-26 months | 4.9 | 20.4 | 25.8 | 980 |
| 27-38 months | 7.2 | 11.0 | 33.2 | 546 |
| $39+$ months | 9.4 | 11.4 | 37.7 | 550 |
| Total | 45.9 | 81.4 | 35.1 | 3,629 |
| Note: An asterisk indicates that the rate is based on fewer than 250 unweighted pregnancies and has been suppressed. Figures in parentheses based on 250 to 499 unweighted pregnancies. |  |  |  |  |

### 9.8 High-Risk Fertility Behavior

Previous research has shown a strong relationship between the fertility patterns of women and the mortality risks of their children (United Nations, 1994). Typically, mortality risks are greater for children who are born to mothers who are too young or too old, who are born after a short birth interval, or who have a high birth order. In this analysis, a mother is classified as too young if she is less than 18 years of age and too old if she is older than 34 years of age. A short birth interval is defined as a birth occurring within 24 months of the previous birth, and a child is of high birth order if the mother had already given birth to three or more children.

Table 9.7 shows the distribution of children born in the five years before the survey by risk category. Although first births to women age 18-34 are considered an unavoidable risk, they are included in the analysis and are shown as a separate risk category.

Column 1 of Table 9.7 shows that in the five-year period before the survey, 32 percent of births were in a single high-risk category and 11 percent were in a multiple high-risk category.

Column 2 of the table shows risk ratios for births in various high-risk categories relative to births not having any high-risk characteristics. Overall, the risk ratio for births in a single high-risk category is 1.4 ( 40 percent elevated risk over births in the no high-risk category). For births with multiple high-risk characteristics, the risk ratio is 1.1 (10 percent elevated risk). Surprisingly, this represents less of an elevated risk than is the case for births characterized by a single risk category.

Column 3 of Table 9.7 looks to the future and addresses the question, How many currently married women have the potential for having a high-risk birth? The results were obtained by simulating the risk category into which a birth to a currently married woman would fall if she were to become pregnant at the time of the survey. For example, a woman who was 37 years old at the

Table 9.7 High-risk fertility behavior
Percent distribution of children born in the five years preceding the survey by category of elevated risk of dying and the percent distribution of currently married women at risk of conceiving a child with an elevated risk of dying, by category of increased risk, Turkmenistan 2000


Note: Risk ratio is the ratio of the proportion dead of births in a specific highrisk category to the proportion dead of births not in any high-risk category. na $=$ Not applicable
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Women were assigned to risk categories according to the status they would have at the birth of a child, if the child were conceived at the time of the survey: age less than 17 years and 3 months, age older than 34 years and 2 months, latest birth less than 15 months ago, and latest birth of order 3 or higher.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Includes sterilized women
time of the survey and had three previous births, the last of which occurred three years earlier, would be classified in the multiple high-risk category for being too old ( 35 or older) and at risk of having a high order birth (greater than 3).

Overall, 73 percent of currently married women have the potential to give birth to a child with an elevated risk of dying. Seventeen percent of women have the potential to give birth to a child with multiple high-risk factors.

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This chapter presents findings on maternal and child health in Turkmenistan. Information is presented on maternal care (antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care), birth weight, vaccinations of children, and child illnesses (respiratory infection, fever, and diarrhea) in the two weeks preceding the survey.

### 10.1 Antenatal Care

The health care that a woman receives during pregnancy is important to her well-being and that of her child. In this chapter, antenatal care is described in terms of whether or not care was received, the type of health care provider, the stage of pregnancy at the time of the first visit to a health provider, and the medical procedures performed during antenatal care visits. Respondents were asked to report the information about antenatal care for the last live births that occurred in the five-year period preceding the survey.

Table 10.1 provides information on whether antenatal care was received and, if so, the type of health care provider who gave the care. Respondents were asked to report all people seen for antenatal care. However, in Table 10.1, receipt of antenatal care is tabulated according to the provider with the highest level of training. Virtually all women who delivered in the last five years (98 percent), received antenatal care from a health care professional, i.e., either a doctor (81 percent) or a trained nurse or midwife (17 percent).

Table 10.1 also indicates that receipt of antenatal care was 97 percent or higher for all population subgroups. However, differentials were found in the type of health professional providing the care. In urban areas, doctors provided 93 percent of antenatal care, while nurses and midwives provided 5 percent. In rural areas, doctors provided 73 percent of antenatal care, while nurses and midwives provided 25 percent of care. Regional differentials were also found. The percentage of mothers who received antenatal care from a doctor was greater in Ashgabad City ( 96 percent) than in any other region (from 71 to 89 percent).

Differences in the source of antenatal care are also evident by birth order. Mothers having a first birth are more likely to receive care from a doctor ( 83 percent) than are mothers having a sixth or higher order birth ( 75 percent).

Mother's education is also associated with source of antenatal care. Women with a higher education are more likely to receive antenatal care from a doctor than are less-educated women.

| Table 10.1 Antenatal care |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey by antenatal care provider during pregnancy, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Antenatal care provider |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Doctor | Trained nurse/ midwife | No one | Other/ missing ${ }^{1}$ | Total | Number |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 78.5 | 19.5 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 126 |
| 20-34 | 81.4 | 16.7 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 2,087 |
| $35+$ | 81.7 | 16.4 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 257 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 83.4 | 15.0 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 614 |
| 2-3 | 81.7 | 16.3 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 1,252 |
| 4-5 | 79.8 | 18.2 | 1.6 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 430 |
| $6+$ | 74.8 | 23.0 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 174 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 92.7 | 5.2 | 1.6 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 1,052 |
| Rural | 72.9 | 25.4 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,417 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 96.4 | 2.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 266 |
| Akhal | 83.9 | 12.8 | 2.1 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 352 |
| Balkan | 89.4 | 7.6 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 215 |
| Dashoguz | 81.0 | 18.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 520 |
| Lebap | 80.5 | 19.3 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 513 |
| Mary | 71.2 | 25.5 | 2.7 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 603 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 78.6 | 19.1 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,715 |
| Secondary-special | 86.7 | 12.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 560 |
| Higher | 89.8 | 8.7 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 194 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 80.2 | 17.8 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 1,992 |
| Uzbek | 86.6 | 12.2 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 295 |
| Other | 84.3 | 13.1 | 2.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 182 |
| Total | 81.3 | 16.8 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 2,470 |
| Note: For women with two or more live births in the five-year period, data refer to the last live birth. If more than one source of antenatal care was mentioned, only the provider with the highest qualifications is considered in this tabulation. ${ }^{1}$ Includes traditional birth attendant. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 10.2 Timing of Antenatal Care

Antenatal care is most beneficial when it is sought early in pregnancy and is continued throughout pregnancy. The initial visit to a women's consulting center should occur before the fourth month of pregnancy so that timely assessment of each woman's health can be made and appropriate procedures can be followed in the management of the pregnancy.

Table 10.2 shows data on the timing and number of visits to health care providers during pregnancy. In Turkmenistan, the majority of women ( 72 percent) make their initial antenatal visit before the fourth month of pregnancy. The median duration of pregnancy at the initial antenatal visit is 3.4 months.

Table 10.2 also indicates that 83 percent of women make four or more antenatal care visits. The median number of antenatal care visits is ten. Overall, in Turkmenistan, antenatal care is initiated early in pregnancy and is continued throughout pregnancy.

| Table 10.2 Number of antenatal care visits and stage of |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey by number of antenatal |  |
|  |  |
| care visits, and by the timing of the Turkmenistan 2000 | visit, |
| Number and timing |  |
| of ANC visits | Total |
| Number of ANC visits |  |
| None | 1.4 |
| 1 visit | 0.8 |
| 2-3 visits | 3.4 |
| $4+$ visits | 82.8 |
| Don't know/missing | 11.7 |
| Total | 100.0 |
| Median number of visits (for those with ANC) | 9.9 |
| Number of months pregnant at the |  |
| time of the first ANC visit |  |
| No antenatal care | 1.4 |
| $<4$ months | 72.4 |
| 4-5 months | 20.6 |
| 6-7 months | 4.4 |
| $8+$ months | 0.5 |
| Don't know/missing | 0.7 |
| Total | 100.0 |
| Median months pregnant at first visit (for those with ANC) | 3.4 |
| Number | 2,470 |
| Note: For women with two or more live births in the fiveyear period, data refer to the last live birth. |  |

### 10.3 Content of Antenatal Care

Pregnancy complications are an important source of maternal and child mortality and morbidity and can be detected if expectant mothers are aware of the signs of pregnancy complications. Pregnancy complications can also be detected through procedures that are typically administered during antenatal visits, such as blood pressure measurement, blood and urine testing, and weighing and measuring the height of mothers.

In the TDHS women were asked whether they had been told about the signs of pregnancy complications during their antenatal visits. They were also asked whether each of a series of standard procedures was done at least once during their most recent pregnancy in the five years before the survey.

Table 10.3 shows the percentage of mothers who were informed about the signs of pregnancy complications and who received routine antenatal care procedures. Overall, 90 percent of the respondents reported that they were informed about the signs of pregnancy complications. Additionally, virtually all mothers (99 percent) reported that blood pressure measurement and urine and blood sampling was performed during their antenatal visits. Height and weight measurement was reported by 95 percent of women.

It is noteworthy that the proportion of women reporting that they received the various antenatal services is high in all components of the population. The greatest difference in the provision of antenatal care was in terms of the percentage of respondents informed about signs of pregnancy complications. The Balkan Region is distinctive in terms of the relatively low percentage of mothers informed about signs of pregnancy complications ( 58 percent).

Provision of iron tables is not a routine practice in Turkmenistan. Thirty-three percent of women received iron tables during pregnancy.

| Table 10.3 Antenatal care content |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women with a live birth in the five years preceding the survey who received antenatal care, by content of antenatal care and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Informed of signs of pregnancy complications | Blood pressure measured | Urine sample given | Blood sample given | Weight measured | Height measured | Received iron tablets | Number |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 84.0 | 97.9 | 98.6 | 98.6 | 95.1 | 95.5 | 33.4 | 123 |
| 20-34 | 89.9 | 99.4 | 98.6 | 99.2 | 94.5 | 93.8 | 32.6 | 2,049 |
| $35+$ | 90.8 | 99.6 | 98.4 | 99.0 | 95.8 | 92.3 | 34.1 | 252 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 87.9 | 98.8 | 98.9 | 99.2 | 95.1 | 94.6 | 32.8 | 604 |
| 2-3 | 90.7 | 99.6 | 98.7 | 99.2 | 94.8 | 94.1 | 32.1 | 1,228 |
| 4-5 | 89.2 | 99.7 | 98.3 | 99.5 | 94.8 | 92.9 | 32.7 | 421 |
| $6+$ | 89.8 | 98.8 | 97.4 | 98.3 | 92.2 | 90.4 | 37.8 | 171 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 86.5 | 99.9 | 99.8 | 99.8 | 98.6 | 97.7 | 32.2 | 1,029 |
| Rural | 92.0 | 99.0 | 97.7 | 98.7 | 91.8 | 90.8 | 33.2 | 1,395 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 84.5 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 99.3 | 98.6 | 36.8 | 262 |
| Akhal | 94.4 | 98.5 | 98.2 | 98.2 | 97.8 | 88.4 | 10.6 | 342 |
| Balkan | 57.8 | 99.2 | 96.6 | 96.6 | 94.4 | 94.1 | 17.6 | 209 |
| Dashoguz | 96.5 | 99.7 | 99.7 | 99.7 | 95.8 | 95.7 | 69.4 | 516 |
| Lebap | 96.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 29.8 | 512 |
| Mary | 88.2 | 98.9 | 96.8 | 99.2 | 85.2 | 87.3 | 19.6 | 583 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 88.9 | 99.1 | 98.2 | 98.9 | 93.6 | 92.2 | 31.8 | 1,677 |
| Secondary-special | 90.5 | 100.0 | 99.4 | 99.7 | 97.4 | 97.5 | 34.6 | 556 |
| Higher | 93.9 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 96.8 | 96.5 | 35.6 | 191 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 89.9 | 99.2 | 98.4 | 99.0 | 94.6 | 93.5 | 29.8 | 1,955 |
| Uzbek | 95.0 | 100.0 | 99.8 | 99.8 | 95.2 | 95.2 | 53.2 | 291 |
| Other | 78.5 | 100.0 | 99.1 | 100.0 | 94.7 | 94.1 | 32.3 | 178 |
| Total | 89.7 | 99.4 | 98.6 | 99.2 | 94.7 | 93.7 | 32.8 | 2,425 |

### 10.4 Place and Assistance during Delivery

The risk of adverse outcomes to both a woman and her child are reduced when childbirth occurs where there is immediate access to emergency medical procedures and trained medical professionals assist with the delivery. In the TDHS, data were collected on the place of delivery and whether trained medical personnel assisted with the delivery. These data were collected for all births occurring in the five years preceding the survey.

Table 10.4 indicates that 95 percent of births are delivered at public health facilities; most at public hospitals ( 89 percent) and a relatively small number at public health clinics ( 6 percent).

| Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by place of delivery, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Background characteristic | Place of delivery |  |  |  |  |  | Total | Number |
|  | Home | Public hospital | Public health clinic | Other public | Private facility/ other | Don't know/ missing |  |  |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 4.6 | 90.7 | 3.8 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 224 |
| 20-34 | 3.9 | 89.3 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 3,075 |
| 35+ | 7.3 | 83.3 | 7.8 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 284 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2.4 | 91.9 | 4.2 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,176 |
| 2-3 | 3.9 | 89.2 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 1,672 |
| 4-5 | 6.9 | 83.8 | 8.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 523 |
| 6+ | 9.3 | 81.8 | 7.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 100.0 | 212 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 1.4 | 95.5 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 1,413 |
| Rural | 6.0 | 84.6 | 8.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 2,171 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.5 | 95.9 | 2.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 356 |
| Akhal | 7.4 | 84.3 | 6.8 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 507 |
| Balkan | 5.1 | 89.2 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 277 |
| Dashoguz | 10.2 | 75.9 | 13.7 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 801 |
| Lebap | 0.5 | 96.1 | 2.8 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 729 |
| Mary | 1.2 | 94.3 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 100.0 | 914 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 5.4 | 87.1 | 6.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 2,523 |
| Secondary-special | 1.4 | 92.5 | 4.8 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 793 |
| Higher | 1.3 | 95.4 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 267 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 3.9 | 89.8 | 5.2 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 2,939 |
| Uzbek | 6.0 | 83.9 | 9.4 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 423 |
| Other | 5.3 | 86.7 | 4.0 | 2.1 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 221 |
| Number of antenatal care visits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| None | (22.2) | (77.8) | (0.0) | (0.0) | (0.0) | (0.0) | 100.0 | 34 |
| 1-3 visits | 13.5 | 75.2 | 8.7 | 4.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 104 |
| 4+ visits | 3.5 | 89.8 | 5.9 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 100.0 | 2,044 |
| Don't know/missing | 2.4 | 92.7 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 288 |
| Total | 4.2 | 88.9 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 3,583 |
| Note: Figures are for births in the period 0-59 months preceding the survey except in the case of number of antenatal care visits. Figures for antenatal care visits are based on last live births in the past five years, i.e., 2,470. <br> Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Only 4 percent of births were reported to occur outside a health facility (primarily at the respondent's home). However, it should be noted that the frequency of home delivery is decidedly higher among older women ( 7 percent), high order births ( 9 percent), and women residing in the Akhal ( 7 percent) and Dashoguz ( 10 percent) regions. Reliance on home delivery is greatest among women who had no antenatal care ( 22 percent) or between one and three antenatal visits (14 percent). These women are a small proportion of women giving birth in the last five years, but they represent a group that is disadvantaged both in terms of antenatal care and place of delivery.

Table 10.5 presents information on the person assisting at delivery for all births during the five years before the survey. Almost all births ( 97 percent) are delivered under the supervision of a medically trained person: 82 percent by a doctor and 15 percent by a nurse or midwife.

| Table 10.5 Assistance during delivery |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by type of assistance during delivery, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Attendant assisting during delivery ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Doctor | Trained nurse/ midwife | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Traditional } \\ & \text { birth } \\ & \text { attendant } \end{aligned}$ | Relative/ other | No one | Don't know/ missing | Total | Number |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 82.0 | 14.9 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 224 |
| 20-34 | 81.9 | 15.4 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 3,075 |
| $35+$ | 80.5 | 16.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 284 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 85.3 | 13.0 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 1,176 |
| 2-3 | 82.0 | 14.9 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 1,672 |
| 4-5 | 76.0 | 20.6 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 523 |
| 6+ | 74.9 | 20.5 | 1.0 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 212 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 88.1 | 10.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 1,413 |
| Rural | 77.7 | 18.9 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 2,171 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 94.5 | 4.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 100.0 | 356 |
| Akhal | 81.8 | 10.9 | 4.2 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 1.9 | 100.0 | 507 |
| Balkan | 77.2 | 19.0 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 277 |
| Dashoguz | 82.9 | 14.2 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 801 |
| Lebap | 73.4 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 729 |
| Mary | 83.9 | 13.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 100.0 | 914 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 80.9 | 15.5 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 2,523 |
| Secondary-special | 82.1 | 17.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 100.0 | 793 |
| Higher | 88.8 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 100.0 | 267 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 81.7 | 15.3 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 2,939 |
| Uzbek | 78.4 | 19.6 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 100.0 | 423 |
| Other | 89.3 | 8.6 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 221 |
| No. of antenatal care visits |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| None | (65.5) | (15.3) | (9.2) | (0.0) | (10.0) | (0.0) | 100.0 | 3.4 |
| 1-3 visits | 72.8 | 19.6 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 100.0 | 104 |
| 4+ visits | 83.7 | 14.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 2,044 |
| Don't know/missing | 79.0 | 17.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 100.0 | 288 |
| Total | 81.8 | 15.4 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 3,583 |
| Note: Figures are for births in the period 0-59 months preceding the survey, except in the case of antenatal care visits. Figures for antenatal care visits are based on last live births in the last five years, i.e., 2,740. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. <br> ${ }^{1}$ If the respondent mentioned more than one attendant, only the most qualified attendant is considered. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Although trained medical staff attend the delivery of most births, differentials by urban-rural residence and by region exist in the percentage of deliveries attended by a doctor or, alternatively, by a nurse or midwife. As might be expected, doctors attend more deliveries in urban areas (88 percent) than in rural areas ( 78 percent). Similarly, doctors attend more deliveries in Ashgabad City ( 95 percent) than in the other regions (between 73 and 84 percent). As observed with antenatal care, the likelihood of delivery occurring under a doctor's supervision increases with a women's education.

### 10.5 Delivery Characteristics

The TDHS obtained information on a number of other indices of maternal and child health, including whether delivery was by caesarean section and the child's birth weight. Respondents were asked whether their children were weighed at the time of birth, and if so, how much each baby weighed. They were also asked for their subjective assessment of their baby's size at birth (very large, larger than average, average size, smaller than average, or very small).

Delivery by caesarean section is generally performed when a woman has medical problems or experiences complications at the time of delivery. Table 10.6 shows that 3 percent of births in the five-year period before the survey were delivered by caesarean section. Delivery by caesarean section was more common among births to women age 35 and older, women residing in urban areas, women with a higher education, and women of other ethnicity. The rate of caesarean section among births in Ashgabad City (8 percent) is significantly higher than among births in the other regions (from 2 to 4 percent).

Birth weight is a major determinant of infant and child mortality. In the TDHS, for all births during the five-year period preceding the survey, mothers were first asked to subjectively assess the size of their baby and then asked to report the actual weight if the baby had been weighed after delivery. Table 10.6 shows that the majority of babies were weighed at birth ( 97 percent). The incidence of low birth weight (i.e., less than 2.5 kilograms), which is considered to elevate the risk of early infant death, was 6 percent.

### 10.6 Postnatal Care

Because rates of maternal and infant mortality are particularly high in the first few days after delivery, safe motherhood programs stress the importance of postnatal care within two days of delivery. In the TDHS, all women whose last live birth in the five years preceding the survey occurred outside a health facility were asked whether they received postnatal care.

Deliveries outside a health facility constitute a small percentage of all deliveries in Turkmenistan, on the order of 5 percent. Table 10.7 indicates that the majority of the women delivering outside a health facility ( 72 percent) had a postnatal health check by either a doctor ( 30 percent) or a nurse or midwife ( 42 percent). Additionally, the majority of these women (61 percent) received postnatal care within two days of delivery.

| Table 10.6 Delivery characteristics: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of live births in the five years preceding the survey by whether the delivery was by caesarean section, by birth weight, and by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Birth weight |  |  |  | Size at birth |  |  |  | Total |
| Background characteristic | Had caesarean section | Not weighted | $<2.5 \mathrm{~kg}$ | $2.5+\mathrm{kg}$ | Does not know/ missing | Very small | Smaller than average | Average or larger | Does not know/ missing |  |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <20 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 8.9 | 85.9 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 11.4 | 82.4 | 3.2 | 224 |
| 20-34 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 5.6 | 89.7 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 11.0 | 84.7 | 2.5 | 3,075 |
| 35+ | 5.8 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 89.1 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 7.4 | 86.8 | 4.0 | 284 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 7.7 | 88.6 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 15.1 | 81.0 | 2.0 | 1,176 |
| 2-3 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 5.0 | 90.8 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 9.0 | 86.5 | 2.4 | 1,672 |
| 4-5 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 4.4 | 89.3 | 3.5 | 1.8 | 7.6 | 88.0 | 2.6 | 523 |
| 6+ | 4.5 | 6.8 | 3.7 | 82.5 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 8.1 | 83.7 | 8.1 | 212 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 4.2 | 0.9 | 4.7 | 92.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 9.6 | 86.8 | 1.9 | 1,413 |
| Rural | 2.4 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 87.3 | 2.8 | 1.9 | 11.5 | 83.4 | 3.1 | 2,171 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 8.1 | 0.9 | 2.9 | 95.6 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 6.9 | 91.1 | 1.1 | 356 |
| Akhal | 2.7 | 5.3 | 3.2 | 89.6 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 10.4 | 82.4 | 5.2 | 507 |
| Balkan | 3.8 | 0.6 | 7.9 | 86.8 | 4.6 | 2.0 | 16.9 | 77.3 | 3.7 | 277 |
| Dashoguz | 2.5 | 5.6 | 6.2 | 83.3 | 5.0 | 2.1 | 12.8 | 81.1 | 4.0 | 801 |
| Lebap | 3.3 | 0.3 | 6.3 | 92.6 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 6.6 | 92.1 | 0.2 | 729 |
| Mary | 1.6 | 1.1 | 6.7 | 90.4 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 12.0 | 83.2 | 2.3 | 914 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 2.2 | 3.2 | 6.4 | 87.6 | 2.8 | 1.8 | 12.2 | 82.7 | 3.2 | 2,523 |
| Secondary-special | 5.1 | 0.8 | 4.3 | 93.4 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 8.0 | 88.9 | 1.1 | 793 |
| Higher | 5.5 | 1.1 | 3.4 | 94.4 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 91.5 | 1.3 | 267 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.7 | 2.3 | 5.5 | 89.5 | 2.7 | 1.9 | 10.8 | 84.4 | 2.8 | 2,939 |
| Uzbek | 2.7 | 3.0 | 7.5 | 88.9 | 0.6 | 1.8 | 10.6 | 85.8 | 1.8 | 423 |
| Other | 9.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 88.8 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 9.5 | 87.5 | 1.6 | 221 |
| Total | 3.1 | 2.5 | 5.7 | 89.4 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 10.7 | 84.8 | 2.6 | 3,583 |

### 10.7 Vaccinations

The Ministry of Health and Medical Industry has adopted the child immunization guidelines developed by the World Health Organization. The guidelines indicate that before 12 months of age, a child should receive a BCG vaccination to protect against tuberculosis; three doses of DPT/DT to protect against diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus; three doses of the polio vaccine; and a measles vaccination.

| Table 10.7 Timing of postnatal care and care providers |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who had a live birth outside of a health facility in the five years preceding the survey by timing and type of postnatal care provider, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |
| Background characteristic | Percent |
| Timing of first postnatal checkup |  |
| Within 2 days of birth | 61.3 |
| 3-7 days of birth | 10.8 |
| 4+ weeks after birth | 0.7 |
| Don't know/missing | 1.3 |
| Did not receive postnatal care | 25.9 |
| Provider of postnatal care ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| Doctor | 29.6 |
| Trained nurse/midwife | 42.1 |
| Traditional birth attendant | 0.6 |
| Don't know/missing | 1.9 |
| No postnatal care | 25.9 |
| Total | 100.0 |
| Number | 115 |
| Note: For women with two or more live births in the five-year period, data refer to the last live birth. ${ }^{1}$ If the respondent mentioned more than one provider, only the most qualified is considered in this tabulation. |  |

In Turkmenistan, as in many countries of the former Soviet Union, child vaccination data are recorded on health cards maintained at health facilities. The supervisors of the TDHS interviewing teams were responsible for collecting these data. With the help of health facility personnel, usually a nurse or archive clerk, the team supervisors obtained the health cards of the surviving children of survey respondents who were born within the last five years. The team supervisors recorded the vaccination data for each child on forms designed for that purpose.

Table 10.8 shows rates of vaccination coverage for children $12-23$ months of age, (i.e., children who should be fully vaccinated). The rates are based on the information from the health cards found for 94 percent of all children 12-23 months of age. The rates indicate that the childhood immunization program in Turkmenistan has achieved a high level of coverage. BCG vaccination and an initial dose of polio (polio 0), both of which are given in delivery hospitals, were found to be nearly universal ( 99 percent). Almost all children ( 99 percent) had received the first doses of polio and DPT/DT. Coverage for the second and third doses of polio and DPT/DT was also very high ( 98 and 97 percent). Ninety-seven percent of children had received a measles vaccination. Because of the high levels of coverage for BCG, measles, and individual doses of polio and DPT/DT vaccines, the percentage of children age 12-23 months who had received all WHO-recommended vaccinations was high ( 90 percent).

| $\underline{\text { Table 10.8 Vaccinations by background characteristics }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Among children age 12-23 months with a vaccination card, the percentage who had received specific vaccines by the time of the survey by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Percentage of children who had received: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Number of children |
| characteristic | BCG | DPT 1 | DPT 2 | DPT 3 | Polio $0^{1}$ | Polio 1 | Polio 2 | Polio 3 | Measles | All ${ }^{2}$ |  |
| Sex of child |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 99.1 | 99.5 | 98.2 | 98.2 | 98.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 98.5 | 92.7 | 90.4 | 287 |
| Female | 99.0 | 98.9 | 97.9 | 97.6 | 99.0 | 98.3 | 97.0 | 95.9 | 93.2 | 89.8 | 322 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 98.3 | 100.0 | 99.1 | 99.1 | 96.7 | 99.9 | 99.3 | 98.4 | 89.6 | 86.2 | 208 |
| 2-3 | 99.2 | 98.6 | 96.8 | 96.8 | 99.2 | 98.2 | 97.4 | 96.5 | 94.4 | 92.0 | 287 |
| 4-5 | 00.0 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 96.1 | 95.6 | 92.4 | 86 |
| 6+ | (100.0) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (96.3) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (97.0) | (97.0) | (94.1) | (91.1) | 28 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 99.8 | 99.2 | 97.0 | 97.0 | 98.5 | 99.0 | 98.1 | 96.6 | 91.7 | 89.8 | 250 |
| Rural | 98.6 | 99.2 | 98.8 | 98.5 | 98.6 | 99.2 | 98.6 | 97.5 | 93.8 | 90.2 | 358 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | (100.0) | (100.0) | (96.9) | (96.9) | (94.4) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (96.8) | (90.6) | (87.4) | 56 |
| Akhal | 97.6 | 100.0 | 97.5 | 96.3 | 97.6 | 98.8 | 97.5 | 96.1 | 81.8 | 79.3 | 85 |
| Balkan | 98.8 | 97.3 | 96.1 | 96.1 | 98.8 | 100.0 | 98.3 | 96.9 | 91.3 | 88.3 | 49 |
| Dashoguz | 00.0 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 100.0 | 98.9 | 98.9 | 97.6 | 92.9 | 91.0 | 124 |
| Lebap | 00.0 | 99.1 | 97.3 | 97.3 | 100.0 | 99.1 | 97.4 | 96.6 | 98.3 | 94.8 | 143 |
| Mary | 97.9 | 99.0 | 99.0 | 99.0 | 97.9 | 99.0 | 99.0 | 97.9 | 95.5 | 92.4 | 152 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 99.0 | 99.5 | 98.4 | 98.2 | 99.0 | 99.4 | 98.9 | 97.4 | 91.9 | 88.7 | 420 |
| Secondary-special | 98.8 | 97.9 | 96.2 | 96.2 | 98.8 | 97.9 | 96.2 | 95.4 | 95.1 | 92.2 | 138 |
| Higher | (100.0) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (93.7) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (99.4) | (95.8) | (95.3) | 51 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 99.2 | 99.5 | 98.4 | 98.2 | 98.5 | 99.4 | 98.5 | 97.2 | 92.8 | 90.3 | 494 |
| Uzbek | $00.0$ | $100.0$ | $98.3$ | $98.3$ | $100.0$ | $99.0$ | $99.0$ | $97.4$ | $93.8$ | 89.5 | 77 |
| Other | (95.9) | (94.2) | (92.6) | (92.6) | (95.9) | (95.9) | (95.9) | (95.1) | (93.4) | (88.5) | 39 |
| Total | 99.1 | 99.2 | 98.1 | 97.9 | 98.5 | 99.1 | 98.4 | 97.1 | 92.9 | 90.0 | 609 |
| Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. <br> ${ }^{1}$ Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth. <br> ${ }^{2}$ Children who are fully vaccinated, i.e., those who have received BCG, measles, and three doses each of DPT and polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 10.8 Acute Respiratory Infection and Fever

Acute respiratory infection (ARI) is a primary cause of morbidity among children and a leading cause of infant mortality throughout the world. In the TDHS, mothers were asked whether their children under five years of age had been ill with a cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing in the two weeks preceding the survey. These symptoms are compatible with ARI. It should be noted that the morbidity data collected in the TDHS are subjective in the sense that they are based on the mother's perception of illness without validation by medical personnel. Also, the data apply to the period from June to September, while the peak prevalence of ARI is in midwinter.

Table 10.9 indicates that 0.8 percent of children under five years of age were ill with a cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing in the two weeks preceding the survey. Differentials in the prevalence of ARI exist by background characteristics, in particular by age, urban-rural

| Table 10.9 Prevalence of symptoms of acute respiratory infection and fever |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of children under five years of age who had a cough accompanied by short rapid breathing (symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI)) during the two weeks preceding the survey, and the percentage of children who had a fever during the two weeks preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Percentage of children with symptoms of ARI | Percentage of children with fever | Number of children |
| Child's age |  |  |  |
| $<6$ months | 0.5 | 2.1 | 356 |
| 6-11 months | 0.3 | 7.5 | 336 |
| 12-23 months | 0.8 | 5.3 | 646 |
| 24-35 months | 1.2 | 5.2 | 629 |
| 35-47 months | 1.0 | 3.7 | 690 |
| 48-59 months | 0.6 | 0.8 | 635 |
| Sex of child |  |  |  |
| Male | 1.0 | 4.3 | 1,664 |
| Female | 0.5 | 3.6 | 1,628 |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Urban | 1.3 | 6.3 | 1,310 |
| Rural | 0.4 | 2.5 | 1,982 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 3.2 | 9.2 | 332 |
| Akhal | 0.0 | 3.0 | 466 |
| Balkan | 1.3 | 4.6 | 259 |
| Dashoguz | 0.0 | 0.5 | 735 |
| Lebap | 0.2 | 2.6 | 692 |
| Mary | 1.3 | 6.5 | 808 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 0.6 | 3.1 | 2,305 |
| Secondary-special | 1.2 | 5.6 | 742 |
| Higher | 1.5 | 7.0 | 245 |
| Total | 0.8 | 4.0 | 3,292 |

residence and region. The reported prevalence of ARI symptoms is higher for urban than for rural areas and for Ashgabad City than for any other region. Whether these differentials reflect genuine differences in morbidity or are due to differences in perceptions of illness cannot be ascertained from these data.

Table 10.9 also indicates that 4 percent of children had an episode of fever during the two weeks prior to the survey. Differentials in the prevalence of fever show a pattern similar to that for symptoms of ARI. The reported prevalence of fever is higher for urban than for rural areas and for Ashgabad City than for any other region.

Overall, 51 percent of children with symptoms of ARI or fever were taken to a health facility or health care provider for treatment.

### 10.9 Diarrhea

Dehydration caused by severe diarrhea is a major cause of morbidity among young children and an important cause of infant and child death.

Rehydration through the prompt increase in a child's fluid intake is a simple and effective procedure to prevent diarrhea from developing into a life-threatening illness. Increased fluid intake should be administered in the form of a sugar, salt, and water solution, i.e., oral rehydration salts (ORS). An ORS product called Rehydron is widely available throughout Turkmenistan.

Women who had had a birth in the past five years were asked some basic questions about how to care for a child with diarrhea; namely, if the intake of liquids and solid foods should be increased and if they had ever heard of Rehydron as a treatment for diarrhea. As indicated in Table 10.10 , most women reported that they had heard of Rehydron (94 percent).

Mothers of children under age five were also asked whether their children had an episode of diarrhea in the past two weeks and, if so, whether Rehydron or any other treatment was given for the diarrhea and whether fluid intake was increased or decreased.

Table 10.11 indicates that 3 percent of children under five had diarrhea in the two weeks preceding the survey. The age pattern of diarrhea shows a peak at 6-11 and 12-23 months (i.e., around the time when a child begins to crawl and experience more exposure to the environment).

| Table 10.10 Knowledge of ORS packets |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of mothers with births in the five years preceding the survey who know about ORS packets for treatment of diarrhea in young children, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Percentage of mothers who know about ORS packets | Number of mothers |
| Age |  |  |
| 15-19 | (85.3) | 42 |
| 20-24 | 92.5 | 579 |
| 25-29 | 95.1 | 831 |
| 30-34 | 94.8 | 581 |
| 35+ | 95.4 | 437 |
| Residence |  |  |
| Urban | 95.2 | 1,052 |
| Rural | 93.6 | 1,417 |
| Region |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 96.6 | 266 |
| Akhal | 95.0 | 352 |
| Balkan | 92.4 | 215 |
| Dashoguz | 92.8 | 520 |
| Lebap | 98.2 | 513 |
| Mary | 91.6 | 603 |
| Education |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 93.0 | 1,715 |
| Secondary-special | 96.8 | 560 |
| Higher | 99.0 | 194 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |
| Turkmen | 95.2 | 1,992 |
| Uzbek | 92.1 | 295 |
| Other | 88.5 | 182 |
| Total | 94.3 | 2,470 |
| Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. <br> ORS = Oral rehydration salts |  |  |


| Table 10.11 Prevalence of diarrhea |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of children under five years of age with diarrhea during the two weeks preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Diarrhea in preceding 2 weeks | Number of children |
| Child's age |  |  |
| $<6$ months | 1.5 | 356 |
| 6-11 months | 6.5 | 336 |
| 12-23 months | 6.2 | 646 |
| 24-35 months | 1.9 | 629 |
| 36-47 months | 2.4 | 690 |
| 48-59 months | 1.5 | 635 |
| Sex |  |  |
| Male | 3.3 | 1,664 |
| Female | 3.1 | 1,628 |
| Residence |  |  |
| Urban | 4.7 | 1,310 |
| Rural | 2.2 | 1,982 |
| Region |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 4.7 | 332 |
| Akhal | 2.1 | 466 |
| Balkan | 3.2 | 259 |
| Dashoguz | 1.5 | 735 |
| Lebap | 3.2 | 692 |
| Mary | 4.8 | 808 |
| Education |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 2.9 | 2,305 |
| Secondary-special | 3.2 | 742 |
| Higher | 6.2 | 245 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |
| Turkmen | 2.8 | 2,681 |
| Uzbek | 3.6 | 401 |
| Other | 8.1 | 210 |
| Total | 3.2 | 3,292 |

Table 10.12 shows that 39 percent of children with diarrhea were taken to a health facility for treatment, 47 percent of children received Rehydron, and 62 percent of children received increased fluids. Overall, 76 percent of children with diarrhea received some form of oral rehydration therapy (Rehydron or increased fluids).

