

CHAPTER 2

BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS

This chapter presents a profile of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of NFHS-2 households and describes facilities and services that are available in villages in Karnataka. The chapter also includes some comparisons of NFHS-2 results with results from NFHS-1, the Census of India, and the Sample Registration System (SRS).

2.1 Age-Sex Distribution of the Household Population

The NFHS-2 household population can be tabulated in two ways: *de facto* (the place each person stayed the night before the survey interview) or *de jure* (the place of usual residence). The *de facto* and *de jure* populations in Karnataka differ because of temporary population movements. Table 2.1 shows the *de facto* population in the NFHS-2 household sample for Karnataka, classified by age, residence, and sex. The total *de facto* sample population is 22,706. The sample is 35 percent urban and 65 percent rural.

The age distribution of the population in Karnataka is typical of populations where fertility decline has set in. The proportions of the population in the youngest two age groups are smaller than the proportions in the next higher age groups (Figure 2.1). Thirty-three percent of the population is below 15 years of age, and only 5 percent of the population is age 65 or older. The proportion below age 15 is slightly higher in rural areas (34 percent) than in urban areas (29 percent).

The single-year age distributions by sex in the *de facto* population (see Appendix Table B.1) indicate that there is substantial preference for reporting ages ending in particular digits, especially 0 and 5 and, to a smaller extent, 2 and 8. One of the most commonly used measures of digit preference in age reporting is Myers' Index (United Nations, 1955). This index provides an overall summary of preferences for, or avoidance of, each of the 10 digits, from 0 to 9. The index is often used as one indicator of the quality of age reporting on a survey. Values of Myers' Index computed for the age range 10–69 in the household sample population in Karnataka are 28.0 for males and 19.0 for females. The lower estimate for females is probably due to the emphasis during the interviewer training on obtaining accurate age information for women to correctly determine the eligibility of women for the individual interview. The values of Myers' Index from NFHS-2 are much higher than the values from NFHS-1 (revised from the published NFHS-1 estimates). This indicates that age reporting on the Household Questionnaire in Karnataka may not have been as good in NFHS-2 as it was in NFHS-1.

Table 2.2 compares the age distributions by sex from the NFHS-2 *de jure* sample with the age distributions by sex from the Sample Registration System for 1997. The SRS baseline survey, which is *de jure*, counts all usual residents in a sample area (Office of the Registrar General, 1999a). The NFHS-2 and SRS age distributions are quite similar for broad age groups, despite the misreporting of age that is evident in the NFHS-2 single-year age data.

Table 2.1 Household population by age and sex

Percent distribution of the household population by age, according to residence and sex, Karnataka, 1999

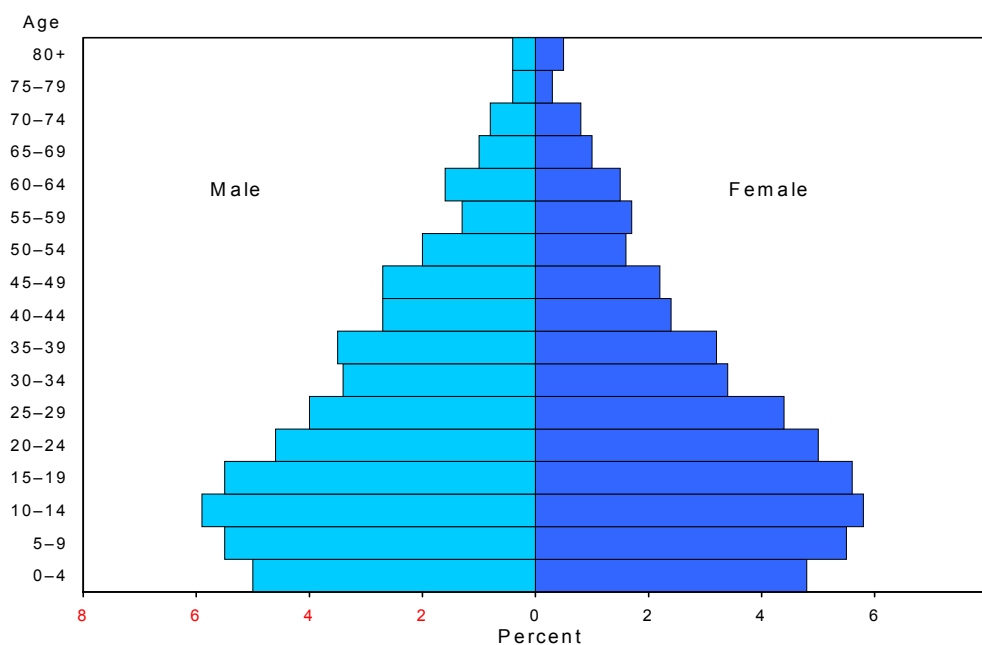
Age	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
< 1	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
1-4	6.9	6.9	6.9	8.5	8.1	8.3	7.9	7.7	7.8
5-9	10.2	9.2	9.7	11.5	12.0	11.7	11.0	11.0	11.0
10-14	10.3	11.2	10.7	12.4	12.0	12.2	11.7	11.7	11.7
15-19	11.2	11.1	11.2	10.9	11.2	11.1	11.0	11.2	11.1
20-24	10.5	10.6	10.5	8.4	9.6	9.0	9.1	10.0	9.5
25-29	8.8	9.7	9.2	7.4	8.5	8.0	7.9	8.9	8.4
30-34	7.5	7.6	7.5	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.8	6.8
35-39	7.7	6.8	7.2	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.9	6.4	6.7
40-44	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.4	4.6	5.0	5.4	4.8	5.1
45-49	5.6	5.0	5.3	5.2	4.0	4.6	5.3	4.4	4.9
50-54	3.9	3.4	3.7	4.1	3.1	3.6	4.0	3.2	3.6
55-59	3.0	3.3	3.2	2.5	3.4	2.9	2.6	3.4	3.0
60-64	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.1
65-69	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0
70-74	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6
75-79	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7
80+	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0
Don't know/missing	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of persons	4,017	3,898	7,915	7,399	7,392	14,791	11,415	11,290	22,706
Sex ratio ¹	NA	NA	970	NA	NA	999	NA	NA	989

Note: Table is based on the *de facto* population, i.e., persons who stayed in the household the night before the interview (including both usual residents and visitors).

