



PASL Newsletter

Population Association of Sri Lanka

Volume 3, Issue 1
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President's Message

Having stepped on to the 11th year after inception of the Population Association of Sri Lanka (PASL), I am happy to send this message to the 3rd issue of the newsletter which provides current and upcoming events of the PASL and the demographic and socio-economic facts and figures in Sri Lanka. The Population Association of Sri Lanka which was founded on 8th February 1997 by a group of Scholars, Academics, Policy Makers and Professionals, has made a considerable progress in creating awareness among the academics, scientists and policy makers to understand the population issues for research and policy formulation.

The activities and the image of the PASL has widened with conducting seminars, lecture series for the university students, workshops, guest lectures, publishing books and its own Journal called Sri Lanka Journal of Population Studies, which is the only refereed journal published in Sri Lanka in the field of Demography/Population Studies which is recognized as a scientific journal in the World Citation Index.

The life membership of the Association is around 155 whilst few ordinary members and student members are also among the membership. All members are expertise in their fields and hence I invite all the members to provide information about their academic, research and other achievements for publication in the Newsletter.

As noted in the past years, the attendance of the members for the Annual Sessions and Annual General Meeting is unsatisfactory and it disheartens the important annual event of the Association. Hence, with a view to making a positive contribution for the upliftment of the activities of the Professional Association, I am pleased to invite all members to actively participate in the Seminars, Guest Lectures, Annual Sessions and Annual General Meeting. Publishing your views, opinions and information an academic nature in the newsletter will also benefit to all.

While congratulating the Editorial Committee for their untiring effort in publishing this news letter, I am very confident that the Population Association of Sri Lanka will immensely serve to the Professionals and Researchers in the field of Demography/Population Studies and other allied fields in future as well.

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Demographic Indicators: SAARC Countries

Indicator	Ref. Year	Sri Lanka(a)	India	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Nepal	Bhutan	Maldives
Mid year Population. Mn	1990	16.3	835.1	108.0	108.7	18.1	-	0.2
	2000	18.5	1,015.0	137.5	128.1	22.6	0.7	0.3
	2001	18.7	1,017.5	140.5	129.3	23.2	0.7	0.3
	2002	19.0	1,055.0	143.7	131.2	23.7	0.7	0.3
	2003	19.3	1,073.0	147.7	134.6	24.2	0.7	0.3
	2004	19.5	1,090.0	148.7	135.2	24.7	0.8	0.3
	2005	19.7	1,107.0	153.9	137.0	25.3	0.8	0.3
Population Growth, %	1995-2000	1.3	1.9	2.0	1.3	2.4	3.1	2.1
	2000-2005	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.3	2.3	2.3	1.5
Land Area, '000 Sq. km	2003	65.6	2,973.2	770.9	130.2	143.0	47.0	0.3
Density of Population [Persons per Sq. km.] (b)	2005	314	340	193	928	172	20	1
Population by Age Groups. %								
0-14 Years	2005	24	32	38	35	38	38	33
15-64 Years	2005	69	63	58	61	58	57	63
65 Years & Above	2005	7	5	4	4	4	5	4
Urban Population. %	2005	15.1	28.7	33.5	25.1	15.8	21.0	27.5
Crude Birth Rate. Per 1,000	2004	16	24	36	27	300	30	31
Crude Death Rate. Per 1,000	2004	6	9	8	8	8	8	6
Total Fertility Rate [Births per Women]	2004	1.9	3.0	4.1	3.2	3.6	4.2	4.1
Infant Mortality Rate [per 1,000 Live Births]	2004	12	62	80	56	59	67	35
Maternal Mortality Rate [per 100,000 Live Births]	2000	92	540	500	380	740	420	110
Expectation of Life at Birth, Year	2004	72	63	64	63	62	62	67

