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Country Report On 2007 FERTILITY AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SURVEY



Nay Pyi Taw, October 2009



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PREFACE

The 2007 Fertility and Reproductive Health Survey (FRHS) is the fourth in a series of demographic surveys taken at five-year intervals since 1991 to measure trends in demographic and other indicators. The first demographic survey was Population Changes and Fertility Survey (PCFS) conducted in 1991 and, the second and third surveys were Fertility and Reproductive Health Surveys (FRHS) conducted in 1997 and 2001 respectively. All these surveys were conducted by the Department of Population with financial and technical assistance from UNFPA.

Myanmar has made a good progress towards the ICPD goals and MDGs in the past years with improvements in coverage and quality of maternal and child health and birth spacing services as a priority and a central element in reproductive health. And it considers human resources as the prime factor of sustainable economic and social development and as the beneficiary of development.

The nationally represented 2007 FRHS is designed to collect information of ever married women aged 15-49 on levels and trends of fertility, infant and child mortality, reproductive health, maternal and child health, knowledge of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and their knowledge on trafficking. It also collected information from never married women aged 15-34 on the knowledge of STDs and HIV/AIDS and their preventive measures and the knowledge on trafficking. It was the second time to gather information from never married women.

The surveys provided much needed information that will be used in evaluating population and reproductive health related programmes and in planning future directions. These data can be utilized for research activities aimed at improving programme strategies. Together with data from previous demographic surveys, the survey can serve as an instrument to monitor the progress and evaluate the impact of the population and reproductive health related programmes.

The success of this important undertaking would not have been realized without the relentless effort and dedication of all parties concerned. To those who actively contributed to this, I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express gratitude to the Government as well as the Minister for Immigration and Population for allowing us to undertake this task. Thanks are also due to the United Nations Population Fund and Resident Representative, for their assistance and support. Last and not the least, I would like to express thanks to the department's country report preparation team and all concerned parties for their tireless efforts, hard work and dedication to get these papers completed and published.

Director General

Department of Population

Foreword

The 2007 Fertility and Reproductive Health Survey (FRHS) is a nationally representative

sample survey on population and reproductive health in Myanmar. It was conducted by the

Department of Population with financial and technical assistant from UNFPA. This report is the

fourth in a series of demographic surveys undertaken since 1991 to measure the demographic

and reproductive health indicators.

The 2007 FR HS was designed to provide important information and data on levels and

trends of fertility, knowledge and use of contraception, nuptiality, fertility preference, unmet

need, infant and child mortality, maternal and child health, knowledge of STDs and HIV/AIDS

and trafficking. The survey was conducted in 9 domains across the country comprising 8352 ever

married women aged between 15-49 with a sub-sample of 5467 never married women aged 15-

34. This survey and three other similar surveys, FRHS 1997, 2001 and Population Changes and

Fertility Survey, 1991 have contributed towards the development of a national population and

reproductive health database, including socio-economic indicators, which are vital to national

planning.

In addition to the Country Report, an in-depth analysis will be carried out by the

Department of Population on selected topics such as i) internal migration, and (ii) elderly

population. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate and convey our appreciation to the

Department of Population, Ministry of Immigration and Population for this important

undertaking. UNFPA appreciates the partnership with the Department of Population in

undertaking the survey and is confident that the information and data presented in this report will

be of great importance and value to the academicians, researchers, programme planners and

policy makers in guiding future reproductive health-related programme activities in Myanmar.

Mohamed Abdel-Ahad
UNFPA Representative for Myanmar

CONTENTS

			Page no
1.	Preface		i
2.	Foreword		ii
3.	Contents		iii
4.	List of Tables	3	iv
5.	List of Figure	es s	xii
6.	Map of Myan	mar	xiv
7.	Summary of I	Findings	XV
8.	Chapter I	Introduction	1
9.	Chapter II	Background Characteristics of Respondents and Households	17
10.	Chapter III	Nuptiality	43
11.	Chapter IV	Fertility	56
12.	Chapter V	Contraception	77
13	Chapter VI	Fertility Preferences	102
14	Chapter VII	Maternal and Child Health	116
15	Chapter VIII	Mortality	143
16	Chapter IX	Knowledge of STDs, HIV/AIDS and Trafficking (EMW)	153
17	Chapter X	Knowledge of STDs, HIV/AIDS and Trafficking (NMW)	173
18	Appendix Tables		
19	Appendix - Household		
20	Appendix – Individual (EMW)		
21	Appendix – Individual (NMW)		