NA: Not applicable

¹Females per 1,000 males

**Figure 2.1
Population Pyramid**



NFHS-2, Karnataka, 1999

Table 2.2 Population by age and sex from the SRS and NFHS-2					
Percent distribution of population by age and sex from the SRS and NFHS-2, Karnataka, 1997 and 1999					
Age	SRS (1997)		NFHS-2 (1999)		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Sex ratio ¹
< 5	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.3	964
5–14	22.8	22.3	22.6	23.0	998
15–29	29.0	29.6	28.1	29.6	1,037
30–49	25.7	24.8	24.5	22.9	917
50–64	9.3	9.6	10.1	9.9	962
65+	3.9	4.4	5.1	5.3	1,026
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	983
Median age	U	U	23.5	23.0	NA

Note: Table is based on the *de jure* population, i.e., usual residents.
NA: Not applicable
U: Not available
¹Females per 1,000 males
Source for SRS: Office of the Registrar General, 1999a

Tables 2.1 and 2.2 also present sex ratios (females per 1,000 males) in Karnataka from NFHS-2. The sex ratio of the *de facto* population is 989 (Table 2.1). The sex ratio of the *de jure* population (983) in Table 2.2 is slightly lower than the sex ratio of the *de facto* population (989). Table 2.1 shows that the sex ratio of the *de facto* population is 970 in urban areas and 999 in rural areas, suggesting that rural-urban migration has been dominated by males in Karnataka.

2.2 Marital Status

NFHS-2 includes information on the marital status of all household members age six and above. Table 2.3 shows the marital status distribution of the *de facto* household population, classified by age, residence, and sex. Among females age six and above, 51 percent are currently married and 36 percent have never been married. The proportion never married is much higher for males (49 percent) than for females (36 percent) and is slightly higher in urban areas (51 percent for males and 37 percent for females) than in rural areas (49 percent for males and 35 percent for females). The proportion divorced, separated, or deserted is small, and widowhood is quite limited until the older ages. Fifty-three percent of women age 50 or older are widowed, but only 9 percent of males in that age group are widowed.

Also of interest is the proportion of persons who marry young. At age 15–19, the proportions ever married are 2 percent for males and 32 percent for females (less than 1 percent for males and 20 percent for females in urban areas, and 3 percent for males and 38 percent for females in rural areas). By age 25–29, more than 90 percent of women have ever been married. Only 59 percent of males in this age group have ever been married (46 percent in urban areas and 67 percent in rural areas). Overall, the table shows that women in Karnataka marry at much younger ages than men, and that both men and women marry at much younger ages in rural areas than in urban areas.

Table 2.3 Marital status of the household population

Percent distribution of the household population age 6 and above by marital status, according to age, residence, and sex, Karnataka, 1999

Age	Marital status							Total percent
	Never married	Currently married	Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Deserted	
URBAN								
Male								
6-12	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
20-24	86.0	13.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0
25-29	53.8	45.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0
30-49	7.4	91.4	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0
50+	1.8	91.7	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0
Total	50.9	47.6	0.0	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	100.0
Female								
6-12	99.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	99.4	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	80.4	18.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	100.0
20-24	36.6	61.3	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.0	1.0	100.0
25-29	11.9	85.2	0.0	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.0	100.0
30-49	2.7	87.8	0.1	7.7	0.0	0.3	1.3	100.0
50+	1.8	45.6	0.0	51.5	0.2	0.5	0.4	100.0
Total	37.3	50.6	0.2	10.8	0.1	0.2	0.7	100.0
RURAL								
Male								
6-12	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	99.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	97.0	2.5	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
20-24	76.4	23.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
25-29	33.5	65.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	100.0
30-49	4.6	94.0	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.5	100.0
50+	1.1	88.9	0.0	9.5	0.0	0.2	0.3	100.0
Total	48.5	49.2	0.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0
Female								
6-12	98.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	94.7	4.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	62.2	35.9	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	100.0
20-24	20.7	74.9	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.1	2.3	100.0
25-29	5.5	88.3	0.2	3.7	0.8	0.2	1.4	100.0
30-49	1.3	86.7	0.0	8.8	1.0	0.1	2.1	100.0
50+	1.1	44.9	0.0	53.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	100.0
Total	35.4	50.7	0.4	11.9	0.5	0.1	1.0	100.0

Table 2.3 Marital status of the household population (contd.)								
Percent distribution of the household population age 6 and above by marital status, according to age, residence, and sex, Karnataka, 1999								
Age	Marital status							Total percent
	Never married	Currently married	Married, <i>gauna</i> not performed	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Deserted	
TOTAL								
Male								
6-12	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	99.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	98.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
20-24	80.3	19.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0
25-29	41.5	57.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	100.0
30-49	5.6	93.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.5	100.0
50+	1.3	89.8	0.0	8.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	100.0
Total	49.3	48.6	0.1	1.7	0.0	0.1	0.2	100.0
Female								
6-12	99.1	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
13-14	96.4	2.6	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
15-19	68.4	29.9	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	100.0
20-24	26.5	69.9	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.1	1.8	100.0
25-29	7.9	87.1	0.1	2.6	0.7	0.3	1.3	100.0
30-49	1.9	87.1	0.0	8.4	0.6	0.2	1.8	100.0
50+	1.3	45.2	0.0	52.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	100.0
Total	36.1	50.7	0.3	11.5	0.3	0.2	0.9	100.0
Note: Table is based on the <i>de facto</i> population, i.e., persons who stayed in the household the night before the interview (including both usual residents and visitors). The marital status distribution for females by age cannot be directly compared with the published distribution for NFHS-1 because the ages in the current table are based entirely on the reports of the household respondents, whereas in NFHS-1 the ages of ever-married women age 13-49 were taken from the Woman's Questionnaire.								

Table 2.4 shows estimates of the singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM), which can be calculated from age-specific proportions single in a census or household survey. SMAM is calculated from the *de jure* population in NFHS-2 in order to arrive at estimates that are more comparable to those derived from the censuses, which are modified *de jure* counts. According to the SMAM measure, men in Karnataka tend to marry women who are almost seven years younger than themselves. The census and NFHS-2 data indicate that the age at marriage has been rising for both men and women, but slightly faster for women than for men. The SMAM increased by about half a year in the six years between NFHS-1 and NFHS-2. Marriage ages in NFHS-2 are higher in urban areas than in rural areas, with urban women and men marrying about two years later than their rural counterparts. As estimated from NFHS-2, the overall SMAM for females in Karnataka is 20.1 (21.5 in urban areas and 19.4 in rural areas).

2.3 Household Composition

Table 2.5 shows the percent distribution of households by various characteristics of the household head (sex, age, religion, and caste/tribe), as well as by household type and the number of usual household members, according to residence. The table is based on the *de jure* population

Table 2.4 Singulate mean age at marriage			
Singulate mean age at marriage by sex from selected sources, Karnataka, 1961–1999			
Source	Singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM)		
	Male	Female	Difference
1961 Census	24.7	16.4	8.3
1971 Census	25.2	17.9	7.3
1981 Census	26.0	19.3	6.7
1991 Census	26.2	20.1	6.1
1992-93 NFHS-1			
Urban	27.0	20.8	6.2
Rural	25.6	19.0	6.6
Total	26.1	19.6	6.5
1999 NFHS-2			
Urban	27.8	21.5	6.3
Rural	26.1	19.4	6.7
Total	26.7	20.1	6.6

Note: Table is based on the *de jure* population.

because household type and the number of usual household members pertain to the usual-resident population. The table shows that 88 percent of household heads are male (89 percent in urban areas and 87 percent in rural areas).

