

## ERRATA

**International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) and Macro International. 2007. *National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3), 2005-06: India: Volume I*. Mumbai: IIPS.**

NOTE: These errors in the printed report have already been corrected in the electronic version of the report.

**Page xxxi— The following text replaces the last paragraph:**

The greatest differences in fertility are by education and household wealth. At current fertility rates, women in the poorest households will have two more children than women in the richest households. The TFR is 3.1 for the scheduled tribes, 2.9 for the scheduled castes, and 2.8 for the other backward classes. The TFR for Muslims (3.4) is higher than the TFR for Hindus (2.6). Although fertility decreased for both groups in the seven years between NFHS-2 and NFHS-3, the fertility differential did not change over this period.

**Page 79 — The following text replaces the last paragraph:**

Table 4.2 shows variations in the total fertility rate, the percentage of women currently pregnant, and the mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 by background characteristics. The TFR for India is 1.8 children higher for women with no education than for women with 12 or more years of education. The TFR for Muslims is 0.8 children higher than the TFR for Hindus, and both of these groups have higher fertility than other major religious groups. The Hindu-Muslim fertility differential in NFHS-3 is the same as it was in NFHS-2. By caste/tribe, the TFR is 0.6 children higher for scheduled-caste women, 0.8 children higher for scheduled-tribe women, and 0.4 children higher for women belonging to other backward classes (OBC) than for women who do not belong to any of these groups.

**Page 80 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.2 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.2**

**Page 87 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.6 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.6**

**Page 88 — The following text replaces the third paragraph:**

Seventy-seven percent of births to mothers age 15-19 are of order one; by contrast, 65 percent of births to mothers age 30-39 are of order four or higher. The proportion of births that are of order four or higher is 16 percent in urban areas and 28 percent in rural areas. The proportion of births of order four or higher is particularly high for births to women with no education (41 percent), Muslim women (35 percent), and scheduled-tribe women (35 percent). The proportion of births of order four or higher is only 3 percent for women with 12 or more years of education. Forty-two percent of births to women in households in the lowest wealth quintile were of order four or higher, compared with just 6 percent of births to women in households in the highest wealth quintile. The decrease in fertility over time is evident from a comparison of the birth-order distribution in NFHS-1, NFHS-2, and NFHS-3 for ever-married women. The proportion of births of order four or higher decreased from 31 percent in NFHS-1 to 28 percent in NFHS-2 and 25 percent in NFHS-3.

**Page 89 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.7 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.7**

**Page 91 — The following text replaces the first paragraph:**

The median birth interval is slightly higher in urban areas (32 months) than in rural areas (31 months). Jain women have a much longer median birth interval than women of other religions. The median birth interval is also somewhat shorter for mothers from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes than mothers of other castes. By education, the median birth interval varies only marginally (30-32 months) among mothers with no education and mothers with less than 12 years of education, but increases to 37 months for mothers with 12 or more years of education. The median birth interval by wealth index quintiles shows a weak J-shaped pattern. The median interval is much longer (36 months) for women in households in the highest wealth index quintile than for women in households in the first four wealth quintiles.

**Page 92 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.10 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.10**

**Page 94 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.11 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.11**

**Page 95 — The following text replaces the second paragraph:**

Only a few never married women age 15-19 (less than 0.05 percent) reported a pregnancy or childbirth. However, 58 percent of married women age 15-19 have experienced motherhood or a current pregnancy. Almost one-third of women age 15-19 who are widowed, divorced, separated, or deserted have had a live birth. By religion, the level of teenage motherhood and pregnancy is higher for Hindu and Muslim women age 15-19 (16 percent) than for Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists (14 percent), Christians (9 percent), Sikhs (5 percent), and Jains (2 percent). The proportion of women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing is higher among women from scheduled castes (20 percent) and scheduled tribes (21 percent) than women from other backward classes (16 percent) and women who do not belong to any of these communities (12 percent). The level of teenage pregnancy and motherhood is five times as high for women in households with the lowest wealth index than for women in households with the highest wealth index.

