

**Demographic and Health Survey 2006/07**  
**Batticaloa District Bulletin (Provisional data)**  
 Department of Census and Statistics



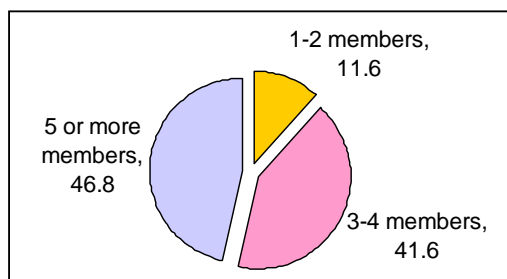
### About the DHS Survey

Demographic & Health Survey (2006/07) conducted by the Department of Census & Statistics provides important information on Fertility, Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition and awareness of HIV/AIDS. The survey is designed to provide National as well as district and sector wise estimates. The survey covered all parts of the country excluding Northern Province. Information was collected from 23000 housing units. Main target group of the survey was ever married women in the 15-49 age group and their children below 5 years of age at the time of the survey.

- No. of households interviewed: 550.
- No. of eligible women (age 15-49) interviewed: 493.
- Estimated housing units: 113,747.
- Estimated population: 515,854.
- Household response rate: 96.0%.

### Household Size -

**Figure 1: Households by household size in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



- Average household size is 4.5 persons per household.
- About 53 percent of households are with less than 5 persons.

### About the household population -

**Table 1: Proportion of the population in selected age groups & sex in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

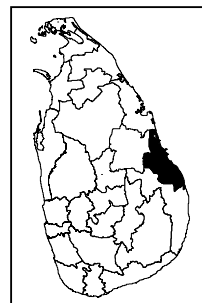
Age Group	Total	Male	Female
Below 5 yrs.	11.6	12.9	10.4
Below 15 yrs.	34.0	36.3	31.8
Below 18 yrs.	40.4	43.5	37.5
15-49 yrs.	52.3	50.4	54.2
15-64 yrs.	63.0	60.4	65.5
65 years or more	2.9	3.3	2.6

- 54 percent of females are in the reproductive age group.

**Table 2: Age dependency ratio in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

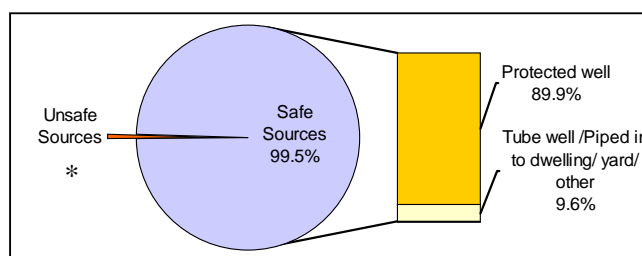
Age Dependency Ratio	Total
Below 15 yrs.	54.0
65 years or more	4.6

- Young age dependency ratio (54.0) is about 12 times greater than that of old age dependency ratio (4.6).



### Access to safe drinking water -

**Figure 2 : Households by availability of safe drinking water in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

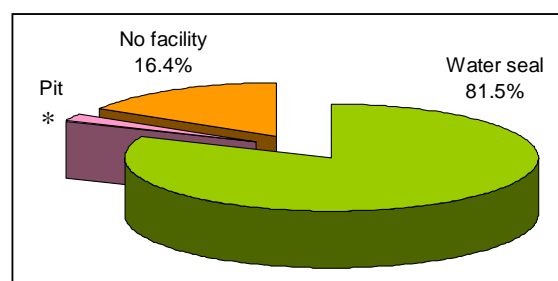


\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

- 99.5 percent of households have access to source of safe drinking water. Of this about 90 percent used water from protected well.

### Sanitation Facility -

**Figure 3 : Households by availability of sanitation facility in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

- About 82 percent of households use water sealed toilets.
- It was observed that 16.4 household do not have any toilet facility.

### Electricity

75.6 percent of households in Batticaloa District have electricity.

## Ownership of household consumer goods -

**Table 3: Percentage of households by ownership of household equipment in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

Equipment	Percentage of Households
Television	64
Radio	70
Refrigerator	29
Mobile phones	40
Land phones	25

## Main source of cooking fuel –

- About 73 percent of households in Batticaloa District use firewood for cooking while about 21 percent use LP gas as main source of fuel for cooking.