More than two-thirds (70 percent) of household heads are age 30–59 and only 8 percent are less than age 30. Eighty-five percent of household heads are Hindu, 11 percent are Muslim, 3 percent are Christian, and less than 1 percent are Jain (almost the same distribution as in NFHS-1). Muslims constitute 15 percent of urban households, but only 8 percent of rural households. Christian and Jain households are also found disproportionately in urban areas. Seventeen percent of household heads belong to scheduled castes, 6 percent belong to scheduled tribes, and 40 percent belong to other backward classes (OBC¹). The proportion of household heads belonging to any of these disadvantaged groups is 52 percent in urban areas and 69 percent in rural areas. Fifty-six percent of all households are nuclear family households (consisting of an unmarried adult living alone or a married person or couple and their unmarried children, if any). Nuclear households are somewhat more common in urban areas than in rural areas, but even in rural areas more than half of households are nuclear. The average household size is 5.3 persons (5.4 in rural areas and 5.0 in urban areas).

2.4 Educational Level

The level of education of household members may affect reproductive behaviour, contraceptive use, the health of children, and proper hygienic practices. Table 2.6 shows the percent distribution of the *de facto* household population by literacy and educational level, according to age, residence, and sex. (This table and all subsequent tables and figures in this report are based on the *de facto* sample, unless otherwise specified.)

¹Other backward classes are castes and communities that have been designated by the Government of India as socially and educationally backward and in need of special protection from social injustice.

Table 2.5 Household characteristics

Percent distribution of households by selected characteristics of the household head, household type, and household size, according to residence, Karnataka, 1999

Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
Sex of household head			
Male	88.9	87.3	87.9
Female	11.1	12.7	12.1
Age of household head			
< 30	7.9	7.6	7.7
30–44	38.6	35.8	36.8
45–59	34.1	32.4	33.1
60+	19.3	24.1	22.4
Median age	45.5	45.7	45.6
Religion of household head			
Hindu	78.1	89.6	85.4
Muslim	14.5	8.4	10.6
Christian	6.4	1.4	3.2
Jain	1.1	0.5	0.7
No religion	0.0	0.1	0.0
Caste/tribe of household head			
Scheduled caste	13.3	18.7	16.7
Scheduled tribe	3.5	6.9	5.6
Other backward class	34.9	43.4	40.3
Other	47.7	29.8	36.3
Don't know/missing	0.5	1.3	1.0
Household type			
Nuclear household	59.2	53.9	55.8
Non-nuclear household	40.8	46.0	44.1
Number of usual members			
1	2.3	3.1	2.8
2	8.6	7.1	7.6
3	13.7	11.2	12.1
4	23.0	18.9	20.4
5	19.4	20.2	19.9
6	13.7	14.8	14.4
7	7.2	9.3	8.5
8	4.6	5.2	5.0
9+	7.6	10.2	9.3
Mean household size	5.0	5.4	5.3
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households	1,552	2,721	4,273

Note: Table is based on the *de jure* population.

Table 2.6 Educational level of the household population									
Percent distribution of the household population age 6 and above by literacy and level of education, and median number of completed years of schooling, according to age, residence, and sex, Karnataka, 1999									
Age	Educational level ¹						Total percent	Number of persons	Median number of years of schooling
	Illiterate	Literate, < primary school complete	Primary school complete	Middle school complete	High school complete	Higher secondary complete and above			
URBAN									
Male									
6-9	6.8	93.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	320	2.5
10-14	7.0	16.9	58.2	17.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	413	6.3
15-19	11.0	4.6	13.1	30.0	30.6	10.7	100.0	451	9.6
20-29	8.9	3.9	11.3	12.0	23.4	40.5	100.0	774	10.7
30-39	12.7	4.7	15.1	8.6	21.9	36.9	100.0	608	10.4
40-49	15.0	6.4	15.6	8.9	22.3	31.7	100.0	449	10.2
50+	19.5	8.8	20.2	9.3	20.9	21.4	100.0	568	8.4
Total	11.9	14.7	18.5	12.5	18.7	23.7	100.0	3,584	8.9
Female									
6-9	9.2	90.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	283	2.4
10-14	7.7	18.4	53.6	20.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	437	6.2
15-19	12.4	3.9	14.5	23.9	29.7	15.6	100.0	431	9.7
20-29	19.5	3.3	12.1	11.7	20.7	32.8	100.0	791	10.2
30-39	31.3	4.3	18.9	8.8	17.5	19.3	100.0	561	7.6
40-49	34.7	7.5	17.5	6.8	18.1	15.4	100.0	399	6.7
50+	55.5	9.9	16.6	4.4	9.3	4.4	100.0	574	0.0
Total	25.9	14.1	19.1	11.1	14.8	15.0	100.0	3,479	6.9
Total									
6-9	7.9	92.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	603	2.4
10-14	7.3	17.7	55.8	19.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	850	6.2
15-19	11.7	4.3	13.8	27.0	30.2	13.1	100.0	883	9.7
20-29	14.2	3.6	11.7	11.8	22.0	36.6	100.0	1,564	10.5
30-39	21.6	4.5	16.9	8.7	19.8	28.4	100.0	1,170	9.7
40-49	24.3	6.9	16.5	7.9	20.3	24.1	100.0	848	8.6
50+	37.6	9.3	18.4	6.8	15.0	12.8	100.0	1,142	5.5
Total	18.8	14.4	18.8	11.8	16.8	19.4	100.0	7,063	7.8

Table 2.6 Educational level of the household population (contd.)

Percent distribution of the household population age 6 and above by literacy and level of education, and median number of completed years of schooling, according to age, residence, and sex, Karnataka, 1999

Age	Educational level ¹						Total percent	Number of persons	Median number of years of schooling
	Illiterate	Literate, < primary school complete	Primary school complete	Middle school complete	High school complete	Higher secondary complete and above			
RURAL									
Male									
6-9	18.2	81.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	676	2.1
10-14	15.6	22.9	50.7	10.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	919	5.6
15-19	21.3	6.0	17.1	28.5	21.1	6.1	100.0	805	8.9
20-29	30.6	8.5	14.7	11.8	14.6	19.8	100.0	1,165	7.5
30-39	40.9	7.9	17.4	9.0	11.8	13.0	100.0	946	5.2
40-49	43.5	11.9	18.3	7.2	11.5	7.6	100.0	780	4.3
50+	55.0	13.9	19.2	3.1	6.0	2.9	100.0	1,145	0.0
Total	33.4	19.2	20.2	10.0	9.5	7.7	100.0	6,441	4.7
Female									
6-9	21.8	78.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	699	2.1
10-14	23.3	19.1	47.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	890	5.4
15-19	36.0	7.3	17.2	18.2	17.8	3.5	100.0	830	6.9
20-29	55.2	5.5	13.5	7.3	10.3	8.1	100.0	1,344	0.0
30-39	68.7	6.4	12.5	3.0	6.4	3.0	100.0	931	0.0
40-49	74.9	7.6	10.3	3.1	3.0	1.1	100.0	640	0.0
50+	88.7	4.4	5.3	0.5	0.7	0.3	100.0	1,120	0.0
Total	54.4	15.6	15.2	6.2	5.8	2.7	100.0	6,455	0.0
Total									
6-9	20.0	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,375	2.1
10-14	19.4	21.0	48.9	10.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,808	5.5
15-19	28.8	6.7	17.1	23.2	19.4	4.8	100.0	1,636	7.7
20-29	43.8	6.9	14.1	9.4	12.3	13.5	100.0	2,509	5.0
30-39	54.7	7.2	14.9	6.0	9.1	8.1	100.0	1,878	0.0
40-49	57.6	10.0	14.7	5.3	7.7	4.6	100.0	1,420	0.0
50+	71.7	9.2	12.3	1.8	3.4	1.6	100.0	2,265	0.0
Total	43.9	17.4	17.7	8.1	7.6	5.2	100.0	12,896	3.1