Table 10.13 summarizes the feeding practices that mothers followed when children had diarrhea. Ninety-one percent of children with diarrhea were given fluids in either the same or increased amounts, whereas only 8 percent were given reduced amounts of fluids. Alternatively, mothers reported a tendency to give less food to children with diarrhea.

### 10.12 Treatment of diarrhea

Among children under five years who had diarrhea in the two weeks preceding the survey, the percentage taken for treatment to a health provider, the percentage who received oral rehydration therapy (ORT) (solution prepared from ORS packets or increased fluids), Turkmenistan 2000

| Treatment <br> received | Percentage <br> of children |
| :--- | :---: |
| Taken to a health facility or provider |  |
| Received oral rehydration salts <br> (Rehydron) | 38.5 |
| Received increased fluids <br> Received ORT (ORS or increased fluids) | 46.7 |
| Number of children | 61.5 |
| Includes health center, hospital, clinic, and private <br> doctor. |  |

### 10.13 Feeding practices during diarrhea

Percent distribution of children under five years of age who had diarrhea in the two weeks preceding the survey, by amount of liquid given and amount of food given compared with normal practice, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable and category | Total |
| :--- | ---: |
|  |  |
| Amount of liquid offered |  |
| Same as usual | 29.7 |
| More | 61.5 |
| Much less | 7.8 |
| Don't know/missing | 1.0 |
| Amount of food offered |  |
| Same as usual | 31.5 |
| More | 4.5 |
| Much less | 62.4 |
| Don't know/missing | 1.6 |
| Total | 100.0 |
| Number | 105 |

## NUTRITION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

G.R. Dzhorayeva, G.Y. Khodzhayeva, and T.R. Tagirova

This chapter looks at several important aspects of the nutritional status of children and their mothers in Turkmenistan. It covers the following topics: 1) infant feeding practices, including breastfeeding and complementary feeding patterns and the prevalence of bottle-feeding; 2) current nutritional status of children under age five as well as that of their mothers based on anthropometric data (height and weight) collected in the survey; 3) levels of consumption of foods rich in vitamin A multivitamin supplementation, and the iodization of salt used in the household.

### 11.1 Breastfeeding and Supplementation

The pattern of infant feeding has an important influence on the health of children. Feeding practices are the principal determinant of a young child's nutritional status, and poor nutritional status has been shown to increase the risk of illness and death among children. Breastfeeding practices also have an effect on the mother's fertility. Frequent breastfeeding for long durations is associated with longer periods of postpartum amenorrhea and thus longer birth intervals and lower fertility.

Early initiation of breastfeeding is beneficial for a number of reasons. For the mother, early suckling promotes the release of a hormone that helps the uterus achieve a contracted state and reduces the risk of postpartum hemorrhage. For the child, it is important to receive the colostrum, which is contained in the first breast milk after delivery. Colostrum is rich in antibodies that are needed since the child's own immune system is immature.

According to the results in Table 11.1, almost all Turkmen children are breastfed for some period. Differentials in the proportion of children ever breastfed are small, with 95 percent or more of children in every subgroup reported as ever breastfed.

Among Turkmen children who were ever breastfed, Table 11.1 shows that only 18 percent were put to the breast within an hour after delivery, and 76 percent were breastfed within the first day. Initiation within an hour of birth is more likely among urban women ( 21 percent) than among rural women (16 percent) and more likely in Akhal Region (33 percent) and Balkan Region (41 percent) than in other regions.

Prelacteal feeding is the practice of giving other liquids to a child during the period after birth before the mother's milk is flowing freely. Overall, according to Table 11.1, 18 percent of children born in the five years prior to the survey received prelacteal feeds during the first three days after birth. Infants in the Balkan and Lebap regions as well as infants born to mothers with secondary or higher education were much more likely to have received prelacteal feeds than other children.

| Percentage of children born in the five years preceding the survey who were ever breastfed, who started breastfeeding within one hour and within one day of birth, and who received a prelacteal feed, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Percen started b | who feeding | Percentage who |  |
| Background characteristic | Percentage ever breastfed | Within 1 hour of birth | With in 1 day of birth ${ }^{1}$ | prelacteal feeds ${ }^{2}$ | Number of children |
| Sex of child |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 97.1 | 17.0 | 75.1 | 18.9 | 1,830 |
| Female | 97.2 | 19.1 | 76.5 | 16.7 | 1,753 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 97.1 | 20.6 | 75.2 | 19.2 | 1,413 |
| Rural | 97.2 | 16.3 | 76.1 | 16.9 | 2,171 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 95.7 | 18.4 | 72.2 | 17.9 | 356 |
| Akhal | 96.9 | 33.0 | 84.2 | 14.4 | 507 |
| Balkan | 97.5 | 41.1 | 82.9 | 22.8 | 277 |
| Dashoguz | 98.7 | 16.7 | 85.6 | 4.8 | 801 |
| Lebap | 98.4 | 8.2 | 67.4 | 31.8 | 729 |
| Mary | 95.4 | 11.5 | 68.1 | 18.3 | 914 |
| Total | 97.1 | 18.0 | 75.8 | 17.8 | 3,583 |
| Note: Figures are based on all children born in the five years preceding the survey, whether living or dead at the time of the interview. <br> ${ }^{1}$ Includes children who started breastfeeding within one hour of birth <br> ${ }^{2}$ Children given something other than breast milk during the first three days of life before the mother started breastfeeding regularly; excludes children given plain water. |  |  |  |  |  |

### 11.2 Breastfeeding by Age

According to the UNICEF recommendation, during the first six months of life, children should be exclusively breastfed; that is, they should be given only breast milk and should not receive other complementary liquids (including plain water) or solids. Early complementary feeding is discouraged for a number of reasons. The early introduction of other liquids or foods increases the exposure of an infant to pathogens that may cause diarrheal disease. Malnutrition is another risk. The complementary foods given to a child may not provide all of the calories that the infant needs, particularly if they are watered down. Since the production of breast milk is influenced by the intensity and frequency of suckling, early complementary feeding may reduce breast milk output, again increasing the risk of malnutrition.

To obtain information on feeding patterns, mothers were asked about the breastfeeding status of all children under the age of five in the 24 -hour period before the survey and about what other (if any) liquids or solids had been given to the child during the period. These data were used to derive the information on the age patterns of breastfeeding and supplementation presented in Table 11.2 and Figure 11.1.

The data shown in Table 11.2 and Figure 11.1 indicate that breastfeeding continues for most Turkmen children beyond the first year of life. At age 12-13 months, about three-quarters of all children are still being breastfed, and 61 percent of the children $16-17$ months continue to be breastfed. Weaning takes place rapidly after this age, and about one in six children age 2425 months are still breastfed.


Exclusive breastfeeding is not common in very early infancy in Turkmenistan. Only a minority of children are exclusively breastfed throughout the first six months of life. Table 11.2 shows that among infants under two months of age, 27 percent received only breast milk. The proportion exclusively breastfed then dropped off to just 8 percent among children 2-3 months of age, and 5 percent among children 4-5 months of age.

It is important to introduce complementary foods by age 6 months since at that stage, the mother's breast milk no longer provides adequate nutrition for the child. The results in Table 11.2 indicate that most older children were receiving other foods or milk in addition to breast milk. At 8-9 months, however, about one in six children was not being given complementary foods or other milk in addition to breast milk.

The extent to which Turkmen children are bottle-fed is also examined in Table 11.2 Bottlefeeding is discouraged for the potential negative effects that it may have on the child's health. Feeding with a bottle with a nipple increases the risk of illness, especially diarrheal disease among young children because it is difficult to properly sterilize the nipple. The use of a bottle with a nipple can also reduce the period when the mother is not at risk of conception since bottle-feeding is associated with a lessening of the intensity of breastfeeding and a consequent shortening of the period of postpartum amenorrhea.

Figure 11.1 Distribution of Children by Breastfeeding (BF) Status According to Age


Overall, only a minority of Turkmen children are fed with a bottle. Only about one-third of children under the age of 9 months are fed with a bottle. With increasing age, the percentage of children fed with a bottle decreases.

### 11.3 Duration and Frequency of Breastfeeding

Median durations of breastfeeding are presented in Table 11.3. The table also includes estimates of the mean duration of breastfeeding for all children under age three years. Estimates of the mean durations are based on current status information ${ }^{1}$ and are presented to allow comparison with other studies of breastfeeding that report mean rather than median durations.

The median duration of breastfeeding is 17.5 months. Children are exclusively breastfed or predominantly breastfed for less than the recommended 6 months ( 0.5 months and 4.5 months, respectively).

Considering differentials in the median duration of breastfeeding, there were no differences between male and female children or between urban and rural children. By place of residence, the shortest median duration of breastfeeding was in Ashgabad City (15.1 months).

[^16]| Table 11.3 Median duration and frequency of breastfeeding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Median duration of any breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, and predominant breastfeeding among children under three years of age living with their mother, and the percentage of breastfeeding children under six months who were breastfed six or more times in the 24 hours preceding the survey, and the mean number of feeds (day/night), by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median duration of breastfeeding among children under 3 years of age ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  | Children under six months ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Any breastfeeding | Exclusive breastfeeding | Predominant breastfeeding | Number of children | Percentage breastfed $6+$ times in last 24 hours | Mean number of day feeds | Mean number of night feeds | Number of children |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 17.9 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 996 | 95.6 | 6.2 | 2.9 | 181 |
| Female | 17.3 | 0.5 | 4.6 | 969 | 97.0 | 6.3 | 3.2 | 159 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 17.2 | 0.6 | 4.2 | 774 | 98.8 | 6.7 | 3.4 | 121 |
| Rural | 17.8 | 0.4 | 4.6 | 1,190 | 94.8 | 6.0 | 2.9 | 219 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 15.1 | 1.5 | 4.0 | 198 | * | * | * | 40 |
| Akhal | 17.5 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 285 | (95.5) | (5.7) | (3.4) | 48 |
| Balkan | 20.8 | 0.8 | 4.8 | 156 | 90.5 | 6.9 | 2.6 | 24 |
| Dashoguz | 19.2 | 0.5 | 5.4 | 441 | 98.5 | 6.6 | 2.9 | 82 |
| Lebap | 18.0 | 0.4 | 4.9 | 419 | 97.1 | 6.5 | 2.6 | 81 |
| Mary | 16.7 | 0.4 | 3.3 | 466 | (92.8) | (5.5) | (3.1) | 65 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 17.7 | 0.5 | 4.5 | 1,406 | 96.1 | 6.3 | 3.1 | 257 |
| Secondary-special | 17.1 | 0.4 | 3.6 | 413 | 97.5 | 6.6 | 2.9 | 59 |
| Higher | 16.2 | 0.6 | 5.6 | 145 | * | * | * | 24 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 17.6 | 0.5 | 4.5 | 1,600 | 96.1 | 6.3 | 3.1 | 279 |
| Uzbek | 17.6 | 0.5 | 5.3 | 240 | 96.0 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 45 |
| Other | 15.6 | 0.5 | 3.2 | 124 | * | * | * | 16 |
| Total | 17.5 | 0.5 | 4.5 | 1,965 | 96.2 | 6.3 | 3.1 | 340 |
| Mean for all children | 18.3 | 1.6 | 5.3 | na | na | na | na | na |
| Note: Medians and means are based on current status. Figures in parenthesis are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. <br> na $=$ Not applicable <br> ${ }^{1}$ All children whether living or dead <br> ${ }^{2}$ Excludes children for whom there is no valid answer on the number of times breastfed. <br> ${ }^{3}$ Either exclusively breastfed or received breast milk and plain water, liquids, and/or juice only. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The frequency of breastfeeding during the 24-hour period before the survey is examined in Table 11.3. The duration of postpartum amenorrhea for a mother is related not only to the duration of breastfeeding but also to the frequency of breastfeeding.

Among children under age 6 months, 96 percent were breastfed at least 6 times during the 24-hour period before the survey. Mothers reported a mean number of 6.3 daytime feeds and 3.1 nighttime feeds. No significant differences in the measures of breastfeeding frequency were observed by background characteristics.

### 11.4 Complementary Foods

More detailed information on the types of foods given to children during the 24-hour period before the survey is shown in Table 11.4 for children under age 3, according to the breastfeeding status of the child. Overall, the results suggest that Turkmen mothers are much less likely to give a child infant formula than other types of milk (e.g., fresh milk or powdered milk) or other liquids. As expected, milk supplements are introduced at an earlier age among nonbreastfeeding children than among breastfeeding children.

Looking at semisolid or solid foods, fruits and vegetables (e.g., apples/sauce, pears, tomatoes) are the most common weaning foods, followed by grain-based foods (e.g., porridge), meat, fish, and poultry. In general, all of these foods are introduced earlier into the diets of nonbreastfeeding children than breastfeeding children, and especially during the first year of life, nonbreastfeeding children are much more likely than breastfeeding children to be given these types of foods. After age 12 months, breastfeeding children continue to be less likely than nonbreastfeeding children to receive most foods in the 24 -hour period before the survey.

## Table 11.4 Foods consumed by children in preceding 24 hours

Percentage of youngest child under three years of age living with the mother who received specific foods in the 24 hours preceding the interview, by breastfeeding status and child's age, Turkmenistan 2000

| Child's age in months | Infant formula | Other milk/ cheese/ yogurt | Liquids other than water | Grains/ bread cereal/ porridge | Fruit vegetables | Beans/ legumes/ lentils | Meats/ fish/ poultry eggs | Any solid food | Foods rich in vitamin $A$ | Number of children |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $<2$ | 2.2 | 0.9 | 34.5 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 93 |
| 2-3 | 6.6 | 12.1 | 64.4 | 3.0 | 5.7 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 7.4 | 4.3 | 129 |
| 4-5 | 6.5 | 34.9 | 79.0 | 30.9 | 31.5 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 43.2 | 27.9 | 118 |
| 6-7 | 5.4 | 44.9 | 89.6 | 53.6 | 57.1 | 2.2 | 26.6 | 68.4 | 54.4 | 97 |
| 8-9 | 8.6 | 78.1 | 95.4 | 83.7 | 90.4 | 14.7 | 51.9 | 93.3 | 87.0 | 88 |
| 10-11 | 3.2 | 82.1 | 95.8 | 90.6 | 91.5 | 15.8 | 61.3 | 95.8 | 83.5 | 108 |
| 12-13 | 2.5 | 91.5 | 98.4 | 95.5 | 95.4 | 13.8 | 74.5 | 98.4 | 88.4 | 101 |
| 14-15 | 3.0 | 85.0 | 96.3 | 96.8 | 96.3 | 25.4 | 84.6 | 99.1 | 86.7 | 71 |
| 16-17 | 0.0 | 91.4 | 99.0 | 96.9 | 99.0 | 29.0 | 81.9 | 100.0 | 95.2 | 62 |
| 18-23 | 4.2 | 94.6 | 99.3 | 99.3 | 98.1 | 21.8 | 82.9 | 99.3 | 96.8 | 96 |
| 24-35 | 0.0 | 91.2 | 100.0 | 98.7 | 100.0 | 17.7 | 84.1 | 100.0 | 93.3 | 53 |
| <4 | 4.8 | 7.4 | 51.8 | 1.7 | 4.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 4.9 | 3.1 | 222 |
| 4 to 5 | 6.5 | 34.9 | 79.0 | 30.9 | 31.5 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 43.2 | 27.9 | 118 |
| 6 to 9 | 6.9 | 60.6 | 92.3 | 67.9 | 73.0 | 8.2 | 38.6 | 80.2 | 69.9 | 185 |
| Total | 4.3 | 59.7 | 84.6 | 62.6 | 64.2 | 11.1 | 45.0 | 68.3 | 60.1 | 1,016 |
| NONBREASTFEEDING CHILDREN ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0-11 | 44.2 | 75.1 | 90.4 | 76.8 | 76.2 | 7.9 | 45.8 | 80.0 | 65.8 | 59 |
| 12-15 | (7.1) | (97.8) | (100.0) | (100.0) | (93.9) | (28.2) | (92.6) | (100.0) | (88.0) | 56 |
| 16-17 | (9.5) | (100.0) | (98.2) | (94.9) | (100.0) | (22.4) | (87.6) | (100.0) | (91.6) | 40 |
| 18-23 | 3.5 | 94.2 | 98.5 | 96.8 | 100.0 | 29.1 | 91.2 | 100.0 | 94.5 | 220 |
| 24-29 | 2.0 | 95.5 | 99.6 | 99.1 | 100.0 | 32.8 | 93.0 | 100.0 | 95.2 | 295 |
| 30-35 | 2.3 | 92.1 | 100.0 | 96.6 | 99.8 | 28.6 | 95.9 | 100.0 | 94.8 | 280 |
| Total | 5.7 | 93.2 | 98.9 | 96.3 | 98.1 | 28.4 | 90.3 | 98.8 | 92.5 | 949 |

[^17]After age 12 months, about 90 percent of breastfeeding and nonbreastfeeding children receive foods rich in vitamin A.

### 11.5 Nutritional Status of Children

Nutritional status is a primary determinant of a child's health and well-being. Both inadequate or unbalanced diets and chronic illness are associated with poor nutritional status among children. The TDHS 2000 included the collection of anthropometric data that permit an assessment of the nutritional status of young children in Turkmenistan.

To assess nutritional status, measurements of height and weight ${ }^{2}$ were obtained for all children living in the household who were under age 5 . Using these anthropometric measurements as well as information on the ages of the children, three standard indices of physical growth describing the nutritional status of children were constructed:

- height-for-age
- weight-for height
- weight-for-age

As recommended by the World Health Organization, evaluation of nutritional status in this report is based on the comparison of the three indices for the population of children in the survey with those reported for a reference population of well-nourished children. The use of a reference population to identity malnourished children is based on the finding that well-nourished children in all population groups follow similar growth patterns and thus exhibit similar distributions of height and weight at given ages (Martorell and Habicht, 1986). One of the most commonly used reference populations, and the one used for this study, is the international reference population defined by the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and accepted by WHO and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Each of the indices measures somewhat different aspects of nutritional status. The height-for-age index provides an indicator of linear growth retardation. Children whose height-for-age is below minus two standard deviations ( -2 SD ) from the median of the reference population are considered short for their age, or stunted. Children who are below minus three standard deviations ( -3 SD) from the reference population are considered severely stunted. Stunting of a child's growth may be the result of a failure to receive adequate nutrition over a long period of time or of the effects of recurrent or chronic illness. Height-for-age therefore represents a measure of the outcome of malnutrition in a population over a long period and does not vary appreciably with the season of data collection.

The weight-for-height index measures body mass in relation to body length. Children whose weight-for-height measures are below minus two standard deviations ( -2 SD) from the median of the reference population are too thin for their height, or wasted, while those whose measures are below minus three standard deviations ( -3 SD ) from the reference population median are severely wasted. Wasting represents the failure to receive adequate nutrition during the period immediately before the survey. It may be the result of recent episodes of illness or acute food shortages.

[^18]Weight-for-age is a composite index of height-for-age and weight-for-height. Children whose weight-for-age measures are below minus two standard deviations ( $-2 \mathrm{SD} \mathrm{)} \mathrm{from} \mathrm{the} \mathrm{median} \mathrm{of} \mathrm{the}$ reference population are underweight for their age, while those whose measures are below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the reference population median are severely underweight. A child can be underweight for his age because he is stunted, because he is wasted, or because he is both stunted and wasted.

Anthropometric data collection was conducted in all households in the TDHS 2000 sample. The anthropometric data were reported for the survey respondents (women age 15-49) and their children born since 1995.

Table 11.5 shows the proportions of children born to TDHS respondents and under age five who are classified as malnourished according to the three measures of nutritional status, i.e., height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by selected demographic characteristics of the child.

| Percentage of children under five years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nu tritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by demographic characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Height-for-age |  |  | Weight-for-height |  |  | Weight-for-age |  |  | Number of children |
| Demographic characteristic | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below -2 SD ${ }^{1}$ | Mean Zscore (SD) | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below $-2 S^{1}$ | Mean Zscore (SD) | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below $-2 S D^{1}$ | Mean Zscore (SD) |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $<6$ months | 2.4 | 8.6 | -0.1 | 0.9 | 5.5 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 4.8 | 0.1 | 309 |
| 6-9 months | 6.1 | 20.1 | -0.8 | 1.0 | 8.1 | 0.1 | 3.7 | 14.6 | -0.6 | 182 |
| 10-11 months | 2.9 | 17.9 | -0.8 | 1.2 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 13.5 | -0.7 | 113 |
| 12-15 months | 1.2 | 31.3 | -1.3 | 0.6 | 7.3 | -0.2 | 5.0 | 25.1 | -1.1 | 201 |
| 16-23 months | 2.4 | 36.3 | -1.5 | 1.9 | 6.4 | -0.2 | 1.2 | 16.2 | -1.0 | 369 |
| 24-35 months | 8.3 | 22.6 | -1.1 | 0.3 | 4.8 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 10.8 | -0.8 | 572 |
| 36-47 months | 7.9 | 22.0 | -1.0 | 1.9 | 5.3 | -0.2 | 1.7 | 10.7 | -0.9 | 622 |
| 48-59 months | 5.1 | 19.3 | -1.0 | 1.5 | 6.1 | -0.2 | 0.6 | 10.0 | -0.8 | 560 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 7.6 | 23.9 | -1.1 | 1.6 | 6.5 | -0.1 | 1.8 | 12.4 | -0.8 | 1,478 |
| Female | 7.1 | 20.8 | -0.9 | 0.9 | 5.0 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 11.6 | -0.7 | 1,449 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 7.8 | 21.1 | -1.0 | 1.5 | 5.8 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 10.9 | -0.7 | 972 |
| 2-3 | 6.9 | 22.1 | -1.0 | 0.9 | 5.1 | -0.1 | 1.5 | 11.9 | -0.7 | 1,352 |
| 4-5 | 7.5 | 22.6 | -1.1 | 1.5 | 7.8 | -0.2 | 2.2 | 13.4 | -0.8 | 430 |
| $6+$ | 7.8 | 30.5 | -1.3 | 1.5 | 5.5 | -0.2 | 2.2 | 15.3 | -1.0 | 174 |
| Birth interval |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| First birth | 7.8 | 21.1 | -1.0 | 1.5 | 5.7 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 10.9 | -0.7 | 976 |
| $<24$ months | 6.3 | 24.1 | -1.1 | 1.3 | 5.3 | -0.2 | 1.8 | 12.2 | -0.8 | 704 |
| 24-47 months | 8.2 | 23.7 | -1.1 | 1.4 | 6.7 | -0.2 | 2.3 | 14.2 | -0.8 | 856 |
| $48+$ months | 6.3 | 19.3 | -0.8 | 0.2 | 4.4 | -0.1 | 0.5 | 9.6 | -0.6 | 392 |
| Total | 7.4 | 22.3 | -1.0 | 1.2 | 5.7 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 12.0 | -0.7 | 2,928 |
| Note: Figures are for children under age five whose mother was a survey respondent. Each index is expressed in terms of the number of standard deviation (SD) units from the median of the NCHS/CDC/WHO International Reference Population. Children are classified as undernourished if their $z$-scores are below minus two or minus three standard deviations ( -2 SD or $-3 S D$ ) from the median of the reference population. ${ }^{1}$ Includes children who are below -3 SD from the International Reference Population median. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

An examination of the data on height-for-age in Table 11.5 shows that overall, 22 percent of children under age five are stunted, and 7 percent are severely stunted. A child's age is associated with the likelihood of stunting. Stunting increases rapidly with age, from only 9 percent among children under 6 months of age to 36 percent among children 16-23 months, before falling to 19 percent among children age 4 and older. Levels of stunting are slightly higher for male children than for female children. Stunting is higher among children of birth order six or higher compared with other children. It varies inversely with the length of the birth interval. A child born less than 24 months after an elder sibling is more likely to be stunted than a child born 48 months or longer after an elder sibling.

The weight-for-height index provides a measure of wasting, or acute malnutrition. Overall, nearly 6 percent of Turkmen children are wasted. Wasting is more common among children 69 months ( 8 percent) than among children under 6 months of age ( 6 percent) or age 10-11 month ( 3 percent). The levels of wasting among children of age 12-59 months are between 5 and 7 percent. Regarding the other demographic characteristics presented in Table 11.5, there are generally only minor variations in the level of wasting.

Reflecting the effects of both chronic and short-term malnutrition, 12 percent of children under age five are underweight for their age. Low weight-for-age is more common among children 12-15 months ( 25 percent) than among older or younger children. It generally increases with birth order and is higher among children born less than 48 months than among children born more than 48 months after a prior birth.

Table 11.6 shows the proportions of children born to TDHS respondents and under age five who are classified as malnourished according to socioeconomic characteristics of the child's mother. The table shows that there are marked socioeconomic differentials in stunting. Children in rural areas are more likely to be stunted than urban children ( 24 percent and 20 percent, respectively). The percentage stunted varies greatly by place of residence, ranging from only 13 percent in Ashgabad City to 27 percent in Dashoguz Region.

The educational level of the mother is inversely related to the level of stunting. Among children whose mother has primary/secondary or no education, 23 percent are stunted, compared with 20 and 19 percent of children whose mother completed the secondary-special or higher levels of education, respectively. Children of mothers of Turkmen or Uzbek ethnicities are somewhat more likely to be stunted than children of other ethnicities (23, 22, and 19 percent, respectively).

With respect to weight-for height (wasting) index, Table 11.6 shows that wasting is more common among children living in Ashgabad City and Mary Region than in other survey regions. Surprisingly, children born to mothers with higher education are more likely to be wasted than children born to mothers with lower levels of education. Children of Uzbek ethnicity are less likely to be wasted than children of Turkmen and other ethnicities.

Considering the effects of both chronic and short-term malnutrition, low weight-for-age is slightly more common among children living in Dashoguz Region (16 percent) than among children living in other regions (between 8 and 12 percent). The index is lower among children born to a mother with higher education ( 9 percent) and among children of other ethnicities ( 7 percent) than among children with other socioeconomic characteristics.

| Percentage of children under five years of age classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Height-for-age |  |  | Weight-for-height |  |  | Weight-for-age |  |  | Number <br> of <br> children |
| Background characteristic | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below -2 SD $^{1}$ | Mean Zscore (SD) | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below -2 SD $^{1}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mean Z- } \\ & \text { score (SD) } \end{aligned}$ | Percentage below -3 SD | Percentage below -2 SD $^{1}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mean Z- } \\ & \text { score (SD) } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 6.8 | 19.5 | -0.9 | 1.9 | 6.6 | -0.1 | 2.1 | 12.0 | -0.7 | 1,101 |
| Rural | 7.7 | 24.1 | -1.1 | 0.9 | 5.2 | -0.1 | 1.5 | 12.0 | -0.8 | 1,827 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad city | 7.9 | 13.3 | -0.7 | 3.9 | 10.9 | -0.2 | 2.6 | 11.7 | -0.6 | 228 |
| Akhal | 7.2 | 24.0 | -1.0 | 1.2 | 5.3 | -0.0 | 1.0 | 7.6 | -0.6 | 430 |
| Balkan | 4.2 | 14.3 | -0.8 | 1.3 | 3.8 | -0.3 | 2.7 | 11.6 | -0.8 | 247 |
| Dashoguz | 8.6 | 27.2 | -1.2 | 0.9 | 5.0 | -0.1 | 2.6 | 16.0 | -0.9 | 635 |
| Lebap | 7.0 | 21.9 | -1.0 | 0.6 | 3.6 | -0.0 | 1.3 | 12.1 | -0.6 | 668 |
| Mary | 7.7 | 23.1 | -1.0 | 1.2 | 7.6 | -0.2 | 1.1 | 11.2 | -0.8 | 720 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/Secondary | 7.7 | 23.4 | -1.1 | 1.0 | 5.4 | -0.1 | 1.8 | 12.3 | -0.8 | 2,054 |
| Secondary-special | 6.5 | 20.0 | -0.9 | 1.6 | 5.8 | -0.2 | 1.7 | 11.8 | -0.7 | 662 |
| Higher | 6.6 | 19.2 | -0.8 | 2.7 | 8.7 | -0.1 | 1.2 | 9.3 | -0.6 | 212 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 7.4 | 22.6 | -1.0 | 1.2 | 6.0 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 12.3 | -0.8 | 2,405 |
| Uzbek | 7.1 | 22.0 | -1.1 | 0.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 12.3 | -0.6 | 358 |
| Other | 6.9 | 19.1 | -0.7 | 3.1 | 7.7 | -0.1 | 1.4 | 7.0 | -0.6 | 164 |
| Total | 7.4 | 22.3 | -1.0 | 1.2 | 5.7 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 12.0 | -0.7 | 2,928 |

Note: Figures are for children under age five whose mother was a survey respondent. Each index is expressed in terms of the number of standard deviation (SD) units from the median of the NCHS/CDC/WHO International Reference Population. Children are classified as undernourished if their $z$-scores are below minus two or minus three standard deviations ( -2 SD or $-3 S D$ ) from the median of the reference population. ${ }^{1}$ Includes children who are below -3 SD from the International Reference Population median.

### 11.6 Nutritional Status of Women

In the TDHS 2000, data were collected on the height and weight of women 15-49 years of age. The anthropometric measurements were obtained for 7,340 of the surveyed women. Three indices of women's nutritional status are presented in this report: height, weight, and body mass index (BMI) -an indicator combining height and weight data.

Table 11.7 shows the percent distribution of women by height. Maternal height is an outcome of nutrition during childhood and adolescence. It is useful in predicting the risk of difficult delivery since small stature is frequently associated with small pelvis size. The risk of low birth weight babies is also higher for short women. The cutoff point, i.e., the height below which a woman is considered to be at nutritional risk, is in the range of 140 to 150 centimeters. The mean height of mothers measured in the TDHS 2000 was 159 centimeters. About 5 percent fell below the cutoff point; less than 1 percent were shorter than 145 centimeters and 4 percent were in the 145 to 149 centimeter range.

Low prepregnancy weight is associated with unfavorable pregnancy outcomes, although maternal height must also be taken into account. Excluding women who were pregnant or had a birth within two months of the interview, the mean weight of women age 15-49 in Turkmenistan is 60 kilograms.

| Table 11.7 Anthropometric indicators of women's nutritional status |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution, mean, and standard deviation for all women by height, weight, and body mass index (BMI), Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |
|  | Percent distribution of women |  |
| Indicator | Excluding missing | Including missing |
| Height (cm) |  |  |
| 130.0-134.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 135.0-139.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| 140.0-144.9 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| 145.0-149.9 | 4.3 | 4.2 |
| 150.0-154.9 | 18.2 | 17.8 |
| 155.0-159.9 | 32.1 | 31.5 |
| 160.0-164.9 | 28.9 | 28.3 |
| 165.0-169.9 | 12.3 | 12.1 |
| 170.0-174.9 | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| 175.0-179.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 180.0+ | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Missing | - | 2.1 |
| Mean | 159.0 |  |
| Standard deviation | 5.8 | - |
| Number of women | 7,754 | 7,919 |
| Weight (kg) |  |  |
| 35.0-39.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| 40.0-49.9 | 22.1 | 21.6 |
| 50.0-59.9 | 37.3 | 36.5 |
| 60.0-69.9 | 22.1 | 21.6 |
| 70.0+ | 17.5 | 17.1 |
| Missing | - | 2.0 |
| Mean | 59.5 | - |
| Standard deviation | 13.1 | - |
| Number of women | 7,319 | 7,472 |
| BMI ${ }^{1}$ ( $\mathrm{Kg} / \mathrm{m}^{\mathbf{2}}$ ) |  |  |
| 12.0-15.9 (Severe) | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| 16.0-16.9 (Moderate) | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| 17.0-18.4 (Mild) | 7.0 | 6.9 |
| 18.5-20.4 (Normal) | 19.1 | 18.6 |
| 20.5-22.9 (Normal) | 26.5 | 26.0 |
| 23.0-24.9 (Normal) | 15.9 | 15.6 |
| 25.0-26.9 (Overwt.) | 9.3 | 9.1 |
| 27.0-28.9 (Overwt.) | 6.6 | 6.4 |
| 29.0-29.9 (Overwt.) | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| $30.0+$ (Obese) | 10.2 | 10.0 |
| Missing | - | 2.2 |
| Mean | 23.5 | - |
| Standard deviation | 5.0 | - |
| Number of women | 7,308 | 7,472 |
| ${ }^{\top}$ Excludes women who are pregnant and women who gave birth in the preceding 2 months. |  |  |

Body mass indices, which take into account both height and weight, provide a better measure of a woman's nutritional status than height or weight alone. The most commonly used body mass index is the BMI, which is defined as weight in kilograms divided by the squared height in meters $\left(\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}\right)$. For the BMI, a cutoff of 18.5 has been recommended for assessing chronic energy deficiency among nonpregnant women. At the other end of the BMI scale, women are considered overweight if their BMI ranges between 25.0 and 29.9 and obese if their BMI is 30.0 or higher.

As Table 11.7 shows, excluding those who are pregnant, the mean BMI of Turkmen women is 23.5. Ten percent of women have a BMI below 18.5, the level indicating chronic energy deficiency. However, a substantial proportion of women ( 29 percent) had a BMI of 25.0 or higher, and about 10 percent had a BMI of 30.0 or higher; i.e., they are obese.

Table 11.8 shows mean values for women's height and BMI by background characteristics. There is little variation in women's mean height. There are significant differentials in the percentage of women with a BMI less than 18.5. Women in the 15-19 age group, those residing in rural areas and the Balkan and Mary regions, those with a primary/secondary education, and those of Turkmen and other ethnicities have relatively high percentages with a BMI below 18.5.

### 11.7 Micronutrients

Vitamin A and other micronutrients such as iodine are found in small quantities in some foods. They are considered essential for normal sight, growth, and development. For example, vitamin A is important in protecting the body against some infectious illnesses such as measles and diarrheal disease. Severe vitamin A deficiency is associated with total loss of vision or with other vision impairments, including night blindness.

| Table 11.8 Nutritional status of women by background characteristics |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Among women age 15-49, mean height and percentage under 145 cm , mean body mass index (BMI), percentage whose BMI is below 18.5 and 30.0 or higher, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Height |  |  | Body mass index ( $\left.\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}\right)^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Mean height in cm | Percentage below 145 cm | Number of women | Mean BMI | <18.5 | $30.0+$ | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 158.6 | 0.8 | 1,548 | 21.3 | 16.2 | 1.6 | 1,517 |
| 20-24 | 159.3 | 0.2 | 1,517 | 21.9 | 12.3 | 3.0 | 1,351 |
| 25-29 | 159.8 | 0.4 | 1,236 | 22.9 | 11.3 | 7.4 | 1,088 |
| 30-34 | 159.3 | 0.9 | 1,033 | 24.0 | 7.6 | 11.7 | 972 |
| 35-39 | 158.6 | 0.9 | 944 | 24.8 | 6.1 | 14.9 | 922 |
| 40-44 | 158.6 | 1.2 | 830 | 26.4 | 4.6 | 21.3 | 821 |
| 45-49 | 158.2 | 1.2 | 645 | 27.2 | 3.1 | 28.0 | 645 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 159.4 | 0.9 | 3,563 | 23.9 | 9.4 | 11.8 | 3,392 |
| Rural | 158.6 | 0.6 | 4,191 | 23.2 | 10.2 | 9.0 | 3,923 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 160.3 | 1.2 | 957 | 24.2 | 7.1 | 12.4 | 907 |
| Akhal | 159.6 | 0.5 | 1,134 | 23.6 | 8.7 | 10.6 | 1,066 |
| Balkan | 158.5 | 0.8 | 702 | 23.6 | 13.4 | 12.1 | 675 |
| Dashoguz | 158.0 | 1.2 | 1,608 | 23.1 | 10.4 | 8.4 | 1,511 |
| Lebap | 158.9 | 0.6 | 1,602 | 23.7 | 8.4 | 10.5 | 1,494 |
| Mary | 159.0 | 0.4 | 1,751 | 23.3 | 11.5 | 9.7 | 1,663 |
| Mother's education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 158.7 | 0.8 | 5,696 | 23.3 | 10.6 | 9.5 | 5,372 |
| Secondary-special | 159.7 | 0.9 | 1,516 | 24.2 | 8.0 | 13.0 | 1,435 |
| Higher | 160.2 | 0.0 | 542 | 24.1 | 8.1 | 10.6 | 508 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 158.9 | 0.6 | 6,073 | 23.4 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 5,724 |
| Uzbek | 158.4 | 1.0 | 847 | 23.5 | 8.0 | 9.5 | 789 |
| Other | 160.3 | 1.1 | 834 | 24.0 | 9.8 | 13.6 | 803 |
| Total | 159.0 | 0.7 | 7,754 | 23.5 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 7,316 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 11.9 presents information on children under three years of age who consumed foods rich in vitamin A, such as foods made from pumpkin, carrots, green leafy vegetables, meat, poultry, fish, or eggs. Eighty percent of children in Turkmenistan received foods rich in vitamin A. There is little variation in the percentage of children who received food rich in vitamin A by their age, sex, birth order, residence, region, and mother's age.

