

## 2.4 Marital status

Table 2.7 shows the household population by marital status. According to the table, in Sri Lanka the widowed, separated or divorced persons are reported as 9.2 percent. The corresponding figure for heads of households is 19.3 percent. (Table 2.8)

Table 2.7: Percentage distribution of population by marital status and by sector-2006

Sector	Marital status				
	Total (%)	Never married (%)	Married (%)	Widowed (%)	Divorced/ Separated (%)
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Urban	100	37.7	52.8	8.2	1.2
Rural	100	34.8	56.0	8.0	1.2
Estate	100	35.0	56.2	8.1	0.8

Table 2.8: Percentage distributions of head of the household by marital status and by sector - 2006

Sector	Marital status of head of the household				
	Total (%)	Never married (%)	Married (%)	Widowed (%)	Divorced/ Separated (%)
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Urban	100	3.1	76.3	18.7	1.9
Rural	100	2.4	78.6	17.3	1.8
Estate	100	1.9	77.6	20.0	0.6