



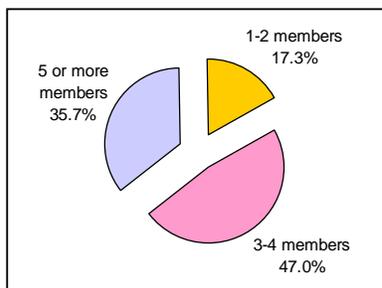
**About the DHS Survey**

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: 812.
- No. of eligible women (age 15-49) interviewed: 537.
- Estimated housing units: 210,106.
- Estimated population: 842,455.
- Household response rate: 97.9%.

**Household Size -**

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



- Average household size is 4 persons per household.
- About 64.2 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 Kegalle District 2006/7**

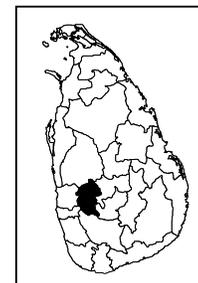
Age Group	Total	Male	Female
Below 5 yrs.	8.3	8.7	8.0
Below 15 yrs.	23.7	25.1	19.8
Below 18 yrs.	28.6	29.4	27.8
15-49 yrs.	48.5	48.0	49.0
15-64 yrs.	66.9	65.8	67.9
65 years or more	9.4	9.0	9.7

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

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

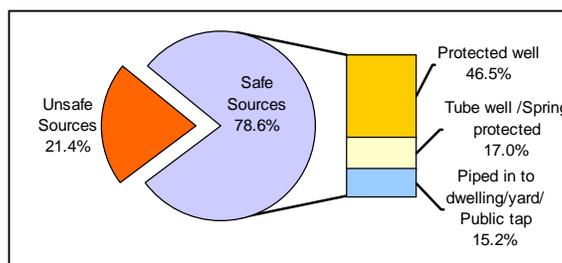
Age Dependency Ratio	Total
Below 15 yrs.	35.4
65 years or more	14.0

- Young age dependency ratio (35.4) is higher than that of old age dependency ratio (14.0).



**Access to safe drinking water -**

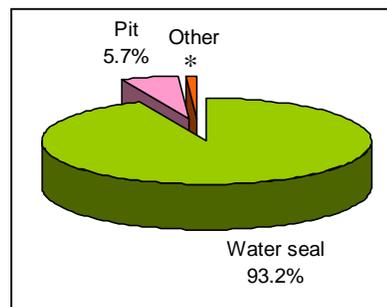
**Figure 2 : Households by availability of safe drinking water in Kegalle District 2006/7**



- 79 percent of households have access to source of safe drinking water. About 10 percent of households have water piped in to the home or yard and 5.2 percent used public tap. Nearly 46.5 percent have access to water from protected well. Nearly 16 percent households use protected spring water.

**Sanitation Facility -**

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



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

- More than 93 percent of households use water sealed toilets while 5.7 percent use pit toilets.

**Electricity**

77.9 percent households in Kegalle District have electricity.

### Ownership of household consumer goods -

**Table 3: Percentage of household by ownership of household equipments in Kegalle District 2006/7**

Equipment	Percentage of Households
Television	80
Radio	81
Refrigerator	34
Mobile phones	34
Land phones	35

### Main source of cooking fuel –

- About 93.2 percent of households in Kegalle District use firewood for cooking while about 5.6 percent use LP gas as main source of fuel for cooking.

### Use of Mosquito nets -

- About 58 percent of the households in Kegalle District currently use mosquito nets and 9.9 percent of households use mosquito coils.

### About Children in Kegalle District -

- Out of the children in 5 – 15 year age group 99.4 percent have ever attended a school.
- It is reported that 4.8 percent of currently school attending children in 5-17 year age group do not have enough school books.
- Fathers of 3.3 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 99.1 percent of children between 12-23 months in Kegalle District have received specified vaccines BCG, Polio, DPT and Measles by 12 months of age.

#### Birth Weight

- 78.4 percent of children (with health development report) of 0-59 months in Kegalle District have birth weight as equal or above 2.5kg.
- 21.6 percent of children have low birth weights.

### Mother's Health Care in\* Kegalle District 2006/7-

- The Government health facilities have served 98.2 percent of deliveries which occurred during the 5 year period preceding the survey.
- The survey further reported that almost every mother has received assistance of skilled health person at their deliveries which occurred during the 5 year period preceding the survey.