Table 11.9 also shows the percentage of children under age three who received supplements of multivitamins during the six months preceding the survey according to the mother's report. The table shows that 15 percent of children in Turkmenistan have received a multivitamin capsule/tablet. Boys are more likely than girls to receive multivitamins (17 and 14 percent, respectively), and the likelihood of having received them generally decreases with the child's birth order. Percentage of children who had received the multivitamins is higher in urban areas (18 percent) than in rural areas (14 percent).

| Percentage of living children under three years who received foods rich in vitamin A , percentage who received multivitamin supplements during the past 6 months, percentage who lived in households with iodized salt, and percentage of last-born children under three whose mother took iron on $90+$ days during pregnancy, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of children under 3 years who received: $\begin{gathered}\text { Percentage } \\ \text { of last-born } \\ \text { children }\end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Foods rich in vitamin A | Multivitamin supplement in past 6 months | lodine in household salt |  |  | Number of living children | mother took iron on $90+$ | Number of last-born |
|  |  |  | None | <15 ppm | $15+\mathrm{ppm}$ |  | pregnancy | children |
| Child's age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $<7$ months | 17.9 | 5.5 | 10.3 | 10.3 | 77.1 | 409 | 12.4 | 417 |
| 7-11months | 87.0 | 18.0 | 10.7 | 12.7 | 74.2 | 283 | 8.9 | 301 |
| 12-17 months | 95.0 | 16.8 | 12.0 | 11.1 | 74.6 | 329 | 10.1 | 339 |
| 18-23 months | 99.2 | 19.9 | 8.6 | 14.7 | 74.3 | 315 | 11.1 | 273 |
| 24-35 months | 99.2 | 17.4 | 11.2 | 10.6 | 76.1 | 628 | 10.6 | 449 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 79.3 | 16.7 | 11.0 | 11.5 | 75.1 | 996 | 11.0 | 918 |
| Female | 80.3 | 13.9 | 10.3 | 11.7 | 75.8 | 969 | 10.5 | 861 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 79.8 | 16.9 | 8.8 | 13.5 | 75.3 | 660 | 9.0 | 522 |
| 2-3 | 80.7 | 14.9 | 11.0 | 10.3 | 75.8 | 941 | 11.9 | 890 |
| 4-5 | 76.6 | 15.0 | 12.6 | 12.9 | 74.3 | 268 | 9.5 | 271 |
| $6+$ | 81.0 | 9.9 | 14.4 | 7.7 | 77.3 | 96 | 12.8 | 95 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 81.3 | 18.1 | 12.1 | 12.8 | 72.6 | 774 | 8.7 | 727 |
| Rural | 78.8 | 13.6 | 9.7 | 10.8 | 77.4 | 1,190 | 12.1 | 1,052 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 79.4 | 17.4 | 6.4 | 12.3 | 75.0 | 198 | 2.9 | 188 |
| Akhal | 81.5 | 6.8 | 11.3 | 9.4 | 78.1 | 285 | 0.0 | 258 |
| Balkan | 82.6 | 13.6 | 19.6 | 14.0 | 65.9 | 156 | 1.5 | 143 |
| Dashoguz | 75.4 | 11.4 | 11.3 | 9.0 | 78.4 | 441 | 43.0 | 386 |
| Lebap | 78.2 | 25.8 | 11.5 | 11.9 | 76.0 | 419 | 2.6 | 370 |
| Mary | 83.6 | 14.6 | 7.7 | 14.1 | 74.0 | 466 | 1.7 | 434 |
| Mother's age at birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | (65.2) | (6.3) | (13.8) | (6.4) | (79.8) | 40 | (11.8) | 40 |
| 20-24 | 75.6 | 14.8 | 8.2 | 13.2 | 77.8 | 601 | 11.2 | 522 |
| 25-29 | 81.5 | 16.3 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 73.9 | 727 | 10.6 | 637 |
| 30-34 | 83.4 | 15.0 | 11.2 | 11.0 | 75.4 | 384 | 10.2 | 358 |
| 35-39 | 79.6 | 15.1 | 14.5 | 9.1 | 74.7 | 160 | 10.9 | 168 |
| 40-44 | (88.7) | (16.8) | (12.0) | (15.4) | (72.6 | 44 | (5.7) | 43 |
| 45-49 | * | * | * | * | * | 9 | * | 9 |
| Total | 79.8 | 15.3 | 10.7 | 11.6 | 75.5 | 1,965 | 10.7 | 1,779 |
| Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. <br> ppm $=$ Parts per million |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Vitamin supplementation is more common for children living in Ashgabad City (17 percent) and Lebap Region (26 percent) compared with other survey regions of Turkmenistan.

### 11.8 Use Of Iodized Salt

Iodine is another important micronutrient. Low levels of iodine in the diet are associated with a number of problems including miscarriages and among children, retarded mental development. Turkmenistan has adopted a program of fortifying salt with iodine to prevent iodine deficiency.

In the TDHS 2000, the iodine content of the salt used in the household was measured using a rapid-test kit provided by UNICEF. The test kit consisted of ampoules of a stabilized starch solution and a weak acid-based solution. A drop of the starch solution was squeezed onto a salt sample obtained in the household, causing the salt to change color. The TDHS interviewer conducting the test matched the color of the salt to a color chart included with the test kit to determine the level of iodine.

Table 11.10 shows the percentage of households using iodized salt. Overall, the iodine content of the salt exceeded 15 ppm (parts per million) in 75 percent of households. In 12 percent of the households, the iodine content of the salt fell below 15 ppm (inadequate salt content), while the salt used by 11 percent of the households was not found to contain iodine. By place of residence, the proportion of households using noniodized salt ranged from 7 percent in Ashgabad City to 18 percent in Balkan Region. There are no differences by urban-rural residence in the proportion of households using iodized salt.


### 12.1 Introduction

Anemia is a condition characterized by a decrease in the concentration of hemoglobin in the blood. Hemoglobin is necessary for transporting oxygen to tissues and organs in the body. The reduction in oxygen available to organs and tissues when hemoglobin levels are low is responsible for many of the symptoms experienced by anemic people. The consequences of anemia include general body weakness, frequent tiredness, and lowered resistance to disease. Anemia can be a particularly serious problem for pregnant women, leading to premature delivery and low birth weight. It is of concern in children since anemia is associated with impaired mental and physical development. Overall, morbidity and mortality risks increase for individuals suffering from anemia (Sharmanov, 1998).

Hemoglobin testing is the primary method of anemia diagnosis. The TDHS 2000 included direct measurement of hemoglobin levels in all women 15-49 and their children age 5 and under (born since January 1995). The HemoCue system was used in the TDHS 2000 for hemoglobin testing. This system consists of a battery-operated photometer and a disposable microcuvette, ${ }^{1}$ coated with a dried reagent that serves as the blood-collection device. After obtaining consent from each respondent (in the case of children, the consent of the child's mother), a drop of capillary blood taken from a person's fingertip or heel was drawn into a microcuvette. The blood in the microcuvette was analyzed using the photometer, which displayed the hemoglobin concentration (Sharmanov, 2000).

Medically trained personnel, primarily doctors, assigned to each of the TDHS teams conducted the testing. The personnel responsible for the testing received extensive classroom training and field practice prior to the survey.

During the fieldwork, each respondent was given the results of the test immediately. In cases in which the hemoglobin reading was below $7.0 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ (grams per deciliter), the respondent was referred to the local health care facilities for followup. With the permission of the respondent, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan was also advised of the names of the individuals with a reading below $7.0 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ to help ensure that they would receive followup.

Anemia is classified as mild, moderate, or severe based on the concentrations of hemoglobin in the blood. Mild anemia corresponds to a level of hemoglobin concentration of 10.0-10.9 g/dl for pregnant women and children under age 5 and 10.0-11.9 g/dl for nonpregnant women. For all of the tested groups, moderate anemia corresponds to a level of 7.0-9.9 g/dl, while severe anemia corresponds to a level less than $7.0 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$.

[^19]
### 12.2 Prevalence of Anemia among Women Age 15-49

Table 12.1 shows anemia levels among the women 15-49 interviewed in the TDHS 2000. Almost every second woman had some degree of anemia. The level of anemia was severe in about 1 percent of the women, while 8 percent had a moderate level and 38 percent had mild anemia.

Age was associated with anemia levels, with older women being somewhat more likely to be moderately or severely anemic than younger women. The rate of moderate-to-severe anemia (moderate and severe anemia combined) among women age 35-49 is almost three times as high as among women age 15-19.

Table 12.1 Anemia among women
Percentage of women age 15-49 classified as having anemia, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Percentage of women with anemia |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Severe anemia ${ }^{1}$ | Moderate anemia $^{2}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mild } \\ \text { anemia } \end{gathered}$ | Number measured |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 0.5 | 4.1 | 33.0 | 1,534 |
| 20-24 | 0.6 | 7.1 | 38.6 | 1,507 |
| 25-29 | 1.3 | 9.6 | 38.4 | 1,228 |
| 30-34 | 1.3 | 9.5 | 43.4 | 1,028 |
| 35-39 | 1.4 | 10.6 | 38.6 | 943 |
| 40-44 | 1.4 | 11.3 | 38.5 | 832 |
| 45-49 | 1.8 | 10.2 | 35.3 | 642 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 1.1 | 7.6 | 36.7 | 3,528 |
| Rural | 1.0 | 9.0 | 38.7 | 4,186 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.8 | 5.0 | 31.0 | 928 |
| Akhal | 1.0 | 6.4 | 37.4 | 1,130 |
| Balkan | 1.8 | 12.8 | 44.9 | 705 |
| Dashoguz | 1.8 | 10.5 | 40.1 | 1,606 |
| Lebap | 0.9 | 6.4 | 30.6 | 1,601 |
| Mary | 0.6 | 9.5 | 43.4 | 1,774 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 1.1 | 8.7 | 38.3 | 5,678 |
| Secondary-special | 1.0 | 7.8 | 37.2 | 1,502 |
| Higher | 0.5 | 6.3 | 34.3 | 534 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 1.1 | 8.6 | 37.8 | 6,051 |
| Uzbek | 1.2 | 9.0 | 38.2 | 846 |
| Other | 1.0 | 5.9 | 37.2 | 817 |
| Total | 1.1 | 8.4 | 37.8 | 7,714 |

[^20]High rates of moderate and severe anemia were found among women living in the Balkan and Dashoguz regions ( 15 percent and 12 percent, respectively), while only 6 percent of women in Ashgabad City were diagnosed as having moderate or severe anemia.

Women with a higher education are less frequently anemic than women with a primary or secondary-special education. The rates of moderate and severe anemia are higher among ethnic Turkmen and Uzbek women (10 percent each) than among women of other ethnic groups (7 percent).

There are differentials in the anemia rates by nutritional and reproductive health characteristics. Table 12.2 shows that the prevalence of moderate-to-severe anemia is higher among women with a body mass index (BMI) less than 18.5 (11 percent) than among women with a higher BMI ( 9 percent). The prevalence of moderate-to-severe anemia among women with two or more births (12 percent) is twice as high as that among women with fewer than two births or no pregnancies ( 6 and 5 percent, respectively). There is a relatively small association between the birth intervals and the rate of anemia.

Studies also suggest that IUD use can lead to iron depletion and iron-deficiency anemia. Table 12.2 also shows that among women who are using intrauterine devices as a method of contraception, the prevalence of moderate-to-severe anemia (12 percent) is higher than among women who are not using the IUD (9 percent). According to the TDHS 2000 data, 25 percent of women age 15-49 in Turkmenistan were using an IUD at the time of the survey, i.e., when they were tested for anemia.

| Table 12.2 Anemia among women by nutritional status, reproductive history, and IUD use |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women age 15-49 years classified as having anemia by nutritional status, reproductive history, and IUD use, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Iron-deficiency anemia |  |  |  |  |
| Characteristic | Severe anemia ${ }^{1}$ | Moderate anemia ${ }^{2}$ | Mild anemia $^{3}$ | Number measured |
| Nutritional status |  |  |  |  |
| BMI <18.5 | 1.3 | 9.8 | 39.2 | 732 |
| BMI $>18.5$ | 1.0 | 8.3 | 37.8 | 6,954 |
| Reproductive history |  |  |  |  |
| No pregnancies | 0.5 | 4.9 | 34.0 | 2,765 |
| Number of births <2 | 0.5 | 5.9 | 35.6 | 3,658 |
| Number of births $\geq 2$ | 1.6 | 10.6 | 40.0 | 4,036 |
| Average birth interval $<24$ months | 1.9 | 10.4 | 39.1 | 1,516 |
| Average birth interval $>24$ months | 1.5 | 12.0 | 41.5 | 1,340 |
| Use of IUD |  |  |  |  |
| Currently using | 1.7 | 9.8 | 44.0 | 1,923 |
| Currently not using | 0.9 | 7.9 | 35.9 | 5,771 |
| Total | 1.1 | 8.4 | 37.9 | 7,694 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Hemoglobin level less than $7 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ <br> ${ }^{2}$ Hemoglobin level 7-9.9 g/dl <br> ${ }^{3}$ Hemoglobin level $10-11.9 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ (10-10.9 g/dl for pregnant women) |  |  |  |  |

### 12.3 Iron Supplementation during Pregnancy

Supplementation of iron during pregnancy is one of the main components of the Anemia Control and Prevention Strategy of the UNICEF Area Office for Central Asian Republics. The government of Turkmenistan supports this program by promoting iron supplementation during pregnancy and the postpartum period.

The recommended dosage of iron supplementation for pregnant women is currently 60 mg per day for six months. This dosage may be increased to 120 mg if the duration of supplementation is short. In addition to the iron supplementation, supplementation of 400 mg of folic acid around the time of conception not only prevents megaloblastic anemia but also significantly reduces the incidence of neural tube defects, which are severe birth defects (Stoltzfus and Dreyfuss, 1998).

In the TDHS 2000 women were asked whether they received iron pills during their last pregnancy. As shown in Table 12.3, 32 percent of women in Turkmenistan received iron pills during their last pregnancy. On average, women took iron pills for 14 days. Iron supplementation is most common in Dashoguz region in terms of the percentage of women taking iron pills: 70 percent. The Akhal region has the lowest percentage of women who took iron pills during their last pregnancy ( 10 percent).

Table 12.3 Iron supplementation
Percentage of women who were given or bought iron tablets during current or last pregnancy and average number of days women took iron tablets during the last pregnancy by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Background characteristic | Iron supplementation for current pregnancy or last birth |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Percentage who took iron pills | Average number of days | Weighted number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | (32.9) | (8.1) | 42 |
| 20-24 | 33.9 | 13.6 | 579 |
| 25-29 | 30.7 | 15.2 | 831 |
| 30-34 | 33.1 | 13.1 | 581 |
| 35-39 | 33.5 | 14.0 | 304 |
| 40-44 | 29.9 | 15.1 | 107 |
| 46-49 | (30.0) | (10.0) | 26 |
| Residence |  |  |  |
| Urban | 31.5 | 15.4 | 1,052 |
| Rural | 33.0 | 12.9 | 1,417 |
| Region |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 36.2 | 18.5 | 266 |
| Akhal | 10.3 | 18.8 | 352 |
| Balkan | 17.4 | 10.6 | 215 |
| Dashoguz | 69.6 | 15.1 | 520 |
| Lebap | 29.7 | 11.9 | 513 |
| Mary | 18.9 | 11.1 | 603 |
| Education |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 31.4 | 14.1 | 1,715 |
| Secondary-special | 34.3 | 13.0 | 560 |
| Higher | 35.1 | 15.6 | 194 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 29.3 | 13.8 | 1,992 |
| Uzbek | 53.4 | 14.5 | 295 |
| Other | 31.5 | 14.7 | 182 |
| Total | 32.3 | 14.0 | 2,470 |
| Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. |  |  |  | However, the average length of the iron supplementation among the women in Akhal region (19 days) was greater than in any other survey region of Turkmenistan.

Iron supplementation is more common among Uzbek women (53 percent) than among Turkmen women or women of other ethnicities ( 29 and 32 percent, respectively). There was no significant difference in the percentage of women who received iron supplements by their age, type of residence, and level of education.

Thus, despite efforts promoting iron supplementation, more than half of the women in Turkmenistan did not receive iron supplements during their last pregnancy. Even women who received iron pills took them for a shorter period than recommended.

### 12.4 Anemia Prevalence among Children

Table 12.4 presents anemia rates for children in Turkmenistan by background characteristics. Thirty-six percent of the children under the age of five suffer from some degree of anemia; 16 percent have moderate anemia, and 1 percent are severely anemic.

As was the case with women, there are substantial differences in the anemia rates among children by residence, region, level of mother's education, and ethnicity. The prevalence of moderate-to-severe anemia among children living in urban areas is higher than among children living in rural areas (18 and 15 percent, respectively). As with the women, the rate of moderate-tosevere anemia is highest among children living in Balkan and Dashoguz regions ( 24 and 25 percent, respectively). Prevalence of moderate-to-severe anemia is relatively low among children living in Mary and Akhal regions: 7 and 10 percent, respectively. As in Ashgabad City, in Mary and Akhal regions, no cases of severe anemia were diagnosed among children. Intermediate levels of moderate-to-severe anemia were found among children in Ashgabad City and Lebap Region: 19 and 20 percent, respectively.

| Table 12.4 Anemia among children |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of children under five years of age classified as having anemia, by background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Iron-deficiency anemia |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Severe anemia ${ }^{1}$ | Moderate anemia ${ }^{2}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mild } \\ \text { anemia }^{3} \end{gathered}$ | Number measured |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 0.3 | 18.0 | 22.6 | 1,115 |
| Rural | 0.8 | 14.6 | 17.2 | 1,835 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 0.0 | 19.3 | 20.8 | 228 |
| Akhal | 0.0 | 10.1 | 20.4 | 444 |
| Balkan | 1.2 | 23.2 | 25.8 | 258 |
| Dashoguz | 1.3 | 23.9 | 27.0 | 574 |
| Lebap | 0.9 | 19.3 | 21.6 | 683 |
| Mary | 0.0 | 6.7 | 8.1 | 763 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 0.6 | 15.1 | 18.8 | 2,076 |
| Secondary-special | 0.7 | 16.3 | 21.8 | 667 |
| Higher | 0.1 | 22.5 | 16.0 | 207 |
| Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |
| Turkmen | 0.5 | 15.3 | 18.4 | 2,444 |
| Uzbek | 1.4 | 18.9 | 25.3 | 340 |
| Other | 0.3 | 18.8 | 19.8 | 166 |
| Total | 0.6 | 15.9 | 19.3 | 2,950 |
| Hemoglobin level less than $7 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ <br> ${ }^{2}$ Hemoglobin level $7-9.9 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ <br> ${ }^{3}$ Hemoglobin level 10-10.9 g/dl |  |  |  |  |

Table 12.4 also shows that children of mothers who have a primary or secondary education are less likely to have anemia than children whose mother has a higher education. The rate of moderate-to-severe anemia among Turkmen children (16 percent) is relatively lower than among children of Uzbek and other ethnicities (20 and 19 percent, respectively).

Table 12.5 presents anemia rates for children in Turkmenistan by demographic and nutritional characteristics. The results show that moderate-to-severe anemia is more common

Table 12.5 Anemia among children by demographic characteristics and nutritional status

Percentage of children under five years of age classified as having anemia by demographic characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000

| Demographic characteristic | Iron-deficiency anemia |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Severe anemia ${ }^{1}$ | Moderate anemia ${ }^{2}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mild } \\ \text { anemia }^{3} \end{gathered}$ | Number measured |
| Sex of child |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 0.8 | 17.4 | 18.2 | 1,492 |
| Female | 0.3 | 14.3 | 20.4 | 1,458 |
| Age of child |  |  |  |  |
| 0-24 months | 0.5 | 18.0 | 19.3 | 601 |
| 24-59 months | 0.6 | 15.4 | 19.2 | 2,349 |
| Birth order |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0.7 | 15.4 | 17.7 | 985 |
| 2-3 | 0.4 | 16.8 | 19.2 | 1,366 |
| 4-5 | 0.9 | 15.0 | 22.8 | 426 |
| 6+ | 0.4 | 13.6 | 19.7 | 174 |
| Birth interval |  |  |  |  |
| First birth | 0.7 | 15.4 | 17.8 | 990 |
| $<24$ months | 0.7 | 16.6 | 19.7 | 706 |
| 24-47 months | 0.5 | 16.0 | 20.1 | 869 |
| 48+ months | 0.2 | 15.7 | 20.4 | 384 |
| Weight at birth |  |  |  |  |
| $<2.5 \mathrm{~kg}$ | 2.5 | 21.2 | 20.5 | 138 |
| $\geq 2.5 \mathrm{~kg}$ | 0.5 | 15.6 | 19.2 | 2,812 |
| Height for age |  |  |  |  |
| Below -2 SD ${ }^{4}$ | 1.1 | 21.6 | 19.5 | 660 |
| -2 SD or above | 0.4 | 14.2 | 19.2 | 2,290 |
| Weight for height |  |  |  |  |
| Below -2 SD ${ }^{4}$ | 0.7 | 18.6 | 15.4 | 173 |
| -2 SD or above | 0.6 | 15.7 | 19.5 | 2,777 |
| Weight for age |  |  |  |  |
| Below -2 SD ${ }^{4}$ | 1.2 | 24.5 | 22.7 | 348 |
| -2 SD or above | 0.5 | 14.7 | 18.8 | 2,602 |
| Total | 0.6 | 15.9 | 19.3 | 2,950 |

[^21]among male children than among female children (18 and 15 percent, respectively) and among younger children up to 24 months of age ( 19 percent) than among children age 24 months and older (16 percent). No significant differences in the children's anemia rates were observed by birth order or birth interval. Looking at children's weight at birth (according to their mother's recollection), the rate of moderate-to-severe anemia was higher among children with a weight at birth less than 2.5 kg ( 24 percent) than among children with a birth weight of more than 2.5 kg (16 percent).

Considering differentials by child's nutritional status, the greatest variation in moderate-tosevere anemia is observed for height-for-age (stunting) and weight-for-age. The rate of moderate-tosevere anemia among children with height-for-age below -2 SD was 23 percent, compared with 15 percent among children with height-for-age - 2 SD or above. The moderate-to-severe anemia rate among children with weight-for-age below -2 SD was 26 percent, compared with 15 percent among the children with weight-for-age - 2 SD or above.

J.M. Sullivan, S.M. Turayeva, and A.Y. Khaimova

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) is a condition caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that weakens the immune system, making the body susceptible to and unable to recover from other diseases such as tuberculous or pneumonia.

HIV/AIDS is a pandemic with cases reported from virtually every country in the world. The current worldwide estimate of the number of cases of HIV infection is 32 million adults and 1 million children. The World Health Organization estimates that approximately 11 million adults and 3 million children infected with HIV have died since the beginning of the epidemic (Fauci and Lane, 2000).

Compared with other parts of the world, Turkemenistan has been relatively untouched by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Currently, there is only one known case of AIDS and one other known HIV-positive case in Turkmenistan. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, considering the potential seriousness of the HIV/AIDS problem, has with assistance from the United Nations Program on AIDS (UNAIDS) developed a National Program on AIDS Prevention (MOHMI, 1999). The program is comprehensive and has components on population education via the mass media about AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, protection of the national blood supply, addressing drug abuse, increasing access to condoms, and providing care and support to HIVinfected people.

The establishment of the National Program in Turkmenistan is noteworthy because the prevalence of STIs appears to be on the rise. Evidence for this is a sevenfold increase in the reported rate of syphilis between 1992 and 1998, when the rate reached 45 cases per 100,000 population. Drug addiction, another factor that has contributed to the AIDS epidemic in many countries, is also on the rise and increased fourfold between 1995 and 1997, when the rate reached 53 per 100,000 population (MOHMI, 1999).

The TDHS 2000 included a section on HIV/AIDS in order to obtain baseline information on the level of awareness and knowledge about HIV/AIDS among women of reproductive age. Questions were included about behavior patterns that could reduce the risk of becoming infected with the AIDS virus, about attitudes toward infected individuals, and about attitudes toward broadcasting messages about HIV/AIDS on radio and television. Questions were also asked to determine the level of knowledge of sexually transmitted infections other than AIDS and knowledge of places to obtain condoms. This chapter summarizes this information at the national level and for geographic and socioeconomic subgroups of the population.

### 13.1 Awareness of HIV/AIDS

In the TDHS, respondents were asked whether they had heard of an illness called AIDS. Table 13.1 indicates that knowledge of AIDS is widespread but not universal among women of childbearing age. Overall, 73 percent of respondents reported having heard of AIDS. Among certain population groups the percentage of women reporting awareness of AIDS was lower than the national rate: women age 15-19 ( 58 percent), never-married women ( 64 percent), rural women
(67 percent), women residing in the Balkan Region (56 percent), and women with primary/secondary education ( 67 percent).

Respondents who had heard of AIDS were also asked, "Is there anything a person can do to avoid getting AIDS or the virus that causes AIDS?" Table 13.1 indicates that approximately three-quarters of women who had heard of AIDS believed that the disease could be avoided. Thus, 50 percent of all respondents had heard of AIDS and believed that the disease could be avoided.

There were significant differentials by background characteristics in the percentage of respondents reporting that they believed that the disease could be avoided. Recognition that the disease could be avoided was especially low among women 15-19 (32 percent), never-married women ( 38 percent), rural women (42 percent), and women with primary/ secondary education (40 percent).

### 13.2 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS Prevention

Respondents who had heard of HIV/ AIDS and who reported that they believed that a person could do something to avoid the disease were asked, "What can a person do?" Respondents were requested to spontaneously report as many ways to avoid AIDS as they knew. This information is useful for determining the percentage of respondents who know about the correct methods of preventing HIV infection. It is also helpful for identifying whether there are common misconceptions about HIV/AIDS transmission.

Table 13.2 indicates that among the 50 percent of respondents who knew of AIDS and believed that the disease could be avoided, only 2 percent were unable to report a specific way to avoid AIDS. Among those reporting specific behaviors, the two most frequently mentioned practices were to avoid sex with prostitutes and to limit sex to one partner/stay faithful to one partner (both reported by 22 percent of respondents). Two additional frequently mentioned responses were to abstain from sexual relations and to use condoms (both reported by 16 percent of respondents). Significant percentages of respondents also reported avoiding injections (10 percent) and avoiding blood transfusions (7 percent).

The reporting of erroneous behaviors to avoid contracting HIV/AIDS was infrequent. Only a small percentage of respondents reported that AIDS could be avoided by refraining from kissing (1.6 percent) or by avoiding mosquito bites ( 0.2 percent).

| Table 13.2 Knowledge of ways to avoid HIV/AIDS |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Percentage of women who spontaneously mentioned ways to avoid <br> HIV/AIDS, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |
|  |  |
|  | Percentage <br> of women |
|  |  |
| Does not know of AIDS or if AIDS can be avoided | 48.1 |
| Believes no way to avoid AIDS | 2.0 |
| Does not know specific way to avoid AIDS ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| Ways to avoid AIDS | 1.8 |
| Abstain from sex |  |
| Use condoms | 15.7 |
| Limit sex to one partner/stay faithful to one partner | 16.1 |
| Limit number of sexual partners | 21.7 |
| Avoid sex with prostitutes | 8.8 |
| Avoid sex with homosexuals | 22.1 |
| Avoid sex with persons who inject drugs intravenously | 0.8 |
| Avoid blood transfusions | 4.7 |
| Avoid injections | 7.4 |
| Avoid sharing razors/blades | 9.6 |
| Avoid kissing | 0.3 |
| Avoid mosquito bites | 1.6 |
| Seek protection from a traditional healer | 0.2 |
| Other | 0.2 |
| Number | 1.2 |
| Believes there is something a person can do to avoid |  |
| AIDS, but |  |
| cannot spontaneously mention any specific way. |  |

### 13.3 Programmatically Important Risk-reducing Practices

Abstaining from sex, using condoms, and limiting the number of sexual partners have been identified as programmatically important ways to avoid the spread of AIDS. Accordingly, in addition to asking respondents to spontaneously report their beliefs about behaviors that could reduce the risk of AIDS, respondents were explicitly asked whether they thought that the risk of becoming infected with the AIDS virus could be reduced by 1) abstaining from all sexual relations, 2) limiting the number of sexual partners, and 3) using condoms.

Table 13.3 presents information on the percentage of women who either spontaneously or in response to a specific question reported knowledge of the three programmatically important riskreducing practices. Overall, 53 percent of all respondents did not cite any of the three risk-reducing practices (27 percent of respondents reported no knowledge of AIDS and another 26 percent reported that they had heard of AIDS but knew of no way to avoid the disease). The remaining 47 percent of respondents reported knowledge of either one (13 percent) or more (34 percent) of the three programmatically important ways to avoid AIDS.

Overall, 37 percent of respondents indicated that abstaining from all sexual relations would reduce the risk of AIDS, 43 percent indicated that limiting the number of sexual partners would do so, and 31 percent indicated that using condoms would do so. There were significant differentials

| Table 13.3 Knowledge of specific ways to avoid HIV/AIDS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by knowledge of programmatically important ways to avoid HIV/AIDS, and percentage of women who know of two specific ways to avoid HIV/AIDS, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Know | Programmatically important ways to avoid HIV/AIDS |  |  | Specific ways to avoid HIV/AIDS |  |  |  |
|  |  | HIV/AIDS <br> but not |  |  |  | Abstain from all |  | Limiting |  |
| Background characteristic | know of HIV/AIDS | avoid HIV/AIDS | One way | Two or more ways | Total | inter- <br> course | Using condoms | of sexual partners | of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 41.7 | 31.1 | 6.3 | 20.8 | 100.0 | 20.5 | 15.4 | 22.8 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 29.5 | 30.1 | 7.0 | 33.5 | 100.0 | 30.3 | 26.7 | 35.1 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 18.8 | 25.5 | 5.5 | 50.3 | 100.0 | 45.2 | 38.9 | 51.8 | 1,256 |
| 30-39 | 21.4 | 22.0 | 5.8 | 50.8 | 100.0 | 45.7 | 38.4 | 52.8 | 2,034 |
| 40-49 | 23.1 | 22.1 | 8.0 | 46.7 | 100.0 | 41.5 | 36.1 | 50.9 | 1,513 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living together | 22.6 | 24.2 | 6.0 | 47.2 | 100.0 | 41.9 | 36.0 | 49.6 | 4,892 |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | 22.8 | 22.8 | 7.2 | 47.2 | 100.0 | 42.4 | 39.1 | 49.4 | 463 |
| Never married | 35.9 | 29.9 | 7.3 | 26.9 | 100.0 | 26.1 | 20.4 | 28.8 | 2,563 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 19.9 | 23.6 | 6.7 | 49.7 | 100.0 | 42.6 | 42.8 | 50.7 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 33.0 | 28.0 | 6.3 | 32.7 | 100.0 | 31.8 | 21.0 | 36.1 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 13.9 | 17.9 | 8.4 | 59.8 | 100.0 | 46.0 | 56.2 | 61.5 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 26.1 | 30.7 | 6.2 | 37.0 | 100.0 | 31.1 | 30.3 | 40.9 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 43.7 | 13.0 | 4.6 | 38.7 | 100.0 | 36.4 | 31.6 | 39.0 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 30.3 | 28.6 | 9.2 | 31.9 | 100.0 | 30.7 | 21.8 | 37.1 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 23.8 | 35.0 | 5.4 | 35.8 | 100.0 | 33.5 | 26.5 | 36.6 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 28.1 | 22.2 | 4.9 | 44.7 | 100.0 | 43.9 | 29.8 | 45.8 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 33.4 | 29.1 | 5.7 | 31.8 | 100.0 | 30.3 | 22.2 | 33.9 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 11.2 | 19.7 | 8.3 | 60.9 | 100.0 | 53.1 | 51.4 | 63.3 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 3.7 | 10.8 | 9.8 | 75.6 | 100.0 | 58.5 | 68.0 | 78.9 | 563 |
| Total | 26.9 | 25.9 | 6.5 | 40.6 | 100.0 | 36.8 | 31.2 | 42.9 | 7,919 |
| Note: The programmatically important ways to avoid HIV/AIDS are abstaining from all sex, using condoms and limiting the number of sexual partners. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

by background characteristics in recognition of the risk-reducing effects of these behaviors. For example, the percentage of all respondents reporting that condom use could lower the risk of HIV infection was particularly low among women age 15-19 (15 percent), never-married women ( 20 percent), rural women ( 21 percent), and women with primary/secondary education ( 22 percent).

### 13.4 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS-related Issues

Respondents who had heard of AIDS were asked questions to determine the depth of their knowledge. These questions concerned whether a healthy-looking person can be infected with the AIDS virus, whether AIDS can be passed from a woman to her child, and whether the respondent knew anyone who was infected with the AIDS virus or who had died of AIDS. The results are presented in Table 13.4 in terms of the percentage of all respondents having specific knowledge (i.e., respondents reporting no knowledge of AIDS are included in the analysis as people lacking knowledge on the issues).

| Table 13.4 Knowledge of HIV/AIDS-related issues |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by responses to questions on various AIDS-related issues, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Percentage | Percentage who say HIV/AIDS can be transmitted from mother to child: |  |  | Percentage who know someone personally who has AIDS virus | Number <br> of <br> women |
| Background characteristic | healthylooking person can have AIDS | During delivery | Through pregnancy | Through breastfeeding |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 36.7 | 38.9 | 43.1 | 39.0 | 1.1 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 48.1 | 55.1 | 58.0 | 53.5 | 1.3 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 56.6 | 64.7 | 68.9 | 64.5 | 1.7 | 1,256 |
| 30-39 | 56.1 | 64.9 | 68.7 | 64.4 | 1.0 | 2,034 |
| 40-49 | 53.9 | 64.1 | 66.8 | 63.2 | 1.5 | 1,513 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living together | her 54.1 | 63.3 | 66.6 | 62.8 | 1.4 | 4,892 |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | , 58.7 | 64.5 | 68.1 | 61.7 | 1.4 | 463 |
| Never married | 41.7 | 45.6 | 49.6 | 45.0 | 1.1 | 2,563 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 58.3 | 64.0 | 67.8 | 61.9 | 1.4 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 43.4 | 52.1 | 55.4 | 52.7 | 1.2 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 63.7 | 70.5 | 73.6 | 62.7 | 1.5 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 46.3 | 64.8 | 66.2 | 59.5 | 0.4 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 48.7 | 48.3 | 49.2 | 48.6 | 0.5 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 43.8 | 56.4 | 59.5 | 60.5 | 1.5 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 45.0 | 58.2 | 61.4 | 54.7 | 0.4 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 56.7 | 49.9 | 57.0 | 54.2 | 2.6 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 43.4 | 50.7 | 54.0 | 51.0 | 1.3 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 66.4 | 73.4 | 78.0 | 71.3 | 1.4 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 77.9 | 85.3 | 89.2 | 78.8 | 1.3 | 563 |
| Total | 50.3 | 57.6 | 61.2 | 57.0 | 1.3 | 7,919 |

An important concept in HIV/AIDS prevention is the knowledge that a person can become HIV infected by having unprotected sex with a healthy-looking person who is HIV infected. Table 13.4 indicates that 50 percent of all respondents were aware that a healthy-looking person could be infected with the AIDS virus.

