

Myanmar - Demographic and Health Survey 2015-2016

**Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) - Government of Republic of the Union of
Myanmar**

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Sampling

Sampling Procedure

The sample was based on the 2014 census frame, which is used to coordinate household-based surveys conducted in Myanmar, including the current 2015-16 MDHS. The master sample is a large, nationally representative sample consisting of 4,000 PSUs drawn from the entire census frame; these can be used for sub-selecting multi-stage household-based survey samples.

The 2015-16 MDHS followed a stratified two-stage sample design and was intended to allow estimates of key indicators at the national level, in urban and rural areas, and for each of the seven States and eight Regions of Myanmar. The first stage involved selecting sample points (clusters) consisting of EAs or ward/village tracts. A total of 442 clusters (123 urban and 319 rural) were selected from the master sample.

At the second stage, a fixed number of 30 households was selected from each of the selected clusters (a total of 13,260 households), using equal probability systematic sampling. For the clusters, which were completely enumerated during the population census, the census household listings were taken as the base and updated in the field by the household listing teams. These updated lists were used for selecting the sample households. For the clusters that were not enumerated or partially enumerated during the census, an independent household listing operation was carried out. Because of the non-proportional sample allocation, the sample was not a self-weighting sample. Weighting factors had to be calculated, added to the data file, and applied so that results are representative at the national as well as regional level.

All women age 15-49 who were either permanent residents of the selected households or visitors who stayed in the households the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed. In half of the selected households (every second household), all men age 15-49 who were either residents or visitors who stayed in the household the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed.

For further details on sample selection, see Appendix A of the final report.

Deviations from Sample Design

During the course of the fieldwork, 4 clusters were identified as insecure and were replaced with other clusters in the vicinity. In addition, 1 urban cluster had to be dropped due to worsening security.

Response Rate

The total number of households selected was 13,238, of which 12,780 households were occupied. Of those occupied, 12,500 households were interviewed, yielding a 98% response rate.

In the interviewed households, 13,454 women were identified as eligible for the individual Woman's Questionnaire. Interviews were successfully completed with 12,885 women, yielding a 96% response rate. In the subsample of one-half of the households, 5,218 men were identified as eligible for individual interview. Interviews were completed for 4,737 men, with a 91% response rate.

Weighting

A spreadsheet containing all sampling parameters and selection probabilities was prepared to facilitate the calculation of the design weights. Design weights were adjusted for household nonresponse and also for individual nonresponse to get the sampling weights for female and male surveys, respectively. The differences of the household sampling weights and the individual sampling weights are introduced by individual nonresponse. Sampling weights for the domestic violence survey were calculated based on the number of eligible respondents in the households selected for the domestic violence module. The final sampling weights were normalized to give the total number of unweighted cases equal to the total number of weighted cases at national level, for both household weights and individual weights, respectively. The normalized weights are relative weights, which are valid for estimating means, proportions, and ratios, but not valid for estimating population totals and for pooled data.

For further details on sampling weight calculations, see Appendix A.4 of the final report.

Questionnaires

Overview

Three sets of questionnaires were used in the 2015-16 MDHS: a Household Questionnaire, a Woman's Questionnaire, and a Man's Questionnaire. These questionnaires, developed for the worldwide DHS program, were revised to accord with Myanmar culture as well as to reflect some country-specific health issues.

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2015-12	2016-07	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

DATA COLLECTION NOTES

Data collection was carried out by 19 field teams, each consisting of one team supervisor, one field editor, three to four female interviewers, and one male interviewer. However, the team composition had to be adjusted during the different phases of the fieldwork operation. Data collection took place from December 7, 2015, through July 7, 2016, although most of the teams completed the fieldwork by April 2015. The extension of fieldwork in some states and regions reflected sensitivity toward ethnic groups and occurred in non-state-controlled areas where additional advocacy strategies had to be implemented. Karen Department Health and Welfare facilitated the data collection in some enumeration areas of Kayah State. The Wa Health Department and Health Poverty Action also supported data collection in two enumeration areas from Wa Special Region. Despite substantial challenges in the field, the MDHS field teams successfully completed the fieldwork.

Travel plans for data collection by the teams were shared with the central health office and state and regional offices, including local administrative offices. Each team had to inform the MDHS core team as well as the respective state and regional public health departments of their fieldwork's location and progress.

SUPERVISION

Field supervision was carried out by the state and regional public health directors and officers. A standard supervisory protocol was developed to monitor coverage, and an orientation was conducted by the MDHS team. Technical monitoring was carried out by the MDHS core team and the master trainers. In addition, field supervision visits were conducted by the Deputy Health Minister, two Deputy Survey Managers, the DHS resident advisor from ICF, and other members of the MDHS Technical Committee. The DHS Program survey manager from ICF conducted field monitoring at different stages of field data collection. Additionally, a mechanism was developed to generate weekly field check tables to monitor the data quality, and immediate feedback was provided to the field teams.