### Exclusive breast feeding

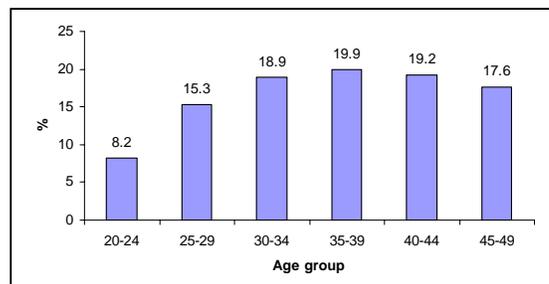
- The proportions of mothers who have exclusively breast fed during the first 4 months at their last birth in Kegalle District is 91.5

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

#### Age distribution of eligible women\* -

- Figure 4 shows that highest proportion (19.9 percent) of eligible women belong to 35-39 age category.

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



Note: Percentage of 15-19 age group is negligible

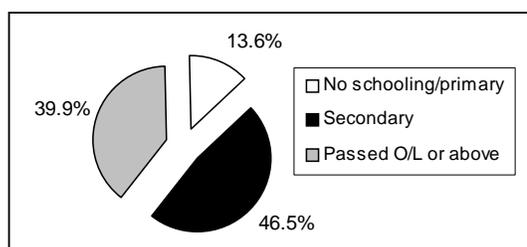
#### Marital status of eligible women -

- About 94.2 percent of eligible women were married at the time of the survey while only 5.8 percent of them were not in union (widowed or separated).

#### Level of education of eligible women -

- 13.6 percent of eligible women in Kegalle District have primary level education or never attended school.
- Majority (46.5 %) of them have secondary level of education.

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



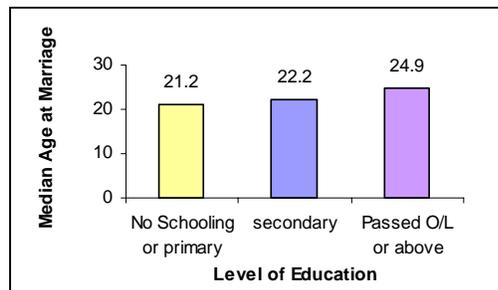
### Awareness about HIV AIDS -

About 93.7 percent of women in Kegalle District have heard about HIV AIDS. Out of this about 70.4 percent of women know that the AIDS can be prevented by using condoms, while about 93.6 percent of them have knowledge about limiting sex to one uninfected partner and 94.9 percent stated that abstaining from sex help to reduce HIV AIDS.

**Median age at marriage -**

- Median age at marriage of women in Kegalle District is 23.1.
- Median age at marriage increases with the level of education.

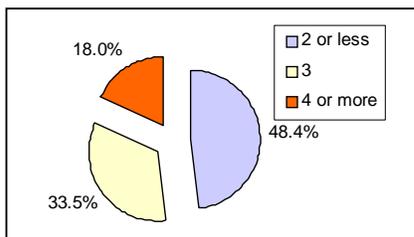
**Figure 6: Median age at marriage by level of education in Kegalle District 2006/7**



**Desired family size -**

Currently married women prefer small families. 48.4 percent of women would like to have 2 or less than 2 children. Further, 82 percent of women liked to have 3 or less than 3 children.

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



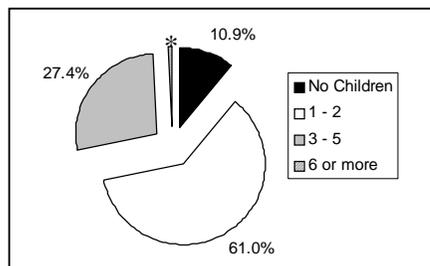
**Mean no. of children -**

On an average ever married women have 1.9 children.

**Children ever born -**

10.9 percent of ever married eligible women never have children while about 61 percent of women have only 1 or 2 children.

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

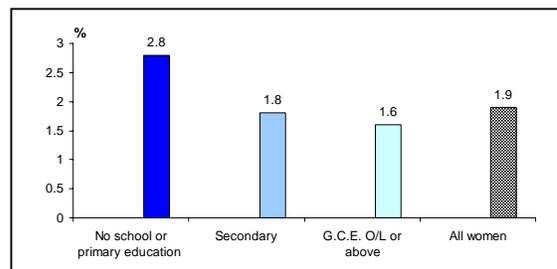


\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

Note \*: See Definition

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

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

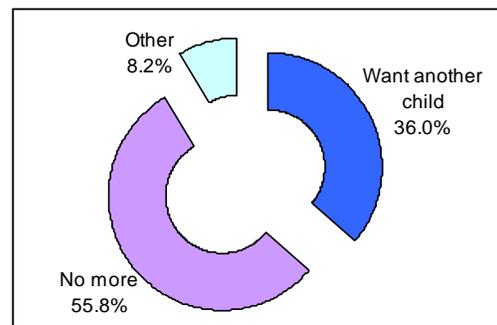


- Mean number of children ever born decreases with increasing the level of education of eligible women.