In terms of transmittal of the AIDS virus from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery or when breastfeeding, between 57 and 61 percent of respondents were aware that such transmittal was possible.

The percentage of respondents with personal knowledge of someone who is HIV infected or who has died of AIDS was very low, about 1 percent. This is undoubtedly a consequence of the fact that HIV/AIDS was relatively rare in Turkmenstan at the time of the survey.

### 13.5 Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Mitigation

The discussion of HIV/AIDS prevention with a spouse or cohabiting partner is an important aspect of preventive behavior. Table 13.5 indicates the proportion of currently married women who have ever discussed AIDS prevention with their partner. Approximately one-quarter ( 23 percent) of currently married women have no knowledge of AIDS. One-half of women ( 50 percent) know about AIDS but have not discussed AIDS prevention with their partner. And a final one-quarter of respondents ( 27 percent) have knowledge of AIDS and have discussed AIDS prevention with their partner.

| Table 13.5 Discussion of HIV/AIDS with partner |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women who are currently married or living with a partner by whether they ever discussed HIV/AIDS prevention with their husband/partner, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Discussed with partner how to prevent AIDS virus |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Yes | No | Has not heard of AIDS | Total | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 10.3 | 51.1 | 38.5 | 100.0 | 83 |
| 20-24 | 22.5 | 49.2 | 28.4 | 100.0 | 682 |
| 25-29 | 29.8 | 51.9 | 18.3 | 100.0 | 1,015 |
| 30-39 | 28.8 | 49.2 | 22.0 | 100.0 | 1,791 |
| 40-49 | 24.5 | 52.3 | 23.3 | 100.0 | 1,321 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 30.3 | 52.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 | 2,307 |
| Rural | 23.4 | 49.4 | 27.2 | 100.0 | 2,585 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 31.4 | 55.7 | 12.9 | 100.0 | 639 |
| Akhal | 3.6 | 74.2 | 22.2 | 100.0 | 699 |
| Balkan | 16.0 | 45.9 | 38.1 | 100.0 | 424 |
| Dashoguz | 23.7 | 49.3 | 27.1 | 100.0 | 950 |
| Lebap | 38.3 | 40.6 | 21.2 | 100.0 | 1,030 |
| Mary | 34.0 | 45.3 | 20.7 | 100.0 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 20.6 | 50.4 | 29.0 | 100.0 | 3,347 |
| Secondary-specia | 37.2 | 52.1 | 10.7 | 100.0 | 1,149 |
| Higher | 46.8 | 48.4 | 4.8 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Total | 26.7 | 50.6 | 22.7 | 100.0 | 4,892 |

The level of respondent communication with their partner about AIDS prevention is lowest among women 15-19 (10 percent), rural women ( 23 percent), women residing in Akhal (4 percent) and women with primary/secondary education (21 percent).

The social aspects of HIV/AIDS include, among other things, whether there is a negative attitude toward people with AIDS. Such attitudes can arise when the public perceives that this disease is primarily found among marginalized groups such as commercial sex workers and injecting drug users. Such attitudes are sometimes expressed by open discrimination, which is of concern to programs responsible for the mitigation of the effects of HIV/AIDS.

In the TDHS, respondents who had heard of AIDS were asked several questions designed to measure their attitude toward individuals infected with the AIDS virus. For example, respondents were asked whether they felt that a person who has the AIDS virus should be allowed to keep this information private or whether that information should be made available to the community.

Table 13.6 indicates that only a minority of respondents, 24 percent, felt that a person infected with HIV should be allowed to keep that information private. Regarding caring for a relative who has AIDS in their home, 45 percent of respondents indicated that they would not be willing to do so. Seventy-three percent of respondents indicated that a person with AIDS should not be allowed to continue working alongside other people in a shop or office.

Overall, these findings indicate an unsympathetic attitude toward individuals infected with the AIDS virus and, quite possibly, a mistaken idea that the virus can be readily transmitted through ordinary contact with an infected person.

| Table 13.6 Social aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Among women who have heard of AIDS, the percentage providing specific responses to various questions on social aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Believes a person with HIV/AIDS should be allowed to keep that information confidential | Not willing to care for relative with AIDS in home | Does not believe <br> a person with HIV/AIDS should be allowed to work along side other people in an office or shop | Number of women |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 24.4 | 46.0 | 73.1 | 917 |
| 20-24 | 26.8 | 42.9 | 69.4 | 1,087 |
| 25-29 | 23.4 | 44.1 | 71.5 | 1,021 |
| 30-39 | 21.4 | 46.1 | 74.5 | 1,598 |
| 40-49 | 24.9 | 44.8 | 76.2 | 1,163 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living together | 23.3 | 44.8 | 73.8 | 3,787 |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | 25.8 | 41.9 | 71.4 | 358 |
| Never married | 24.9 | 45.8 | 71.8 | 1,641 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 26.4 | 43.0 | 67.6 | 2,955 |
| Rural | 21.4 | 46.8 | 78.8 | 2,831 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 26.4 | 38.5 | 58.8 | 894 |
| Akhal | 29.2 | 52.5 | 63.3 | 847 |
| Balkan | 36.1 | 32.1 | 56.2 | 399 |
| Dashoguz | 5.1 | 79.5 | 85.6 | 1,135 |
| Lebap | 39.9 | 25.4 | 76.0 | 1,225 |
| Mary | 16.4 | 36.3 | 81.0 | 1,286 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 22.9 | 47.1 | 76.6 | 3,862 |
| Secondary-special | 26.1 | 42.4 | 67.5 | 1,382 |
| Higher | 25.9 | 35.7 | 62.5 | 542 |
| Total | 23.9 | 44.9 | 73.1 | 5,786 |

### 13.6 Acceptability of HIV/AIDS Messages in the Media

Respondents who reported that they knew about AIDS were asked to report whether they thought it was acceptable for HIV/AIDS educational messages to be broadcast on radio and television or to be published in newspapers. As indicated in Table 13.7, more than 95 percent of women indicated that it was acceptable for such messages to be presented in the mass media. High rates of media acceptability were indicated by respondents of all background characteristics.

| Table 13.7 Discussion of AIDS in the media |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Among women who have heard of AIDS, the percentage who think that discussion of AIDS in the media is acceptable, by media type and background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Discussion of AIDS acceptable |  |  | Discussion of AIDS not acceptable in any media | Number of women |
| Background characteristic | On radio | $\begin{aligned} & \text { On } \\ & \text { TV } \end{aligned}$ | In newspaper |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 94.5 | 95.3 | 95.3 | 4.5 | 917 |
| 20-24 | 95.8 | 96.0 | 96.0 | 3.9 | 1,087 |
| 25-29 | 96.6 | 96.5 | 96.5 | 3.2 | 1,021 |
| 30-39 | 96.9 | 97.3 | 97.2 | 2.6 | 1,598 |
| 40-49 | 97.3 | 97.5 | 97.6 | 2.4 | 1,163 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living together | 96.9 | 97.1 | 97.1 | 2.7 | 3,787 |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | 97.0 | 97.2 | 97.2 | 2.8 | 358 |
| Never married | 94.9 | 95.4 | 95.4 | 4.3 | 1,641 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 95.7 | 96.0 | 96.0 | 3.8 | 2,955 |
| Rural | 97.0 | 97.3 | 97.3 | 2.6 | 2,831 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 95.1 | 95.9 | 95.7 | 4.1 | 894 |
| Akhal | 94.7 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 5.0 | 847 |
| Balkan | 89.1 | 90.3 | 90.9 | 9.1 | 399 |
| Dashoguz | 98.3 | 98.4 | 98.4 | 1.4 | 1,135 |
| Lebap | 97.3 | 97.3 | 97.3 | 2.5 | 1,225 |
| Mary | 97.9 | 98.1 | 97.9 | 1.8 | 1,286 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 95.2 | 95.7 | 95.6 | 4.2 | 3,862 |
| Secondary-special | 98.4 | 98.4 | 98.5 | 1.4 | 1,382 |
| Higher | 99.1 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 0.6 | 542 |
| Total | 96.4 | 96.6 | 96.6 | 3.2 | 5,786 |

### 13.7 Knowledge of Symptoms of Sexually Transmitted Infections

The presence of sexually transmitted infections, such as syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia, increases the likelihood that HIV will spread rapidly throughout a population. Therefore, HIV/AIDS prevention programs should address the prevention and treatment of STIs. Improving knowledge of STIs and their symptoms, along with promotion of changes in sexual behavior, are important components of such programs.

In the TDHS, respondents were asked whether they had heard of any STIs other than AIDS. Table 13.8 indicates that only 48 percent of respondents reported that they had heard of any STIs other than AIDS. This is less than the percentage of respondents reporting knowledge of AIDS (73 percent). The percentage of women with knowledge of STIs was particularly low among women 15-19 (29 percent), never-married women ( 35 percent), rural women ( 38 percent), and those with the lowest level of education ( 37 percent).

Respondents reporting knowledge of STIs were also asked which signs and symptoms would be evident in an infected man and in an infected woman. Overall, only 28 percent of respondents mentioned one or more specific signs or symptoms of male STIs. A total of 73 percent of respondents were unaware of any sign or symptom of male STIs ( 52 percent were unaware of STIs, and 21 percent were unable to indicate any symptom).

Respondent knowledge of female STIs differed little from their knowledge of male STIs. Overall, only 34 percent of respondents mentioned one or more specific signs or symptoms of female STIs. A total of 66 percent of respondents were unaware of any sign or symptom of female STIs (52 percent were unaware of STIs, and 14 percent were unable to indicate any symptom).

| Table 13.8 Knowledge of signs and symptoms of STIs |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of women by knowledge of signs and symptoms associated with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in men and women, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in men |  |  | Knowledge of symptoms of STIs in women |  |  | Number |
| Background characteristic | No knowledge of STIs | Does not know any STI symptoms | Knows one symptom | Knows two or more symptoms | Does not know any STI symptoms | Knows one symptom | Knows two or more symptoms |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 70.6 | 17.2 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 15.0 | 5.5 | 8.5 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 56.8 | 20.7 | 7.6 | 14.7 | 15.4 | 7.4 | 20.2 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 45.4 | 20.4 | 10.6 | 23.5 | 12.0 | 9.8 | 32.8 | 1,256 |
| 30-39 | 44.0 | 21.4 | 10.5 | 23.7 | 13.0 | 10.3 | 32.3 | 2,034 |
| 40-49 | 42.6 | 22.4 | 9.4 | 25.3 | 14.2 | 10.5 | 32.5 | 1,513 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living togeth | ther 45.8 | 21.1 | 10.1 | 22.7 | 13.0 | 9.9 | 31.0 | 4,892 |
| Divorced, separated or widowed | d, 39.8 | 23.0 | 9.4 | 27.8 | 14.4 | 12.7 | 33.1 | 463 |
| Never married | 65.2 | 18.8 | 6.3 | 9.5 | 15.7 | 5.9 | 13.0 | 2,563 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 40.1 | 22.7 | 10.3 | 26.7 | 15.4 | 10.0 | 34.2 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 61.9 | 18.6 | 7.6 | 11.8 | 12.7 | 7.7 | 17.5 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 30.3 | 19.4 | 13.6 | 35.7 | 15.5 | 11.9 | 41.4 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 50.8 | 3.3 | 19.4 | 26.4 | 2.6 | 16.7 | 29.9 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 60.6 | 15.3 | 8.1 | 15.9 | 9.9 | 6.9 | 22.5 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 62.6 | 14.2 | 5.9 | 17.0 | 8.9 | 6.8 | 21.4 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 39.7 | 41.6 | 6.4 | 12.2 | 26.5 | 8.9 | 24.8 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 62.3 | 20.8 | 4.4 | 12.5 | 15.2 | 4.3 | 18.2 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 62.7 | 17.8 | 7.9 | 11.5 | 12.7 | 8.1 | 16.3 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 24.7 | 27.1 | 12.6 | 35.3 | 16.7 | 11.5 | 46.8 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 13.8 | 30.0 | 7.9 | 48.0 | 18.9 | 8.2 | 58.8 | 563 |
| Total | 51.8 | 20.5 | 8.8 | 18.7 | 13.9 | 8.8 | 25.3 | 7,919 |

### 13.8 Sexual Behavior

The promotion of safe sexual behavior has been the most significant component of HIV/AIDS prevention programs to date. This component includes encouraging mutually monogamous relationships, eliminating sexual contacts outside marriage, and using condoms, especially with noncohabiting sexual partners. Accordingly, information on sexual behavior is important to designing and monitoring HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

The TDHS included questions about the sexual relations of respondents during the last 12 months by type of partner (spouse/cohabiting partner or noncohabiting partner). These questions determined the proportion of currently married and unmarried respondents who have had sex with a noncohabiting partner in the recent past.

Table 13.9 presents results for married women. Overall, 3 percent of married women reported having had sexual relations with someone other than their spouse or cohabiting partner during the past 12 months. This percentage tends to increase with the age of the respondent and is higher among women residing in urban areas ( 5 percent) than in rural areas ( 0.3 percent) and highest among women residing in Ashgabad (8 percent).

| Table 13.9 Number of sexual partners of married women |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of currently married women by number of persons with whom they had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, excluding spouse or cohabitating partner, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of partners excluding spouse or cohabiting partner |  |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | 0 | 1 | $2+$ | Total | Number |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 83 |
| 20-24 | 98.2 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 682 |
| 25-29 | 95.9 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 1,015 |
| 30-39 | 97.4 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 1,791 |
| 40-49 | 97.0 | 2.7 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,321 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 94.3 | 5.4 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 2,307 |
| Rural | 99.7 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,585 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 91.8 | 7.9 | 0.3 | 100.0 | 639 |
| Akhal | 98.3 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 699 |
| Balkan | 96.7 | 2.7 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 424 |
| Dashoguz | 99.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 950 |
| Lebap | 97.6 | 2.3 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 1,030 |
| Mary | 97.3 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 100.0 | 1,150 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 98.6 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 3,347 |
| Secondary-special | 93.3 | 6.3 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 1,149 |
| Higher | 96.3 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 396 |
| Total | 97.1 | 2.7 | 0.1 | 100.0 | 4,892 |

Table 13.10 shows results for unmarried women. About 3 percent of unmarried women reported having sex during the last 12 months. As might be expected, the percentage who reported having had sex increased with the respondent's age, was higher among women residing in urban areas ( 5 percent) than in rural areas ( 1 percent), and was highest among women residing in Ashgabad ( 6 percent). It should be noted that virtually all unmarried women who had sexual relations in the last 12 months were formerly married but, at the time of the survey, were either divorced, separated, or widowed. Among formerly married respondents, 18 percent reported having sexual relations in the last 12 months.

| Table 13.10 Number of sexual partners of unmarried women |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent distribution of unmarried women by number of persons with whom they had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Number of partners |  |  |  |  |
| characteristic | 0 | 1 | Total | Number |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 99.6 | 0.4 | 100.0 | 1,491 |
| 20-24 | 98.2 | 1.8 | 100.0 | 859 |
| 25-29 | 93.9 | 6.1 | 100.0 | 241 |
| 30-39 | 88.5 | 11.5 | 100.0 | 243 |
| 40-49 | 89.4 | 10.6 | 100.0 | 192 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | 82.0 | 18.0 | 100.0 | 463 |
| Never married | 100.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 2,563 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 95.4 | 4.6 | 100.0 | 1,383 |
| Rural | 98.8 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 1,643 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 94.4 | 5.6 | 100.0 | 399 |
| Akhal | 98.8 | 1.2 | 100.0 | 447 |
| Balkan | 97.3 | 2.7 | 100.0 | 285 |
| Dashoguz | 98.3 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 678 |
| Lebap | 96.1 | 3.9 | 100.0 | 577 |
| Mary | 97.8 | 2.2 | 100.0 | 641 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 98.2 | 1.8 | 100.0 | 2,453 |
| Secondary-special | 91.9 | 8.1 | 100.0 | 407 |
| Higher | 96.1 | 3.9 | 100.0 | 166 |
| Total | 97.2 | 2.8 | 100.0 | 3,027 |

### 13.9 Knowledge of Condoms

Knowledge and use of condoms can play an important role in preventing the spread of AIDS. Table 13.11 provides information on condom awareness among women in Turkmenistan. Among all respondents, 61 percent indicated that they knew about male condoms, and 45 percent indicated that they knew of a place where they could obtain condoms, but only 33 percent indicated that they, themselves, could get condoms if they wanted to do so.

Knowledge and access to condoms varied widely by background characteristics of respondents. Younger women, never-married women, rural women, and less educated women were less aware of condoms, less aware of where to obtain condoms, and less confident of their ability to obtain them. These are the same categories of women that were identified earlier in this chapter as having less knowledge about HIV/AIDS and less knowledge of the signs and symptoms of STIs.

| Table 13.11 Knowledge and source of male condom and access |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of women who know about male condoms, percentage who know a source for male condoms, and the percentage who think they themselves could get a male condom, according to background characteristics, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Background characteristic | Knows about male condoms | Knows a source for male condoms | Could get a male condom herself | Number |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 15-19 | 37.9 | 27.3 | 13.3 | 1,574 |
| 20-24 | 56.1 | 39.7 | 25.2 | 1,541 |
| 25-29 | 70.7 | 51.7 | 40.6 | 1,256 |
| 30-39 | 72.3 | 53.5 | 43.2 | 2,034 |
| 40-49 | 66.3 | 50.8 | 41.8 | 1,513 |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |
| Married/living together | er 69.7 | 50.3 | 40.9 | 4,892 |
| Divorced, separated, or widowed | , 71.0 | 59.6 | 47.8 | 463 |
| Never married | 42.3 | 31.6 | 15.5 | 2,563 |
| Residence |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 73.5 | 61.5 | 46.5 | 3,691 |
| Rural | 49.9 | 30.2 | 21.4 | 4,228 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |
| Ashgabad City | 81.5 | 74.4 | 61.2 | 1,038 |
| Akhal | 62.3 | 55.6 | 38.2 | 1,145 |
| Balkan | 56.9 | 38.8 | 28.4 | 709 |
| Dashoguz | 34.6 | 25.3 | 15.2 | 1,628 |
| Lebap | 76.0 | 56.6 | 43.0 | 1,607 |
| Mary | 60.0 | 30.3 | 22.8 | 1,791 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |
| Primary/secondary | 51.4 | 34.3 | 23.8 | 5,800 |
| Secondary-special | 84.9 | 70.2 | 54.8 | 1,556 |
| Higher | 92.0 | 83.6 | 68.4 | 563 |
| Total | 60.9 | 44.8 | 33.1 | 7,919 |

### 13.10 Summary

The survey revealed that women of reproductive age have a limited degree of awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS. Seventy-three percent of respondents reported having heard of HIV/AIDS, and only 50 percent believed that they could adopt behavior patterns that would reduce their risk the disease. The limited knowledge about AIDS was further indicated by the low percentage who reported that condom use was a risk-reducing behavior. Thus, many more respondents could report name-recognition of AIDS than had an understanding of its means of transmission or of riskreducing behavior patterns.

Significant difference in awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS was found by background characteristics of respondents. Women age 15-19 (and to some extent women age 20-24), never-married women, rural women, and women with primary/secondary education were much less informed. Thus, although it appears that the depth of knowledge about HIV/AIDS is limited throughout the population of women of reproductive age, there are specific sectors of the population that should be targeted by HIV/AIDS education programs.

The survey also found that in Turkmenistan there is social stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. A high percentage of respondents who had heard of AIDS indicated that infected people should not be allowed to keep that information confidential but that it should be available to members of the community ( 76 percent). Additionally, a relatively high percentage of respondents reported that an infected person should not be allowed to work alongside other people in a shop or office (73 percent). These results suggest that respondents hold the mistaken idea that the HIV virus can be transmitted through ordinary contact between people.

The survey has made it clear that much more could be done in terms of educating the population about HIV/AIDS. It is significant for education programs that more than 95 percent of respondents felt it would be acceptable to use the media (radio, television, and newspapers) to provide HIV/AIDS educational messages to the public. Thus, although Turkmenistan is not in the grip of the AIDS epidemic that has struck many parts of the world, greater effort in the area of HIV/AIDS education would seem to be appropriate.

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## A. Aliaga

## A. 1 Sample Design

The sample for the 2000 TDHS was designed to allow statistical analysis at the national level, for urban and rural areas, and for the six regions of the country (Ashgabad City, Akhal, Balkan, Dashoguz, Lebap, and Mary).

The sample design was specified in terms of a target number of households in the six regions of Turkmenistan. The overall target number of households was set at 6,800 . This number was allocated to the regions as follows: 800 to Ashgabad City, 1,000 to each of 4 regions (Akhal, Balkan, Lebap and Mary) and 2,000 to the remaining region (Dashoguz), for which more intensive analysis was desired (see Table A.1).

The six regions of the country were further stratified into urban areas (cities, towns and small settlements) and rural areas (villages). The sampling frame consisted of the list of standard segments. Each standard segment was created on the basis of contiguous blocks that have clear boundaries-coinciding to the extent possible with census supervisor areas-and have between 200 and 500 households according to measures of size estimated by projection from to the 1995 Census data.

| Table A. 1 Sample allocation |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Distribution of standard segments in the DHS sample by region and urban-rural residence, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |
| Region | Target number of households | Number of selected standard segments | Number of urban standard segments | Number of rural standard segments |
| Ashgabad | 800 | 34 | 34 | 0 |
| Akhal | 1000 | 35 | 11 | 24 |
| Balkan | 1000 | 35 | 27 | 8 |
| Dashoguz | 2000 | 57 | 22 | 35 |
| Lebap | 1000 | 35 | 15 | 20 |
| Mary | 1000 | 35 | 9 | 26 |
| Total | 6800 | 231 | 118 | 113 |

## A. 2 Sample Selection

The sample was designed as a two-stage probability sample. Within regions the sample was to be self-weighting. The first stage involved the selection of standard segments (PSUs) by systematic sampling with probability proportional to size. This resulted in the selection of 231 standard segments:118 in urban areas and 113 in rural areas. A household listing operation was conducted in each selected standard segment. In the second stage, households were selected with probability proportional to the inverse of the first stage selection probability. On average, the number of households selected per standard segment was 28.

Since the sample for each of the six survey regions was self-weighting, the sampling fraction for each region was an important design parameter. The sampling fractions were estimated with projected census figures. The weighting factors for the six survey regions are inversely proportional to the sampling fractions.

## A. 3 Sample Implementation

Implementation of the sample design resulted in the selection of 6,850 households. The data on household membership and age collected in the Household Questionnaire identified 8,250 women eligible for the Women's Questionnaire (i.e., women age 15-49 who were usual household members or who stayed in the household the night before the interviewer's visit) (Table A.2).

From the 6,850 selected households, 6,391 were identified as current households and household interviews were completed in 6,302. This yields a household response rate of 98.6 percent. Of the 8,250 women who were eligible respondents, a total of 7,919 were interviewed. This yields an eligible woman response rate of 96.0 percent.

The overall response rate ( 94.7 percent) is the product of the household response rate and the eligible woman response rate. The overall response rate varies by region from 85.6 percent in Ashgabad City to 97.4 percent in the Balkan Region.

## A. 2 Sample implementation

Percent distribution of households and eligible women in the DHS sample by results of the interview and household, eligible woman, and overall response rates, according to sample domain and urban-rural residence, Turkmenistan 2000

| Result of interview and response rate | Region |  |  |  |  |  | Residence |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Ashgabad | Akhal | Balkan | Dashoguz | Lebap | Mary | Urban | Rural | Total |
| Selected households |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Completed (C) | 80.5 | 89.2 | 91.8 | 95.6 | 94.4 | 93.9 | 88.9 | 95.7 | 92.0 |
| Household present but no competent respondent at home (HP) | 2.1 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Postponed (P) | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Refused (R) | 3.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| Dwelling not found (DNF) | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Household absent (HA) | 8.6 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 1.9 | 3.9 |
| Dwelling vacant/address not a dwelling (DV) | 4.4 | 4.2 | 2.8 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 2.5 |
| Dwelling destroyed (DD) | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other (O) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of households | 780 | 956 | 992 | 2,032 | 1,040 | 1,050 | 3,688 | 3,162 | 6,850 |
| Household response rate (HRR) ${ }^{1}$ | 93.0 | 98.3 | 98.9 | 99.7 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 97.9 | 99.4 | 98.6 |
| Eligible women |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Completed (EWC) | 92.0 | 93.8 | 98.4 | 96.9 | 96.8 | 95.2 | 96.3 | 95.7 | 96.0 |
| Not at home (EWNH) | 4.6 | 5.4 | 0.6 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 3.4 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 2.7 |
| Postponed (EWP) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Refused (EWR) | 2.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Partly completed (EWPC) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Incapacitated | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Other | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number of women | 636 | 1,153 | 1,016 | 2,925 | 1,305 | 1,215 | 3,836 | 4,414 | 8,250 |
| Eligible woman response rate (EWRR) ${ }^{2}$ | 92.0 | 93.8 | 98.4 | 96.9 | 96.8 | 95.2 | 96.3 | 95.7 | 96.0 |
| Overall response rate (ORR) | 85.6 | 92.1 | 97.4 | 96.6 | 96.3 | 94.7 | 94.3 | 95.2 | 94.7 |

Note: The household response rate is calculated for completed households as a proportion of completed, no competent respondent, refused, and dwelling not found. The eligible woman response rate is calculated for completed interviews as a proportion of completed, not at home, postponed, refused, partially completed, incapacitated and "other." The overall response rate is the product of the household and eligible woman response rates.
${ }^{1}$ Using the number of households falling into specific response categories, the household response rate (HRR) is calculated as:

$$
\frac{\mathrm{C}}{\mathrm{C}+\mathrm{HP}+\mathrm{P}+\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{D} \overline{\mathrm{NF}}} * 100
$$

${ }^{2}$ Using the number of eligible women falling into specific response categories, the eligible woman response rate (EWRR) is calculated as:

## ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERRORS

## appendix

The estimates from a sample survey are affected by two types of errors: 1) nonsampling errors and 2) sampling errors. Nonsampling errors are the results of mistakes made in implementing data collection and data processing, such as failure to locate and interview the correct household, misunderstanding of the questions on the part of either the interviewer or the respondent, and data entry errors. Although numerous efforts were made during the implementation of the TDHS 2000 to minimize this type of error, nonsampling errors are impossible to avoid and difficult to evaluate statistically.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, can be evaluated statistically. The sample of respondents selected in the TDHS 2000 is only one of many samples that could have been selected from the same population, using the same design and expected size. Each of these samples would yield results that differ somewhat from the results of the actual sample selected. Sampling errors are a measure of the variability between all possible samples. Although the degree of variability is not known exactly, it can be estimated from the survey results.

A sampling error is usually measured in terms of the standard error for a particular statistic (mean, percentage, etc.), which is the square root of the variance. The standard error can be used to calculate confidence intervals within which the true value for the population can reasonably be assumed to fall. For example, for any given statistic calculated from a sample survey, the value of that statistic will fall within a range of plus or minus two times the standard error of that statistic in 95 percent of all possible samples of identical size and design.

If the sample of respondents had been selected as a simple random sample, it would have been possible to use straightforward formulas for calculating sampling errors. However, the 2000 Turkmenistan DHS sample is the result of a two-stage stratified design, and consequently, it was necessary to use more complex formulae. The computer software used to calculate sampling errors for the TDHS 2000 is the ISSA Sampling Error Module (SAMPERR). This module used the Taylor linearization method of variance estimation for survey estimates that are means or proportions. The Jackknife repeated replication method is used for variance estimation of more complex statistics such as fertility and mortality rates.

The Taylor linearization method treats any percentage or average as a ratio estimate, $r=y / x$, where $y$ represents the total sample value for variable $y$, and $x$ represents the total number of cases in the group or subgroup under consideration. The variance of $r$ is computed using the formula given below, with the standard error being the square root of the variance:

$$
\operatorname{var}(v)=\frac{l-f}{x^{2}} \sum_{A-1}^{B}\left[\frac{m_{A}}{m_{A}-l}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m_{k}} z_{h l}^{2}-\frac{z_{k}^{2}}{m_{A}}\right)\right]
$$

in which

$$
z_{h i}=y_{h i}-r . x_{h i}, \text { and } z_{h}=y_{h}-r . x_{h}
$$

where $h \quad$ represents the stratum that varies from 1 to $H$,
$m_{h} \quad$ is the total number of clusters selected in the $h^{\text {th }}$ stratum,
$y_{h i} \quad$ is the sum of the weighted values of variable $y$ in the $i^{\text {th }}$ cluster in the $h^{\text {th }}$ stratum,
$x_{h i} \quad$ is the sum of the weighted number of cases in the $i^{\text {th }}$ cluster in the $h^{\text {th }}$ stratum, and
$f \quad$ is the overall sampling fraction, which is so small that it is ignored.
The Jackknife repeated replication method derives estimates of complex rates from each of several replications of the parent sample and calculates standard errors for these estimates using simple formulae. Each replication considers all but one cluster in the calculation of the estimates. Pseudoindependent replications are thus created. In the TDHS 2000, there were 231 non-empty clusters. Hence, 231 replications were created. The variance of a rate $r$ is calculated as follows:

$$
E T^{2}(R)=\operatorname{var}(y)=\frac{l}{k(k-l)} \sum_{i=1}^{k}\left(\gamma_{i}-\gamma\right)^{2}
$$

in which

$$
r_{1}=k r-(k-I) r_{N}
$$

where $r$ is the estimate computed from the full sample of 231 clusters,
$r_{(I)} \quad$ is the estimate computed from the reduced sample of 230 clusters ( $i^{\text {th }}$ cluster excluded), and
$k \quad$ is the total number of clusters.
In addition to the standard error, SAMPERR computes the design effect (DEFT) for each estimate, which is defined as the ratio between the standard error using the given sample design and the standard error that would result if a simple random sample had been used. A DEFT value of 1.0 indicates that the sample design is as efficient as a simple random sample, while a value greater than 1.0 indicates the increase in the sampling error due to the use of a more complex and less statistically efficient design. SAMPERR also computes the relative error and confidence limits for the estimates.

Sampling errors for the TDHS 2000 are calculated for selected variables considered to be of primary interest. One set of results for women is presented in this appendix for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas, for each of the six domains: Ashgabad City, Akhal, Balkan, Dashoguz, Lebap, and Mary regions. For each variable, the type of statistic (mean, proportion, or rate) and the base population are given in Table B.1. Tables B. 2 to B. 10 present the value of the statistic (R), its standard error (SE), the number of unweighted (N) and weighted (WN) cases, the design effect, the relative standard error (SE/R), and the 95 percent confidence limits ( $R \pm 2 S E$ ), for each variable. The DEFT is considered undefined when the standard error considering simple random sample is zero (when the estimate is close to 0 or 1 ).

In general, the relative standard error for most estimates for the country as a whole is small, except for estimates of very small proportions. There are some differentials in the relative standard error for the estimates of subpopulations. For example, for the variable using any contraceptive method, the relative standard errors as a percentage of the estimated mean for the whole country, for urban areas, and for rural areas are 1.1 percent, 1.6 percent, and 1.5 percent, respectively.

The confidence interval (e.g., as calculated for the variable using any method can be interpreted as follows: the overall national sample proportion is 0.618 and its standard error is 0.007. Therefore, to obtain the 95 percent confidence limits, one adds and subtracts twice the standard error to the sample estimate, i.e., $0.618 \pm 2$ ( 0.007 ). There is a high probability ( 95 percent) that the true proportion of all women 15-49 using a contraceptive method is between 60.4 and 63.2 percent.