**Page 97 — The corrected religion and number of living sons panels in Table 4.14.1 below replace the corresponding original panels in Table 4.14.1**

**Page 97 — The following text replaces the last paragraph:**

Table 4.14.1 provides information about differentials in women's desire to limit family size by background characteristics. Women who are sterilized (or whose husbands are sterilized) are included among those who say they want no more children. As expected, older women are much more likely than younger women to want no more children. At age 15-24, only 32 percent of women want no more children. This percentage rises rapidly to 78 percent of women age 25-34 and 90 percent of women age 35-49. The proportion of women who want no more children is somewhat higher among urban women (74 percent) than among rural women (69 percent). The urban-rural differential is particularly large for women with one living child. There is no strong pattern by educational attainment overall, but the desire to stop childbearing increases steadily with the level of education for women with 1-3 children, with the exception of women with less than five years of education. The proportion of women with two living children who do not want to have any more children is much lower for Muslim women (66 percent) than for women in any other religious group. By caste/tribe, the percentage of women who do not want any more children is lower among women belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other

backward classes than for women in other caste/tribe groups. The percentage of women with two living children who want to stop childbearing increases from 65 percent for women in households in the lowest wealth quintile to 92 percent for women in households in the highest wealth quintile.

**Page 98 — The following text replaces the last paragraph:**

A strong preference for sons is evident from the responses of women with different numbers of sons and daughters. For every number of children, the percentage of women who want to stop childbearing is lowest if the woman does not have any sons. For example, among women with two living children, 90 percent want to stop childbearing if both their living children are sons and 88 percent want to stop childbearing if they have one son and one daughter (Figure 4.4). The proportion who do not want any more children decreases to 62 percent for women with two daughters and no sons. Nevertheless, the proportion of women with two daughters and no sons who want no additional children increased rapidly from 37 percent in NFHS-1 to 47 percent in NFHS-2 and 62 percent in NFHS-3 (data not shown).

**Page 98 — The corrected Figure 4.4 below replaces the corresponding original Figure 4.4.**

**Page 99 — The corrected panels for age, education, religion, caste/tribe, and number of living sons in Table 4.14.2 below replace the corresponding original panels for Table 4.14.2**

**Page 100 — The following text replaces the second paragraph:**

Table 4.14.2 shows similar patterns for the percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who want to stop childbearing. The percentage of men who want to stop childbearing increases with age. The percentage of men who do not want to have any more children is typically highest for men with 10 or more years of education. By caste/tribe, the percentage of men who do not want any more children is lowest for scheduled tribes for every number of living children and generally highest for men who do not belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes. The percentage of men with two living children who do not want to have any more children increases from 68 percent for men in households in the lowest wealth quintile to 91 percent for men in households in the highest wealth quintile. A strong preference for sons is also found for men. For every number of children, the percentage of men who want to stop childbearing is lowest for men who do not have any sons.

**Page 104 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.17.1 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.17.1**

**Page 105 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.17.2 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.17.2**

**Page 106 — The following text replaces the first paragraph:**

Son preference is relatively weak among younger women and men, those in urban areas, those with more education, and those in households in the highest wealth quintiles. Son preference is somewhat weaker among Jain women and men than among those of other religions. Son preference does not vary much by caste/tribe.

**Page 108 — The corrected religion panel in Table 4.20 below replaces the original religion panel in Table 4.20**

**Page 206 — The corrected mother's age at pregnancy, antenatal care, and mother's number of living children panels in Table 8.11 below replace the corresponding original panels in the Table 8.11**

**Page 207 — The following text replaces the second third, and fourth paragraphs:**

A higher percentage of pregnant women with no living children had an ultrasound test than pregnant women who had living children. The prevalence of ultrasound testing decreased steadily with the number of living children. For example, 27 percent of women with one child had an ultrasound test, compared with only 5 percent of women who had four or more living children. The sex composition of the living children showed a noteworthy pattern. At each parity, a much higher percentage of pregnant women with no living son had an ultrasound test and this percentage declined as the number of living sons increased.