**Fertility preferences -**

More than half 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 36 percent.

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



**Awareness of contraceptive methods -**

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

Method	Percentage of know method
Female sterilization	95.7
Male sterilization	80.6
Pills	98.2
IUD	95.6
Injection	98.2
Norplant	50.0
Male Condom	87.4
Female Condom	26.5
LAM	56.2
Safe period	78.0
Withdrawal	80.5
Emergency contraception	53.2
Other	0.2

- Pill and injection are the widely known methods (98.2 percent each), followed by the Female sterilization and IUD (95.7 percent and 95.6 percent respectively).
- Percentage who know about male condom is also high (87.4).
- Percentage of women knowing LAM, Norplant and Emergency contraception is relatively low.

## Current use of contraception -

- Total number of estimated currently married women in Kegalle District is 136,892
- 71.1 percent of women are currently using contraception.

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

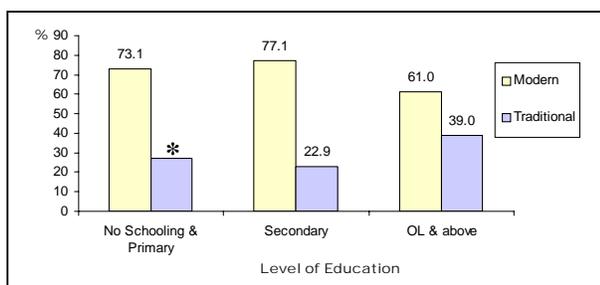
Method	No.	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>136892</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Not using *</b>	<b>39514</b>	<b>28.9</b>
<b>Any method</b>	<b>97377</b>	<b>71.1</b>
<b>Any modern method</b>	<b>68072</b>	<b>49.7</b>
<b>Modern Permanent Methods</b>		
Sterilization	19740	14.4
<b>Modern Temporary Methods</b>		
Pills	11087	8.1
IUD	7089	5.2
Injection	22846	16.7
Condom	7310	5.3
<b>Any traditional method</b>	<b>29305</b>	<b>21.4</b>
Safe period	16469	12.0
Withdrawal	12836	9.4

\* Including pregnant women.

- Survey reveals that about 49.7 percent of currently married women currently using modern contraceptive methods while another 21.4 percent use traditional methods.
- 28.9 percent of currently married women are not currently using any contraceptive method. (Including pregnant women) Data shows that among the temporary modern methods most commonly used method is injection (16.7 percent) followed by pills (8.1 percent).
- Further, 14.4 percent of eligible women use sterilization (Mostly Female sterilization).
- Among the traditional methods, safe period is the most commonly used method.

## Level of education and use of contraception -

**Figure 11: Currently married and non pregnant women who use family planning by level of education**



\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell

- Figure 11 indicate that females in all education levels inclined towards to modern methods.
- Percentage using traditional methods is higher among those who have qualified O/L and above.

## Contraceptive use by age -

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

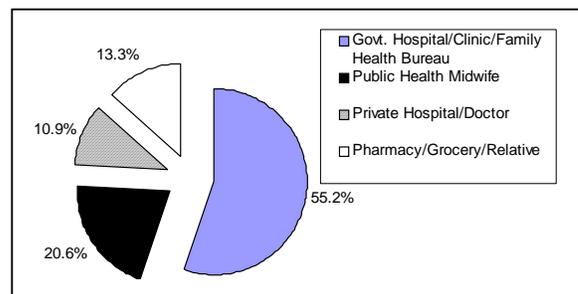
Methods	15 -19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	Total
<b>Any method</b>	*	<b>64.5</b>	<b>70.3</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>71.1</b>
Modern method	*	53.6	48.6	48.0	49.7
Traditional method	*	*	21.7	28.6	21.4
Not using	*	35.5	29.7	23.4	28.9
<b>Total</b>	*	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

- Percentage using traditional methods is higher among the older age groups while modern methods popular among the other age groups.

## Source of supply -

**Figure 12: Current users of contraceptive by most recent source of supply in Kegalle District 2006/7 (Excluding sterilization)**



- Government facilities (Including public health midwife) have catered to the needs of more than 75 percent of current users of modern contraceptive methods

## Definitions used:

### Safe sources of drinking water:

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

### Unsafe sources of drinking water:

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

This bulletin was prepared by DHS unit of the Department of Census and Statistics. For further clarifications please contact Director General, Department of Census and Statistics.

More information will be provided in the Preliminary & Final Reports.

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