Table B. 1 List of selected variables for sampling errors, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Estimate | Base Population |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Urban resident | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Primary/secondary education | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Secondary-special education | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Never in union | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Currently in union | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Ever in union before 20 | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Sex before 18 | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Children ever born | Mean | All women 15-49 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | Mean | All women 40-49 |
| Children surviving | Mean | All women 15-49 |
| Knowing any method | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Knowing any modern method | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Ever used any method | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using any method | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using any modern method | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using pill | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using IUD | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using condom | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using female sterilization | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Currently using abstinence | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using withdrawal | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Using LAM | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Public source user | Proportion | User modern method |
| Desires no more children | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | Proportion | Currently married women 15-49 |
| Ideal number of children | Mean | All women 15-49 |
| BMI < 18.5 | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| BMI > 30.0 | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Women with severe anemia | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Women with moderate anemia | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Women with mild anemia | Proportion | All women 15-49 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | Proportion | Birth in last 5 years |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | Proportion | Children under 5 |
| Treated with ORS packets | Proportion | Children under 5 with diarrhea in last 2 weeks |
| Sought medical treatment | Proportion | Children under 5 with diarrhea in last 2 weeks |
| Received BCG vaccination | Proportion | Children 12-23 months |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | Proportion | Children 12-23 months |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | Proportion | Children 12-23 months |
| Received measles vaccination | Proportion | Children 12-23 months |
| Fully immunized | Proportion | Children 12-23 months |
| Children's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | Proportion | Children under 5 who were measured |
| Children's height-for-age (<-2 SD) | Proportion | Children under 5 who were measured |
| Children's weight-for-age (<-2 SD) | Proportion | Children under 5 who were measured |
| Children with severe anemia | Proportion | Children under 5 who were tested |
| Children with moderate anemia | Proportion | Children under 5 who were tested |
| Children with mild anemia | Proportion | Children under 5 who were tested |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | Rate | Woman-years of exposure to childbearing |
| Neonatal mortality rate | Rate | Number of births |
| Infant mortality rate | Rate | Number of births |
| Child mortality rate | Rate | Number of births |
| Under-five mortality rate | Rate | Number of births |
| Postneonatal mortality rate | Rate | Number of births |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | Rate | Woman-years of exposure to childbearing |

Table B. 2 Sampling errors for women: Total sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  | Design effect (DEFT) | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) |  |  | R-2SE | $\mathrm{R}+2 \mathrm{SE}$ |
| Urban resident | 0.466 | 0.013 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 2.371 | 0.029 | 0.439 | 0.493 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.732 | 0.008 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.604 | 0.011 | 0.717 | 0.748 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.268 | 0.008 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.604 | 0.030 | 0.252 | 0.283 |
| Never in union | 0.324 | 0.007 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.267 | 0.021 | 0.310 | 0.337 |
| Currently in union | 0.618 | 0.006 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.133 | 0.010 | 0.605 | 0.630 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.292 | 0.008 | 6,330 | 6,345 | 1.323 | 0.026 | 0.277 | 0.308 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.079 | 0.005 | 6,330 | 6,345 | 1.378 | 0.059 | 0.069 | 0.088 |
| Children ever born | 2.122 | 0.027 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.057 | 0.013 | 2.068 | 2.176 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 4.842 | 0.073 | 1,473 | 1,513 | 1.218 | 0.015 | 4.695 | 4.989 |
| Children surviving | 1.896 | 0.024 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.068 | 0.013 | 1.848 | 1.944 |
| Knowing any method | 0.993 | 0.001 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.216 | 0.001 | 0.991 | 0.996 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.993 | 0.001 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.211 | 0.001 | 0.990 | 0.996 |
| Ever used any method | 0.891 | 0.004 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 0.982 | 0.005 | 0.883 | 0.900 |
| Using any method | 0.618 | 0.007 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 0.985 | 0.011 | 0.604 | 0.632 |
| Using any modern method | 0.531 | 0.007 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.014 | 0.014 | 0.516 | 0.545 |
| Using pill | 0.012 | 0.002 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.164 | 0.150 | 0.009 | 0.016 |
| Using IUD | 0.390 | 0.007 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.035 | 0.019 | 0.376 | 0.405 |
| Using condom | 0.020 | 0.003 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.260 | 0.125 | 0.015 | 0.026 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.018 | 0.002 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.215 | 0.128 | 0.014 | 0.023 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.021 | 0.002 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.038 | 0.102 | 0.017 | 0.025 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.053 | 0.004 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.086 | 0.066 | 0.046 | 0.061 |
| Using LAM | 0.049 | 0.003 | 7,919 | 7,919 | 1.093 | 0.054 | 0.044 | 0.055 |
| Public source user | 0.841 | 0.008 | 2,653 | 2,678 | 1.105 | 0.009 | 0.826 | 0.857 |
| Desires no more children | 0.532 | 0.009 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.242 | 0.017 | 0.514 | 0.550 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.171 | 0.006 | 4,829 | 4,892 | 1.135 | 0.036 | 0.159 | 0.184 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.341 | 0.022 | 7,357 | 7,449 | 1.306 | 0.007 | 3.296 | 3.386 |
| BMI < 18.5 | 0.099 | 0.004 | 7,340 | 7,310 | 1.165 | 0.041 | 0.091 | 0.107 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.799 | 0.006 | 7,340 | 7,310 | 1.195 | 0.007 | 0.788 | 0.811 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.102 | 0.004 | 7,340 | 7,310 | 1.238 | 0.043 | 0.094 | 0.111 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.050 | 0.003 | 7,328 | 7,298 | 1.188 | 0.060 | 0.044 | 0.056 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.011 | 0.001 | 7,765 | 7,714 | 1.141 | 0.124 | 0.008 | 0.013 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.084 | 0.004 | 7,765 | 7,714 | 1.368 | 0.051 | 0.075 | 0.092 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.378 | 0.008 | 7,765 | 7,714 | 1.439 | 0.021 | 0.362 | 0.394 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.972 | 0.004 | 3,624 | 3,583 | 1.136 | 0.004 | 0.964 | 0.980 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.032 | 0.004 | 3,342 | 3,292 | 1.138 | 0.112 | 0.025 | 0.039 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.759 | 0.046 | 96 | 105 | 1.098 | 0.061 | 0.666 | 0.851 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.385 | 0.057 | 96 | 105 | 1.167 | 0.149 | 0.271 | 0.499 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.933 | 0.013 | 634 | 646 | 1.292 | 0.014 | 0.908 | 0.959 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.922 | 0.013 | 634 | 646 | 1.214 | 0.014 | 0.896 | 0.948 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.915 | 0.013 | 634 | 646 | 1.215 | 0.015 | 0.888 | 0.942 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.875 | 0.016 | 634 | 646 | 1.186 | 0.018 | 0.844 | 0.906 |
| Fully immunized | 0.848 | 0.017 | 634 | 646 | 1.165 | 0.019 | 0.815 | 0.881 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.057 | 0.005 | 2,974 | 2,928 | 1.043 | 0.081 | 0.048 | 0.067 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.223 | 0.009 | 2,974 | 2,928 | 1.127 | 0.040 | 0.205 | 0.242 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | 0.120 | 0.007 | 2,974 | 2,928 | 1.156 | 0.060 | 0.106 | 0.134 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.006 | 0.002 | 2,632 | 2,647 | 1.150 | 0.297 | 0.002 | 0.009 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.157 | 0.009 | 2,632 | 2,647 | 1.182 | 0.055 | 0.140 | 0.175 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.196 | 0.011 | 2,632 | 2,647 | 1.340 | 0.054 | 0.175 | 0.217 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.889 | 0.084 | na | 22,320 | 1.466 | 0.029 | 2.721 | 3.058 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (5 years) | 33.790 | 3.322 | 3,723 | 3,681 | 1.040 | 0.098 | 27.146 | 40.435 |
| Infant mortality rate (5 years) | 73.874 | 5.398 | 3,741 | 3,696 | 1.174 | 0.073 | 63.078 | 84.669 |
| Child mortality rate (5 years) | 22.019 | 2.414 | 3,746 | 3,706 | 1.007 | 0.110 | 17.192 | 26.846 |
| Under-five mortality rate (5 years) | 94.266 | 6.140 | 3,766 | 3,724 | 1.238 | 0.065 | 81.9851 | 06.547 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (5 years) | 40.083 | 4.154 | 3,739 | 3,693 | 1.219 | 0.104 | 31.775 | 48.391 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.847 | 0.052 | na | 22,320 | 1.276 | 0.062 | 0.742 | 0.952 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Table B. 3 Sampling errors for women: Urban sample, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of cases |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Standard | Un- | Weight- | Design | Relative |  | idence ervals |
| Variable | (R) | (SE) | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) | (SE/R) | R-2SE | $R+2 S E$ |
| Urban resident | 1.000 | 0.000 | 3,693 | 3691 | na | 0.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.605 | 0.013 | 3,693 | 3691 | 1.645 | 0.022 | 0.579 | 0.632 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.395 | 0.013 | 3,693 | 3,691 | 1.645 | 0.034 | 0.368 | 0.421 |
| Never in union | 0.286 | 0.012 | 3,693 | 3,691 | 1.581 | 0.041 | 0.263 | 0.310 |
| Currently in union | 0.625 | 0.010 | 3,693 | 3,691 | 1.249 | 0.016 | 0.605 | 0.645 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.328 | 0.011 | 3,018 | 3,032 | 1.314 | 0.034 | 0.306 | 0.351 |
| Sex before 18 | $0.093$ | $0.008$ | 3,018 | 3,032 | 1.425 | 0.081 | 0.078 | 0.108 |
| Children ever born | $1.992$ | $0.043$ | $3,693$ | $3,691$ | 1.284 | 0.021 | 1.906 | 2.077 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | $4.051$ | $0.113$ | 757 | 790 | 1.481 | 0.028 | 3.824 | $4.278$ |
| Children surviving | $1.809$ | $0.038$ | 3,693 | 3,691 | 1.297 | 0.021 | 1.733 | $1.885$ |
| Knowing any method | $0.991$ | $0.003$ | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.257 | 0.003 | 0.986 | $0.996$ |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.991 | 0.003 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.257 | 0.003 | 0.986 | 0.996 |
| Ever used any method | 0.897 | 0.006 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.002 | 0.007 | 0.884 | 0.910 |
| Using any method | 0.623 | 0.010 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.014 | 0.016 | 0.603 | 0.644 |
| Using any modern method | 0.526 | 0.012 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.121 | 0.022 | 0.503 | 0.549 |
| Using pill | 0.020 | 0.003 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.182 | 0.172 | 0.013 | 0.027 |
| Using IUD | 0.382 | 0.011 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.118 | 0.030 | 0.359 | 0.404 |
| Using condom | 0.034 | 0.005 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.332 | 0.148 | 0.024 | 0.044 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.019 | 0.004 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.233 | 0.183 | 0.012 | 0.027 |
| Currently using abstinence | $0.032$ | $0.004$ | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.094 | 0.126 | 0.024 | 0.040 |
| Using withdrawal | $0.048$ | $0.005$ | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.206 | 0.112 | 0.037 | 0.059 |
| Using LAM | 0.036 | 0.004 | 3,693 | 3,691 | 1.233 | 0.105 | 0.028 | 0.044 |
| Public source user | 0.879 | 0.011 | 1,282 | 1,284 | 1.257 | 0.013 | 0.856 | 0.902 |
| Desires no more children | 0.536 | 0.014 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.304 | 0.025 | 0.508 | 0.563 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.156 | 0.009 | 2,288 | 2,307 | 1.232 | 0.060 | 0.137 | 0.174 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.149 | 0.041 | 3,487 | 3,536 | 1.648 | 0.013 | 3.068 | 3.230 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.095 | 0.007 | 3,427 | 3,390 | 1.377 | 0.073 | 0.081 | 0.108 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.788 | 0.009 | 3,427 | 3,390 | 1.348 | 0.012 | 0.769 | 0.807 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.118 | 0.008 | 3,427 | 3,390 | 1.428 | 0.067 | 0.102 | 0.133 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.045 | 0.004 | 3,423 | 3,384 | 1.148 | 0.090 | 0.037 | 0.053 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.011 | 0.002 | 3,586 | 3,528 | 1.250 | 0.195 | 0.007 | 0.016 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.076 | 0.005 | 3,586 | 3,528 | 1.228 | 0.071 | 0.065 | $0.087$ |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.367 | 0.012 | 3,586 | 3,528 | 1.512 | 0.033 | 0.343 | 0.392 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.982 | 0.005 | 1,470 | 1,413 | 1.196 | 0.005 | 0.972 | 0.993 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.047 | 0.007 | 1,373 | 1,310 | 1.131 | 0.143 | 0.034 | 0.061 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.706 | 0.061 | 60 | 62 | 1.037 | 0.086 | 0.585 | 0.827 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.310 | 0.070 | 60 | 62 | 1.181 | 0.226 | 0.170 | 0.450 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.890 | 0.026 | 277 | 281 | 1.377 | 0.029 | 0.838 | 0.941 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.865 | 0.027 | 277 | 281 | 1.293 | 0.031 | 0.811 | 0.918 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.861 | 0.027 | 277 | 281 | 1.291 | 0.031 | 0.808 | 0.915 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.818 | 0.030 | 277 | 281 | 1.297 | 0.037 | 0.757 | 0.878 |
| Fully immunized | $0.801$ | $0.031$ | 277 | 281 | 1.278 | 0.038 | 0.740 | 0.863 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2$ SD) | $0.066$ | $0.009$ | 1,176 | 1,101 | 1.162 | 0.136 | 0.048 | 0.084 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | $0.195$ | $0.014$ | 1,176 | 1,101 | 1.139 | 0.072 | 0.166 | 0.223 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | $0.120$ | $0.011$ | 1,176 | 1,101 | 1.087 | 0.092 | 0.098 | 0.142 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.003 | 0.001 | 1,042 | 1,005 | 0.739 | 0.439 | 0.000 | 0.005 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.178 | 0.012 | 1,042 | 1,005 | 0.996 | 0.070 | 0.153 | 0.203 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.231 | 0.016 | 1,042 | 1,005 | 1.188 | 0.069 | 0.199 | 0.263 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.458 | 0.116 | na | 10,444 | 1.517 | 0.047 | 2.226 | 2.689 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 32.213 | 3.726 | 3,281 | 3,204 | 1.087 | 0.116 | 24.761 | 39.664 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 60.103 | 6.697 | 3,282 | 3,205 | 1.447 | 0.111 | 46.710 | 73.496 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 13.372 | 2.098 | 3,287 | 3,209 | 1.037 | 0.157 | 9.176 | 17.568 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 72.671 | 7.051 | 3,288 | 3,209 | 1.429 | 0.097 | 58.569 | 86.773 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | $27.890$ | 4.533 | 3,282 | 3,205 | 1.477 | 0.163 | 18.823 | 36.957 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 1.024 | 0.079 | na | 10,444 | 1.249 | 0.077 | 0.866 | 1.182 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 4 Sampling errors for women: Rural sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  |  | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- | Design |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) |  | $\overline{\mathrm{R}}$-2 $\overline{\mathrm{SE}}$ | $\bar{R}+2 \overline{S E}$ |
| Urban resident | 0.000 | 0.000 | 4,226 | 4,228 | na | na | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.843 | 0.010 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 1.708 | 0.011 | 0.824 | 0.863 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.157 | 0.010 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 1.708 | 0.061 | 0.137 | 0.176 |
| Never in union | 0.356 | 0.008 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 1.045 | 0.022 | 0.341 | 0.372 |
| Currently in union | 0.611 | 0.008 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 1.032 | 0.013 | 0.596 | 0.627 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.260 | 0.010 | 3,312 | 3,313 | 1.320 | 0.039 | 0.240 | 0.280 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.065 | 0.006 | 3,312 | 3,313 | 1.320 | 0.087 | 0.054 | 0.077 |
| Children ever born | 2.236 | 0.035 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 0.927 | 0.016 | 2.166 | 2.306 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 5.707 | 0.086 | 716 | 723 | 1.037 | 0.015 | 5.536 | 5.878 |
| Children surviving | 1.972 | 0.030 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 0.921 | 0.015 | 1.911 | 2.033 |
| Knowing any method | 0.996 | 0.001 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.139 | 0.001 | 0.993 | 0.999 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.995 | 0.002 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.134 | 0.002 | 0.992 | 0.998 |
| Ever used any method | 0.886 | 0.006 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 0.958 | 0.007 | 0.874 | 0.898 |
| Using any method | 0.614 | 0.009 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 0.962 | 0.015 | 0.595 | 0.632 |
| Using any modern method | 0.535 | 0.009 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 0.904 | 0.017 | 0.517 | 0.553 |
| Using pill | 0.005 | 0.002 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.268 | 0.351 | 0.002 | 0.009 |
| Using IUD | 0.398 | 0.009 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 0.959 | 0.023 | 0.379 | 0.416 |
| Using condom | 0.008 | 0.002 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.141 | 0.247 | 0.004 | 0.012 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.017 | 0.003 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.195 | 0.178 | 0.011 | 0.024 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.011 | 0.002 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.008 | 0.190 | 0.007 | 0.015 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.058 | 0.005 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 0.999 | 0.080 | 0.049 | 0.067 |
| Using LAM | 0.061 | 0.004 | 4,226 | 4,228 | 0.982 | 0.059 | 0.054 | 0.068 |
| Public source user | 0.806 | 0.011 | 1,371 | 1,393 | 0.989 | 0.013 | 0.785 | 0.827 |
| Desires no more children | 0.529 | 0.012 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.182 | 0.022 | 0.505 | 0.552 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.186 | 0.008 | 2,541 | 2,585 | 1.076 | 0.045 | 0.169 | 0.202 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.515 | 0.023 | 3,870 | 3,912 | 0.976 | 0.007 | 3.469 | 3.561 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.103 | 0.005 | 3,913 | 3,920 | 0.966 | 0.046 | 0.093 | 0.112 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.809 | 0.006 | 3,913 | 3,920 | 1.028 | 0.008 | 0.796 | 0.822 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.089 | 0.004 | 3,913 | 3,920 | 0.988 | 0.051 | 0.080 | 0.098 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.054 | 0.004 | 3,905 | 3,914 | 1.207 | 0.081 | 0.045 | 0.063 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.010 | 0.002 | 4,179 | 4,186 | 1.034 | 0.157 | 0.007 | 0.014 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.090 | 0.006 | 4,179 | 4,186 | 1.449 | 0.071 | 0.077 | 0.103 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.387 | 0.010 | 4,179 | 4,186 | 1.369 | 0.027 | 0.366 | 0.408 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.966 | 0.006 | 2,154 | 2,171 | 1.122 | 0.006 | 0.954 | 0.977 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.022 | 0.004 | 1,969 | 1,982 | 1.130 | 0.175 | 0.014 | 0.030 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.834 | 0.069 | 36 | 43 | 1.208 | 0.083 | 0.696 | 0.971 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.492 | 0.086 | 36 | 43 | 1.094 | 0.175 | 0.320 | 0.665 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.967 | 0.010 | 357 | 365 | 1.082 | 0.011 | 0.946 | 0.987 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.966 | 0.010 | 357 | 365 | 1.029 | 0.010 | 0.947 | 0.986 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.956 | 0.011 | 357 | 365 | 1.058 | 0.012 | 0.934 | 0.979 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.920 | 0.015 | 357 | 365 | 1.050 | 0.016 | 0.890 | 0.950 |
| Fully immunized | 0.885 | 0.018 | 357 | 365 | 1.047 | 0.020 | 0.849 | 0.920 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.052 | 0.005 | 1,798 | 1,827 | 0.941 | 0.097 | 0.042 | 0.062 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.241 | 0.012 | 1,798 | 1,827 | 1.130 | 0.049 | 0.217 | 0.264 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.120 | 0.009 | 1798 | 1,827 | 1.195 | 0.079 | 0.101 | 0.139 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.007 | 0.003 | 1,590 | 1,642 | 1.219 | 0.349 | 0.002 | 0.012 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.145 | 0.012 | 1,590 | 1,642 | 1.284 | 0.080 | 0.121 | 0.168 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.175 | 0.014 | 1,590 | 1,642 | 1.427 | 0.079 | 0.147 | 0.202 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 3.296 | 0.112 | na | 11,876 | 1.265 | 0.034 | 3.072 | 3.519 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 33.406 | 2.906 | 4,507 | 4,491 | 0.971 | 0.087 | 27.595 | 39.218 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 79.938 | 4.886 | 4,511 | 4,495 | 1.117 | 0.061 | 70.166 | 89.709 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 21.578 | 2.638 | 4,517 | 4,501 | 1.118 | 0.122 | 16.302 | 26.853 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 99.791 | 5.528 | 4,523 | 4,507 | 1.135 | 0.055 | 88.7351 | 10.846 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 46.532 | 3.608 | 4,509 | 4,492 | 1.084 | 0.078 | 39.316 | 53.747 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.686 | 0.067 | na | 11,876 | 1.283 | 0.098 | 0.551 | 0.820 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 5 Sampling errors for women: Ashgabad City sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  |  | Rela- <br> tive <br> error <br> (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- | Design |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) |  | R-2SE | $\mathrm{R}+2 \mathrm{SE}$ |
| Urban resident | 1.000 | 0.000 | 585 | 1,038 | na | 0.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.517 | 0.032 | 585 | 1,038 | 1.566 | 0.063 | 0.452 | 0.582 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.483 | 0.032 | 585 | 1,038 | 1.566 | 0.067 | 0.418 | 0.548 |
| Never in union | 0.273 | 0.017 | 585 | 1,038 | 0.904 | 0.061 | 0.239 | 0.306 |
| Currently in union | 0.616 | 0.016 | 585 | 1,038 | 0.817 | 0.027 | 0.583 | 0.648 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.337 | 0.025 | 495 | 882 | 1.159 | 0.073 | 0.288 | 0.387 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.096 | 0.017 | 495 | 882 | 1.265 | 0.174 | 0.063 | 0.130 |
| Children ever born | 1.722 | 0.112 | 585 | 1,038 | 1.591 | 0.065 | 1.498 | 1.947 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 3.254 | 0.257 | 127 | 225 | 1.538 | 0.079 | 2.739 | 3.768 |
| Children surviving | 1.583 | 0.105 | 585 | 1,038 | 1.644 | 0.067 | 1.372 | 1.793 |
| Knowing any method | 0.989 | 0.006 | 360 | 639 | 1.152 | 0.006 | 0.976 | 1.000 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.989 | 0.006 | 360 | 639 | 1.152 | 0.006 | 0.976 | 1.000 |
| Ever used any method | 0.895 | 0.015 | 360 | 639 | 0.900 | 0.016 | 0.866 | 0.924 |
| Using any method | 0.597 | 0.022 | 360 | 639 | 0.857 | 0.037 | 0.553 | 0.641 |
| Using any modern method | 0.518 | 0.021 | 360 | 639 | 0.813 | 0.041 | 0.475 | 0.561 |
| Using pill | 0.032 | 0.011 | 360 | 639 | 1.145 | 0.332 | 0.011 | 0.053 |
| Using IUD | 0.349 | 0.016 | 360 | 639 | 0.635 | 0.046 | 0.317 | 0.381 |
| Using condom | 0.064 | 0.016 | 360 | 639 | 1.210 | 0.244 | 0.033 | 0.095 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.008 | 0.005 | 360 | 639 | 1.015 | 0.582 | 0.000 | 0.018 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.043 | 0.009 | 360 | 639 | 0.855 | 0.213 | 0.025 | 0.061 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.031 | 0.008 | 360 | 639 | 0.915 | 0.270 | 0.014 | 0.048 |
| Using LAM | 0.031 | 0.005 | 585 | 1,038 | 0.763 | 0.178 | 0.020 | 0.041 |
| Public source user | 0.879 | 0.020 | 201 | 354 | 0.858 | 0.022 | 0.840 | 0.919 |
| Desires no more children | 0.528 | 0.022 | 360 | 639 | 0.842 | 0.042 | 0.484 | 0.573 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.142 | 0.020 | 360 | 639 | 1.104 | 0.143 | 0.101 | 0.183 |
| Ideal number of children | 2.887 | 0.108 | 559 | 994 | 1.790 | 0.037 | 2.672 | 3.103 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.071 | 0.012 | 513 | 907 | 1.078 | 0.172 | 0.047 | 0.096 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.804 | 0.021 | 513 | 907 | 1.212 | 0.026 | 0.761 | 0.847 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.124 | 0.021 | 513 | 907 | 1.466 | 0.172 | 0.082 | 0.167 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.033 | 0.009 | 512 | 905 | 1.103 | 0.265 | 0.015 | 0.050 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.008 | 0.005 | 525 | 928 | 1.207 | 0.598 | 0.000 | 0.017 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.050 | 0.010 | 525 | 928 | 1.020 | 0.193 | 0.031 | 0.070 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.310 | 0.029 | 525 | 928 | 1.433 | 0.093 | 0.252 | 0.368 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.994 | 0.005 | 201 | 356 | 1.035 | 0.005 | 0.984 | 1.000 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.047 | 0.018 | 188 | 332 | 1.043 | 0.371 | 0.012 | 0.082 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.646 | 0.172 | 9 | 16 | 1.014 | 0.266 | 0.302 | 0.990 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.217 | 0.140 | 9 | 16 | 0.980 | 0.643 | 0.000 | 0.496 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.752 | 0.081 | 43 | 75 | 1.223 | 0.108 | 0.589 | 0.914 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.728 | 0.082 | 43 | 75 | 1.198 | 0.113 | 0.564 | 0.892 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.728 | 0.082 | 43 | 75 | 1.194 | 0.112 | 0.564 | 0.892 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.681 | 0.084 | 43 | 75 | 1.172 | 0.123 | 0.513 | 0.849 |
| Fully immunized | 0.657 | 0.084 | 43 | 75 | 1.143 | 0.127 | 0.490 | 0.824 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.109 | 0.031 | 130 | 228 | 1.071 | 0.288 | 0.046 | 0.171 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.133 | 0.025 | 130 | 228 | 0.807 | 0.189 | 0.083 | 0.183 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | 0.117 | 0.031 | 130 | 228 | 1.063 | 0.264 | 0.055 | 0.179 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.000 | 0.000 | 113 | 198 | na | na | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.186 | 0.029 | 113 | 198 | 0.771 | 0.157 | 0.127 | 0.244 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.230 | 0.036 | 113 | 198 | 0.901 | 0.156 | 0.158 | 0.301 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.101 | 0.243 | na | 2,979 | 1.307 | 0.116 | 1.615 | 2.587 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 33.379 | 8.270 | 438 | 779 | 0.977 | 0.248 | 16.839 | 49.918 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 47.698 | 9.304 | 438 | 779 | 0.895 | 0.195 | 29.089 | 66.306 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 11.672 | 4.356 | 439 | 781 | 0.846 | 0.373 | 2.960 | 20.384 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 58.813 | 8.158 | 439 | 781 | 0.716 | 0.139 | 42.496 | 75.130 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 14.319 | 5.738 | 438 | 779 | 0.875 | 0.401 | 2.844 | 25.794 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 1.118 | 0.158 | na | 2,979 | 0.819 | 0.142 | 0.801 | 1.434 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 6 Sampling errors for women: Akhal sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  |  | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- | Design |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) |  | R-2SE | $\mathrm{R}+2 \mathrm{SE}$ |
| Urban resident | 0.320 | 0.023 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.621 | 0.072 | 0.274 | 0.366 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.864 | 0.014 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.325 | 0.016 | 0.836 | 0.891 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.136 | 0.014 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.325 | 0.101 | 0.109 | 0.164 |
| Never in union | 0.348 | 0.017 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.189 | 0.050 | 0.314 | 0.382 |
| Currently in union | 0.610 | 0.015 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.026 | 0.025 | 0.580 | 0.640 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.292 | 0.028 | 853 | 905 | 1.769 | 0.094 | 0.237 | 0.347 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.094 | 0.017 | 853 | 905 | 1.654 | 0.176 | 0.061 | 0.127 |
| Children ever born | 2.192 | 0.069 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 0.962 | 0.032 | 2.053 | 2.331 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 5.266 | 0.156 | 201 | 212 | 0.999 | 0.030 | 4.955 | 5.578 |
| Children surviving | 1.939 | 0.065 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 1.032 | 0.034 | 1.809 | 2.070 |
| Knowing any method | 0.996 | 0.003 | 660 | 699 | 0.989 | 0.003 | 0.991 | 1.000 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.996 | 0.003 | 660 | 699 | 0.989 | 0.003 | 0.991 | 1.000 |
| Ever used any method | 0.903 | 0.009 | 660 | 699 | 0.821 | 0.010 | 0.884 | 0.922 |
| Using any method | 0.663 | 0.013 | 660 | 699 | 0.704 | 0.020 | 0.637 | 0.689 |
| Using any modern method | 0.609 | 0.014 | 660 | 699 | 0.747 | 0.023 | 0.580 | 0.637 |
| Using pill | 0.022 | 0.005 | 660 | 699 | 0.911 | 0.239 | 0.011 | 0.032 |
| Using IUD | 0.435 | 0.022 | 660 | 699 | 1.123 | 0.050 | 0.392 | 0.479 |
| Using condom | 0.034 | 0.006 | 660 | 699 | 0.792 | 0.163 | 0.023 | 0.046 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.026 | 0.008 | 660 | 699 | 1.267 | 0.303 | 0.010 | 0.041 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.009 | 0.004 | 660 | 699 | 1.015 | 0.415 | 0.002 | 0.016 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.044 | 0.008 | 660 | 699 | 1.010 | 0.184 | 0.028 | 0.060 |
| Using LAM | 0.051 | 0.006 | 1,081 | 1,145 | 0.942 | 0.123 | 0.039 | 0.064 |
| Public source user | 0.857 | 0.016 | 404 | 429 | 0.935 | 0.019 | 0.825 | 0.890 |
| Desires no more children | 0.525 | 0.015 | 660 | 699 | 0.783 | 0.029 | 0.495 | 0.556 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.226 | 0.012 | 660 | 699 | 0.755 | 0.054 | 0.201 | 0.251 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.514 | 0.042 | 1,045 | 1,108 | 0.877 | 0.012 | 3.430 | 3.599 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.087 | 0.010 | 1,005 | 1,065 | 1.159 | 0.118 | 0.067 | 0.108 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.808 | 0.014 | 1,005 | 1,065 | 1.140 | 0.018 | 0.780 | 0.837 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.106 | 0.010 | 1,005 | 1,065 | 1.033 | 0.095 | 0.086 | 0.126 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.042 | 0.007 | 1,002 | 1,062 | 1.033 | 0.156 | 0.029 | 0.055 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.010 | 0.004 | 1,066 | 1,130 | 1.211 | 0.379 | 0.002 | 0.017 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.064 | 0.009 | 1,066 | 1,130 | 1.181 | 0.138 | 0.046 | 0.082 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.374 | 0.018 | 1,066 | 1,130 | 1.239 | 0.049 | 0.337 | 0.411 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.927 | 0.016 | 480 | 507 | 1.037 | 0.018 | 0.895 | 0.960 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.021 | 0.006 | 441 | 466 | 0.942 | 0.306 | 0.008 | 0.034 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.681 | 0.192 | 9 | 10 | 1.250 | 0.282 | 0.297 | 1.000 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.316 | 0.075 | 9 | 10 | 0.489 | 0.237 | 0.166 | 0.467 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.928 | 0.024 | 84 | 89 | 0.858 | 0.026 | 0.879 | 0.976 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.915 | 0.024 | 84 | 89 | 0.772 | 0.026 | 0.867 | 0.962 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.913 | 0.022 | 84 | 89 | 0.719 | 0.024 | 0.869 | 0.957 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.778 | 0.042 | 84 | 89 | 0.919 | 0.054 | 0.694 | 0.861 |
| Fully immunized | 0.753 | 0.040 | 84 | 89 | 0.846 | 0.053 | 0.674 | 0.833 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.053 | 0.009 | 408 | 430 | 0.792 | 0.169 | 0.035 | 0.072 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.240 | 0.023 | 408 | 430 | 1.013 | 0.095 | 0.194 | 0.285 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.076 | 0.012 | 408 | 430 | 0.879 | 0.154 | 0.052 | 0.099 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.000 | 0.000 | 374 | 396 | na | na | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.102 | 0.021 | 374 | 396 | 1.329 | 0.201 | 0.061 | 0.143 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.208 | 0.029 | 374 | 396 | 1.380 | 0.137 | 0.151 | 0.265 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.912 | 0.212 | na | 3,230 | 1.248 | 0.073 | 2.488 | 3.336 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 29.908 | 5.836 | 1,064 | 1,127 | 0.983 | 0.195 | 18.235 | 41.580 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 74.395 | 8.401 | 1,066 | 1,129 | 0.998 | 0.113 | 57.592 | 91.198 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 9.730 | 3.201 | 1,064 | 1,127 | 1.055 | 0.329 | 3.328 | 16.131 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 83.401 | 8.600 | 1,067 | 1,130 | 0.966 | 0.103 | 66.2021 | 100.600 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 44.487 | 6.372 | 1,065 | 1,128 | 1.018 | 0.143 | 31.742 | 57.232 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.481 | 0.117 | na | 3,230 | 1.276 | 0.244 | 0.247 | 0.715 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 7 Sampling errors for women: Balkan sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  |  | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- | Design |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) |  | R-2SE | R+2SE |
| Urban resident | 0.796 | 0.015 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.147 | 0.018 | 0.766 | 0.825 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.736 | 0.022 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.548 | 0.029 | 0.693 | 0.779 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.264 | 0.022 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.548 | 0.082 | 0.221 | 0.307 |
| Never in union | 0.333 | 0.021 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.407 | 0.063 | 0.291 | 0.375 |
| Currently in union | 0.598 | 0.017 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.116 | 0.029 | 0.563 | 0.633 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.231 | 0.019 | 821 | 581 | 1.275 | 0.081 | 0.194 | 0.269 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.064 | 0.010 | 821 | 581 | 1.112 | 0.148 | 0.045 | 0.083 |
| Children ever born | 2.024 | 0.078 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.098 | 0.039 | 1.868 | 2.181 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 4.819 | 0.235 | 207 | 147 | 1.458 | 0.049 | 4.349 | 5.289 |
| Children surviving | 1.849 | 0.063 | 1,000 | 709 | 0.980 | 0.034 | 1.723 | 1.974 |
| Knowing any method | 0.981 | 0.007 | 595 | 424 | 1.199 | 0.007 | 0.967 | 0.994 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.981 | 0.007 | 595 | 424 | 1.199 | 0.007 | 0.967 | 0.994 |
| Ever used any method | 0.860 | 0.015 | 595 | 424 | 1.055 | 0.017 | 0.830 | 0.890 |
| Using any method | 0.611 | 0.023 | 595 | 424 | 1.138 | 0.037 | 0.566 | 0.657 |
| Using any modern method | 0.487 | 0.020 | 595 | 424 | 0.968 | 0.041 | 0.448 | 0.527 |
| Using pill | 0.003 | 0.002 | 595 | 424 | 0.929 | 0.697 | 0.000 | 0.007 |
| Using IUD | 0.372 | 0.023 | 595 | 424 | 1.138 | 0.061 | 0.327 | 0.417 |
| Using condom | 0.018 | 0.006 | 595 | 424 | 1.013 | 0.307 | 0.007 | 0.029 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.017 | 0.003 | 595 | 424 | 0.627 | 0.197 | 0.010 | 0.023 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.020 | 0.006 | 595 | 424 | 1.054 | 0.306 | 0.008 | 0.032 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.053 | 0.012 | 595 | 424 | 1.297 | 0.224 | 0.029 | 0.077 |
| Using LAM | 0.040 | 0.010 | 1,000 | 709 | 1.545 | 0.240 | 0.021 | 0.059 |
| Public source user | 0.861 | 0.029 | 306 | 216 | 1.471 | 0.034 | 0.802 | 0.919 |
| Desires no more children | 0.454 | 0.023 | 595 | 424 | 1.102 | 0.050 | 0.409 | 0.499 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.149 | 0.014 | 595 | 424 | 0.935 | 0.092 | 0.122 | 0.177 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.434 | 0.065 | 965 | 684 | 1.228 | 0.019 | 3.305 | 3.563 |
| BMI < 18.5 | 0.135 | 0.014 | 950 | 672 | 1.305 | 0.107 | 0.106 | 0.163 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.746 | 0.013 | 950 | 672 | 0.891 | 0.017 | 0.721 | 0.771 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.120 | 0.013 | 950 | 672 | 1.224 | 0.108 | 0.094 | 0.146 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.075 | 0.009 | 949 | 672 | 1.062 | 0.121 | 0.057 | 0.093 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.018 | 0.005 | 995 | 705 | 1.153 | 0.273 | 0.008 | 0.027 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.128 | 0.012 | 995 | 705 | 1.147 | 0.095 | 0.104 | 0.153 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.449 | 0.019 | 995 | 705 | 1.209 | 0.042 | 0.411 | 0.487 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.961 | 0.012 | 386 | 277 | 1.059 | 0.012 | 0.938 | 0.985 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.032 | 0.009 | 362 | 259 | 1.023 | 0.295 | 0.013 | 0.051 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.772 | 0.105 | 12 | 8 | 0.855 | 0.136 | 0.563 | 0.982 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.307 | 0.147 | 12 | 8 | 1.086 | 0.477 | 0.014 | 0.600 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.873 | 0.046 | 78 | 55 | 1.212 | 0.052 | 0.782 | 0.965 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.849 | 0.047 | 78 | 55 | 1.084 | 0.055 | 0.756 | 0.942 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.856 | 0.045 | 78 | 55 | 1.132 | 0.053 | 0.766 | 0.946 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.807 | 0.050 | 78 | 55 | 1.063 | 0.062 | 0.707 | 0.906 |
| Fully immunized | 0.781 | 0.057 | 78 | 55 | 1.176 | 0.073 | 0.666 | 0.895 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.038 | 0.013 | 343 | 247 | 1.281 | 0.346 | 0.012 | 0.064 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.143 | 0.020 | 343 | 247 | 1.054 | 0.139 | 0.104 | 0.183 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | 0.116 | 0.021 | 343 | 247 | 1.244 | 0.183 | 0.073 | 0.158 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.013 | 0.007 | 322 | 233 | 1.067 | 0.515 | 0.000 | 0.026 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.246 | 0.027 | 322 | 233 | 1.071 | 0.110 | 0.192 | 0.300 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.252 | 0.029 | 322 | 233 | 1.195 | 0.116 | 0.194 | 0.310 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.681 | 0.213 | na | 2,020 | 1.398 | 0.079 | 2.255 | 3.107 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 29.971 | 5.496 | 869 | 625 | 0.944 | 0.183 | 18.978 | 40.964 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 50.907 | 8.040 | 870 | 626 | 1.064 | 0.158 | 34.828 | 66.986 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 12.197 | 4.307 | 870 | 626 | 1.227 | 0.353 | 3.584 | 20.811 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 62.484 | 8.004 | 871 | 626 | 0.994 | 0.128 | 46.476 | 78.492 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 20.936 | 4.865 | 870 | 626 | 0.968 | 0.232 | 11.206 | 30.667 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.754 | 0.134 | na | 2,020 | 1.333 | 0.178 | 0.485 | 1.022 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 8 Sampling errors for women: Dashoguz Region sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  | Design effect (DEFT) | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) |  |  | R-2SE | R+2SE |
| Urban resident | 0.328 | 0.031 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 3.526 | 0.095 | 0.266 | 0.390 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.797 | 0.010 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.340 | 0.013 | 0.777 | 0.818 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.203 | 0.010 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.340 | 0.050 | 0.182 | 0.223 |
| Never in union | 0.372 | 0.015 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.629 | 0.040 | 0.342 | 0.402 |
| Currently in union | 0.584 | 0.012 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.275 | 0.020 | 0.560 | 0.607 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.285 | 0.012 | 2,244 | 1,293 | 1.259 | 0.042 | 0.261 | 0.309 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.086 | 0.007 | 2,244 | 1,293 | 1.250 | 0.086 | 0.072 | 0.101 |
| Children ever born | 2.206 | 0.050 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.035 | 0.023 | 2.106 | 2.305 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 5.774 | 0.152 | 481 | 283 | 1.320 | 0.026 | 5.470 | 6.078 |
| Children surviving | 1.946 | 0.045 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.068 | 0.023 | 1.857 | 2.035 |
| Knowing any method | 0.992 | 0.002 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.152 | 0.003 | 0.987 | 0.997 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.992 | 0.002 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.152 | 0.003 | 0.987 | 0.997 |
| Ever used any method | 0.903 | 0.008 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.154 | 0.009 | 0.886 | 0.920 |
| Using any method | 0.558 | 0.014 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.134 | 0.025 | 0.530 | 0.586 |
| Using any modern method | 0.548 | 0.014 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.152 | 0.026 | 0.520 | 0.577 |
| Using pill | 0.005 | 0.002 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.138 | 0.386 | 0.001 | 0.009 |
| Using IUD | 0.405 | 0.014 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.183 | 0.035 | 0.377 | 0.434 |
| Using condom | 0.005 | 0.001 | 1,656 | 950 | 0.733 | 0.267 | 0.002 | 0.007 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.011 | 0.003 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.068 | 0.251 | 0.005 | 0.016 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.003 | 0.001 | 1,656 | 950 | 0.946 | 0.434 | 0.000 | 0.005 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.007 | 0.002 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.201 | 0.361 | 0.002 | 0.011 |
| Using LAM | 0.069 | 0.005 | 2,833 | 1,628 | 1.008 | 0.069 | 0.060 | 0.079 |
| Public source user | 0.786 | 0.014 | 925 | 533 | 1.011 | 0.017 | 0.759 | 0.813 |
| Desires no more children | 0.531 | 0.015 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.198 | 0.028 | 0.502 | 0.561 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.154 | 0.011 | 1,656 | 950 | 1.191 | 0.069 | 0.133 | 0.175 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.475 | 0.033 | 2,476 | 1,427 | 1.087 | 0.010 | 3.408 | 3.542 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.105 | 0.007 | 2,624 | 1,510 | 1.181 | 0.067 | 0.090 | 0.119 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.813 | 0.009 | 2,624 | 1,510 | 1.157 | 0.011 | 0.795 | 0.830 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.083 | 0.009 | 2,624 | 1,510 | 1.594 | 0.103 | 0.066 | 0.100 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.058 | 0.004 | 2,618 | 1,506 | 0.980 | 0.077 | 0.049 | 0.067 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.018 | 0.003 | 2,792 | 1,606 | 1.084 | 0.154 | 0.012 | 0.023 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.105 | 0.008 | 2,792 | 1,606 | 1.307 | 0.072 | 0.090 | 0.120 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.401 | 0.011 | 2,792 | 1,606 | 1.238 | 0.029 | 0.378 | 0.424 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.971 | 0.008 | 1,384 | 801 | 1.342 | 0.008 | 0.955 | 0.987 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.015 | 0.004 | 1,275 | 735 | 1.084 | 0.249 | 0.007 | 0.022 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.814 | 0.078 | 22 | 11 | 0.864 | 0.096 | 0.658 | 0.970 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.596 | 0.126 | 22 | 11 | 1.104 | 0.211 | 0.344 | 0.847 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.989 | 0.007 | 214 | 126 | 1.029 | 0.007 | 0.974 | 1.000 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.984 | 0.008 | 214 | 126 | 0.878 | 0.008 | 0.969 | 0.999 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.965 | 0.012 | 214 | 126 | 0.967 | 0.012 | 0.941 | 0.989 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.918 | 0.025 | 214 | 126 | 1.334 | 0.027 | 0.868 | 0.967 |
| Fully immunized | 0.899 | 0.025 | 214 | 126 | 1.233 | 0.028 | 0.849 | 0.949 |
| Children's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.050 | 0.006 | 1,093 | 635 | 0.962 | 0.127 | 0.038 | 0.063 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.272 | 0.016 | 1,093 | 635 | 1.134 | 0.058 | 0.241 | 0.304 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | 0.160 | 0.015 | 1,093 | 635 | 1.263 | 0.092 | 0.131 | 0.190 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.014 | 0.003 | 895 | 526 | 0.894 | 0.252 | 0.007 | 0.020 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.238 | 0.016 | 895 | 526 | 1.121 | 0.069 | 0.205 | 0.271 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.268 | 0.017 | 895 | 526 | 1.126 | 0.062 | 0.235 | 0.301 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 3.137 | 0.112 | na | 4,574 | 1.185 | 0.036 | 2.912 | 3.361 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 29.522 | 3.331 | 2,932 | 1,707 | 0.980 | 0.113 | 22.859 | 36.185 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 80.402 | 6.896 | 2,934 | 1,708 | 1.233 | 0.086 | 66.610 | 94.194 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 18.772 | 3.115 | 2,942 | 1,713 | 1.218 | 0.166 | 12.543 | 25.002 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 97.665 | 7.560 | 2,944 | 1,714 | 1.262 | 0.077 | 82.5451 | 112.785 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 50.880 | 5.454 | 2,934 | 1,708 | 1.211 | 0.107 | 39.971 | 61.788 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.599 | 0.064 | na | 4,574 | 1.161 | 0.107 | 0.471 | 0.727 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 9 Sampling errors for women: Lebap Region sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- | Design | Relative | Confidence intervals |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) | (DEFT) | (SE/R) | R-2SE | $\mathrm{R}+2 \mathrm{SE}$ |
| Urban resident | 0.443 | 0.048 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 3.429 | 0.108 | 0.347 | 0.539 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.591 | 0.020 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 1.411 | 0.033 | 0.552 | 0.630 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.409 | 0.020 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 1.411 | 0.048 | 0.370 | 0.448 |
| Never in union | 0.299 | 0.017 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 1.327 | 0.057 | 0.265 | 0.333 |
| Currently in union | 0.641 | 0.014 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 1.049 | 0.022 | 0.613 | 0.669 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.349 | 0.017 | 996 | 1,258 | 1.157 | 0.050 | 0.314 | 0.384 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.078 | 0.009 | 996 | 1,258 | 1.115 | 0.121 | 0.059 | 0.097 |
| Children ever born | 2.189 | 0.052 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 0.828 | 0.024 | 2.085 | 2.293 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 4.780 | 0.145 | 234 | 307 | 1.061 | 0.030 | 4.490 | 5.070 |
| Children surviving | 2.007 | 0.044 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 0.788 | 0.022 | 1.918 | 2.096 |
| Knowing any method | 0.993 | 0.004 | 817 | 1,030 | 1.285 | 0.004 | 0.986 | 1.000 |
| Knowing any modern method | 0.992 | 0.004 | 817 | 1,030 | 1.243 | 0.004 | 0.984 | 1.000 |
| Ever used any method | 0.858 | 0.008 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.680 | 0.010 | 0.842 | 0.875 |
| Using any method | 0.629 | 0.016 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.940 | 0.025 | 0.597 | 0.661 |
| Using any modern method | 0.485 | 0.017 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.983 | 0.035 | 0.451 | 0.520 |
| Using pill | 0.005 | 0.003 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.989 | 0.474 | 0.000 | 0.010 |
| Using IUD | 0.361 | 0.015 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.876 | 0.041 | 0.331 | 0.390 |
| Using condom | 0.015 | 0.004 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.871 | 0.244 | 0.008 | 0.023 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.023 | 0.005 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.924 | 0.209 | 0.014 | 0.033 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.033 | 0.005 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.788 | 0.148 | 0.023 | 0.043 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.087 | 0.009 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.942 | 0.107 | 0.068 | 0.106 |
| Using LAM | 0.041 | 0.008 | 1,263 | 1,607 | 1.349 | 0.183 | 0.026 | 0.056 |
| Public source user | 0.847 | 0.026 | 414 | 516 | 1.459 | 0.030 | 0.796 | 0.899 |
| Desires no more children | 0.560 | 0.018 | 817 | 1,030 | 1.058 | 0.033 | 0.524 | 0.597 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.212 | 0.014 | 817 | 1,030 | 0.987 | 0.067 | 0.184 | 0.240 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.326 | 0.057 | 1,248 | 1,588 | 1.376 | 0.017 | 3.213 | 3.440 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.084 | 0.011 | 1,173 | 1,494 | 1.418 | 0.137 | 0.061 | 0.107 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.811 | 0.014 | 1,173 | 1,494 | 1.193 | 0.017 | 0.784 | 0.839 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.105 | 0.006 | 1,173 | 1,494 | 0.710 | 0.061 | 0.092 | 0.117 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.037 | 0.007 | 1,173 | 1,494 | 1.216 | 0.182 | 0.023 | 0.050 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.009 | 0.003 | 1,258 | 1,601 | 1.096 | 0.325 | 0.003 | 0.015 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.064 | 0.007 | 1,258 | 1,601 | 1.057 | 0.114 | 0.049 | 0.078 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.306 | 0.015 | 1,258 | 1,601 | 1.142 | 0.049 | 0.276 | 0.335 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.998 | 0.002 | 590 | 729 | 0.932 | 0.002 | 0.995 | 1.000 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.032 | 0.007 | 560 | 692 | 0.932 | 0.220 | 0.018 | 0.045 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.776 | 0.086 | 18 | 22 | 0.855 | 0.111 | 0.604 | 0.948 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.356 | 0.142 | 18 | 22 | 1.232 | 0.400 | 0.071 | 0.641 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.992 | 0.008 | 116 | 144 | 0.977 | 0.008 | 0.975 | 1.000 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.965 | 0.016 | 116 | 144 | 0.954 | 0.017 | 0.932 | 0.998 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.958 | 0.018 | 116 | 144 | 0.969 | 0.019 | 0.921 | 0.994 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.975 | 0.014 | 116 | 144 | 0.950 | 0.014 | 0.947 | 1.000 |
| Fully immunized | 0.940 | 0.022 | 116 | 144 | 0.977 | 0.023 | 0.896 | 0.983 |
| Children's weight-for-height ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.036 | 0.006 | 539 | 668 | 0.723 | 0.170 | 0.024 | 0.048 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.219 | 0.018 | 539 | 668 | 0.955 | 0.082 | 0.183 | 0.256 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.121 | 0.016 | 539 | 668 | 1.040 | 0.128 | 0.090 | 0.152 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.008 | 0.006 | 483 | 598 | 1.511 | 0.775 | 0.000 | 0.020 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.176 | 0.017 | 483 | 598 | 0.988 | 0.098 | 0.141 | 0.210 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.226 | 0.028 | 483 | 598 | 1.430 | 0.125 | 0.169 | 0.283 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 2.970 | 0.201 | na | 4,487 | 1.340 | 0.068 | 2.568 | 3.373 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 20.857 | 3.887 | 1,290 | 1,592 | 0.950 | 0.186 | 13.083 | 28.632 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 48.584 | 6.278 | 1,290 | 1,592 | 1.030 | 0.129 | 36.028 | 61.140 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 18.885 | 3.559 | 1,292 | 1,594 | 0.878 | 0.188 | 11.768 | 26.002 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 66.552 | 7.130 | 1,292 | 1,594 | 0.942 | 0.107 | 52.291 | 80.812 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 27.727 | 5.571 | 1,290 | 1,592 | 1.180 | 0.201 | 16.586 | 38.869 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 1.158 | 0.128 | na | 4,487 | 1.158 | 0.111 | 0.901 | 1.414 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table B. 10 Sampling errors for women: Mary Region sample, Turkmenistan 2000