Table 8.11 also shows the percent distribution of pregnancies for which an ultrasound test was done by the outcome of the pregnancy. Among women who had an ultrasound test, 7 percent were pregnant at the time of the survey. This percentage did not vary much by background characteristics of the women or the sex composition of their living children. Forty-six percent of such pregnancies resulted in a live birth of a male child and 39 percent of a female child. The sex ratio of these live-born children was only 849 females per 1,000 males. For almost every subgroup of women in the table, there were more births of boys than girls. However, the percentage of live births that were female was particularly low for Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists, Sikhs, and scheduled tribes. There are also substantial differences in the sex composition of births by the number and sex composition of living children at the time of the birth. For women with 1-3 living children at the time of pregnancy, the fewer living sons the woman has, the less likely the next birth is to be a girl. The sex ratio of the next birth is extremely low for women with four or more living children and one son (541 girls per 1,000 boys), women with two daughters and no son (554), and women with three children and no sons (650). These data provide clear evidence of the use of ultrasound testing for sex determination leading to sex-selective abortion when couples want to have a son.

Nine percent of pregnancies with an ultrasound test resulted in a pregnancy termination (a miscarriage, an induced abortion, or a stillbirth). Termination of pregnancy increases with the increasing age of the mother, reaching a particularly high level of 19 percent for mothers age 35-49. Differences in pregnancy termination by education, religion, caste/tribe, and the wealth index are only modest. Pregnancy termination increases with number of living children at the time of pregnancy and it is least likely for women at each parity who had no sons.

**Table 4.2 Fertility by background characteristics**

Total fertility rate for the three years preceding the survey, percentage of women age 15-49 currently pregnant, and mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 by background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Total fertility rate	Percentage currently pregnant	Mean number of children ever born to women age 40-49 years
<b>Religion</b>			
Hindu	2.59	5.0	3.91
Muslim	3.40	6.8	5.08
Christian	2.34	4.0	3.06
Sikh	1.95	3.0	3.29
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.25	3.5	3.67
Jain	(1.54)	1.6	2.96
Other	3.98	6.9	4.30

Additional footnote:

( ) Based on 125-249 unweighted woman-years of exposure.

**Table 4.6 Birth order**

Percent distribution of births during the three years preceding the survey by birth order, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06, and percent distribution of births to ever-married women by birth order, NFHS-3, NFHS-2, and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Birth order				Total	Number of births
	1	2	3	4+		
<b>Religion</b>						
Hindu	32.5	28.1	16.0	23.3	100.0	25,925
Muslim	24.1	24.2	16.6	35.1	100.0	5,616
Christian	34.4	32.0	15.5	18.2	100.0	663
Sikh	40.0	34.6	16.6	8.9	100.0	428
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	33.0	40.6	12.4	13.9	100.0	230
Jain	49.9	35.7	11.2	3.2	100.0	53
Other	23.0	16.6	10.9	49.5	100.0	167

**Table 4.7 Birth intervals**

Percent distribution of births during the five years preceding the survey by interval since the preceding birth, and median number of months since the preceding birth, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Months since preceding birth						Total	Number of non-first order births	Median number of months since preceding birth
	7-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60+			
<b>Religion</b>									
Hindu	11.2	16.5	33.7	19.2	9.3	10.1	100.0	30,181	31.1
Muslim	12.2	15.4	33.3	19.4	8.5	11.2	100.0	7,324	30.8
Christian	9.7	17.4	30.6	18.1	9.8	14.3	100.0	730	32.4
Sikh	19.5	16.8	26.8	15.6	8.6	12.6	100.0	429	29.6
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	13.4	12.7	42.4	16.1	6.7	8.7	100.0	240	30.2
Jain	3.5	9.9	22.8	22.7	16.8	24.4	100.0	41	41.6
Other	8.3	17.4	35.8	19.0	11.5	8.0	100.0	233	31.2