Table 2.6 Educational level of the household population (contd.)

Percent distribution of the household population age 6 and above by literacy and level of education, and median number of completed years of schooling, according to age, residence, and sex, Karnataka, 1999

Age	Educational level ¹						Total percent	Number of persons	Median number of years of schooling
	Illiterate	Literate, < primary school complete	Primary school complete	Middle school complete	High school complete	Higher secondary complete and above			
TOTAL									
Male									
6-9	14.5	85.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	996	2.2
10-14	12.9	21.0	53.0	13.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,332	5.8
15-19	17.6	5.5	15.6	29.0	24.5	7.7	100.0	1,256	9.2
20-29	21.9	6.6	13.4	11.8	18.1	28.1	100.0	1,939	9.5
30-39	29.9	6.7	16.5	8.8	15.8	22.4	100.0	1,555	7.7
40-49	33.1	9.9	17.3	7.8	15.5	16.4	100.0	1,229	6.6
50+	43.2	12.2	19.5	5.1	10.9	9.0	100.0	1,713	4.4
Total	25.7	17.6	19.6	10.9	12.8	13.4	100.0	10,025	6.0
Female									
6-9	18.2	81.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	982	2.1
10-14	18.2	18.9	49.2	13.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,326	5.7
15-19	28.0	6.2	16.3	20.1	21.9	7.6	100.0	1,262	8.0
20-29	42.0	4.7	13.0	9.0	14.2	17.3	100.0	2,135	5.9
30-39	54.7	5.6	14.9	5.2	10.6	9.1	100.0	1,493	1.1
40-49	59.4	7.6	13.1	4.5	8.8	6.6	100.0	1,038	0.0
50+	77.5	6.3	9.1	1.8	3.6	1.7	100.0	1,694	0.0
Total	44.5	15.1	16.6	7.9	8.9	7.0	100.0	9,934	3.2
Total									
6-9	16.3	83.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,979	2.2
10-14	15.5	20.0	51.1	13.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,658	5.7
15-19	22.8	5.8	16.0	24.6	23.2	7.7	100.0	2,518	9.0
20-29	32.4	5.6	13.2	10.3	16.0	22.4	100.0	4,073	7.8
30-39	42.0	6.1	15.7	7.0	13.2	15.9	100.0	3,047	5.4
40-49	45.1	8.9	15.4	6.3	12.4	11.9	100.0	2,267	4.4
50+	60.2	9.3	14.4	3.5	7.3	5.3	100.0	3,407	0.0
Total	35.0	16.4	18.1	9.4	10.9	10.2	100.0	19,959	4.8

Note: This table and all subsequent tables (unless otherwise indicated) are based on the *de facto* population. Illiterate persons may have been to school, but they cannot read and write. Total includes 1 male and 2 females from urban areas and 4 males and 2 females from rural areas with missing information on age, who are not shown separately.
¹In this report, 'primary school complete' means 5-7 completed years of education, 'middle school complete' means 8-9 completed years of education, 'high school complete' means 10-11 completed years of education, and 'higher secondary complete and above' means 12 or more completed years of education.

In Karnataka, 45 percent of females and 26 percent of males age six and above are illiterate. Comparable figures from NFHS-1 are 54 percent of females and 32 percent of males, indicating a substantial increase in literacy during the last six years. The literacy gap between males and females has narrowed over time, but even at age 10–14 there is still a gap of 5 percentage points (although the gap at that age has decreased from 14 percentage points in NFHS-1). The rapid increases in educational attainment over time can also be seen by examining the differences in educational levels by age.² For example, the proportion of males completing at least high school rises from 20 percent at age 50 and above to 46 percent at ages 20–29. For females, the proportion completing at least high school is negligible (only 5 percent) at age 50 and above but reaches a level of 32 percent at ages 20–29.

Higher percentages of males than females have completed each level of schooling. The median number of years of schooling is 6.0 for males, whereas it is only 3.2 for females. The proportion illiterate is lowest below age 15 and highest at age 50 and above for both females and males.

Education levels are much higher in urban areas than in rural areas. The proportion illiterate is more than twice as high for rural females (54 percent) and males (33 percent) as for urban females (26 percent) and males (12 percent).

Table 2.7 and Figure 2.2 show school attendance rates for the school-age household population by age, sex, and residence. In Karnataka as a whole, 80 percent of children age 6–14 are attending school, up from 71 percent in NFHS-1. The attendance rate drops off sharply (to 45 percent) at age 15–17. For the age group 6–17, the attendance rate is 75 percent for males, 68 percent for females, and 71 percent for the state as a whole. Overall, attendance rates for both males and females are much higher in urban areas than in rural areas. In urban areas, attendance rates below age 15 are almost the same for males and females. In rural areas, however, attendance rates are higher for males than for females at all ages, and the gap is particularly pronounced at ages 15–17 where 45 percent of males, but only 27 percent of females, are attending school.

Age	Male			Female			Total		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
6–10	94.3	84.8	87.7	93.0	81.9	85.2	93.7	83.3	86.4
11–14	81.3	72.2	75.2	82.9	60.7	68.0	82.1	66.4	71.6
15–17	64.6	44.8	52.1	56.1	27.1	37.4	60.5	36.0	44.9
6–14	88.4	79.4	82.2	88.3	72.8	77.6	88.3	76.1	79.9
6–17	81.9	71.4	74.9	79.7	62.4	68.0	80.8	66.9	71.4

²Although the number of years of education at each level (primary school, middle school, secondary school, and higher secondary school) is different in different states, to facilitate comparisons of educational attainment among states, the NFHS-2 tabulations use the same levels in all states (five years of primary school, three years of middle school, two years of secondary school, and two years of higher secondary school). In NFHS-1, tabulations followed the actual educational system in Karnataka (four years of primary school, three years of middle school, three years of secondary school, and two years of higher secondary school), so that the educational levels in NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 published tables are not strictly comparable.