## Use of Mosquito nets -

- About 35 percent of the households in Batticaloa District currently use mosquito coils and 23 percent of households use mosquito nets.

## About Children in Batticaloa District -

- Out of the children in 5 – 15 year age group 98 percent have ever attended a school.
- It is reported that 9.3 percent of currently school attending children in 5-17 year age group do not have enough school books.
- Fathers of 5.5 percent of the children in 0-17 year age groups were not alive at the time of the survey.

## Child Health -

### Immunization Coverage

- It was observed that 94.1 percent of children between 12-23 months in Batticaloa District have received specified vaccines BCG, Polio, DPT and Measles by 12 months of age.

### Birth Weight

- 83.6 percent of children (with health development report) of 0-59 months in Batticaloa District have birth weight as equal or above 2.5kg.
- 16.4 percent of children have low birth weights (Less than 2.5kg).

## Mother's Health Care in Batticaloa District 2006/7-

- The Government health facilities have served 96.4 percent of deliveries which occurred during the 5 year period preceding the survey.
- The survey further reported that 98 percent of mothers have received assistance of skilled health person at their last delivery.

## Exclusive breast feeding

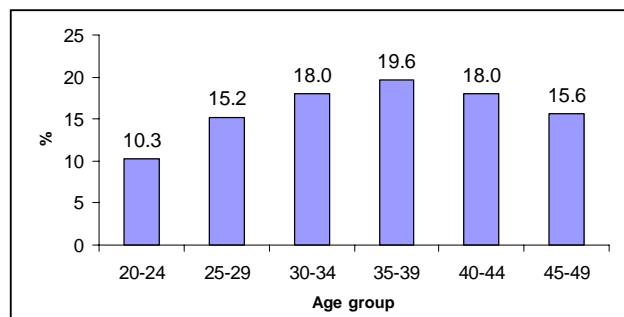
- The proportions of mothers who have exclusively breast fed during the first 4 months at their last birth in Batticaloa District is 65.5.

## Background characteristics of ever married females of 15-49 years

### Age distribution of eligible women\* -

- Figure 4 shows that highest proportion (19.6 percent) of eligible women belong to 35-39 age category.

**Figure 4: Distribution of eligible women in Batticaloa District by age group 2006/7**



Note: Percentage of 15-19 age group is negligible

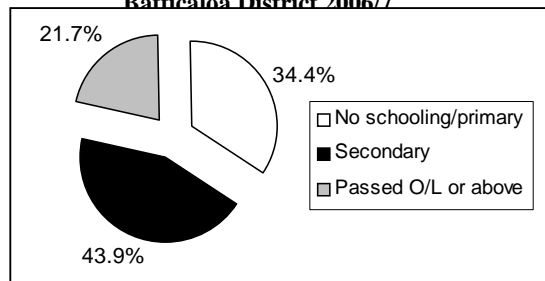
### Marital status of eligible women -

- About 89 percent of eligible women were married at the time of the survey while 11 percent of them were not in union (widowed or separated).

### Level of education of eligible women -

- Considerable percent (34.4 percent) of eligible women in Batticaloa District have primary level education or never attended school.
- Majority (44.0%) of them have attended up to secondary level of education.

**Figure 5: Eligible women by level of education in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



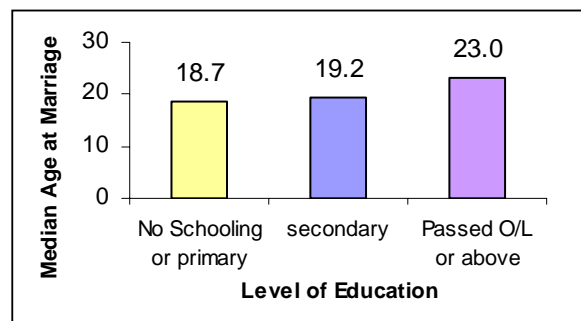
## Awareness about HIV AIDS -

About 87 percent of women in Batticaloa District have heard about HIV AIDS. Out of this about 34 percent of women know that the AIDS can be prevented by using condoms, while about 36 percent of them have knowledge about limiting sex to one uninfected partner and 41 percent stated that abstaining from sex help to reduce HIV AIDS.