| Variable | Value <br> (R) | Stan- <br> dard <br> error <br> (SE) | Number of cases |  | Design effect (DEFT) | Relative error (SE/R) | Confidence intervals |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Un- | Weight- |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | (N) | (WN) |  |  | R-2SE | R+2SE |
| Urban resident | 0.265 | 0.030 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 2.312 | 0.113 | 0.205 | 0.325 |
| Primary/secondary education | 0.840 | 0.014 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 1.322 | 0.017 | 0.812 | 0.869 |
| Secondary-special education | 0.160 | 0.014 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 1.322 | 0.089 | 0.131 | 0.188 |
| Never in union | 0.312 | 0.013 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 0.974 | 0.042 | 0.286 | 0.339 |
| Currently in union | 0.642 | 0.016 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 1.114 | 0.024 | 0.611 | 0.674 |
| Ever in union before 20 | 0.247 | 0.012 | 921 | 1,427 | 0.860 | 0.050 | 0.222 | 0.271 |
| Sex before 18 | 0.057 | 0.009 | 921 | 1,427 | 1.200 | 0.160 | 0.039 | 0.076 |
| Children ever born | 2.212 | 0.058 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 0.895 | 0.026 | 2.095 | 2.328 |
| Children ever born to women over 40 | 4.917 | 0.138 | 223 | 340 | 0.994 | 0.028 | 4.641 | 5.194 |
| Children surviving | 1.924 | 0.050 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 0.892 | 0.026 | 1.825 | 2.024 |
| Knowing any method | 1.000 | 0.000 | 741 | 1,150 | na | 0.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Knowing any modern method | 1.000 | 0.000 | 741 | 1,150 | na | 0.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Ever used any method | 0.914 | 0.010 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.996 | 0.011 | 0.893 | 0.934 |
| Using any method | 0.645 | 0.016 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.886 | 0.024 | 0.614 | 0.676 |
| Using any modern method | 0.533 | 0.015 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.830 | 0.029 | 0.503 | 0.564 |
| Using pill | 0.011 | 0.003 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.874 | 0.304 | 0.004 | 0.018 |
| Using IUD | 0.407 | 0.016 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.912 | 0.040 | 0.374 | 0.440 |
| Using condom | 0.006 | 0.004 | 741 | 1,150 | 1.194 | 0.545 | 0.000 | 0.013 |
| Using female sterilization | 0.022 | 0.007 | 741 | 1,150 | 1.220 | 0.301 | 0.009 | 0.035 |
| Currently using abstinence | 0.020 | 0.005 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.947 | 0.243 | 0.010 | 0.030 |
| Using withdrawal | 0.081 | 0.009 | 741 | 1,150 | 0.909 | 0.113 | 0.063 | 0.099 |
| Using LAM | 0.052 | 0.006 | 1,157 | 1,791 | 0.862 | 0.108 | 0.041 | 0.063 |
| Public source user | 0.844 | 0.015 | 403 | 629 | 0.826 | 0.018 | 0.815 | 0.874 |
| Desires no more children | 0.542 | 0.027 | 741 | 1,150 | 1.464 | 0.049 | 0.488 | 0.596 |
| Wants to delay child at least 2 years | 0.141 | 0.016 | 741 | 1,150 | 1.227 | 0.111 | 0.109 | 0.172 |
| Ideal number of children | 3.358 | 0.034 | 1,064 | 1,647 | 0.876 | 0.010 | 3.291 | 3.426 |
| BMI $<18.5$ | 0.115 | 0.007 | 1,075 | 1,662 | 0.738 | 0.063 | 0.101 | 0.129 |
| BMI between 18.5 and 30.0 | 0.790 | 0.012 | 1,075 | 1,662 | 0.982 | 0.015 | 0.765 | 0.814 |
| BMI > 30.0 | 0.096 | 0.008 | 1,075 | 1,662 | 0.936 | 0.088 | 0.079 | 0.113 |
| Women's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.059 | 0.008 | 1,074 | 1,660 | 1.157 | 0.141 | 0.042 | 0.075 |
| Women with severe anemia | 0.006 | 0.002 | 1,129 | 1,744 | 1.023 | 0.396 | 0.001 | 0.011 |
| Women with moderate anemia | 0.095 | 0.013 | 1,129 | 1,744 | 1.503 | 0.138 | 0.068 | 0.121 |
| Women with mild anemia | 0.434 | 0.019 | 1,129 | 1,744 | 1.304 | 0.044 | 0.395 | 0.472 |
| Mother received medical care at birth | 0.972 | 0.010 | 583 | 914 | 1.193 | 0.011 | 0.951 | 0.992 |
| Had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks | 0.048 | 0.010 | 516 | 808 | 0.988 | 0.198 | 0.029 | 0.067 |
| Treated with ORS packets | 0.795 | 0.069 | 26 | 39 | 0.852 | 0.087 | 0.657 | 0.934 |
| Sought medical treatment | 0.445 | 0.098 | 26 | 39 | 0.946 | 0.221 | 0.249 | 0.642 |
| Received BCG vaccination | 0.946 | 0.024 | 99 | 157 | 1.069 | 0.025 | 0.898 | 0.994 |
| Received DPT vaccination (3 doses) | 0.956 | 0.021 | 99 | 157 | 1.060 | 0.022 | 0.914 | 0.999 |
| Received polio vaccination (3 doses) | 0.947 | 0.024 | 99 | 157 | 1.058 | 0.025 | 0.899 | 0.994 |
| Received measles vaccination | 0.923 | 0.030 | 99 | 157 | 1.114 | 0.032 | 0.864 | 0.982 |
| Fully immunized | 0.893 | 0.034 | 99 | 157 | 1.100 | 0.038 | 0.825 | 0.960 |
| Children's weight-for-height (<-2 SD) | 0.076 | 0.011 | 461 | 720 | 0.861 | 0.144 | 0.054 | 0.098 |
| Children's height-for-age ( $<-2 \mathrm{SD}$ ) | 0.231 | 0.023 | 461 | 720 | 1.170 | 0.100 | 0.184 | 0.277 |
| Children's weight-for-age ( $<-2$ SD) | 0.112 | 0.016 | 461 | 720 | 1.083 | 0.145 | 0.079 | 0.144 |
| Children with severe anemia | 0.000 | 0.000 | 445 | 697 | na | na | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Children with moderate anemia | 0.074 | 0.018 | 445 | 697 | 1.374 | 0.240 | 0.038 | 0.109 |
| Children with mild anemia | 0.081 | 0.017 | 445 | 697 | 1.339 | 0.214 | 0.047 | 0.116 |
| Total fertility rate (3 years) | 3.088 | 0.187 | na | 5,029 | 1.384 | 0.061 | 2.713 | 3.462 |
| Neonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 48.908 | 5.420 | 1,195 | 1,865 | 0.734 | 0.111 | 38.069 | 59.748 |
| Infant mortality rate (10 years) | 98.570 | 10.213 | 1,195 | 1,865 | 1.056 | 0.104 | 78.1441 | 118.997 |
| Child mortality rate (10 years) | 26.764 | 5.114 | 1,197 | 1,868 | 0.996 | 0.191 | 16.536 | 36.992 |
| Under-five mortality rate (10 years) | 122.696 | 11.290 | 1,198 | 1,870 | 1.082 | 0.092 | 100.1161 | 145.275 |
| Postneonatal mortality rate (10 years) | 49.662 | 7.155 | 1,194 | 1,864 | 1.118 | 0.144 | 35.352 | 63.972 |
| Total abortion rate (3 years) | 0.941 | 0.129 | na | 5,029 | 1.112 | 0.137 | 0.683 | 1.200 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Table C. 1 Household age distribution

Single-year age distribution of the de facto household population by sex (weighted), Turkmenistan 2000

| Age | Males |  | Females |  | Age | Males |  | Females |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 0 | 382 | 2.6 | 342 | 2.2 | 37 | 184 | 1.2 | 174 | 1.1 |
| 1 | 301 | 2.0 | 347 | 2.2 | 38 | 182 | 1.2 | 208 | 1.3 |
| 2 | 343 | 2.3 | 310 | 2.0 | 39 | 191 | 1.3 | 212 | 1.3 |
| 3 | 366 | 2.5 | 345 | 2.2 | 40 | 196 | 1.3 | 157 | 1.0 |
| 4 | 348 | 2.3 | 347 | 2.2 | 41 | 154 | 1.0 | 177 | 1.1 |
| 5 | 360 | 2.4 | 371 | 2.3 | 42 | 175 | 1.2 | 151 | 1.0 |
| 6 | 410 | 2.7 | 408 | 2.6 | 43 | 141 | 0.9 | 189 | 1.2 |
| 7 | 364 | 2.4 | 369 | 2.3 | 44 | 124 | 0.8 | 178 | 1.1 |
| 8 | 393 | 2.6 | 360 | 2.3 | 45 | 136 | 0.9 | 150 | 0.9 |
| 9 | 396 | 2.7 | 386 | 2.4 | 46 | 132 | 0.9 | 145 | 0.9 |
| 10 | 422 | 2.8 | 400 | 2.5 | 47 | 125 | 0.8 | 146 | 0.9 |
| 11 | 362 | 2.4 | 366 | 2.3 | 48 | 114 | 0.8 | 140 | 0.9 |
| 12 | 387 | 2.6 | 406 | 2.6 | 49 | 129 | 0.9 | 102 | 0.6 |
| 13 | 447 | 3.0 | 382 | 2.4 | 50 | 140 | 0.9 | 188 | 1.2 |
| 14 | 351 | 2.4 | 411 | 2.6 | 51 | 77 | 0.5 | 107 | 0.7 |
| 15 | 329 | 2.2 | 326 | 2.1 | 52 | 104 | 0.7 | 124 | 0.8 |
| 16 | 380 | 2.5 | 336 | 2.1 | 53 | 92 | 0.6 | 112 | 0.7 |
| 17 | 344 | 2.3 | 326 | 2.0 | 54 | 68 | 0.5 | 72 | 0.5 |
| 18 | 287 | 1.9 | 328 | 2.1 | 55 | 37 | 0.2 | 61 | 0.4 |
| 19 | 187 | 1.3 | 332 | 2.1 | 56 | 38 | 0.3 | 40 | 0.2 |
| 20 | 188 | 1.3 | 305 | 1.9 | 57 | 52 | 0.4 | 41 | 0.3 |
| 21 | 275 | 1.8 | 321 | 2.0 | 58 | 73 | 0.5 | 97 | 0.6 |
| 22 | 290 | 1.9 | 289 | 1.8 | 59 | 78 | 0.5 | 80 | 0.5 |
| 23 | 282 | 1.9 | 339 | 2.1 | 60 | 93 | 0.6 | 111 | 0.7 |
| 24 | 292 | 2.0 | 322 | 2.0 | 61 | 61 | 0.4 | 75 | 0.5 |
| 25 | 309 | 2.1 | 258 | 1.6 | 62 | 85 | 0.6 | 98 | 0.6 |
| 26 | 260 | 1.7 | 267 | 1.7 | 63 | 93 | 0.6 | 87 | 0.5 |
| 27 | 268 | 1.8 | 252 | 1.6 | 64 | 57 | 0.4 | 89 | 0.6 |
| 28 | 262 | 1.8 | 238 | 1.5 | 65 | 49 | 0.3 | 54 | 0.3 |
| 29 | 213 | 1.4 | 243 | 1.5 | 66 | 46 | 0.3 | 63 | 0.4 |
| 30 | 232 | 1.6 | 231 | 1.5 | 67 | 60 | 0.4 | 69 | 0.4 |
| 31 | 230 | 1.5 | 247 | 1.6 | 68 | 60 | 0.4 | 66 | 0.4 |
| 32 | 213 | 1.4 | 185 | 1.2 | 69 | 48 | 0.3 | 60 | 0.4 |
| 33 | 193 | 1.3 | 192 | 1.2 | 70+ | 359 | 2.4 | 580 | 3.7 |
| 34 | 199 | 1.3 | 210 | 1.3 | Don't know/ |  |  |  |  |
| 35 | 167 | 1.1 | 207 | 1.3 | missing | 3 | 0.0 | 2 | 0.0 |
| 36 | 157 | 1.0 | 179 | 1.1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Total | 14,946 | 100.0 | 15,885 | 100.0 |

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents (visitors) who slept in the household the night before the interview.

Table C. 2 Age distribution of eligible and interviewed women
Percent distribution of the de facto household population of women age 10-54, and of interviewed women age 15-49, and percentage of eligible women who were interviewed (weighted) by five-year groups, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age | Household population of women age 10-54 |  | Interviewed women age 15-49 |  | Percentage of eligible women interviewed (weighted) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |  |
| 10-14 | 1,965 | na | na | na | na |
| 15-19 | 1,647 | 20.4 | 1,554 | 20.2 | 94.4 |
| 20-24 | 1,577 | 19.6 | 1,517 | 19.7 | 96.2 |
| 25-29 | 1,257 | 15.6 | 1,206 | 15.7 | 95.9 |
| 30-34 | 1,064 | 13.2 | 1,026 | 13.3 | 96.4 |
| 25-39 | 979 | 12.2 | 941 | 12.2 | 96.1 |
| 40-44 | 852 | 10.6 | 811 | 10.5 | 95.2 |
| 45-49 | 683 | 8.5 | 645 | 8.4 | 94.5 |
| 50-54 | 603 | na | na | na | na |
| 15-49 | 8,059 | na | 7,700 | na | 95.5 |
| Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents (visitors) who slept in the household the night before the interview. Weights for both the household population of women and interviewed women are the household weights. Classification by age is based on the age reported in the household schedule. <br> na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |


| Table C. 3 Completeness of reporting |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percentage of observations missing information for selected demographic and health questions, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |
| Subject | Reference group | Percentage missing information | Number of cases |
| Birth date | Births in the past 15 years |  |  |
| Month only |  | 0.22 | 11,312 |
| Month and year |  | 0.00 | 11,312 |
| Age at death | Deaths among births in past 15 years | 0.07 | 1,006 |
| Age at/date of first union ${ }^{1}$ | Ever-married women age 15-49 | 0.07 | 5,356 |
| Respondent's education | All women age 15-49 | 0.00 | 7,919 |
| Anthropometry | Living children age 0-59 months | 2.47 | 3,494 |
| Height |  | 6.84 | 3,292 |
| Weight |  | 6.74 | 3,292 |
| Height or weight |  | 7.47 | 3,292 |
| Diarrhea in last 2 weeks | Living children age 0-59 months | 0.36 | 3,292 |
| Anemia |  |  |  |
| Children | Living children age 6-59 months | 10.32 | 2,936 |
| Women | All women age 15-49 | 0.00 | 7,719 |


| C. 4 Births by calendar years |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Distribution of births by calendar years for living (L), dead (D), and all (T) children, according to reporting completeness, sex ratio at birth, and ratio of births, Turkmenistan 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | mber of | f births | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Per } \\ \text { comp } \end{array}$ | centage lete birth | $\begin{aligned} & \text { with } \\ & \text { o date }{ }^{1} \end{aligned}$ |  | ratio at | irth ${ }^{2}$ |  | ndar yea | ratio ${ }^{3}$ |  | Male |  |  | Fema |  |
| Year | (L) | (D) | (T) | (L) | (D) | (T) | (L) | (D) | (T) | (L) | (D) | (T) | (L) | (D) | (T) | (L) | (D) | (T) |
| 2000 | 436 | 17 | 453 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 120.1 | 61.1 | 117.0 | na | na | na | 238 | 7 | 245 | 198 | 11 | 209 |
| 1999 | 667 | 54 | 721 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 87.6 | 141.3 | 90.8 | 123.5 | 163.7 | 125.9 | 312 | 32 | 343 | 355 | 22 | 378 |
| 1998 | 644 | 49 | 692 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 103.8 | 163.8 | 107.1 | 99.1 | 78.7 | 97.3 | 328 | 30 | 358 | 316 | 18 | 334 |
| 1997 | 632 | 70 | 702 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 111.3 | 152.0 | 114.8 | 96.8 | 116.3 | 98.4 | 333 | 42 | 375 | 299 | 28 | 327 |
| 1996 | 663 | 71 | 734 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 107.1 | 100.5 | 106.5 | 98.6 | 91.8 | 97.9 | 343 | 36 | 378 | 320 | 35 | 355 |
| 1995 | 713 | 85 | 798 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 88.5 | 197.5 | 96.2 | 101.5 | 121.8 | 103.3 | 335 | 57 | 391 | 378 | 29 | 407 |
| 1994 | 742 | 69 | 811 | 99.8 | 100.0 | 99.8 | 104.4 | 112.7 | 105.0 | 100.3 | 80.8 | 98.3 | 379 | 37 | 416 | 363 | 32 | 396 |
| 1993 | 767 | 85 | 852 | 100.0 | 97.7 | 99.8 | 96.9 | 169.6 | 102.3 | 107.9 | 113.5 | 108.4 | 377 | 54 | 431 | 390 | 32 | 421 |
| 1992 | 680 | 82 | 761 | 99.9 | 98.7 | 99.8 | 103.6 | 94.8 | 102.7 | 93.3 | 116.1 | 95.3 | 346 | 40 | 386 | 334 | 42 | 376 |
| 1991 | 690 | 55 | 745 | 99.8 | 100.0 | 99.9 | 101.4 | 177.2 | 105.6 | na | na | na | 347 | 35 | 383 | 343 | 20 | 362 |
| 1996-2000 | 3,041 | 261 | 3,302 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 104.3 | 127.4 | 106.0 | na | na | na | 1,553 | 146 | 1,699 | 1,489 | 115 | 1,603 |
| 1991-1995 | 3,591 | 376 | 3,968 | 99.9 | 99.2 | 99.8 | 98.7 | 143.5 | 102.3 | na | na | na | 1,784 | 222 | 2,006 | 1,807 | 155 | 1,962 |
| 1986-1990 | 3,469 | 343 | 3,811 | 99.8 | 97.2 | 99.6 | 105.8 | 135.4 | 108.2 | na | na | na | 1,783 | 197 | 1,980 | 1,685 | 146 | 1,831 |
| 1981-1985 | 2,542 | 362 | 2,904 | 99.7 | 98.5 | 99.6 | 103.0 | 122.2 | 105.2 | na | na | na | 1,290 | 199 | 1,489 | 1,252 | 163 | 1,415 |
| < 1981 | 2,373 | 446 | 2,819 | 99.7 | 99.0 | 99.6 | 103.0 | 123.6 | 106.0 | na | na | na | 1,204 | 247 | 1,451 | 1,169 | 200 | 1,369 |
| All | 15,016 | 1,789 | 16,804 | 99.8 | 98.7 | 99.7 | 102.9 | 130.1 | 105.5 | na | na | na | 7,614 | 1,011 | 8,625 | 7,402 | 777 | 8,179 |
| na $=$ Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{1}$ Both year a ${ }^{2}\left(\mathrm{~B}_{\mathrm{m}} / \mathrm{B}_{f} * 100\right.$ <br> ${ }^{3}\left[2 B_{x} /\left(B_{x-1}+B_{x}\right.\right.$ | nd month where B $\left.B_{x+1}\right)$ ] ${ }^{*} 100$ | of birth ${ }_{m}$ and $B_{i}$ , where | given $B_{\text {are }}$ the <br> $B_{x}$ is the | umbers of umber b | male irths in | nd fema alendar | births, ear $x$ | spectiv |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Table C. 5 Reporting of age at death in days

Distribution of reported deaths under 1 month of age by age at death in days and the percentage of neonatal deaths reported to occur at ages 0-6 days, for five-year periods preceding the survey, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age at death <br> (in days) | Number of years preceding survey |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $0-4$ | $5-9$ | $10-14$ | $15-19$ | Total <br> $0-19$ |
| 0 | 12 | 11 | 18 | 8 |  |
| 1 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 20 | 90 |
| 2 | 16 | 13 | 4 | 13 | 45 |
| 3 | 17 | 19 | 18 | 13 | 67 |
| 4 | 4 | 10 | 4 | 9 | 27 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 19 |
| 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| 7 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 35 |
| 8 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 9 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| 10 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 18 |
| 11 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 12 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| 13 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 14 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 15 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 16 |
| 16 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| 17 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| 18 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| 19 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 20 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 19 |
| 22 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 23 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 24 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 25 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| 27 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 28 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| $31+$ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Total $0-30^{1}$ | 123 | 128 | 101 | 100 | 452 |
| Percent early |  |  |  |  |  |
| neonatal ${ }^{2}$ | 66.2 | 61.9 | 73.5 | 72.1 | 67.9 |

[^22]
## Table C. 6 Reporting of age at death in months

Distribution of reported deaths under 2 years of age by age at death in months and the percentage of infant deaths reported to occur at ages under one month, for five-year periods preceding the survey, Turkmenistan 2000

| Age at deaths (in months) | Number of years preceding the survey |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-19 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & 0-19 \end{aligned}$ |
| $<1^{1}$ | 123 | 128 | 101 | 100 | 452 |
| 1 | 8 | 18 | 21 | 22 | 69 |
| 2 | 17 | 30 | 25 | 14 | 86 |
| 3 | 23 | 24 | 19 | 24 | 90 |
| 4 | 11 | 14 | 31 | 25 | 81 |
| 5 | 17 | 19 | 11 | 22 | 69 |
| 6 | 18 | 8 | 17 | 32 | 75 |
| 7 | 11 | 12 | 21 | 16 | 60 |
| 8 | 8 | 14 | 8 | 12 | 42 |
| 9 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 37 |
| 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 13 |
| 11 | 11 | 7 | 9 | 7 | 35 |
| 12 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 17 |
| 13 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| 14 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 10 |
| 15 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 16 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 18 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 20 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 24+ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 Year | 22 | 35 | 18 | 21 | 96 |
| Total 0-11 ${ }^{2}$ | 252 | 285 | 281 | 292 | 1,110 |
| Percent neonatal ${ }^{3}$ | 48.8 | 44.8 | 36.0 | 34.2 | 40.7 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Includes deaths under 1 month reported in days <br> ${ }^{2}$ Includes cases for which age at death in exact months is not known <br> ${ }^{3}$ (under 1 month/under 1 year) * 100 |  |  |  |  |  |

## 2000 TURKMENISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE

## CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL INDUSTRY OF TURKMENISTAN




| SUPERVISOR |  | FIELD EDITOR |  | OFFICE EDITOR | KEYED BY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NAME | $\left.+(1) \left\lvert\, \begin{array}{c} * \\ * \end{array}\right.\right) 1$ | NAME | $+(1) \mid \underset{*}{*} 011)$ | $\left.+(1) \left\lvert\, \begin{array}{c} * \\ * \end{array}\right.\right) 1$ | $+\underset{*}{+1)} \underset{*}{0} 011)_{*}$ |
| DATE | . \|) | 2111 . | DATE | . 1112111 . | . 11 ) 2 ) \|). | . 1) \| 2)|). |

Now we would like some information about the people who usually live in your household or who are staying with you now.

| LINE NO. | USUAL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS | RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD | SEX | RESIDENCE |  | AGE | ELIGIBILITY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Please give me the names of the persons who usually live in your household and guests of the household who stayed here last night, starting with the head of the household. | What is the relationship of (NAME) to the head of the household?* | Is (NAME) male or female? | Does (NAME) usually live here? | Did (NAME) stay here last night? | How old is (NAM E)? | CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF ALL WOMEN AGE 15-49 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| 1 |  | $\begin{aligned} & +1)\|0\| l \mid \\ & * * * \\ & \text { (1)\| } 2111 \text { * } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} M & F \\ 1 & 2 \end{array}$ | YES NO <br> 1 2 | YES NO <br> 1 2 | IN YEARS | 1 |
| 2 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +11 \mid 0111 \\ & * * * * \\ & * 1112111 . \end{aligned}$ | 2 |
| 3 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 3 |
| 4 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +11 \mid 0111 \\ & * * * * \\ & * 1112111 \text { * } \end{aligned}$ | 4 |
| 5 |  | $\begin{aligned} & +1) \mid 0111 \\ & * * * \\ & (1) \mid 2111 \end{aligned}$ | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 5 |
| 6 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 6 |
| 7 |  | $\begin{aligned} & +1) \mid 0111 \\ & * * * * \\ & (1) \mid 2111 \end{aligned}$ | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 7 |
| 8 |  | $\begin{aligned} & +1) \mid 0111 \\ & * * * \\ & (1) \mid 2111 . \end{aligned}$ | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +11 \mid 0111 \\ & * * * \\ & (1) \mid 2111 . \end{aligned}$ | 8 |
| 9 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 9 |
| 10 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +1) \mid l \\ & * \\ & * \\ & * \\ & .11 \mid \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 10 |

* CODES FOR Q. 3

RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF
HOUSEHOLD:
$01=$ HEAD
$07=$ PARENT - IN-LAW
02 = WIFE OR HUSBAND
03 = SON OR DAUGHTER
$04=$ SON-IN-LAW OR
DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
$05=$ GRANDCHILD
ER OR SISTER
10 = OTHER RELATIVE
11 = ADOPTED/FOSTER/
STEPCHILD
$06=$ PARENT

** Q. 10 through Q. 13
these questions refer to the biological parents of
THE CHILD.
IN Q. 11 AND Q. 13 , RECORD '00' IF PARENT NOT LISTED IN household schedule.
***CODES FOR Qs. 15, 18 AND 20
EDUCATION LEVEL:
1 = PRIMARY/SECONDARY
2 = SECONDARY SPECIAL
$3=$ HIGHER
8 = DON'T KNOW
EDUCATION GRADE:
$00=$ LESS THAN 1 YEAR COMPLETED
$98=$ DON'T KNOW

| LINE NO. | USUAL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS | RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD | SEX | RESIDENCE |  | AGE | ELIGIBILITY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Please give me the names of the persons who usually live in your household and guests of the hous ehold who stayed here last night, starting with the head of the household. | What is the relationship of (NAME) to the head of the household?* | Is (NAME) <br> male or <br> female? | Does <br> (NAME) usually live here? | Did (NAME) stay here last night? | How old is (NAM E)? | CIRCLE LINE NUMBER OF ALL WOMEN AGE 15-49 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| 11 |  |  | $\begin{array}{ll} M & F \\ 1 & 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { YES } & \text { NO } \\ 1 & 2 \end{array}$ | YES NO <br> 1 2 | IN YEARS | 11 |
| 12 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +11 \mid 011)_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & * 11 \mid 2111 . \end{aligned}$ | 12 |
| 13 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 13 |
| 14 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 14 |
| 15 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 15 |
| 16 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 16 |
| 17 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 | $\begin{aligned} & +1) \mid 011)_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & .11) 2111 \end{aligned}$ | 17 |
| 18 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 18 |
| 19 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 19 |
| 20 |  |  | 12 | 12 | 12 |  | 20 |

* CODES FOR Q. 3

RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF
HOUSEHOLD
$01=$ HEAD
$02=$ WIFE OR HUSBAND
03 = SON OR DAUGHTER
$04=$ SON-IN-LAW OR
DAUGHTER-IN-LAW
$05=$ GRANDCHILD
$06=$ PARENT
** Q. 10 THROUGH Q. 13 THESE QUESTIONS REFER TO the biological parents of THE CHILD
IN Q. 11 AND Q.13, RECORD '00' IF
PARENT NOT LISTED IN household schedule.
***CODES FOR Qs. 15, 18 AND 20 education level:
$1=$ PRIMARY
$2=$ SECONDARY
$3=$ HIGHER
8 = DON'T KNOW
EDUCATION GRADE:
$00=$ LESS THAN 1 YEAR COMPLETED $98=$ DON'TKNOW


| No. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21 | What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household? ${ }^{1}$ |  | $\begin{array}{ll} 1 & -23 \\ 1 & -23 \\ 1 & \\ 1 & 23 \\ 1 & 23 \end{array}$ |
| 22 | How long does it take you to go there, get water, and come back? |  |  |
| 23 | What kind of toilet facility do most members of your household use? |  | ) - 25 |
| 24 | Do you share this facility with other households? |  |  |
| 25 | Does your household have: <br> Electricity? <br> A radio? <br> A television? <br> A telephone? <br> A refrigerator? |  |  |
| 26 | What type of fuel does your household mainly use for cooking? |  |  |
| 27 | MAIN MATERIAL OF THE FLOOR. <br> RECORD OBSERVATION. |  |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 28 | Does any member of your household own: <br> A bicycle? <br> A motorcycle or motor scooter? <br> A car or truck? |  YES <br> NO  <br> BICYCLE ........................ 1 2 <br> MOTORCYCLE/SCOOTER ......... 1 2 <br> CAR/TRUCK ...................... 1 2 |  |
| 33 | Does your household have any place which is used for hand washing? |  | ) - 35 |
| 34 | ASK TO SEE THE PLACE USED MOST OFTEN AND OBSERVE IF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE PRESENT. |  YES NO <br> WATER/TAP ...................... 1 2 <br> SOAP, WASH OR OTHER  <br> CLEANSING AGENT ............. 1 2 <br> BASIN ............................. 2 |  |
| 34A | Ask respondent to bring the package of salt and note: <br> Type of package <br> (Name of producer) | PLASTIC . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 PAPER . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 NO PACKAGE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4 | $\begin{array}{ll} 1 & 35 \\ 1 & -35 \end{array}$ |
| 34B | Salt iodized or not iodized | IODIZED SALT . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NOT IODIZED SALT . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 35 | ASK RESPONDENT FOR A TEASPOONFUL OF SALT. TEST SALT FOR IODINE. <br> RECORD PPM (PARTS PER MILLION). | 0 PPM (NO IODINE) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 7 PPM . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 15 PPM . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4 3 |  |
| 35A | Where do you usually keep your salt? | IN THE CLOSED PACKAGE/AWAY FROM PLACE OF COOKING/ <br> IN THE DARK PLACE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 IN THE OPENED PACKAGE/NEAR TO PLACE OF COOKING/ <br> IN THE LIGHT . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 35B | Do you know, that it is necessary to include into ration iodized salt to reduce risk of getting the number of deceases ? |  |  |
| 36 | Does anybody in your household own dacha, or have access to a garden from which you obtain fruits and vegetables during the growing season? |  |  |
| 37 | Does anybody in your household have animal husbandry? |  |  |

# 2000 TURKMENISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY INDIVIDUAL WOMEN'S QUESTIONNAIRE 

CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL INDUSTRY OF TURKMENISTAN



| 1. LANGUAGE OF INTERVIEW | TURKMEN | RUSSIAN |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | OTHER



## SECTION 1A. RESPONDENT'S BACKGROUND

## INFORMED CONSENT

Hello. My name is $\qquad$ and I am working with the National Clinical Research Center for Maternal and Child Health of Turkmenistan. We are conducting a national survey about the health of women and children. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. I would like to ask you about your health (and the health of your children). This inform ation will help the government of Turkmenistan to plan health services. The survey usually takes between 20 and 45 minutes to complete. Whatever information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shown to other persons.