Demographic Indicators: Selected East Asian Countries

Indicator	Ref. Year	Singapore	Rep. of Korea	Malaysia	Thailand	Philippines	Indonesia
Mid year Population. Mn	1990	3.0	42.9	17.8	55.8	62.0	179.3
	2000	4.0	47.0	23.5	62.2	76.9	205.8
	2002	4.2	47.6	24.5	63.4	81.8	211.1
	2003	4.2	47.9	25.0	64.0	81.1	215.0
	2004	4.2	48.1	25.6	64.2	83.5	216.4
	2005	4.4	48.3	26.1	64.8	85.2	219.9
Population Growth, %	1995-2000	2.6	0.8	2.6	0.9	2.4	1.1
	2000-2005	2.6	0.4	2.1	0.9	2.1	1.3
Land Area, '000 Sq. km	2003	0.7	98.7	328.6	510.9	298.2	1,811.6
Density of Population [Persons per Sq. km.] (b)	2005	6,222	485	79	126	282	115
Population by Age Groups. %							
0-14 Years	2005	20	20	32	24	35	28
15-64 Years	2005	72	71	63	69	61	66
65 Years & Above	2005	8	9	5	7	4	6
Urban Population. %	2005	100.0	80.8	63.0	32.5	62.7	48.1
Crude Birth Rate. Per 1,000	2004	9	10	22	16	25	21
Crude Death Rate. Per 1,000	2004	5	6	5	7	5	7
Total Fertility Rate [Births per Women]	2004	1.3	1.2	2.3	1.9	3.1	2.3
Infant Mortality Rate [per 1,000 Live Births]	2004	3	5	10	18	26	30
Maternal Mortality Rate [per 100,000 Live Births]	2000	30	20	41	44	200	230
Expectation of Life at Birth, Year	2004	77	74	71	67	69	66

(a) Mid year population. Population growth and density of population data are based on the provisional estimates from the Census of Population & Housing – 2001. while remaining data are based on historical estimates of mid year population

(b) Population/ Total land area

Sources: Key indicators of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries-2006
World Development Indicators-2006
Human Development Report-2006
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

2006/07 DHS Findings

HIES 2006/07 Highlights

Summary Findings of Demographic and Health Survey 2006/07

These summary findings provide information on the latest Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) which was carried out in two phases. i.e., Sinhala speaking housing units from September 2006 to May 2007 and Tamil speaking housing units from August 2007 to October 2007. 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.

Household Size and Age Dependency Ratio

- Mean household size has dropped from 4.5 in 2000 to 4.1 in 2006/07 and 63 per cent of households are with less than 5 persons.
- 46.5 per cent of the households are with 3-4 persons and 16.2 per cent of the households are with less than 3 persons.
- Younger age dependency ratio is 39.4 and old dependency ratio is 10.9.

Access to Safe Drinking Water

- 89 per cent of households have access to source of safe drinking water and remaining 11 per cent of households do not have access to source of safe drinking water.

Sanitation Facility

- 2.4 per cent of the households do not have any sanitation facilities and 91.7 per cent of households use water sealed toilets. About 5.8 per cent of households use Pit.

Child Health

- 97 per cent of children between 12-23 months have received specified vaccines BCG, Polio, DPT and Measles by 12 months of age.
- 83.4 per cent of children of 0-59 months have birth weight as equal or above 2.5kg and 16.6 per cent of children reported low birth weight.

Infant and Child Mortality

- The level of under five mortality was 21 deaths per 1,000 births during the five-year period before the survey and infant mortality rate recorded in the survey was 15 deaths per 1,000 births.
- Proportion of neo-natal deaths to total infant deaths was 67 per cent.

Marital Status and Level of Education of Eligible Women

- 94 per cent of eligible women were married and only 6 per cent of them were widowed or separated.
- 17.9 per cent of eligible women have primary level education or never attended school while 49 per cent of the eligible women have secondary level of education.

Desired Family size

- 53.2 per cent of currently married women would like to have 2 or less than 2 children. 81 per cent of married women liked to have 3 or less than 3 children. 18.9 per cent of married women would like to have 4 or more children.

Children Ever Born

- 10 per cent of ever married eligible women never have children while about 57 per cent of women have only 1 or 2 children.

Fertility

- Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has recorded a declining trend from 2.8 in 1982-87, and 2.3 in 1988-1993 and stands at 1.9 for the period 1995-2000. However, TFR has increased to 2.4 (excluding Northern Province) in 2006/07 and the TFR value (2.4) does not change considerably when complied excluding the Eastern Province.

Fertility Preferences

- 38 per cent of women (Excluding sterilized women) would like to have another child while 51.6 per cent have answered that they do not want to have another child.

Awareness of HIV and AIDS

- 92 per cent of women have heard about HIV and AIDS. Out of this about 64 per cent of women know that the AIDS can be prevented by using condoms, while about 87 per cent of them have knowledge about limiting sex to one uninfected partner and 86.5 per cent stated that abstaining from sex help to reduce HIV AIDS.

Awareness of Contraceptive Method

- 97.5 and 97.3 per cent of ever married women knowing about the Pill and injection respectively. Percentage of women knowing about Female sterilization and IUD are 94.5 percent and 90.1 per cent.
- 82.5 per cent of ever married women know about male condom and percentage of women knowing LAM, Norplant and Emergency contraception is relatively low.