### Median age at marriage -

- Median age at marriage of women in Batticaloa District is 20.0.
- Median age at marriage increases with the level of education.

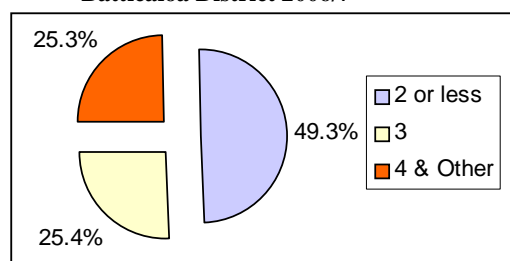
**Figure 6: Median age of women at marriage by level of education in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



### Desired family size -

Currently married women in Batticaloa District prefer small families. 49.3 percent of women would like to have 2 or less than 2 children. Further, about 75 percent of women liked to have 3 or less than 3 children.

**Figure 7: Ever married women by desired family size in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



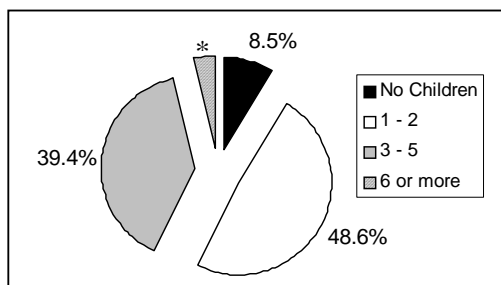
### Mean no. of children -

On an average ever married women in Batticaloa district have 2.4 children.

### Children ever born -

8.5 percent of ever married eligible women never have children while about 48.6 percent of women have only 1 or 2 children.

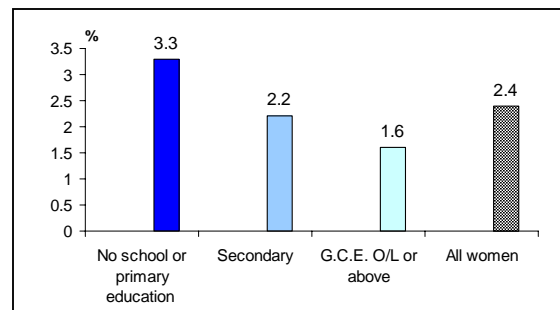
**Figure 8: Ever married Women by number of children ever born in Batticaloa District 2006/7.**



\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

### Mean number of children ever born by level of education-

**Figure 9: Mean number of children ever born by level of education in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

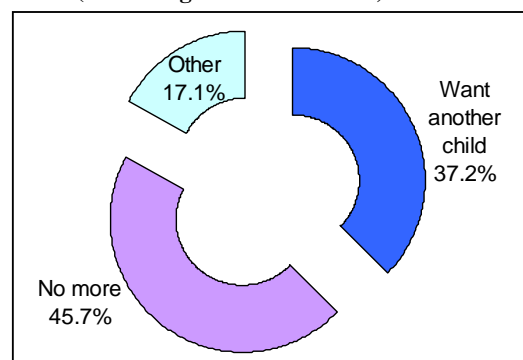


- Mean number of children ever born decreases with increasing the level of education of eligible women.

### Fertility preferences -

45.7 percent of eligible women (Excluding sterilized women) have answered that they do not want to have another child. Proportion of women like to have another child is 37.2 %.

**Figure 10: Ever married Women by fertility preferences in Batticaloa District 2006/7 (Excluding sterilized women)**



### Awareness of contraceptive methods -

**Table 4: Ever married women by awareness of contraceptive methods in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

Method	Percentage of know method
Female sterilization	99.0
Male sterilization	72.8
Pills	96.4
IUD	35.8
Injection	97.5
Norplant	9.8
Male Condom	52.3
Female Condom	28.8
LAM	14.1
Safe period	47.0
Withdrawal	12.0

- Female sterilization and Injection are the widely known methods (99.0 percent and 97.5 percent respectively), followed by Pills and Male Sterilization (96.4 percent and 72.8 percent).
- Percentage who know about Male Condom is 52.3 percent.
- Percentage of women knows IUD, Norplant, LAM and traditional methods is relatively low.