Participation in this survey is voluntary and you can choose not to answer any individual question or all of the questions. However, we hope that you will participate in this survey since your views are important. ${ }^{1}$

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?
May I begin the interview now?

Signature of interviewer: $\qquad$ Date: 2000

RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED. 1 RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED. $2 \rightarrow$ - END ,

| NO. | QUESTION AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 101 | RECORD THE TIME. | HOUR <br> MINUTES $\square$ |  |
| 102 | First I would like to ask some questions about you and your household. For most of the time until you were 12 years old, did you live in a city, in a town, or in the countryside? | CITY . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |  |
| 103 | How long have you been living continuously in (NAME OF CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE)? <br> IF LESS THAN ONE YEAR, RECORD '00' YEARS. | YEARS $\qquad$ $\square$ <br> ALWAYS 95 <br> VISITOR $\qquad$ 96 | $\sim_{\bullet}$ |
| 104 | Just before you moved here, did you live in a city, in a town, or in the countryside? | CITY . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 TOWN . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 105 | In what month and year were you born? | MONTH $\square$ DON'T KNOW MONTH 98 YEAR $\square$ DON'T KNOW YEAR |  |



## SECTION 1B. ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH STATUS

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 115 | The next questions are about places people go for their health problems. Is there a place that you usually go to when you are sick or need advice about your health? |  | $\begin{array}{\|c} -\rightarrow 118 \\ -119 \\ -119 \end{array}$ |
| 116 | What kind of place is it - a Rural or Urban Health House, a Women Counseling Center, Hospital, or some other place? <br> (RECORD NAME OF FACILITY) |  |  |
| 117 | Do you have a choice of changing place you usually go to for health care? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 1 DONT KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 8 | $\square 119$ |
| 118 | What is the reason why you do not have a usual source of care? | NO SOURCE IS AVAILABLE . . ................ 1 <br> NO REASON TO HAVE BECAUSE SELDOM OR NEVER SICK <br> RECENTLY MOVED INTO THE AREA . . . . . . . . . . 3 <br> OTHER $\qquad$ <br> DON'T KNOW $\qquad$ |  |
| 119 | During the past 12 months did you visit a doctor because of an illness or for preventive health care, including visits for prenatal care? |  | $\xrightarrow{\square} 123$ |
| 120 | In what month and year was your most recent visit to a doctor for health care? | MONTH <br> YEAR <br> DON'T KNOW YEAR |  |
| 121 | At that visit, was the doctor you saw a family doctor, who treats a variety of illnesses and gives preventive care, or was he or she a specialist who mainly treats just one type of problem? |  |  |
| 122 | Was this visit in (MONTH OF VISIT) to the place you usually go to when you are sick or need advice about your health? |  |  |
| 123 | During the past 12 months has a doctor or nurse visited you at home for a health check? |  | $\xrightarrow{\square} 125$ |
| 123A | Who has visited: doctor, or nurse or someone else? |  | \|r |
| 124 | At that visit, was the doctor you saw a family doctor, who treats a variety of illnesses and gives preventive care, or was he or she a specialist who mainly treats just one type of problem? |  |  |
| 125 | During the past 12 months, about how much did you spend out-of-pocket for medical care: less than 100000 manat, more than 100000 manat or did not spend any money? | NO SPENDING. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 LESS THAN 100000 MANAT. . . . . . . . . . 2 MORE THAN 100000 MANAT. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | $\begin{array}{\|c} -126 \\ -126 \end{array}$ |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 125A | Did you spend this money for medications, medical service, treatment or other? |  |  |
| 126 | Are you aware of a new Presidential health reform program which promotes primary health care and particularly family group practices? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 1 \\ & \text { NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 2 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 127 | Now I would like to ask you about your own health. Has a you that you have any of the following conditions? | octor or nurse or staff member at a clinic or at hospital |  |
| 128 | Anemia? | YES $\ldots .$. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 DON 8 | $r_{130}$ |
| 129 | When was the first time that you were told you had anemia? | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 MORE THAN A YEAR AGO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 130 | Hypertention or high blood pressure? | YES . .............................................. . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | $1 \times 132$ |
| 131 | When was the first time that you were told you had high blood pressure? | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 MORE THAN A YEAR AGO . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 132 | Diabetes or blood sugar? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 2 . 2 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | $1.134$ |
| 133 | When was the first time that you were told you had diabetes? | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 MORE THAN A YEAR AGO . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 134 | Kidney diseases, such as pyelonephritis or glomerulonephritis? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |
| 135 | When was the first time that you were told you had diabetes? | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 MORE THAN A YEAR AGO . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 136 | Hepatitis or Botkin's Disease? |  | $\xrightarrow{-138}$ |
| 137 | When was the first time that you were told you had hepatitis? | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 MORE THAN A YEAR AGO . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 |  |
| 138 | Are currently taking any tablets for prevention and treatment of anemia? |  | $\rightarrow 143$ |
| 139 | Have you been given or have you bought any iron tablets for prevention and treatment of anemia in the past? |  | ${ }_{-142}$ |
| 140 | When was the last time you took iron tablets for prevention and treatment of anemia | MONTH <br> YEAR <br> DON'T KNOW |  |
| 140A | Was it during your last pregnancy? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 1 \\ & \text { NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\rightarrow 142$ |
| 141 | When you were taking the tablets last time, for how many days did you take them? | DAYS <br> DON'T KNOW <br> 998 |  |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 151 | What are the symptoms of tuberculosis which would convince you to seek medical assistance? |  |  |
| 152 | When a person first discovers that he or she has tuberculosis, how should that person be treated initially: hospitalized, treated at home, or both? |  |  |
| 153 | How does tuberculosis spread from one person to another? | THROUGH THE AIR WHEN COUGHING ...... 1 OTHER $\qquad$ <br> 6 <br> DON'T KNOW . . .......... <br> ................................ . . . 8 |  |
| 154 | Where would you go for help if you thought you or your child had tuberculosis? |  |  |

SECTION 2: REPRODUCTION

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 201 | Now I would like to ask about all the births you have had during your life. Have you ever given birth? |  | ) - 206 |
| 202 | Do you have any sons or daughters to whom you have given birth who are now living with you? |  | ) - 204 |
| 203 | How many sons live with you? <br> And how many daughters live with you? <br> IF NONE, RECORD ' 00 '. |  |  |
| 204 | Do you have any sons or daughters to whom you have given birth who are alive but do not live with you? |  | ) - 206 |
| 205 | How many sons are alive but do not live with you? <br> And how many daughters are alive but do not live with you? <br> IF NONE, RECORD '00'. |  |  |
| 206 | Have you ever given bith to a boy or girl who was born alive but later died? <br> IF NO, PROBE: Any baby who cried or showed signs of life but suvived only a few hours or days? |  | ) -208 |
| 207 | How many boys have died? <br> And how many girls have died? <br> IF NONE, RECORD ‘00'. |  |  |
| 208 | SUM ANSWERS TO 203, 205, AND 207, AND ENTER TOTAL. <br> IF NONE, RECORD ' 00 '. |  |  |
| 209 | CHECK 208: <br> Just to make sure that I have this right: you have had in TOTAL $\qquad$ births during your life. Is that correct? |  |  |
| 209A | Women sometime have pregnancies which do not result in a live bom child. That is, a pregnancy can ended very early by a mini abortion or by an induced abortion, a miscarriage or a stillbirth. <br> In total how many mini abortions, and induced abortions have you had? |  |  |
| 209B | How many miscarriages? |  |  |
| 209C | How many stillbirths? |  |  |
| 209D | SUM ANSWERS TO 208, 209A, 209B,209C, AND ENTER TOTAL. IF NO PREGNANCIES, RECORD '00' |  |  |
| 210 | CHECK 209D: <br> ONE OR MORE <br> NO PRE <br> PREGNANCIES <br> +1) ), <br> (1)1). <br> \|l|l|l|l|l | ANCIES $\begin{aligned} & +111 \\ & .11121111111111111111111 \end{aligned}$ $11$ | ) - 228 |


| Now I want to talk to you about each of your pregnancies, including those which ended in a live birth, an induced abortion, mini abortion, a miscarriage, and a stillbirth. Starting with your last pregnancy, please tell me the following information |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 212 <br> When did your (last/next-tolast/etc.) pregnancy end? In what month and year? | 213 <br> Did this pregnancy end in a live birth, an induced abortion, mini abortion, a misc arriage, or a stillbith? | 214 <br> WAS THERE ANY OTHER PREGNANCY BETWEEN THIS AND THE PREVIOUS PREGNANCY? | 215 <br> CHECK 213: <br> RECORD SAME RESPONSE | 216 <br> Was this a single or a multiple birth? | 217 <br> What name was given to this child? | 218 <br> Is (NAME) a boy or girl? | 219 <br> Is (NAME) still alive? | 220 <br> How old was (NAME) on his/her last birthday? <br> RECORD AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS | 221 <br> Is (NAME) living with you? | 222 <br> RECORD HOUSEHOLD LINE NUMBER OF CHILD. <br> RECORD '00' IF CHILD NOT LISTED IN HOUSEHOLD | How old was (NAME) when he/she died? <br> If '1 YR.', PROBE: How many months old was (NAME)? RECORD DAYS IF LESS THAN 1 MONTH; MONTHS IF LESS THAN TWO YEARS. |
| $\left[\begin{array}{lll} 01 & +1) 10111, \\ \text { MONTH } & \ldots & * \\ & .11) \\ \text { YEAR } & & \end{array}\right.$ | LIVE BIRTH ........ 1 <br> induced abortion .................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH <br> ....... 5 |  | LIVE BIRTH .......... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots . . .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots . .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{lll} \text { YES } & \ldots & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . & 2 \end{array}$ | Line number +1) 10 01) 1 . .11)2111. NEXT PREGNANCY |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll} 02 & +111 & 0111, \\ \text { MONTH } & \ldots & * & * \\ & & .111) \\ \text { YEAR } & & \end{array}$ | LIVE BIRTH ........ 1 INDUCED ABORTION $\ldots . . . . . . . . . . . . .2$ MINI ABORTION .... 3 MISCARRIAGE .... 4 STILLBIRTH ....... 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots . . \end{aligned}$ | LIVE BIRTH ........... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{SING} \ldots . . .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots .1 \\ & \text { GIRL } \ldots .2 \end{aligned}$ |  | AGE IN YEARS <br> $+{ }_{*}^{+1)} \underset{*}{0} 011$, <br> .1)\|211). | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . & 2 \end{array}$ | LINE NUMBER +1110111 . 1)\|211). NEXT PREGNANCY |  |
|  | LIVE BIRTH ........ 1 <br> INDUCED ABORTION ...................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH <br> ....... . 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots . .1 \end{aligned}$ | LIVE BIRTH .......... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots . .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & \\ & & & { }^{2} \\ & & & \\ & & & 223 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { AGE IN YEARS } \\ & \quad+1110111 \text {, } \\ & * * * \\ & .1112111 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . . & 2 \end{array}$ | LINE NUMBER $\begin{aligned} & +1110111)_{*}^{*} \\ & * 1112111{ }_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & \text { NEXT } \\ & \text { PREGNANCY } \end{aligned}$ |  |




| 12 | LIVE BIRTH........ 1 <br> induced abortion <br> .................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH $\qquad$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots \ldots \text {. } 1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots . .1 \end{aligned}$ | LIVE BIRTH .......... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY .... } 1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & \\ & & & { }^{2} \\ & & & \\ & & & 223 \end{array}$ | AGE IN YEARS $\begin{gathered} +1110 \\ * \\ * \end{gathered}$ <br> . 1) \| 2111 . | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . . & 2 \end{array}$ | LINE NUMBER +1)l01)l, <br> .11)2111. <br> NEXT <br> PREGNANCY |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | LIVE BIRTH........ 1 <br> induced abortion <br> .................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH $\qquad$ | $\left.\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & \text { r. } \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & \ldots & \text { r } \end{array} \right\rvert\,$ | LIVE BIRTH .......... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots \ldots .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & \\ & & & { }^{2} \\ & & & \\ & & 223 \end{array}$ | AGE IN YEARS $\begin{aligned} & +11100111 \text { ( } \\ & * * \\ & .1112111 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . . & 2 \end{array}$ | LINE NUMBER +1110111 . <br> .11)2111. <br> NEXT PREGNANCY |  |
|  | LIVE BIRTH........ 1 <br> induced abortion <br> .................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH $\qquad$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & \ldots & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}\right\|$ | LIVE BIRTH ........... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots . . .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & \\ & & & { }^{2} \\ & & & \\ & & 223 \end{array}$ | AGE IN YEARS <br> $+{ }_{*}^{+1)} \underset{*}{0} 011$, <br> . 1) \| 2111 . | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots . \\ & \text { NO } \end{aligned}$ | Line number <br> +1)101)1, <br> .11)2111. <br> NEXT <br> PREGNANCY |  |
| 15 <br> YEAR | LIVE BIRTH........ 1 <br> induced abortion <br> .................... 2 <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH $\qquad$ | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & \text {. } \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & . . . & \text { r } \end{array}$ | LIVE BIRTH ........... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{SING} \ldots . . .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & 1 \\ & & & * \\ & & & \\ & & & 223 \end{array}$ | AGE IN YEARS $\begin{aligned} & +11100111 \text { ( } \\ & * * \\ & .1112111 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots . & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . . & 2 \end{array}$ | LINE NUMBER +1)1011). <br> .111211). <br> NEXT PREGNANCY |  |
|  | LIVE BIRTH........ 1 <br> induced abortion $\qquad$ <br> MINI ABORTION ... 3 <br> MISCARRIAGE .... 4 <br> STILLBIRTH $\qquad$ | $\begin{array}{\|cccc} \text { YES } & \ldots & \text { r } \\ \text { NO } & \ldots & & \\ \hline \end{array}$ | LIVE BIRTH .......... 1 <br> ABORTION ... 2 <br> MISCARRIAGE 3 <br> STILLBIRTH ... 4 <br> NEXT | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SING } \ldots \ldots .1 \\ & \text { MULT } \ldots . . .2 \end{aligned}$ | NAME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BOY } \ldots .1 \\ & \text { GIRL .... } 2 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { AGE IN YEARS } \\ & \quad+1110111 \text {, } \\ & \quad * * * \\ & \quad .1112111 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{llll} \text { YES } & \ldots & 1 \\ \text { NO } & \ldots . & 2 \end{array}$ | line number +1)l01)l, .1112111. NEXT PREGNANCY |  |


| 225 | COMPARE 209D WITH NUMBER OF PREGNANCIES IN HISTORY ABOVE AND MARK: <br> NUMBERS +1ll, <br> NUMBERS ARE <br> +111, <br> ARE SAME 1/l). <br> DIFFERENT .ll)2l)• <br> (PROBE AND RECONCILE) <br> CHECK: FOR EACH PREGNANCY: YEAR OF PREGNANCY ENDED IS RECORDED. <br> FOR EACH LIVING CHILD: CURRENT AGE IS RECORDED. <br> FOR EACH DEAD CHILD: AGE AT DEATH IS RECORDED. <br> FOR AGE AT DEATH 12 MONTHS OR 1 YR.: PROBE TO DETERMINE EXACT NUMBER OF MONTHS. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 226 | CHECK 212 AND 213, AND ENTER THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS IN JANUARY 1995 OR LATER. IF NONE, RECORD ' 0 '. |
| 227 | FOR EACH PREGNANCY THAT ENDED IN JANUARY 1994 OR LATER IN COLUMN 1 OF THE CALENDAR ENTER THE CODE OF THE PREGNANCY OUTCOME IN THE MONTH OF PREGNANCY ENDED: <br> - 'B' FOR LIVE BIRTHS, <br> - 'S' FOR STILLBIRTH, <br> - 'M' FOR MISCARRIAGE, <br> - 'D' INDUCED ABORT BY D\&C, <br> - ' V ' INDUCED ABORT BY VACUUM ASPIRATION. <br> THEN ASK THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THAT EACH PREGNANCY LASTED. RECORD "P" IN EACH OF THE PRECEDING MONTHS OF CALENDAR ACCORDING TO THE DURATION OF PREGNANCY. (NOTE: THE NUMBER OF 'P's MUST BE ONE LESS THAN THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THAT THE PREGNANCY LASTED.) FINALLY, FOR EACH BIRTH WRITE THE NAME OF THE CHILD TO THE LEFT OF THE 'B' CODE.. <br> FOR EACH ABORTION ASK: WHERE ABORTION WAS PERFORMED AND IN COLUMN 5 ENTER THE CODE FOR THE FACILITY. |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 228 | Are you pregnant now? |  | $2 \cdot 231$ |
| 229 | How many months pregnant are you? <br> RECORD NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS. ENTER 'P's IN COLUMN 1 OF CALENDAR, BEGINNING WITH THE MONTH OF INTERVIEW AND FOR TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETED MONTHS. |  |  |
| 230 | At the time you became pregnant did you want to become pregnant then, did you want to wait until later, or did you not want to have any (more) children at all? |  |  |
| 231 | When did your last menstrual period start? <br> (DATE, IF GIVEN) |  |  |
| 232 | From one menstrual period to the next, is there a time when a woman is more likely to become pregnant if she has sexual relations? |  | 2-301 |
| 233 | Is this time just before her period begins, during her period, right atter her period has ended, or half way between two periods? | JUST BEFORE HER PERIOD BEGINS ............ 1 <br> DURING HER PERIOD . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 <br> RIGHT AFTER HER <br> PERIODHAS ENDED ........................ 3 <br> HALF WAY BETWEEN PERIODS ................. 4 <br> OTHER $\qquad$ 6 <br> (SPECIFY) <br> DON'T KNOW <br> .8 |  |

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.
CIRCLE CODE 1 IN 301 FOR EACH METHOD MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. THEN PROCEED DOWN COLUMN 301, READING THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF EACH METHOD NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY. CIRCLE CODE 1 IF METHOD IS RECOGNIZED, AND CODE 2 IF NOT RECOGNIZED. THEN, FOR EACH METHOD WITH CODE 1 CIRCLED IN 301, ASK 302.

| 301 | Which ways or methods have you heard about? <br> FOR METHODS NOT MENTIONED SPONTANEOUSLY, ASK: Have you ever heard of (METHOD)? |  | 302 Have you ever used (METHOD)? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 01 | FEMALE STERILIZATION Women can have an operation to avoid having any more children. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots . .1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots .{ }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | Have you ever had an operation to avoid having any more children? |
| 02 | MALE STERILIZATION Men can have an operation to avoid having any more children. | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { YES } \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots . .1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots{ }^{2} \end{aligned}$ | Have you ever had a partner who had an operation to avoid having children? |
| 03 | PILL Women can take a pill to avoid pregnancy. |  |  |
| 04 | IUD Women can have a loop or coil placed inside them by a doctor or a nurse. |  |  |
| 05 | INJECTIONS Women can have an injection by a doctor or nurse which stops them from becoming pregnant for several months. | YES $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots .1$ NO $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \boldsymbol{q}_{7}$ | YES NO |
| 06 | IMPLANTS Women can have several small rods placed in their upper arm by a doctor or nurse which can prevent pregnancy for several years. |  |  |
| 07 | CONDOM Men can put a rubber sheath on their penis before sexual intercourse. |  |  |
| 08 | FEMALE CONDOM Women can place a rubber sheath in their vagina before intercourse | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES } \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots . .1 \\ & \text { NO } \ldots \ldots \ldots .{ }^{2} \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 09 | DIAPHRAGM Women can place a diaphragm in their vagina before intercourse. |  |  |
| 10 | FOAM AND GELLY Women can place a suppository, jelly or cream in their vagina before intercourse. |  | YES .......................................... 1 NO ......................................... 2 |
| 11 | LACTATIONAL AMENORRHEA METHOD (LAM) Women can use a specially taught method of pregnancy avoidance to delay the return of the menstrual period by feeding their child nothing but breast milk for up to six months after a birth. |  |  |
| 12 | RHYTHM OR PERIODIC ABSTINENCE Every month that a woman is sexually active she can avoid having sexual intercourse on the days of the month she is most likely to get pregnant. |  | YES . ......................................... 1 NO ............................................. 2 |
| 13 | WITHDRAWAL Men can be careful and pull out before climax. |  | YES .................................................. 1 NO ............................................... 2 |
| 14 | EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION Women can take pills the day atter sexual intercourse to avoid becoming pregnant. |  |  |
| 15 | Have you heard of any other ways or methods that women or men can use to avoid pregnancy? |  |  |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 313 | Where did the sterilization take place? <br> IF SOURCE IS HOSPITAL, RURAL OR URBAN HEALTH CLINIC, OR WOMEN'S CONSULTING CENTER, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. |  |  |
| 314 | Before the sterilization operation, were (youlyour husband/your partner) told that you would not be able to have any (more) children? |  |  |
| 316 | In what month and year was the sterilization perfomred? | MONTH $\qquad$ <br> YEAR |  |
| 317 | CHECK 316:  <br> STERILIZED BEFORE STERILIZED <br> JANUARY 1995  <br>   <br> ENTER CODE FOR STERILIZATION IN MONTH OF  <br> INTERVIEW IN COLUMN 1 OF THE CALENDAR AND CALENDER COD <br> EACH MONTH BACK TO JANUARY 1995 ENTER ME <br> THEN SKIP TO OF OPERA <br>   | JANUARY 1995 <br> FOR STERILIZATION IN MONTH OF INTERVIEW IN COLUMN 1 IN EACH MONTH BACK TO THE DATE OF THE OPERATION. <br> D SOURCE CODE IN COLUMN 2 OF CALENDAR IN MONTH O N. <br> -_-_-_-_- 319 | THE <br> ATE |
| 318 | ENTER METHOD CODE FROM 311 IN CURRENT MONTH IN COLUMN METHOD THIS TIME. ENTER METHOD CODE IN EACH MONTH OF U ENTER METHOD SOURCE CODE IN COLUMN 2 OF CALENDAR IN TH <br> ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS: <br> - When did you start using this metho <br> - How long have you been using this <br> - When you started using this method | F CALENDAR. THEN DETERMINE WHEN SHE STARTED USI IF CURRENT METHOD STARTED IN JANUARY 1995 OR LATE SAME MONTH THAT USE OF CURRENT METHOD BEGAN. <br> ontinuously? <br> hod continuously? <br> here did you obtain it? |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 319 | I would like to ask you some questions about the times you or your partner few years. <br> USE CALENDAR TO PROBE FOR EARLIER PERIODS OF USE AND NO JANUARY 1995. <br> USE NAMES OF CHILDREN, DATES OF BIRTH, AND PERIODS OF PR <br> IN COLUMN 1, ENTER METHOD USE CODE OR '0’ FOR NONUSE IN E <br> ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS: <br> COLUMN 1: . When was the last time you used a method? <br> - When did you start using that method? How <br> - How long did you use the method then? <br> IN COLUMN 2, ENTER METHOD SOURCE CODE IN FIRST MONTH OF <br> ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS: <br> COLUMN 2: - Where did you obtain the method when you <br> - Where did you get advice on how to use the <br> IN COLUMN 3, ENTER CODES FOR DISCONTINUATION NEXT TO LAS NUMBER OF CODES IN COLUMN 3 MUST BE SAME AS NUMBER OF <br> ASK WHY SHE STOPPED USING THE METHOD. IF A PREGNANCY FOL UNINTENTIONALLY WHILE USING THE METHOD OR DELIBERATELY <br> ILLUSTRATIVE QUESTIONS: <br> COLUMN 3: . Why did you stop using the (METHOD)? <br> - Did you become pregnant while using (MET other reason? <br> IF DELIBERATELY STOPPED TO BECOME PREGNANT, ASK: <br> - How many months did it take you to get preg AND ENTER '0' IN EACH SUCH MONTH IN | y have used a method to avoid getting pregnant during the last <br> USE, STARTING WITH MOST RECENT USE, BACK TO <br> NANCY AS REFERENCE POINTS. <br> H BLANK MONTH. <br> hich method was that? <br> ng after the birth of (NAME)? <br> CH USE. <br> red using it? <br> thod [ for LAM, rhythm, or withdrawal]? <br> MONTH OF USE. <br> ERRUPTIONS OF METHOD USE IN COLUMN 1. <br> OWED, ASK WHETHER SHE BECAME PREGNANT OPPED TO GET PREGNANT. <br> D), or did you stop to get pregnant, or did you stop for some <br> after you stopped using (METHOD)? <br> ILUMN 1. |  |
| 320 | CHECK 311/311A: <br> CIRCLE METHOD CODE: |  |  |
| 321 | CHECK COLUMN 1 OF CALENDAR FOR LENGTH OF USE OF CURRENT METHOD: <br> STARTED USING AFTER <br> JANUARY 1995 | D USING IN JANUARY 1995 ORE | $\rightarrow 325$ |
| 322 | You first obtained (CURRENT METHOD) from (SOURCE OF METHOD FROM CALENDAR) on (DATE). <br> At that time, were you told about side effects or problems you might have with the method? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | -- 324 |
| 323 | Were you told what to do if you experienced side effects? |  |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 324 | When you were given the (CURRENT METHOD), were you told about other methods of family planning which you could use? | YES . ............................................................................................. 12 |  |
| 325 | CHECK 311/311A: <br> CIRCLE METHOD CODE: |  |  |
| 326 | Where did you obtain (CURRENT METHOD) the last time? <br> IF SOURCE IS HOSPITAL, RURAL OR URBEN HEALTH CLINIC, OR WOMEN'S CONSULTING CENTER, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. |  |  |
| 327 | Do you know of a place where you can obtain a method of family planning? |  | -->329 |
| 328 | Where is that? <br> IF SOURCE IS HOSPITAL, RURAL OR URBAN HEALTH CLINIC, OR WOMEN'S CONSULTING CENTER, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. |  |  |
| 329 | In the last 12 months, were you visited by a field worker who talked to you about family planning? | YES $\ldots .$. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |  |
| 330 | In the last 12 months, have you attended a health facility for care for yourself (or your children)? |  | -->341 |



SECTION 4A. PREGNANCY, POSTNATAL CARE AND BREASTFEEDING

| 401 | CHECK 226: <br> ONE OR MORE BIRTHS IN JAN. 1995 OR LATER | +) ), <br> (1). | NO BIRTHS IN JAN. 1995 OR LATER | $\begin{aligned} & +11 . \\ & .11 \cdot 1111111 \end{aligned}$ | 1)111111 | - 486 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 402 | ENTER THE LINE NUMBER, NAME, AND SURVIVAL STATUS OF EACH BIRTH SINCE JANUARY 1994 IN THE TABLE. ASK THE QUESTIONS ABOUT ALL OF THESE BIRTHS. BEGIN WITH THE LAST BIRTH. <br> Now I would like to ask you some questions about the health of all your children born in the last five years, (We will talk about each separately) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 403 | LINE NUMBER FROM 212 | LAST <br> LINE NUMBER | RTH | NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH <br> LINE NUMBER | NEXT-TO BIRTH <br> LINE NU | JEXT-TO-LAST |
| 404 | FROM 217 AND 219 | NAME $\qquad$ <br> ALIVE + ) 1 <br> (1). | $\begin{aligned} \text { DEAD }+ \text { ) } \\ \text { (l). } \end{aligned}$ | NAME $\qquad$ <br> ALIVE +1), DEAD +1), <br> (1). 11 . | NAME $\qquad$ <br> ALIVE +) <br> 1) | DEAD +1), <br> (1). |
| 405 | At the time you became pregnant with (NAME), did you want to become pregnant then, did you want to wait until later, or did you want no (more) children at all? | THEN <br> (SKIP T LATER ...... <br> NO MORE (SKIP T |  |  | THEN <br> (SKI LATER NO MOR (SKI | TO 422(4) \| l l l ) l - <br> 2 <br>  |
| 406 | How much longer would you like to have waited? | MONTHS .. 1 <br> YEARS .... 2 <br> DON'T KNOW | $998$ | MONTHS . 1 <br> YEARS ... 2 <br> DON'T KNOW ........ 998 <br> ALL CATEGORIES SHOULD (SKIP TO 422)-1)ll)l). | MONTHS <br> YEARS . <br> DON'T KN <br> ALL CATE <br> (SKIP | ORIES SHOULD <br>  |
| 407 | Did you see anyone for antenatal care for this pregnancy? <br> IF YES: Whom did you see? <br> Anyone else? <br> PROBE FOR THE TYPE OF PERSON AND RECORD ALL PERSONS SEEN. | HEALTH PROF DOCTOR ... NURSE/MIDW <br> OTHER PERSO TRADITIONAL ATTENDANT OTHER <br> NO ONE (SKIP T | IONAL <br> RTH <br> Y) <br>  |  |  |  |


|  |  | LAST BIRTH <br> NAME $\qquad$ |  | NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH <br> NAME $\qquad$ | NEXT-TO-NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH <br> NAME $\qquad$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 408 | How many months pregnant were you when you first received antenatal care for this pregnancy? | MONTHS ... DON'T KNOW | 98 |  |  |
| 409 | How many times did you receive antenatal care during this pregnancy? | NO. OF TIMES DON'T KNOW | 98 |  |  |
| 410 | CHECK 409: <br> NUMBER OF TIMES RECEIVED ANTENATAL CARE | ONCE <br> +) ), <br> (1). <br> (SKIP TO 412) | MORE <br> THAN ONCE OR DON'T KNOW +) ), (1). |  |  |
| 411 | How many months pregnant were you the last time you received antenatal care? | MONTHS ... <br> DON'T KNOW | $98$ |  |  |
| 412 | During this pregnancy, were any of the following done at least once? <br> Were you weighed? <br> Was your height measured? <br> Was your blood pressure measured? <br> Did you give a urine sample? <br> Did you give a blood sample? | WEIGHT . . . . <br> HEIGHT . . . . <br> BLOOD PRESS <br> URINE SAMPL <br> BLOOD SAMP | $\begin{array}{cc} \text { YES } & \text { NO } \\ & \\ \ldots . . .1 & 2 \\ \ldots . . .1 & 2 \\ \text { RE ...1 } & 2 \\ \ldots . . .1 & 2 \\ & \\ \ldots . .1 & 2 \end{array}$ |  |  |
| 413 | Were you told about the signs of pregnancy complications? | YES ....... <br> NO <br> (SKIP TO <br> DON'T KNOW |  |  |  |
| 414 | Were you told where to go if you had these problems? | YES ....... <br> NO <br> DON'T KNOW | 1 <br> 2 <br> 8 |  |  |
| 416 | During this pregnancy, were you given or did you buy any iron tablets? <br> SHOW TABLET. | YES $\qquad$ <br> NO <br> (SKIP TO DON'T KNOW |  |  |  |
| 417 | During the whole pregnancy, for how many days did you take the tablets? | NUMBER OF DAYS ...... <br> DON'T KNOW | $998$ |  |  |