LIST OF TABLES

		Page no.
Table 1.1	Distribution of Sample Segments by Domain, State and Division, 2007 FRHS	12
Table 1.2	Distribution of Sample Population, Number of Ever-Married Women (EMW) and Never-Married Women (NMW) Interviewed by Domain, State and Division, 2007 FRHS	13
Table 1.3	Response Rates by Domain, State and Division	14
Table 1.4	Results of the Household and Individual Interviews, Number of Households, Number of Interviews and Response Rates according to Residence, 2007 FRHS	15
Table 1.5	Trend of the Sample Township, Ward, VT and Village; and Response Rates from 1991 to 2007	16
Table 2.1	Percent Distribution of the Household Population by Five-Year Age Groups according to Urban- Rural Residence and Sex, 2007 FRHS	18
Table 2.2	Summary Measures from Censuses and Fertility and Reproductive Health Surveys	20
Table 2.3	Percent Distribution of the Household Heads by Sex, Household Size and Urban-Rural Residence, 2007 FRHS	21
Table 2.4	Percent Distribution of the Household Heads by Sex and Urban-Rural Residence, 2007 FRHS	22
Table 2.5	Percent Distribution of Total Household Population Aged 5 Years and Over by Education Level, according to Selected Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	25
Table 2.6	Percent Distribution of Urban Household Population Aged 5 Years and Over by Education Level, according to Selected Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	26
Table 2.7	Percent Distribution of Rural Household Population Aged 5 Years and Over by Education Level, according to Selected Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	27
Table 2.8	Educational Attainment of all Ever-Married Women by Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	28
Table 2.9	Percent Distribution of Ever-Married Women by Husband's Level of Education, according to Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	29
Table 2.10	Educational Attainment of Ever-Married Women by Husband's Level of Education, 2007 FRHS	30

		Page no
Table 2.11	Percent Distribution of Households by Housing Characteristics, according to Residence, 2007 FRHS	32
Table 2.12	Percent of Households Possessing Various Durable Consumer Goods, by Urban-Rural Residence, 2007 FRHS	33
Table 2.13	Percent Ever-Married Women who usually read a Newspaper, Listen to Radio or Watch TV at least once a Week, by Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	35
Table 2.14	Total and Economically Active Population by Sex and Urban/Rural Residence, 2007 FRHS	36
Table 2.15	Economic Activity Rates by Sex, 2007 FRHS	38
Table 2.16	Labour Force Participation Rates (Age 15 and Over) by Domain and Sex, 2007 FRHS	39
Table 2.17	Percent Distribution of the Employed Population by Industrial Sector according to Urban/Rural Residence and Sex, 2007 FRHS	40
Table 2.18	Percent Distribution of Employed Population by Occupation Major Group by Urban/Rural and Sex, 2007 FRHS	41
Table 2.19	Percent Distribution of Ever-Married Women in Work Status Categories by Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	42
Table 3.1	Percent Distribution of Household Population by Marital Status, Age, Sex and Residence, 2007 FRHS	44
Table 3.2	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage and Proportion Never Married from the 1973 and 1983 Censuses, 1991 PCFS, 1997, 2001 and 2007 FRHS	48
Table 3.3	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) by Region, Education and Sex, 2007 FRHS	51
Table 3.4	Mean Age at First Marriage of the Respondence and her Husband by Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	52
Table 3.5	Percent Distribution of EMW by Age Difference (Husband Older Than Wife - in Years) by Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	54
Table 4.1	Percent Distribution of Ever-Married Women and Currently Married Women Aged 15-49 by Number of Children Ever Born (CEB) and Mean Number of Children Ever Born, according to Five-Year Age Group, 2007 FRHS	57
Table 4.2	Mean Number of Children Ever Born and Children Surviving per Ever-Married Woman and Percentage of Children Surviving by Age of Woman and Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	59

		Page no.
Table 4.3	ASFR, TFR and Sex Ratio at Birth by Urban-Rural Residence from Births during the 12 Months Preceding the Survey, 2007 FRHS (Household Questionnaire)	60
Table 4.4	Total Fertility Rate and Crude Birth Rate by Urban-Rural Residence for each Region from Household Questionnaire, 2007 FRHS	62
Table 4.5	Age Specific Fertility Rate and Total Fertility Rate for One, Three and Five Years before the Survey (Individual Questionnaire), 2007 FRHS	63
Table 4.6	Age Specific Fertility Rate by Urban-Rural Residence, according to Various Data Sources, Myanmar, (1983-2007)	64
Table 4.7	Age Specific Marital Fertility Rates (ASMFR) and Age Specific Fertility Rates (ASFR) by Urban-Rural Residence from Household Questionnaire, 2007 FRHS	65
Table 4.8	Age Specific Marital Fertility Rates (ASMFR), Total Marital Fertility Rates (TMFR), Total Fertility Rates (TFR) and Percent Never Married (PNM) of Women Aged 15-49 by Urban-Rural Residence from Household Questionnaire, 1983-2007	66
Table 4.9	Percent Distribution of Pregnancy Outcomes (Lifetime) by Background Characteristics among Ever-Married Women, 2007 FRHS	69
Table 4.10	Percent Distribution of Ever-Married Women (15-49) by Age at First Birth and Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	71
Table 4.11	Percent Distribution of Non-First Births in the Five Years preceding the Survey by Number of Months since Previous Birth, 2007 FRHS	73
Table 4.12	Percent Distribution of Ever-Married Women 15-19 who are Mothers or Pregnant with their First Child by Selected Background Characteristics, 2007 FRHS	75
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