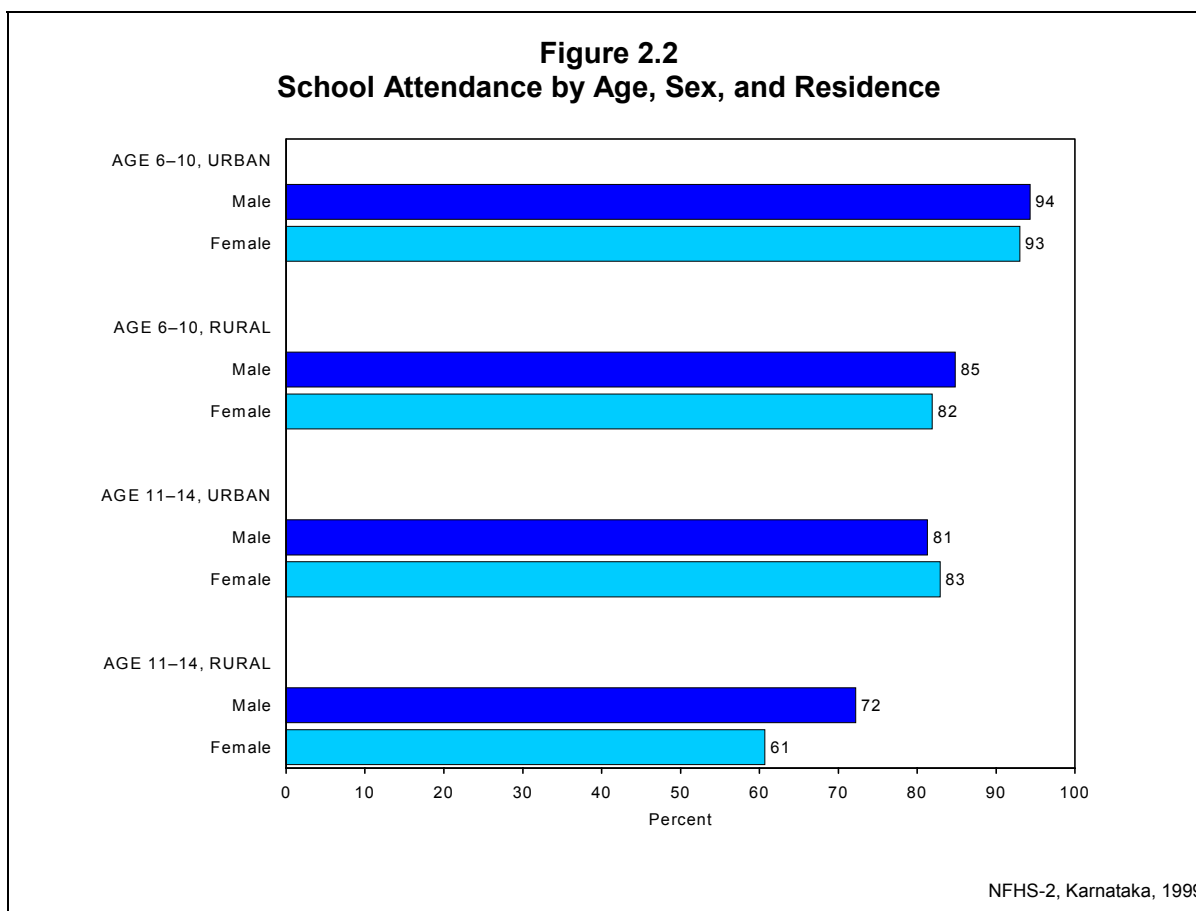


Table 2.8 shows reasons for children never attending school or not currently attending school (for those who have dropped out of school), as reported by the respondent to the Household Questionnaire. The main reasons for never attending school are that the child is not interested in studies (mostly for boys) and that the child is required for household work (mostly for girls). In 11 percent of cases, the respondent said that the child never went to school because school costs too much. The respondent's feeling that education is not considered necessary was mentioned twice as often for girls (14 percent) as for boys (7 percent).

For children who used to attend school, but have dropped out, the main reason for not currently attending school is that the child is not interested in studies. Another important reason is repeated failures (cited more often for boys than for girls). The need for the child to work on the family farm, in the family business, or outside the home for payment in cash or kind was mentioned for 19 percent of boys, but only 6 percent of girls. Conversely, the need for the child to do household work was mentioned for 16 percent of girls, but only 5 percent of boys. The feeling that further education is not necessary was mentioned much more often for girls than for boys as a reason for not currently attending school.

2.5 Housing Characteristics

Table 2.9 provides information on housing characteristics by urban-rural residence. Eighty-one percent of households in Karnataka have electricity (up from 64 percent in NFHS-1). The proportion of households with electricity is 94 percent in urban areas and 74 percent in rural areas.

Table 2.8 Reasons for children not attending school

Percent distribution of children age 6–17 years who never attended school by the main reason for never attending school and percent distribution of children age 6–17 years who have dropped out of school by the main reason for not currently attending school, according to residence and sex, Karnataka, 1999

Reason	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Main reason for never attending school¹						
School too far away	0.0	0.0	0.7	2.3	0.6	2.0
Transport not available	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
Education not considered necessary	0.0	14.7	8.4	13.4	7.2	13.6
Required for household work	2.1	14.7	16.1	25.9	14.1	24.4
Required for work on farm/family business	6.2	2.9	8.3	4.4	8.0	4.2
Required for outside work for payment in cash or kind	4.2	0.0	7.2	2.3	6.8	2.0
Costs too much	14.6	10.3	10.1	10.9	10.7	10.8
No proper school facilities for girls	0.0	7.5	0.0	5.8	0.0	6.0
Required for care of siblings	0.0	2.9	0.7	4.6	0.6	4.3
Not interested in studies	49.9	19.0	31.0	18.7	33.7	18.7
Other	14.6	25.1	15.1	9.5	15.1	11.6
Don't know/missing	8.4	3.0	2.1	2.3	3.0	2.4
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of children	48	68	290	434	338	501
Main reason for not currently attending school²						
School too far away	0.0	0.8	0.3	3.8	0.2	3.0
Transport not available	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	2.5
Further education not considered necessary	2.9	8.4	1.3	6.7	1.8	7.2
Required for household work	3.6	13.6	5.6	16.7	5.0	15.9
Required for work on farm/family business	5.9	6.0	10.0	2.1	8.7	3.2
Required for outside work for payment in cash or kind	11.8	3.0	9.0	2.3	9.9	2.5
Costs too much	2.2	9.0	5.0	7.3	4.1	7.8
No proper school facilities for girls	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.1
Required for care of siblings	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.1	0.2	1.5
Not interested in studies	52.9	40.3	48.2	33.2	49.7	35.2
Repeated failures	14.8	9.1	16.3	10.5	15.8	10.1
Got married	0.0	4.6	0.3	7.0	0.2	6.3
Other	5.2	2.3	2.6	2.0	3.4	2.1
Don't know/missing	0.7	1.5	1.0	0.3	0.9	0.6
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of children	135	131	301	341	437	472
¹ For children who never attended school						
² For children who have dropped out of school						

