

8.9 Tenure

Most of the occupied housing units are owned (constructed, purchased, inherited) by a member of the household (86.7 percent). In Sri Lanka rented or leased households are reported as 3.7 percent. In estates, it is very common to provide line rooms for its workers free of rent. Thus most households in estate sector live in rent free basis (54.2 percent).

Table 8.13 Percentage distribution of households by tenure and by sector - 2006

Sector	Tenure				
	Total (%)	Constructed/ purchased/ inherited (%)	Rent free (%)	Rent/ lease (%)	Other (%)
Sri Lanka	100	86.7	5.7	3.7	3.9
Urban	100	78.9	4.5	11.0	5.6
Rural	100	92.1	2.7	2.6	2.6
Estate	100	26.2	54.2	1.0	18.7

Figure 8.3: Percentage distribution of households by tenure - 2006