**Table 4.10 Median age at first birth**

Median age at first birth among women age 20-49 years by current age according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06, and by current age for NFHS-2 and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Current age						Women age 20-49	Women age 25-49
	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49		
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	nc	20.0	19.6	19.6	19.6	20.2	20.0	19.8
Muslim	nc	19.3	19.0	18.9	19.1	19.3	19.4	19.1
Christian	nc	22.2	23.1	22.3	22.2	23.1	nc	22.6
Sikh	nc	22.1	21.3	21.6	21.8	22.3	nc	21.8
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	nc	20.3	19.0	18.9	19.1	20.7	19.9	19.6
Jain	nc	23.9	23.0	22.1	22.2	21.5	nc	22.7
Other	19.7	19.7	19.0	19.8	21.7	20.6	19.9	20.0

Table 4.11 Teenage pregnancy and motherhood

Percentage of women age 15-19 who have had a live birth or who are pregnant with their first child, and percentage who have begun childbearing, by background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Percentage who:		Percentage who have begun childbearing	Number of women
	Have had a live birth	Are pregnant with first child		
<b>Religion</b>				
Hindu	12.5	3.9	16.4	19,504
Muslim	11.6	4.4	16.0	3,996
Christian	5.7	2.9	8.6	526
Sikh	3.6	1.3	4.9	386
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	11.4	2.9	14.3	201
Jain	1.6	0.0	1.6	74
Other	15.5	5.0	20.4	111

Table 4.14.1 Desire to limit childbearing: Women

Percentage of currently married women age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06, and by number of living children, NFHS-2 and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Number of living children <sup>1</sup>							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	2.7	29.1	84.8	91.6	92.7	93.3	90.3	71.2
Muslim	2.9	14.3	66.2	81.1	86.8	86.6	87.2	64.3
Christian	1.2	30.6	86.7	88.7	89.2	82.8	83.4	70.1
Sikh	5.3	47.1	92.3	96.5	96.5	95.8	(96.1)	80.4
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	8.7	37.0	90.6	94.6	97.3	(89.9)	(98.9)	80.8
Jain	(3.9)	38.0	94.4	97.8	*	*	*	79.2
Other	0.4	6.3	71.2	69.5	79.7	73.3	89.6	56.6
<b>Number of living sons<sup>2</sup></b>								
0	2.8	23.9	62.1	65.3	61.5	65.2	64.3	27.1
1	na	36.3	88.1	89.9	89.2	89.0	90.6	76.4
2	na	na	89.9	95.7	95.5	93.7	92.8	93.5
3	na	na	na	93.2	95.1	94.4	90.3	93.6
4+	na	na	na	na	93.0	94.1	88.6	90.7

Table 4.14.2 Desire to limit childbearing: Men

Percentage of currently married men age 15-49 who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Number of living children <sup>1</sup>							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	1.1	7.7	56.2	70.5	(83.8)	*	*	16.8
25-34	2.8	20.1	75.6	82.1	88.8	87.1	91.5	57.7
35-49	14.5	58.0	93.1	95.6	96.3	96.2	96.4	89.6
<b>Education</b>								
No education	6.9	22.8	74.8	87.6	91.5	93.4	95.1	73.6
<5 years complete	4.1	20.6	81.6	91.5	95.0	95.2	96.7	73.4
5-7 years complete	3.7	18.2	82.8	92.4	94.6	95.0	97.1	69.0
8-9 years complete	2.5	21.9	81.7	89.4	94.5	96.1	94.8	66.5
10-11 years complete	6.5	33.5	88.7	91.4	98.2	94.6	95.1	72.5
12 or more years complete	2.7	36.9	90.4	93.7	96.9	93.4	99.7	69.2
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	4.1	28.5	85.1	91.4	94.8	95.6	96.3	71.2
Muslim	5.4	11.9	67.2	83.2	91.1	91.1	94.9	66.2
Christian	1.6	25.6	86.9	87.0	83.7	89.7	90.1	67.7
Sikh	(4.3)	42.3	92.1	98.0	99.2	*	*	78.4
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	(11.3)	22.2	93.3	94.8	100.0	*	*	79.5
Jain	*	(25.8)	83.8	(99.5)	*	*	A	70.1
Other	(0.4)	20.9	59.5	83.8	93.5	(81.5)	(86.2)	59.6
<b>Caste/tribe</b>								
Scheduled caste	4.3	22.9	79.9	90.0	93.8	95.2	96.8	70.0
Scheduled tribe	3.2	16.5	74.8	86.0	90.8	92.8	92.5	65.2
Other backward class	3.8	23.9	83.8	90.8	94.4	94.9	96.6	71.4
Other	5.1	33.6	86.7	92.2	95.3	93.5	95.5	71.5
Don't know	*	*	93.1	(87.2)	*	*	*	81.0
<b>Number of living sons<sup>2</sup></b>								
0	4.2	21.2	63.3	59.6	61.0	55.9	70.2	26.6
1	na	37.0	89.1	91.0	93.7	93.3	96.3	77.5
2	na	na	91.4	97.5	98.5	98.6	98.5	95.8
3	na	na	na	91.4	97.5	98.5	98.6	98.5
4+	na	na	na	na	96.0	97.0	97.9	97.4