Current Use of Contraception

- 68.3 per cent of currently married women are currently using contraception while 31.7 per cent of currently married women are not currently using any contraceptive method.
- 52.3 per cent of currently married women are using modern contraceptive method while 16.0 per cent using traditional methods.
- Among the temporary modern methods, most commonly used method is injection (14.9 percent) followed by pills (8.1 per cent). 17.0 per cent of eligible women use sterilization (Mostly Female sterilization).
- Among the traditional methods, safe period (10.1 per cent) is the most commonly used method.
- Percentage using traditional methods is higher among the older age groups while modern temporary methods are popular among younger groups.

Selected Poverty Indicator Highlights of Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2006/07

The Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) is also conducted by the DCS. HIES 2006/07 was the sixth series and was conducted during the period from July 2006 to June 2007. The major objective of the HIES is to provide reliable data on income and expenditure patterns of population of Sri Lanka. This survey was conducted in all the districts in Sri Lanka, excluding the districts in the Northern Province and Trincomalee district.

- The Head Count Index (HCI) has dropped from 22.7 in 2002 to 15.2 percent in 2006/07.
- In 2006/07 HCI for Urban sector, Rural sector and Estate sector is 15.2 per cent, 15.7 percent and 32 percent respectively.
- Uva (27.0), Sabaragamuwa (24.2) and Central (22.3) provinces have recorded comparatively high incidence of poverty in 2006/07.
- Nuwara Eliya district and the Monaragala district are the poorest districts that reported HCI above 33 percent in 2006/07 the Nuwara Eliya district is the only district that reported an increase of poverty from 2002 to 2006/07.
- Hambantota district which was among poor districts since 1990/91 to 2002 has gained over 60 percent of an unprecedented drop of poverty incidence from 32.2 percent in 2002 to 12.7 percent in 2006/07.
- The Gini coefficient has fallen from 0.47 in 2002 to 0.4 in 2006/07. All the sectors gini coefficients has also dropped and Gini coefficient for urban sector, rural sector and estate sector has reported as 0.43, 0.38 and 0.26 respectively.

Sri Lanka Journal of Population Studies (SLJPS)

ISSN 1391-3433 Publisher: Population Association of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka Journal of Population Studies is a scientific refereed journal, published by the Population Association of Sri Lanka, a non-profit professional organization of population scientists. *SLJPS* includes research conducted in several disciplines on population related issues. The Journal is published annually in July. Research papers in demography/population studies in Sri Lanka or in South Asia including Sri Lanka, book Reviews and Notes on Data and Perspectives are welcome to the SLJPS. More information about the SLJPS and notes for contributors can be seen from the following link.

<http://www.nsf.ac.lk/pasl/contri.html>

To obtain the application form and constitution either write to the secretary or download from the above website. The cheques should be drawn in favour of the "Population Association of Sri Lanka" and sent to

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Population Association of Sri Lanka
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University of Colombo
P.O.Box 1490
Colombo. Sri Lanka

Council Activities – 2008-2009

- Sri Lanka Journal of Population Studies (SLJPS) – Volume 9 has been published.
- SLJPS – Volume 10 (special issue on migration) will be published on October 2008;
- SLJPS – Volume 11 - the submission of papers for the journal will be accept until end of September.
- PASL News letter – Volume 3 – Issue 1 has been published.
- Website of the PASL was updated in July 2008. See www.nsf.ac.lk/pasl/ Arrangements made in organize.
- Lecture series on current issues of population will be conducted as follows:

University lecture series:

- University of Colombo: July, 2008: Issues and Quality of Vital Registration Data: by Mrs. Susantha Ranadeera, Deputy Director, Dept of Census and Statistics
- University of Sri Jayawardanapura: July, 2008: Trends and issues in abortion in Sri Lanka, Prof. Hewage-University of Ruhuna.
- University of Kelaniya – September, 2008: Population trends and future challenges: (to be announced).
- Universities of Peradeniya, Sabaragamuwa, Ruhuna and Jaffna - 2008: Title and the lectures will be announced later.
- National Defence University- Will be held on October, Population Policies in Sri Lanka by Prof. N.K. Dangalla.

Guest Lecture Series:

- Demographic data mapping through GIS- Prof. R.P. de Silva – September, 2008.
- A short course on research methodology conducted on 18th /19th July 2008 in University of Colombo.
- The monograph on aging population in Sri Lanka: Issues and future prospects, published with the assistance of UNFPA has been translated into Sinhala ඉංකවේ ජනගහනය වයස්ගත වීම ගැටලු සහ අනාගත අපේක්ෂාවන් by several scholars in the Department of Demography and other expertise in particular areas and ready to publish very soon. The overall translation work supervised and edited by Prof. K.A.P. Siddhisena.

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