Water sources and sanitation facilities have an important influence on the health of household members, especially children. Both NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 included questions on sources of drinking water and types of sanitation facilities. NFHS-2 found that 68 percent of households use piped drinking water (up from 52 percent in NFHS-1), 19 percent drink water from hand pumps, and 12 percent drink water from wells. As in the case of electricity, there are large urban-rural differences in sources of drinking water. The proportion of households with piped drinking water is 91 percent in urban areas but only 55 percent in rural areas. Most households have fairly easy access to drinking water. Seventy-two percent of households either have a source of drinking water in their residence/yard/plot or take less than 15 minutes to get drinking water, including the time to go to the source, get water, and come back. Only 35 percent

Table 2.9 Housing characteristics			
Percent distribution of households by housing characteristics, according to residence, Karnataka, 1999			
Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
Electricity			
Yes	93.8	73.5	80.9
No	6.2	26.5	19.1
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Source of drinking water			
Piped	90.7	55.1	68.0
Hand pump	5.4	26.7	19.0
Well water	3.8	16.2	11.7
Surface water	0.1	1.9	1.3
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Time to get drinking water			
Percentage < 15 minutes	84.6	64.6	71.8
Median time (minutes)	0.0	9.4	4.8
Method of drinking water purification¹			
Strains water by cloth	15.6	16.1	15.9
Uses alum	0.4	0.2	0.3
Uses water filter	30.1	2.5	12.5
Boils water	15.4	6.0	9.4
Uses electronic purifier	0.6	0.0	0.3
Uses other method	0.1	0.0	0.1
Does not purify water	44.6	76.3	64.8
Sanitation facility			
Flush toilet	47.4	7.2	21.8
Pit toilet/latrine	33.6	7.2	16.8
No facility	19.0	85.6	61.4
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Main type of fuel used for cooking			
Wood	28.0	90.3	67.7
Crop residues	0.0	0.1	0.1
Coal/coke/lignite/charcoal	0.1	0.0	0.0
Kerosene	20.1	2.6	9.0
Electricity	1.6	0.4	0.8
Liquid petroleum gas	47.1	5.0	20.3
Biogas	3.1	1.5	2.0
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of house			
<i>Kachha</i>	4.1	19.2	13.7
<i>Semi-pucca</i>	27.0	55.5	45.1
<i>Pucca</i>	68.9	25.3	41.2
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons per room			
< 3	79.3	61.6	68.0
3–4	14.8	22.4	19.6
5–6	4.5	10.7	8.4
7+	1.5	5.2	3.8
Missing	0.0	0.2	0.1
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean number of persons per room	2.0	2.8	2.5
Number of households	1,552	2,721	4,273

¹Totals add to more than 100.0 because households may use more than one method of purification.

of households purify their drinking water by any method (55 percent in urban areas and 24 percent in rural areas). The most popular methods of water purification are straining by cloth, filtering, and boiling water.

Regarding sanitation facilities, only 22 percent of households have a flush toilet (using either piped water or water from a bucket for flushing), up from 18 percent in NFHS-1; 17 percent have a pit toilet or latrine; and 61 percent have no facility. Again there are large urban-rural differences: 47 percent of urban households have a flush toilet and 34 percent have a pit toilet or latrine, whereas 86 percent of rural households have no toilet facility at all.

Several types of fuel are used for cooking in Karnataka, with wood as the most common type. In the state as a whole, 68 percent of households rely mainly on wood, 20 percent on liquid petroleum gas, and 9 percent on kerosene. Again, there are large urban-rural differences. Sixty-seven percent of urban households rely mainly on liquid petroleum gas or kerosene, whereas 90 percent of rural households rely mainly on wood.

Regarding the type of house construction, 14 percent of households live in houses that are *kachha* (made with mud, thatch, or other low-quality materials), 45 percent live in semi-*pucca* houses (using partly low-quality and partly high-quality materials), and 41 percent live in *pucca* houses (made with high-quality materials throughout, including the roof, walls, and floor). Sixty-nine percent of households in urban areas live in *pucca* houses, compared with only 25 percent of households in rural areas.

Crowded housing conditions may affect health as well as the quality of life. Thirty-two percent of households in Karnataka live in houses with three or more persons per room. The mean number of persons per room is 2.5 (down from 2.7 in NFHS-1). The mean number of persons per room is much higher in rural areas (2.8) than in urban areas (2.0).

Table 2.10 shows a number of measures related to the socioeconomic status of the household (ownership of land, house, and livestock). Overall, 49 percent of households do not own any agricultural land (31 percent in rural areas and 81 percent in urban areas), almost the same percentages as in NFHS-1. In rural areas, among those who own agricultural land, 33 percent have at least some irrigated land. The proportion of households owning a house is 66 percent in urban areas, 93 percent in rural areas, and 83 percent overall. The proportion of households owning livestock is 7 percent in urban areas, 54 percent in rural areas, and 37 percent overall.

The possession of durable goods is another indicator of a household's socioeconomic level, although these goods may also have other benefits. For example, having access to a radio or television may expose household members to innovative ideas or important information about health and family welfare; a refrigerator prolongs the wholesomeness of food; and a means of transportation allows greater access to many services outside the local area. Table 2.11 shows that 74 percent of households in Karnataka have a clock or a watch, 57 percent have a mattress, 55 percent have a chair, and 52 percent have a radio or transistor. Other durable goods often found in households are cots/beds (48 percent), tables (44 percent), electric fans (41 percent), bicycles (38 percent), pressure cookers (28 percent), and black and white televisions (27 percent), with smaller proportions owning motorcycles or scooters or mopeds (17 percent), colour televisions and sewing machines (15 percent each), telephones (12 percent), and refrigerators and water pumps (10 percent each). Urban households are much more likely than

Table 2.10 Household ownership of agricultural land, house, and livestock			
Percent distribution of households owning agricultural land and percentage owning a house and livestock by residence, Karnataka, 1999			
Asset	Urban	Rural	Total
No agricultural land	80.7	31.3	49.2
Irrigated land only			
< 1 acre	0.5	1.5	1.1
1-5 acres	4.6	7.2	6.3
6+ acres	1.2	1.9	1.6
Nonirrigated land only			
< 1 acre	1.2	4.7	3.4
1-5 acres	5.2	32.3	22.4
6+ acres	3.0	8.6	6.5
Both irrigated and nonirrigated land			
< 1 acre	0.1	0.1	0.1
1-5 acres	1.2	5.8	4.2
6+ acres	1.9	6.4	4.7
Missing	0.6	0.2	0.4
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage owning a house	65.5	93.3	83.2
Percentage owning livestock	7.0	54.0	37.0
Number of households	1,552	2,721	4,273

rural households to own each of these durable goods. However, a higher proportion of households in rural areas than in urban areas own a bullock cart, a thresher, or a tractor. Twelve percent of households do not own any of the durable goods included in the list. Eighty-seven percent of households use mainly aluminium kitchenware, and almost all of the rest use stainless steel kitchenware. Stainless steel kitchenware is more common in urban areas (23 percent) than in rural areas (5 percent).