## Current use of contraception -

- Total number of estimated currently married women in Batticaloa District is 91,652.
- Only 34.5 percent of women are currently using contraception.

**Table 5: Currently married women by use of contraceptive method in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

Method	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>91652</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Not using *</b>	<b>60055</b>	<b>65.5</b>
<b>Any method</b>	<b>31597</b>	<b>34.5</b>
<b>Any modern method</b>	<b>31169</b>	<b>34.0</b>
<b>Modern Permanent</b>		
Sterilization	9404	10.3
<b>Modern Temporary</b>		
Pills	**	**
IUD	**	**
Injection	16612	18.1
Condom	**	**
<b>Any traditional method</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>**</b>
Safe period	**	**
Withdrawal	**	**

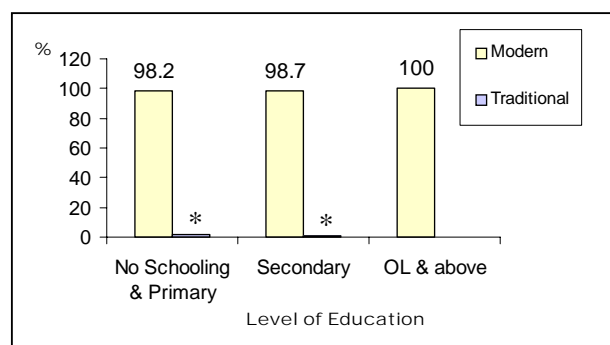
\* Including pregnant women.

\*\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

- Only 34.5 percent of women are currently using contraception.
- Of them 34.0 percent use modern contraceptive methods.
- Majority of women (65.5) currently not using any contraceptive method.
- Data shows that the most commonly used modern temporary method is injection (18.1).
- Further 10.3 percent of eligible women use sterilization. (Mostly Female Sterilization)

## Level of education and use of contraception -

**Figure 11: Currently married and non pregnant women who use family planning by level of education in Batticaloa District 2006/07**



\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

- Figure 11 indicate that females in all education levels inclined towards to modern methods. Usage of traditional methods are negligible.

## Contraceptive use by age -

**Table 6: Current use of family planning by age groups in Batticaloa District 2006/7**

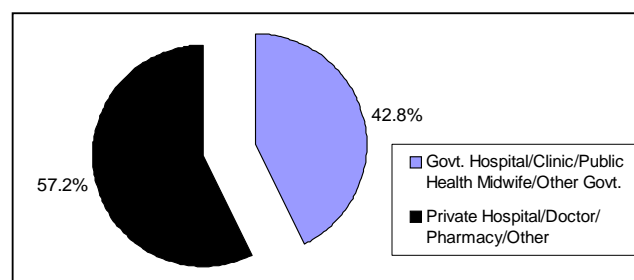
Methods	15 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	Total
<b>Any method</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>34.5</b>
Modern method	*	30.3	41.5	30.4	34.0
Traditional method	*	-	*	*	*
Not using	*	69.7	57.2	69.6	65.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size

- About 70 percent of women in 20-29 and 40-49 age groups are currently not using any contraceptive method.

## Source of supply -

**Figure 12: Current users of contraceptive by most recent source of supply in Batticaloa District 2006/7**



- 57 percent of modern temporary contraceptive methods is supplied by private sector while government sector contribution is only 43 percent.

## Definitions used:

### Safe sources of drinking water:

Protected well, tube well, main water line and Spring protected.

### Unsafe sources of drinking water:

Unprotected well, bowser, river/tank/stream and other sources such as rain water and unprotected spring water.

**Eligible women:** Women who were ever married and who were in the age group of 15-49 at the time of the survey.

### Level of Education:

No schooling - Never attended school

Primary level- Passed grade 1,2,3,4, or up to grade 5

Secondary level - Passed grade 6,7,8,9 or up to grade 10

O/L and above - Passed GCE O/L or above