SECTION 4B. IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH

| 451 | enter the name and line number of each living child born since January 1995 in the table. Ask the QUESTIONS ABOUT ALL OF THESE CHILDREN. BEGIN WITH THE YOUNGEST CHILD. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 452 | LINE NUMBER FROM 212 | LAST BIRTH <br> LINE NUMBER . . . . $\square$ | NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH <br> LINE NUMBER . . . . $\square$ | NEXT-TO- NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH <br> LINE NUMBER . . . . . $\square$ |
| 453 | FROM 212 AND 219 | NAME <br> ALIVE DEAD $\square$ <br> (GO TO 453 IN NEXT COLUMN OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 481) | NAME <br> ALIVE DEAD $\square$ (GO TO 453 IN NEXT COLUMN OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 481) | NAME <br> ALIVE <br> DEAD $\square$ <br> (GO TO 453 IN NEXT COLUMN OR, IF NO MORE BIRTHS, GO TO 481) |
| 454 | Did (NAME) receive a Vitamin A/polyvitamins dose like this during the last 6 months? <br> SHOW <br> AMPULE/CAPSULE OR TABLETS | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 <br> NO . . . . . . . . .  |
| 455 | Do you have a card where (NAME'S) vaccinations are written down? <br> IF YES: May I see it please? | YES, SEEN . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 (SKIP TO 457) YES, NOT SEEN . . . . . . . . 2 (SKIP TO 463)•• . . . . . 3 | YES, SEEN . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 (SKIP TO 457) YES, NOT SEEN . . . . . . . . . 2 (SKIP TO 463) NO CARD . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 456 | Did you ever have a vaccination card for (NAME)? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 (SKIP TO 463)•• . . . . . . 2 | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (SKIP TO 463) NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . (SKIP TO 463)•• NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |



| 466 | CHECK 463 AND 464: <br> FEVER OR COUGH? |  | "YES" NO OR DK <br> IN 463  <br> OR 464  <br> $\square$  <br> -  <br> - (SKIP TO 472) | "YES" <br> IN 463 <br> OR 464 $\square$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 467 | Did you seek advice or treatment for the illness? |  |  |  |  |
| 467A | What signs or symptoms led you to seek advice or treatment? | WHEN HE/SHE: <br> HAS BLOCKED NOSE HAS TROUBLE SLEEPING/EATING HAS A FEVER IS BREATHING FAST IS ILL FOR A LONG TIME OTHER $\qquad$ DON'T KNOW | WHEN HE/SHE: HAS BLOCKED NOSE ................... A HAS TROUBLE SLEEPING/EATING . . . . B HAS A FEVER . . . . . . . . . C IS BREATHING FAST .... D IS ILL FOR A LONG <br> TIME OTHER $\qquad$ X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW Z | WHEN HE/SHE: <br> HAS BLOCKED NOSE HAS TROUBLE SLEEPING/EATING ...... B HAS A FEVER IS BREATHING FAST ...... D IS ILL FOR A LONG TIME OTHER $\qquad$ E X (SPECIFY) DON'T KNOW $\qquad$ |  |
| 468 | Where did you seek advice or treatment? <br> Anywhere else? <br> RECORD ALL MENTIONED. |  | PUBLIC SECTOR <br> HOSPITAL ............ A <br> RURALURBAN <br> HEALTH CLINIC . . . . . B <br> PHARMACY ............ E <br> OTHER <br> PUBLIC $\qquad$ F <br> (SPECIFY) <br> PRIVATE MEDICALSECTOR <br> PVT. HOSPITAL/ <br> CLINIC ........... G <br> PHARMACY ............ H <br> PVT. DOCTOR ......... . I <br> OTHER PVT. <br> MEDICAL <br> (SPECIFY) <br> OTHER SOURCE TRAD. <br> PRACTITIONER ........K <br> OTHER $\qquad$ X <br> (SPECIFY) |  |  |
| 472 | Has (NAME) had diarrhea in the last 2 weeks? |  |  | YES <br> NO <br> DON'T |  |
| 473 | When (NAME) had diarrhea, was he/she given less than usual to drink, about the same amount, or more than usual to drink? | LESS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 SAME . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 MORE . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | LESS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 SAME . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 MORE DON'T KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | LESS SAME MORE DON'T KN |  |
| 474 | Was he/she given less than usual to eat, about the same amount, or more than usual to eat? | LESS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 SAME . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 MORE DON'T KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | LESS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 SAME . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 MORE DON'T KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | LESS SAME MORE DON'T |  |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 481 | CHECK 453, ALL COLUMNS: <br> ONE OR MORE +lll, <br> 1111. | ER OF LIVING CHILDREN BORN SINCE JANUARY ```NONE +lll, .\|l(2|llllllllllllll``` | ) ) 486 |
| 482 | The last time you fed your children, did you wash your hands immediately before feeding them? | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l} \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } \\ \text { NO . . . . } \end{array}$ |  |
| 483 | The last time you had to clean (your child/one of your children) after (he/she) defecated, did you wash your hands immediately afterwards? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 485 | CHECK 475, ALL COLUMNS: <br> NO CHILD RECEIVED ORS FROM PACKET <br> +1) 1 , <br> 1111. | ANY CHILD <br> RECEIVED ORS <br> FROM PACKET <br> $+1) 1$, <br> .1112111111111111111111111 | ) ) -487 |
| 486 | Have you ever heard of a special product called [REHYDRON] you can get for the treatment of diarrhea? |  |  |
| 487 | CHECK 221: <br> HAS ONE OR MORE CHILDREN LIVING WITH HER <br> +1) ), <br> (1)). | HAS NO CHILDREN LIVING WITH HER <br> +1) ), <br>  | 1) -489 |
| 488 | When (your child/one of your children) is seriously ill, can you decide by yourself whether the child should be taken for medical treatment? |  |  |
| 489 | Have you washed hands before cooking food for your family? |  |  |

SECTION 5. MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ACTIVITY

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS |  | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 501 | Are you currently married or living with a man? |  | YES, CURRENTLY MARRIED .......... 1 YES, LIVING WITHA MAN . . . . . . . . . . 2 NO, NOT IN UNION . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 | $2 \sim 505$ |
| 502 | Have you ever been married or lived with a man? |  | YES, FORMERLY MARRIED .......... 1 YES, LIVED WITH A MAN ........... 2 NO .................................. 3 | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{ll} 1 & \sim 04 \\ 1 & \sim 009 \end{array}\right.$ |
| 503 | ENTER '0' IN COLUMN 4 OF CALENDAR IN THE MONTH OF INTERVIEW, AND IN EACH MONTH BACK TO JANUARY 199 <br>  |  |  | ) $>516$ |
| 504 | What is your mantal status now: are you widowed, divorced, or separated? |  |  | $3>509$ |
| 505 | Is your husband/partner living with you now or is he staying elsewhere? |  | LIVING WITH HER ..................... 1 STAYING ELSEWHERE ............. 2 |  |
| 506 | RECORD THE HUSBAND'S LINE NUMBER FROM THE HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE. IF HE IS NOT LISTED IN THE HOUSEHOLD, RECORD '00'. |  | $\begin{aligned} & +11101111_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & * \\ & (1) 12111 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 509 | Have you been married or lived with a man only once, or more than once? |  | ONCE ............................. 1 MORE THAN ONCE .................. 2 |  |
| 510 |  |  | MONTH $\qquad$ <br> DON'T KNOW MONTH $\qquad$ 98 $\qquad$ <br> DON'T KNOW YEAR <br> 9988 | ) -512 |
| 511 | How old were you when you started living with him? |  |  |  |
| 512 | DETERMINE MONTHS MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A MAN SINCE JANUARY 1994. ENTER 'X'IN COLUMN 4 OF CALENDAR FOR EACH MONTH MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A MAN, AND ENTER '0' FOR EACH MONTH NOT MARRIEDNOT LIVING WITH A MAN, SINCE JANUARY 1994. <br> FOR WOMEN WITH MORE THAN ONE UNION: PROBE FOR DATE WHEN CURRENT UNION STARTED AND, IF APPROPRIATE, FOR STARTING AND TERMINATION DATES OF ANY PREVIOUS UNIONS. <br> FOR WOMEN NOT CURRENTLY IN UNION: PROBE FOR DATE WHEN LAST UNION STARTED AND FOR TERMINATION DATE AND, IF APPROPRIATE, FOR THE STARTING AND TERMINATION DATES OF ANY PREVIOUS UNIONS. |  |  |  |
| 513 | CHECK 501: <br> CURRENTLY <br> MARRIED OR <br> LIVING WITH A MAN +l)l, <br> (1)). | NOT CURRENTLY MARRIED AND NOT CURRENTLY LIVING WITH A MAN <br> 111111111111 | +1)1, <br>  | ) -516 |
| 514 | CHECK 311/311A: <br> ANY CODE CIRCLED <br> +1) 1, <br> (1)). | NOT ASKED (NO CODE CIRCLED) 11111111111 | $\begin{aligned} & +111 \\ & \text { +112111111111111111111 } \end{aligned}$ | ) -516 |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 515 | You have told me that you are using contraception. Would you say that using contraception is mainly your decision, mainly your husband's/partner's decision or did you both decide together? |  |  |
| 516 | Now I need to ask you some questions about sexual activity in order to gain a better understanding of some family life issues. <br> How old were you when you first had sexual intercourse (if ever)? |  | ) -526 |
| 517 | When was the last time you had sexual intercourse? |  | -526 |
| 518 | The last time you had sexual intercourse, was a condom used? |  |  |
| 519 | What is your relationship to the man with whom you last had sex? |  | - 521 |
| 520 | For how long have you had a sexual relationship with this man? |  |  |
| 521 | Have you had sex with anyone else in the last 12 months? |  | ) -526 |
| 522 | The last time you had sexual intercourse with this other man, was a condom used? |  |  |
| 523 | What is your relationship to this man? |  | ) -525 |
| 524 | For how long have you had a sexual relationship with this man? |  |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 525 | Altogether, with how many different men have you had sex in the last 12 months? |  |  |
| 526 | Do you know of a place where one can get condoms? | YES ........................................................ 1 NO ............................. 2 | ) -529 |
| 527 | Where is that? <br> IF SOURCE IS POLYCLINIC, FGP, FAP, WOMEN`S CONSULTING CENTER (WCC), WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. \end{tabular} &  & \\ \hline 528 & If you wanted to, could you yourself get a condom? &  & \\ \hline 529 & Do you know of a place where one can get female condoms? &  & -601 \\ \hline 530 & \begin{tabular}{l} Where is that? \\ IF SOURCE IS POLYCLINIC, FGP, FAP, WOMEN`S CONSULTING CENTER (WCCO, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. |  |  |
| 531 | If you wanted to, could you yourself get a female condom? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |

SECTION 6. FERTILITY PREFERENCES

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS |  | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 601 | CHECK 311/311A: <br> NEITHER STERILIZED +1)l, | SHE STERILIZED <br> +) ) ), <br>  |  | ) $\cdot 614$ |
| 602 | CHECK 228: <br> NOT PREGNANT +lll, <br> OR UNSURE 1111 . <br> Now I have some questions about the future. <br> Would you like to have (a/another) child, or would you prefer not to have any (more) children? | PREGNANT + \\|) , <br> (1)). <br> * <br> have some questions about re. <br> e child you are expecting ould you like to have another r would you prefer not to y more children? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { HAVE (A/ANOTHER) CHILD } \ldots . . . . . \\ & \text { NO MORE/NONE . . . . . . . . . . . } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1-604 \\ & 1-609 \\ & 1 \\ & 1 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| 603 | CHECK 226: <br> NOT PREGNANT +lll, <br> OR UNSURE 1111 . <br> How long would you like to wait from now before the birth of (a/another) child? | PREGNANT + ll), <br> (1)1). <br> * <br> birth of the child you are ing now, how long would you before the birth of another |  | $\mid>609$ |
| 604 | CHECK 228: <br> NOT PREGNANT +ll), <br> OR UNSURE 111$)$. | PREGNANT +1)11, $\text { . } 11112$ |  | ) -610 |
| 605 | CHECK 310: USING A METHOD? | CURRENTLY USING <br> + ) ) ), <br> .) \|) 2 |  | ) -608 |
| 606 | CHECK 603: | 00-23 MONTHS OR 00-01 YEAR <br> +1) ), <br> . ) \| 2 |  | ) -610 |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 607 | CHECK 602: |  |  |
| 608 | In the next few weeks, if you discovered that you were pregnant, would that be a big problem, a small problem, or no problem for you? | BIG PROBLEM . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 <br> SMALL PROBLEM . . . . . . . . . . . 2 <br> NO PROBLEM ............... 3 <br> SAYS SHE CAN'T GET PREGNANT 4 |  |
| 609 | CHECK 310: USING A METHOD? | (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) | ) -614 |
| 610 | Do you think you will use a method to delay or avoid pregnancy at any time in the future? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | i 2 612 |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 611 | Which method would you prefer to use? |  | $\mid-614$ |
| 612 | What is the main reason that you think you will not use a method at any time in the future? |  | $\mid>614$ |
| 613 | Would you ever use a method if you were married? |  |  |
| 614 | CHECK 219: <br> PROBE FOR A NUMERIC RESPONSE. | NUMBER <br> OTHER $\qquad$ 96 (SPECIFY) | ) -616 |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES |  |  |  | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 625 | Husbands and wives do not always agree on everything. Please tell me if you think a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when: | YES NO DK |  |  |  |  |
|  | She is tired or not in the mood? | TIRED/MOOD ........... 1 2 8 <br> RECENT BIRTH ........ 1 2 8 <br> OTHER WOMEN ...... 1 2 8 <br> HAS THE AIDS VIRUS ... 1 2 8 |  |  |  |  |
|  | She has recently given birth? |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | She knows he has sex with other women? ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | She knows he has the AIDS virus? |  |  |  |  |  |

SECTION 7. HUSBAND'S BACKGROUND AND WOMAN'S WORK

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 701 | CHECK 501 AND 502: <br> CURRENTLY MARRIED/ <br> FORMERLY MARRI <br> LIVING WITH A MAN <br> +1) 1 , <br> 1111. <br> NEVER MARRIED AND <br> $\checkmark$ <br> LIVED WITH A MAN | EVER ```+\|), .|ll2!lllllllllllllllllllllll +|), .|ll2|llllllllllllllllllllll``` | \| • 703 $\text { \| } \cdot 707$ |
| 702 | How old was your husband/partner on his last birthday? |  |  |
| 703 | Did your (last) husband/partner ever attend school? |  | ) 706 |
| 704 | What was the highest level of school he attended: primary, secondary, secondary-special, or higher? |  | ) 706 |
| 705 | What was the highest (grade/form/year) he completed at that level? |  |  |
| 706 | CHECK 701: | $\qquad$ |  |
| 707 | Aside from your own housework, are you currently working? | YES ................................................................... 2 | 1-710 |
| 708 | As you know, some women take up jobs for which they are paid in cash or kind. Others sell things, have a small business or work on the family farm or in the family business. <br> Are you currently doing any of these things or any other work? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 1 \\ & \text { NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } \end{aligned}$ | ) 710 |
| 709 | Have you done any work in the last 12 months? |  | ) 719 |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES |  |  |  | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 720 | PRESENCE OF OTHERS AT THIS POINT (PRESENT AND LISTENING, PRESENT BUT NOT LISTENING OR NOT PRESENT) | CHILDREN <10 HUSBAND OTHER MALES OTHER FEMALES | PRES/ LISTEN. <br> $\ldots 1$ $\cdots$ $\cdots$ $\cdots$ $\cdots$ $\cdots$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RES/ } \\ & \text { NOT } \\ & \text { STEN. } \\ & 2 \\ & 2 \\ & 2 \\ & 2 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | NOT PRS $\begin{aligned} & 3 \\ & 3 \\ & 3 \\ & 3 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 721 | Sometimes a husband is annoyed or angered by things which his wife does. In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting or beating his wife in the following situations: <br> If she goes out without telling him? <br> If she neglects the children? <br> If she argues with him? <br> If she refuses sex with him? <br> If she burns the food? | GOES OUT NEGL. CHILDREN ARGUES REFUSES SEX BURNS FOOD |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{NO} \\ \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { DK } \\ 8 \\ 8 \\ 8 \\ 8 \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ |  |
| 722 | Have you ever been beaten by your husband? | YES NO REFUSED TO ANS DOESN'T REMEMB | SWER <br> BER |  |  |  |
| 723 | Is your husband your relative? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES ........ } \\ & \text { NO . } \quad \text { DON' KNOW } \\ & \text { DO. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{l\|l\|} \mid & \bullet 801 \\ \mid & >801 \end{array}\right.$ |
| 724 | How close is he to you: cousin or other? | OTHER RELATIVE DON'T KNOW |  |  |  |  |

## SECTION 8A: AIDS AND OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 801 | Now I would like to talk about something else. Have you ever heard of an illness called AIDS? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 | ) 1818 |
| 802 | Is there anything a person can do to avoid getting AIDS or the virus that causes AIDS? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 1 DONT KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | 2-810 |
| 803 | What can a person do? <br> Anything else? <br> RECORD ALL MENTIONED. |  |  |
| 804 | Is it possible to avoid AIDS by having only one not infected sexual partner who doesn't have other sexual partners? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 DONT KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . |  |
| 805 | Is it possible to get AIDS through mosquito bite? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 2 . 2 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |
| 806 | Is it possible to avoid AIDS using condom during every sexual intercourse? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 2 . 1 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |
| 807 | Can a person get AIDS through eating together with sick person? |  |  |
| 808 | Is it possible to prevent AIDS by abstain from sexual intercourses at all? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 2 DON K KOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |
| 810 | Is it possible for a healthy-looking person to have the AIDS virus? |  |  |
| 811 | Do you know someone personally who has the virus that causes AIDS or someone who died from AIDS? | YES ........................................... 1 NO .................................... . . . 2 |  |
| 812 | Can the virus that causes AIDS be transmitted from a mother to a child? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO 2 DON'T KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | 2-814 |



| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 817f | Do you know a place where you could go to get an AIDS test? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | -818 |
| 817 g 817 gx | Where can you go for the test? <br> Where did you go for the test? <br> IF SOURCE IS HOSPITAL, HEALTH CENTER, OR CLINIC, WRITE THE NAME OF THE PLACE. PROBE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPE OF SOURCE AND CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE CODE. |  |  |
| 818 | (Apart from AIDS), have you heard about (other) infections that can be transmitted through sexual contact? | YES .................................................................... 2 | -831 |
| 818A | Have you ever heard about these diseases? |  |  |
| 819 | In a man, what signs and symptoms would lead you to think that he has such an infection? <br> Any others? <br> RECORD ALL MENTIONED. |  |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 820 | How do you think, what symptoms represent weather a woman is been infected or not? | ABDOMINAL PAIN ............................. . A <br> GENITAL DISCHARGE/DRIPPING ............ B <br> FOUL SMELLING DISCHARGE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $C$ <br> BURNING PAIN ON URINATION . . . . . . . . . . . . D <br> REDNESS/INFLAMMATION IN GENITAL AREA <br> SWELLING IN GENITAL AREA ................ F <br> GENITAL SORES/ULCERS ..................... G <br> GENITAL WARTS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . H <br> BLOOD IN URINE <br> LOSS OF WEIGHT <br> NO SYMPTOMS <br> OTHER $\qquad$ W (SPECIFY) <br> OTHER $\qquad$ X <br> (SPECIFY) <br> DON'T KNOW <br> Z |  |
| 822 | During the last 12 months, have you had a sexuallytransmitted disease? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 2 DONT KNOW . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 | 2 -831 |
| 823 | Now I would like to ask you some questions about your health in the last 12 months. Sometimes, women experience a genital discharge. <br> During the last 12 months, have you had a genital discharge? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 1 . 2 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 |  |
| 824 | Sometimes, women experience a genital sore or ulcer. <br> During the last 12 months, have you had a genital sore or ulcer? |  |  |
| 825 | CHECK 822, 823, and 824: <br> HAS HAD AN INFECTION <br> +) 1), <br> (1)1). | AS NOT HAD AN INFECTION ```+\|), .lll2llllllllllllllllllllllllll``` | -831 |
| 826 | The last time you had (INFECTION FROM 822/823/824), did you seek any kind of advice or treatment? |  | -828 |
| 827 | The last time you had (INFECTION FROM 822/823/824) did you do any of the following? Did you... <br> Seek advice from a health worker in a clinic or hospital? <br> Seek advice or medicine from a traditional healer? <br> Seek advice or buy medicines in a shop or pharmacy? <br> Ask for advice from friends or relatives? | YES NO <br> 1 2 <br> 1 2 <br> 1 2 <br> 1 2 |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 828 | When you had (INFECTION FROM 822/823/824), did you inform the persons with whom you were having sex? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO 2 SOME/ NOT ALL . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 829 | When you had (INFECTION FROM 822/823/824) did you do something to avoid infecting your sexual partner(s)? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 | $\begin{aligned} & 1, \\ & 12 \cdot 831 \end{aligned}$ |
| 830 | What did you do to avoid infecting your partner? Did you.... <br> Stop having sex? <br> Used a condom when having sex? <br> Take medicine? | YES NO <br> 1 2 <br> 1 2 <br> 1 2 |  |

SECTION 8B. LIFESTYLE

| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 831 | Following questions will concern about you nutrition and you habits as well. |  |  |
| 832 | How do you think about yourself, are you normal weight or stout? |  |  |
| 833 | Do you usually eat food with moderate salt, very salty, or without salt at all? |  |  |
| 834 | Do add salt into food before eating? |  |  |
| 835 | Have you ever smoked cigarettes, cigarettes with hardboard holder, or other? |  | ) -118 |
| 836 | Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes or other for the whole life? |  |  |
| 837 | Do you smoke daily, from time to time, or not at all? | DAILY ......................................................... 1 FROM TIME TO TIME . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 838 | Did you smoke daily in the past? |  | ) 118 |
| 839 | How much time past when you smoked daily? |  |  |
| 840 | How many years did you smoke every day? | YEARS $\square$ DON'T KNOW |  |
| 841 | How many cigarettes did (do) you smoke a day? | QUANTITY $\qquad$ $\square$ <br> DON'T KNOW $\qquad$ |  |
| 842 | How old were you when you started to smoke every day? | AGE |  |
| 843 | Have you tried to quit smoking? |  |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING CATEGORIES | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 844 | Do you live in the family where other people smoke every day? |  |  |
| 845 | Do you work in a place where people smoke daily? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . 12 DOESN'T WORK AT ALL. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 |  |
| 846 | Have you ever drunk alcoholic drinks? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } \\ & \text { NO . . . . . } \end{aligned}$ | ) 854 |
| 847 | Do you drink alcoholics now? | YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 | $\begin{aligned} & 1>854 \\ & 1 \\ & 1 \\ & \hline 854 \end{aligned}$ |
| 848 | How many glasses do you usually drink a week in average? | QUANTITY $\square$ DON'T KNOW |  |
| 849 | How many glasses do you usually drink on weekends in average? | QUANTITY $\qquad$ $\square$ <br> DON'T KNOW $\qquad$ |  |
| 850 | Did you think that you should stop drinking alcoholics? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 1 \\ & \text { NO . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 2 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 851 | Have you been criticized or run down by somebody that you drink alcoholics? |  |  |
| 852 | Did you feel guilty that you drink alcoholics? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } \\ & \text { NO . . . . } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 853 | Does it happen you drink on the mornings to calm or to cure a hang over? |  |  |
| 854 | Have you been injected last three months? |  | 1-857 |
| 855 | How many times have you been injected last three months? | QUANTITY $\qquad$ $\square$ <br> DON'T KNOW $\qquad$ |  |
| 856 | How have made you injection last time? |  |  |
| 857 | Before proceeding further with the questionnaire, let me measure your blood pressure and pulse on the left hand. <br> MEASURE THE BLOOD PRESSURE AND PULSE AND RECORD THE RESULTS | BLOOD PRESSURE: <br> SYSTOLIC <br> DIASTOLIC |  |
|  |  | PULSE |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS | CODING |  | SKIP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 857A | Before proceeding further with the questionnaire, let me measure your blood pressure and pulse on the right hand. | BLOOD PRESSURE: |  |  |
|  |  | SYSTOLIC |  |  |
|  | MEASURE THE BLOOD PRESSURE AND PULSE AND RECORD THE RESULTS | DIASTOLIC |  |  |
|  |  | PULSE |  |  |
| 858 | RECORD THE TIME. | HOUR . . | $\underset{*}{+1110111} \underset{*}{*}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | MINUTES | ${ }_{*}{ }_{*}^{*}$ $\text { . } 1112111 .$ |  |


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS |  |  | CODING CATEGORIES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 901 | RESPONDENT'S HEIGHT (IN CENTIMETERS) |  |  |  |
| 902 | RESPONDENT'S WEIGHT (IN KILOGRAMS) |  |  |  |
| 903 | RESULT |  | MEASURED......... <br> NOT PRESENT <br> REFUSED <br> OTHER <br> (SPECIFY) |  |
| 904 | CHECK 215 AND 219: <br> ONE OR MORE LIVING CHILDREN BORN IN JAN. 1995 OR LATER $\square$ | NO LIM <br> CHILD <br> IN JAN | BORN <br> 95 OR LATER |  |

IN 905 AND 906 RECORD THE LINE NUMBER AND NAME OF EACH CHILD BORN SINCE JANUARY 1995 AND STILL ALIVE. IN 907 RECORD THE BIRTH DATE FOR ALL LIVING CHILDREN BORN SINCE JANUARY 1995. IN 908 AND 910 RECORD HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF THE LIVING CHILDREN.


| NO. | QUESTIONS AND FILTERS |  |  | CODING CATEGORIES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 912 | RESULT OF WEIGHING AND MEASURING |  |  | MEASURED .............. 1 <br> CHILD SICK ........... 2 <br> CHID NOT PRESENT ...... 3 <br> CHILD REFUSED ........ <br> MOTHER REFUSED ....... 5 <br> OTHER <br> (SPECIFY) |
| 913 | NAME OF MEASURER: $\square$ $\square$ | NAME OF ASSISTANT : |  |  |

## SECTION 10. HEMOGLOBIN MEASUREMENT IN THE BLOOD

READ TO THE RESPONDENT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT ANEMIA AND REQUEST HER PARTICIPATION IN THE ANEMIA TESTING PART OF THE SURVEY. IF THE RESPONDENT AGREES TO PARTICIPATE, ASK HER TO SIGN AND DATE THE RESPONDENT CONSENT FORM. THEN RECORD THE OUTCOME OF THIS REQUEST BY CIRCLING THE APPROPRIATE CODE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

## CLINICAL-RESEARCH CENTER FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

## Dear Respondent:

The Clinical Research Center for Matemal and Child Health is conducting Demographic and Health Survey in Turkmenistan. As part of this program we study the prevalence of anemia among the women and their children. We ask you to participate in this program, which will assist the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry to develop the specific measures to prevent and treat anemia

Anemia is a disease, which is characterized by a low count of red blood cells. It results from poor nutrition and can be especially damaging to the health of pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Today, it is possible to rapidly (within a few minutes) diagnose this disease. A low level of hemoglobin can be determined by a Hemocue machine on the basis of a single drop of blood.

If you decide to participate in this program, we will ask you to provide a drop of blood from your finger for the analysis. Also, if you have a child of age 5 or less, please let our nurse to obtain drop of blood from him. The procedure will be done by sterile instruments. The blood will be analysed using the new sophisticated American equipment, Hemocue. The result of analysis will be available to you right after the blood is taken and assessed by Hemocue. We will also keep the results confidential.

If you decide to participate in this program, please sign at the bottom of this form that you agree to provide a drop of blood from your child.
If you decide not to participate, it is your right, and we will respect your choice.

I am
Last name, Firstname Middle name
agree to donate a drop of blood for the purpose of anemia diagnosis. I also allow a drop of blood to be taken from my child(children) for the purposes of anemia diagnosis.

Signature: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$ 2000 1

RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO TESTING

| 1002 | RESPONDENT'S HEMOGLOBIN LEVEL (G/DL) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1003 | RESULT |  |
| 1004 | CHECK 212 AND 219: <br> ONE OR MORE LIVING CHILDREN BORN IN JAN. 1995 OR LATER +1)l, <br> (1)). | NO LIVING <br> CHILDREN BORN IN <br> JAN. 1995 OR LATER ```+)\|),```  |


| IN 1005 AND1006 RECORD THE LINE NUMBER AND NAME OF EACH CHILD BORN IN JANUARY 1994 OR LATER AND STILL ALIVE. IN 1007 RECORD THE HEMOGLOBIN LEVEL IN THE BLOOD OF THE LIVING CHILDREN. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1) YOUNGEST LIVING CHILD | 2) NEXT-TO-YOUNGEST <br> LIVING CHILD | 3) NEXT-TO-NEXT-TOYoungest living CHILD |
| 1005 | LINE NO. FROM 212 | $\begin{aligned} & +1110111)_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & .1112111 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +1110111)_{*}^{*} \\ & * 1112111 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +111011)_{*}^{*} \\ & * 1112111 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1006 | NAME FROM 217 | (NAME) | (NAME) | (NAME) |
| 1007 | HEMOGLOBIN LEVEL IN THE BLOOD (G/DL) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \left.+111011)_{*}^{+}+11\right)_{*}^{*} \\ & * \\ & * \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 1008 | RESULT | MEASURED ................. 1 <br> CHILD SICK ................ 2 <br> CHILD NOT PRESENT ..... 3 <br> CHILD REFUSED .......... 4 <br> MOTHER REFUSED ....... . 5 <br> OTHER $\qquad$ <br> (SPECIFY) | MEASURED .............. 1 <br> CHILD SICK ............ 2 <br> CHILD NOT PRESENT ..... 3 <br> CHILD REFUSED ........ 4 <br> MOTHER REFUSED ........ 5 <br> OTHER <br> (SPECIFY) | MEASURED . ............ 1 CHILD SICK .............. 2 CHILD NOT PRESENT . . 3 CHILD REFUSED ...... 4 MOTHER REFUSED . . . . 5 OTHER $\qquad$ 6 <br> (SPECIFY) |
| 1009 | NAME OF HEMOGLOBIN MEASURER: |  |  |  |
| 1010 | CHECK 1002 AND 1007: <br> NO VALUES BELOW 7 G/DL <br> ONE OR MORE VALUES BELOW 7 G/DL | +1) \|, <br>  |  |  |
| 1011 | CHECK HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE Q5: <br> RESPONDENT IS USUAL RESIDENT <br> +)l), <br> 1) 1). | RESPONDENT IS VISITOR | $\begin{aligned} & +111 \\ & \text { (1112111111111111111 } \end{aligned}$ | 11111111111/-END |



TO BE FILLED IN AFTER COMPLETING INTERVIEW

COMMENTS ABOUT RESPONDENT:
$\qquad$

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
ANY OTHER COMMENTS:

SUPERVISOR'S OBSERVATIONS

NAME OF THE SUPERVISOR: $\qquad$ DATE: $\qquad$

EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS
$\qquad$ DATE: $\qquad$




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Youth who are overage for a given level of schooling may have started school overage, or may have repeated one or more grades in school, or may have dropped out of school and later returned.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Numerators for age-specific fertility rates are calculated by summing the number of live births that occurred in the 1 to 36 months preceding the survey (determined from the date of interview and birth date of the child) and classifying them by age (in five-year groups) of the mother at the time of birth (determined from the birth date of the mother). The denominators of the rates are the number of woman-years lived in each of the specified five-year age groups during the 1 to 36 months preceding the survey.

[^2]:    ${ }^{2}$ The Ministry of Health and Medical Industry reports the following crude birth rates: 28.1 in 1995, 24.0 in 1996, 21.6 in 1997, 20.8 in 1998, and 18.5 in 1999.

[^3]:    ${ }^{3}$ Truncation progressively limits how far into the past fertility rates can be calculated. For example, rates cannot be calculated for women age 40-44 for the period 10-14 years before the survey because these women would have been over age 50 years at the time of the survey and therefore not interviewed. Partial rates (based on partial exposure time) can be calculated for women age 40-44 for the period 5-9 years before the survey because some of these women were age 45-49 at the time of the survey and therefore included for interview. Partial rates that are subject to truncation are shown in brackets in Table 4.3.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Women were asked about both the male condom and the female condom. Use of the word condom in this text will refer to the male condom; the female condom will be referred to explicitly as the female condom.
    ${ }^{2}$ Emergency contraception refers to pills that a woman can take the day after having sexual intercourse to avoid becoming pregnant. The lactational amenorrhea method refers to a specifically taught method of pregnancy avoidance to delay the return of the menstrual period by feeding an infant only but breast milk for up to six months after birth

[^5]:    Note: If more than one method was used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.
    ${ }^{1}$ Either by herself or jointly with others.

[^6]:    Note: Median number or children at first use of contraception is calculated only among those who have ever used contraception.

[^7]:    ${ }^{3}$ Data collection included recording the name of the source so that team supervisors and editors could verify the sources.

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ The term abortion as used in the remainder of this report includes miniabortions unless otherwise indicated.

[^9]:    ${ }^{2}$ As was discussed in the contraception chapter, levels of use of the lactational amenorrhea method may be more the result of labeling breastfeeding than of the use of the lactational amenorrhea method as a method of contraception.

[^10]:    ${ }^{1}$ For each cohort, the accumulated percentages stop at the lower age boundary of the cohort to avoid censoring problems. For instance, accumulation for the cohort currently age 20-24 stops with the percentage married by exact age 20 .

[^11]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes current pregnancy
    ${ }^{2}$ Wants next birth within 2 years
    ${ }^{3}$ Wants to delay next birth for 2 or more years

[^12]:    ${ }^{1}$ For a more complete definition of unmet need and the procedure for its calculation, see footnote 1, Table 8.4.
    ${ }^{2}$ The degree to which the question asked of a respondent who already had children succeeded in its purpose of eliciting responses that are independent of the respondent's current family size is unclear. Many previous surveys have found a correlation between the actual number of children that respondents have and their reported ideal family size. This correlation may be because women who want larger families tend to have more children or because respondents adjust their ideal family size to match their actual family size or because of some combination of these factors.

[^13]:    ${ }^{1}$ In cases in which the gestational age is unknown, fetuses that weigh less than 1,000 grams or measure less than 35 centimeters in length are considered premature and are classified as miscarriages.

[^14]:    ${ }^{2}$ An examination of the ratio of the neonatal to the infant mortality rate can be used to detect gross underreporting of deaths in the first month of life. However, this data quality test is not sufficiently sensitive to detect underreporting that is not substantial. Thus, the absence of a finding of underreporting of neonatal deaths when applying this test does not imply that neonatal deaths are completely and accurately reported.
    ${ }^{3}$ For example, see the neonatal and infant mortality rates for Hungary (1953), Singapore (1952), and Sri Lanka (1952) in the U.N. Demographic Yearbook, 1961 (Table 13).

[^15]:    ${ }^{4}$ Standard errors and 95 percent confidence intervals of mortality rates are shown in Appendix B.

[^16]:    ${ }^{1}$ Current status estimates of the median and mean durations of breastfeeding are calculated from the proportion of children who were reported to be currently breastfeeding by age. The current status mean and median durations differ because the mean is affected by the small number of extreme values at the upper end of the distribution, while the median is not.

[^17]:    Note: Percentages may sum to more than 100.0 because a child may have received more than one type of supplement in the last 24 hours Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases.
    ${ }^{1}$ Breastfeeding status refers to a 24 hour recall period (i.e., the day and night preceding the interview).

[^18]:    ${ }^{2}$ Although the term "height" is used, children younger than 24 months were measured lying on a measuring board, while standing height was measured for older children. Weight data were obtained using a digital scale that displays weights in increments of 0.1 kg .

[^19]:    ${ }^{1}$ A microcuvette is a small, transparent laboratory vessel.

[^20]:    ${ }^{1}$ Hemoglobin level less than $7 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$
    ${ }^{2}$ Hemoglobin level 7-9.9 g/dl
    ${ }^{3}$ Hemoglobin level $10-11.9 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$ (10-10.9 g/dl for pregnant women)

[^21]:    Hemoglobin level less than $7 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{dl}$
    ${ }_{3}^{2}$ Hemoglobin level 7-9.9 g/dl
    ${ }^{3}$ Hemoglobin level 10-10.9 g/dl
    ${ }^{4}$ Includes children who are below -3 SD

[^22]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes cases for which age at death (in exact days) is not known. Total may not equal column sum due to rounding.
    ${ }^{2}$ ( $0-6$ days/ $0-30$ days) $* 100$