Table 2.11 shows a summary household measure called the standard of living index (SLI), which is calculated by adding the following scores:

House type: 4 for *pucca*, 2 for *semi-pucca*, 0 for *kachha*;

Toilet facility: 4 for own flush toilet, 2 for public or shared flush toilet or own pit toilet, 1 for shared or public pit toilet, 0 for no facility;

Source of lighting: 2 for electricity, 1 for kerosene, gas, or oil, 0 for other source of lighting;

Main fuel for cooking: 2 for electricity, liquid petroleum gas, or biogas, 1 for coal, charcoal, or kerosene, 0 for other fuel;

Source of drinking water: 2 for pipe, hand pump, or well in residence/yard/plot, 1 for public tap, hand pump, or well, 0 for other water source;

Table 2.11 Household ownership of durable goods and standard of living			
Percentage of households owning selected durable goods and percent distribution of households by type of kitchenware and the standard of living index, according to residence, Karnataka, 1999			
Asset	Urban	Rural	Total
Durable goods			
Mattress	75.9	45.4	56.5
Pressure cooker	60.7	9.9	28.3
Chair	82.0	39.7	55.1
Cot/bed	69.0	36.4	48.2
Table	71.9	27.4	43.6
Clock/watch	92.5	64.1	74.4
Electric fan	74.2	22.0	41.0
Bicycle	46.8	33.7	38.4
Radio/transistor	64.5	44.3	51.6
Sewing machine	26.5	7.7	14.5
Telephone	25.6	4.2	11.9
Refrigerator	23.8	1.9	9.8
Television (black and white)	42.2	18.0	26.8
Television (colour)	33.5	5.0	15.4
Moped/scooter/motorcycle	33.1	7.0	16.5
Car	5.4	0.6	2.3
Water pump	10.3	9.2	9.6
Bullock cart	1.0	9.8	6.6
Thresher	0.1	0.3	0.2
Tractor	0.3	1.1	0.8
None of the above	2.6	17.6	12.1
Main type of kitchenware used			
Clay	0.6	2.0	1.5
Aluminium	76.4	93.4	87.2
Brass/copper	0.3	0.1	0.2
Stainless steel	22.8	4.5	11.1
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Standard of living index			
Low	14.3	44.0	33.2
Medium	46.6	45.8	46.1
High	38.5	10.0	20.3
Missing	0.6	0.3	0.4
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households	1,552	2,721	4,273

Separate room for cooking: 1 for yes, 0 for no;

Ownership of house: 2 for yes, 0 for no;

Ownership of agricultural land: 4 for 5 acres or more, 3 for 2.0–4.9 acres, 2 for less than 2 acres or acreage not known, 0 for no agricultural land;

Ownership of irrigated land: 2 if owns at least some irrigated land, 0 for no irrigated land;

Ownership of livestock: 2 if owns livestock, 0 if does not own livestock;

Ownership of durable goods: 4 each for a car or tractor, 3 each for a moped/scooter/motorcycle, telephone, refrigerator, or colour television, 2 each for a bicycle, electric fan, radio/transistor, sewing machine, black and white television, water pump, bullock cart, or thresher, 1 each for a mattress, pressure cooker, chair, cot/bed, table, or clock/watch.

This index is a modified version of the SLI developed for NFHS-1 (Parasuraman et al., 1999). Index scores range from 0–14 for a low SLI to 15–24 for a medium SLI to 25–67 for a high SLI. By this measure, 33 percent of households in Karnataka have a low standard of living, 46 percent have a medium standard of living, and 20 percent have a high standard of living. The proportion with a low standard of living is much lower in urban areas (14 percent) than in rural areas (44 percent), and the proportion with a high standard of living is much higher in urban areas (39 percent) than in rural areas (10 percent).

2.6 Lifestyle Indicators

The NFHS-2 Household Questionnaire asked about certain aspects of the lifestyle of household members. Table 2.12 shows the percentages of men and women age 15 and above who chew *paan masala* or tobacco, drink alcohol, or smoke. These lifestyle indicators are of considerable interest because the use of *paan masala*, tobacco, and alcohol all have detrimental effects on health.

The respondent to the Household Questionnaire reported on these lifestyle indicators for all persons in the household and, therefore, the results should be interpreted with caution because the household respondent may not be aware of use that takes place outside the household environs. In addition, to the extent that social stigma may be attached to the use of some of the substances, underreporting is likely.

Fourteen percent of persons age 15 and above are reported to chew *paan masala* or tobacco. This proportion rises steadily with age from 4 percent and 1 percent for men and women, respectively, at age 15–19 to 21 percent and 33 percent, respectively, at age 60 and above. Chewing of *paan masala* or tobacco is more common in rural areas than in urban areas for both men and women. The prevalence is inversely related to both education and the standard of living.

Sixteen percent of men age 15 and above drink alcohol, but only a negligible proportion of women drink alcohol (1 percent). The proportion of men who drink alcohol rises with age up to age 40–49, where it reaches a high of 27 percent. More than one-fifth of men age 30 and over drink alcohol. The proportion of men who drink is slightly higher in rural areas (18 percent) than in urban areas (14 percent). Alcohol consumption is much higher among illiterate men than among literate men. Men in households with a low standard of living are three times as likely to drink alcohol as men in households with a high standard of living.

Among men age 15 and above, 26 percent currently smoke. This proportion rises from just 2 percent at age 15–19 to 45 percent at age 50–59 and then falls to 40 percent at age 60 and above. Smoking among men is much more common in rural areas (30 percent) than urban areas (19 percent). Smoking is more than three times as high among illiterate men as among men who have completed at least high school, and is also more than three times as high among men with a low standard of living as among men with a high standard of living. Eighty-eight percent of men who ever smoked were still smokers at the time of the survey. The pattern of differentials for ever-smokers closely resembles the pattern for current smokers. Less than 1 percent of women are reported to have ever smoked.