**Table 4.17.1 Indicators of sex preference: Women**

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for women age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2005-06, and totals for ever-married women age 15-49, NFHS-3, NFHS-2 and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Mean number of:			Percentage who want more sons than daughters	Percentage who want more daughters than sons	Percentage who want at least one son	Percentage who want at least one daughter	Number of women
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	1.0	0.8	0.4	22.3	2.4	77.0	73.5	98,115
Muslim	1.3	1.0	0.4	26.5	2.8	81.0	78.7	16,019
Christian	1.0	0.9	0.5	12.5	6.9	71.6	70.7	2,932
Sikh	0.9	0.7	0.4	16.8	1.6	73.1	65.4	2,094
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.9	0.8	0.3	15.5	3.9	78.6	77.1	1,004
Jain	0.7	0.7	0.6	6.2	5.3	59.8	61.1	404
Other	1.4	1.2	0.3	29.0	3.8	87.0	84.1	457

**Table 4.17.2 Indicators of sex preference: Men**

Mean ideal number of sons, daughters, and children of either sex for men age 15-49, percentage who want more sons than daughters, percentage who want more daughters than sons, percentage who want at least one son, and percentage who want at least one daughter by background characteristics, India, 2005-06.

Background characteristic	Mean number of:			Percentage who want more sons than daughters	Percentage who want more daughters than sons	Percentage who want at least one son	Percentage who want at least one daughter	Number of men
	Sons	Daughters	Either sex					
<b>Religion</b>								
Hindu	0.9	0.7	0.5	19.6	1.8	69.9	65.1	56,301
Muslim	1.1	0.8	0.6	25.0	2.4	73.1	68.8	8,398
Christian	0.9	0.8	0.7	15.2	4.9	65.1	61.5	1,502
Sikh	0.7	0.5	0.7	14.8	1.3	56.1	48.3	1,250
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	0.8	0.7	0.5	12.9	2.7	67.9	63.9	593
Jain	0.6	0.6	0.7	5.3	2.3	56.6	55.8	212
Other	1.3	1.2	0.4	22.7	11.4	79.4	78.8	225

**Table 4.20 Wanted fertility rates**  
Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the three years preceding the survey, by background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Total wanted fertility rate	Total fertility rate
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	1.9	2.6
Muslim	2.2	3.4
Christian	1.9	2.3
Sikh	1.5	1.9
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	1.7	2.2
Jain	(1.4)	(1.5)
Other	2.4	4.0