Table 2.12 Lifestyle indicators

Percentage of usual household members age 15 and above who chew *paan masala* or tobacco, drink alcohol, currently smoke, or have ever smoked by selected background characteristics and sex, Karnataka, 1999

Background characteristic	Chew <i>paan masala</i> or tobacco	Drink alcohol	Currently smoke	Ever smoked ¹	Number of household members
MALE					
Age					
15–19	4.3	1.3	2.1	2.3	1,249
20–24	10.1	3.6	6.5	7.4	1,049
25–29	13.1	9.7	15.9	17.2	899
30–39	15.1	23.3	33.7	36.3	1,562
40–49	16.5	27.1	42.1	47.0	1,228
50–59	19.8	24.6	44.5	53.8	767
60+	21.3	24.7	39.9	48.2	959
Residence					
Urban	8.2	14.2	19.3	22.9	2,836
Rural	17.2	17.7	29.9	33.4	4,877
Education					
Illiterate	21.4	27.2	41.3	45.4	2,276
Literate, < middle school complete	17.3	17.7	31.2	36.1	1,911
Middle school complete	7.8	10.9	16.4	18.7	913
High school complete and above	7.0	7.9	12.2	14.7	2,612
Standard of living index					
Low	18.4	26.2	39.2	42.3	2,032
Medium	14.8	14.8	25.4	28.7	3,839
High	7.0	8.7	12.7	17.1	1,809
Total	13.9	16.4	26.0	29.6	7,712
FEMALE					
Age					
15–19	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1,223
20–24	3.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	1,088
25–29	8.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	1,003
30–39	15.6	0.6	0.1	0.2	1,497
40–49	20.9	2.5	0.1	0.3	1,061
50–59	29.1	2.3	1.5	1.6	756
60+	33.3	2.1	0.6	1.2	941
Residence					
Urban	6.5	0.6	0.3	0.4	2,729
Rural	19.6	1.2	0.3	0.5	4,840
Education					
Illiterate	25.0	1.7	0.4	0.6	3,985
Literate, < middle school complete	7.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	1,438
Middle school complete	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	588
High school complete and above	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	1,557
Standard of living index					
Low	25.4	2.1	0.3	0.7	2,149
Medium	13.8	0.8	0.3	0.4	3,654
High	4.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	1,739
Total	14.9	1.0	0.3	0.4	7,569
Total male and female	14.4	8.8	13.2	15.1	15,281
Note: Total includes 33 males and 26 females with missing information on the standard of living index, who are not shown separately.					
¹ Includes household members who currently smoke					

2.7 Availability of Facilities and Services to the Rural Population

The NFHS-2 Village Questionnaire collected information from the *sarpanch*, other village officials, or other knowledgeable persons in the village on facilities and services in the village. One important set of questions was on the distance of the village from various types of health facilities, including Primary Health Centres (PHCs), sub-centres, hospitals, and dispensaries or clinics. Table 2.13 summarizes findings on distance from a health facility. The unit of analysis is ever-married women age 15–49 who reside in rural areas. Only 14 percent of rural women live in a village with a Primary Health Centre, 20 percent live in a village with a sub-centre, and 9 percent live in a village with hospital. The proportion living in a village with a dispensary or clinic is 23 percent. Thirty-one percent of women live in a village that has some kind of health facility (compared with 47 percent in India as a whole). Median distances from particular health facilities are 4.9 km from a Primary Health Centre, 3.4 km from a sub-centre, 8.2 km from a hospital, and 4.7 km from a dispensary or a clinic. Eighteen percent of rural women need to travel at least five kilometres to reach the nearest health facility.

Distance	Health facility					Any health facility
	Primary Health Centre	Sub-centre	Either PHC or sub-centre	Hospital ¹	Dispensary/clinic	
Within village	14.0	20.3	26.1	8.5	22.7	31.2
< 5 km	37.4	49.7	49.7	25.2	30.2	50.9
5–9 km	36.1	20.4	20.5	27.3	27.3	17.0
10+ km	12.5	9.6	3.7	39.0	19.7	1.0
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Median distance (in km)	4.9	3.4	2.7	8.2	4.7	2.0

Note: The category '< 5 km' excludes cases where the facility is within the village. When median distance is calculated, 'within village' cases and cases with a facility less than 1 km from the village are assigned a distance of zero.
 PHC: Primary Health Centre
¹Includes community health centre, rural hospital, government hospital, and private hospital

Table 2.14 shows the proportion of residents of rural areas of Karnataka who live in villages that have various facilities and services. Sixty-eight percent of rural residents live in villages that have a primary school, 56 percent live in villages with a middle school, 25 percent live in villages that have a secondary school, and 13 percent live in villages with a higher secondary school. Ninety-four percent of rural residents live in villages that have an *anganwadi*³ (a nursery school for children age 3–6), and 30 percent live in villages with an adult education centre. Forty-four percent of rural residents live in villages that have a private doctor and 32

³*Anganwadi* workers provide integrated child development services and may also engage in the promotion of family planning.

Table 2.14 Availability of facilities and services			
Percentage of rural residents living in villages that have selected facilities and services, Karnataka, 1999			
Facility/service	Percentage of residents	Facility/service	Percentage of residents
Primary school	67.9	At least one village household has a telephone	74.6
Middle school	55.8	Mill/small-scale industry	39.0
Secondary school	25.0	Credit cooperative society	40.1
Higher secondary school	12.5	Agricultural cooperative society	37.4
College	4.2	Fishermen's cooperative society	4.0
<i>Anganwadi</i>	93.7	Milk cooperative society	41.7
Adult education centre	29.9	<i>Kirana</i> /general market shop	63.1
Primary Health Centre	14.7	Weekly market	16.8
Sub-centre	20.8	Fair price shop	77.3
Hospital ¹	8.8	<i>Paan</i> shop	60.5
Dispensary/clinic	23.2	Pharmacy/medical shop	28.2
Private doctor	44.2	<i>Mahila mandal</i>	40.5
Visiting doctor	32.2	Youth club	52.1
Village health guide	37.0	Community centre	17.2
Traditional birth attendant	70.7	Community television set	7.0
Mobile health unit	9.9	Cable connection	62.5
Electricity	100.0	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)	85.0
Bank	24.9	National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)	13.1
Post office	46.8	Training Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM)	32.0
Telegraph office	10.2	Employment Guarantee Scheme (EGS)	12.5
STD (Subscriber Trunk Dialling) phone booth	14.0	Development of Women and Children of Rural Areas (DWACRA)	19.0
		Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)	67.9
		Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana (SGNY)	1.7
		Total population	14,723

Note: Table is based on the *de jure* population.
¹Includes community health centre, rural hospital, government hospital, and private hospital

percent live in villages with a visiting doctor. All rural women (100 percent) live in villages that are electrified. Although only 14 percent live in villages with an STD booth (for long-distance telephoning within India), 75 percent live in villages that have at least one household with a private telephone. Sixty-three percent of rural residents live in villages that have cable television service (compared with 28 percent nationwide) and 7 percent live in villages that have a community television set, providing further evidence that exposure to electronic mass media is very widespread in rural Karnataka. Forty-one percent of rural residents live in villages with a *mahila mandal*, a women's community group. Other facilities that are available in villages where more than half of rural residents live are *kirana* shops (small grocery stores), fair price shops, and *paan* shops. The most widely available rural development programmes as reported by the respondents to the Village Questionnaire are the Integrated Rural Development Programme (85 percent), Indira Awas Yojana (68 percent), and Training Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM – 32 percent).