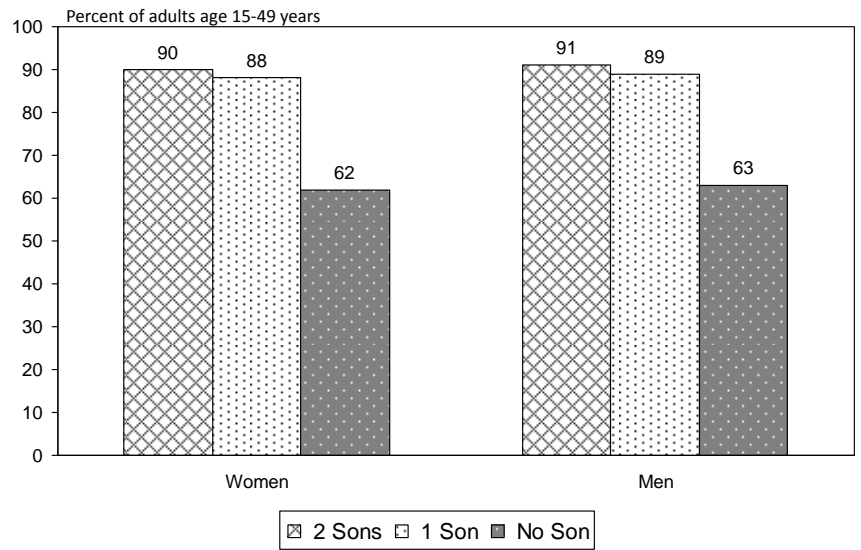
Additional footnote:  
( ) Based on 125-249 woman-years of exposure.

**Table 8.11 Pregnancies for which an ultrasound was done**  
Percentage of all pregnancies in the five years preceding the survey for which an ultrasound test was done and percent distribution of pregnancies with an ultrasound test by pregnancy outcome, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Percentage of pregnancies with an ultrasound test	Number of pregnancies	Pregnancy outcome <sup>2</sup>				Total	Number of pregnancies with an ultrasound test
			Son	Daughter	Termination	Still pregnant		
<b>Mother's age at pregnancy</b>								
<20	21.4	18,235	45.6	41.9	7.3	5.2	100.0	3,907
20-34	24.9	48,933	45.9	37.9	9.2	7.1	100.0	12,204
35-49	11.0	2,618	39.0	36.1	18.7	6.1	100.0	289
<b>Antenatal care visits<sup>1</sup></b>								
None	2.1	9,035	56.3	43.7	na	na	100.0	189
1-3	14.2	15,660	55.0	45.0	na	na	100.0	2,223
4+	57.6	14,667	55.5	44.5	na	na	100.0	8,450
Don't know/missing	34.5	315	50.5	49.5	na	na	100.0	109
<b>Mother's number of living children at time of pregnancy</b>								
No children	35.6	23,243	43.8	40.2	8.7	7.3	100.0	8,266
1 child	26.6	19,711	47.7	39.2	6.8	6.3	100.0	5,252
0 sons	27.6	9,843	51.5	36.4	6.4	5.7	100.0	2,715
1 son	25.7	9,868	43.7	42.3	7.1	7.0	100.0	2,537
2 children	15.8	11,798	48.3	34.0	12.1	5.6	100.0	1,865
0 sons	21.7	3,492	54.3	30.1	11.0	4.5	100.0	756
1 son	14.1	5,812	44.4	36.5	13.1	6.0	100.0	820
2 sons	11.6	2,494	43.2	37.3	12.3	7.1	100.0	288
3 children	8.7	6,921	46.4	35.6	14.2	3.8	100.0	604
0 sons	15.6	1,324	52.0	33.8	9.2	4.9	100.0	206
1 son	8.2	2,928	42.5	35.0	19.9	2.6	100.0	241
2-3 sons	5.9	2,669	45.2	38.8	12.0	4.1	100.0	156
4+ children	5.1	8,112	44.2	32.2	17.7	5.9	100.0	413
0 sons	10.7	678	53.4	35.1	7.3	4.2	100.0	73
1 son	6.9	1,979	47.3	25.6	21.8	5.3	100.0	136
2+ sons	3.7	5,455	38.9	35.6	18.7	6.8	100.0	204
Total	23.5	69,786	45.7	38.8	8.9	6.6	100.0	16,400

Additional footnote:  
na: Not applicable

**Figure 4.4** Currently Married Women and Men with Two Children Who Want No More Children by Number of Sons



NFHS-3, India, 2005-06