Data Processing

Data Editing

The 2015-16 MDHS used computer-assisted field editing (CAFE) procedures with tablet computers. Thus, data processing began simultaneously with the fieldwork. All completed questionnaires were entered into the tablets while in the field by the field editors after they edited them on paper. Entries were checked by the supervisors before the questionnaires were dispatched to the data processing center at the MoHS central office in Nay Pyi Taw. These completed questionnaires were reviewed and re-entered by 13 data processing personnel specially trained for this task. All data were thus entered twice (100 percent verification), once in the field by the field editors and then again in the data processing center in Nay Pyi Taw. Data were entered using the CSPro computer package. The operation included secondary editing, using CSPro software, to resolve computer-identified inconsistencies and to code open-ended questions. The concurrent processing of the data offered a distinct advantage, because it maximized the likelihood of the data being error-free and accurate. Moreover, the double entry of data enabled easy comparison and identification of errors and inconsistencies. Inconsistencies were resolved by tallying with the paper questionnaire entries.

The secondary editing was implemented by four editors and was completed in the second week of July 2016. The final cleaning of the data set was carried out by the DHS Program data processing specialist by the end of July 2016.

Data Appraisal

Estimates of Sampling Error

The estimates from a sample survey are affected by two types of errors: nonsampling errors and sampling errors. Nonsampling errors are the results of mistakes made in implementing data collection and data processing, such as failure to locate and interview the correct household, misunderstanding of the questions on the part of either the interviewer or the respondent, and data entry errors. Although numerous efforts were made during the implementation of the 2015-16 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (2015-16 MDHS) to minimize this type of error, nonsampling errors are impossible to avoid and difficult to evaluate statistically.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, can be evaluated statistically. The sample of respondents selected in the 2015-16 MDHS is only one of many samples that could have been selected from the same population, using the same design and expected size. Each of these samples would yield results that differ somewhat from the results of the actual sample selected. Sampling errors are a measure of the variability among all possible samples. Although the degree of variability is not known exactly, it can be estimated from the survey results.

Sampling error is usually measured in terms of the standard error for a particular statistic (mean, percentage, etc.), which is the square root of the variance. The standard error can be used to calculate confidence intervals within which the true value for the population can reasonably be assumed to fall. For example, for any given statistic calculated from a sample survey, the value of that statistic will fall within a range of plus or minus two times the standard error of that statistic in 95% of all possible samples of identical size and design.

If the sample of respondents had been selected as a simple random sample, it would have been possible to use straightforward formulas for calculating sampling errors. However, the 2015-16 MDHS sample is the result of a multi-stage stratified design, and, consequently, it was necessary to use more complex formulas. Sampling errors are computed by SAS programs developed by ICF. These programs use the Taylor linearization method to estimate variances for survey estimates that are means, proportions, or ratios. The Jackknife repeated replication method is used for variance estimation of more complex statistics such as fertility and mortality rates.

Note: A more detailed description of estimates of sampling errors are presented in APPENDIX B of the survey report.

Other forms of Data Appraisal

Data Quality Tables

- Household age distribution
- Age distribution of eligible and interviewed women
- Age distribution of eligible and interviewed men
- Completeness of reporting
- Births by calendar years
- Reporting of age at death in days
- Reporting of age at death in months
- Sibship size and sex ratio of siblings

Note: See details of the data quality tables in APPENDIX C of the report.

Related Materials

Questionnaires

Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Household Questionnaire

Title Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Household Questionnaire
 Author(s) Ministry of Health and Sports
 Date 2015-10-22
 Country Myanmar
 Language English
 Filename MMR_2015_DHS_hh_questionnaire.pdf

Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Woman's Questionnaire

Title Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Woman's Questionnaire
 Author(s) Ministry of Health and Sports
 Date 2015-10-22
 Country Myanmar
 Language English
 Filename MMR_2015_DHS_woman_questionnaire.pdf

Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Man's Questionnaire

Title Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Man's Questionnaire
 Author(s) Ministry of Health and Sports
 Date 2015-10-22
 Country Myanmar
 Language English
 Filename MMR_2015_DHS_man_questionnaire.pdf

Reports

Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Report

Title	Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, Report
Author(s)	Ministry of Health and Sports, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar The DHS Program, ICF, Rockville, Maryland, USA
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TABLES AND FIGURES	vii
FOREWORD	xv
READING AND UNDERSTANDING THE 2015-16 MYANMAR DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY (INDICES)	xvii
CONTRIBUTORS TO THE REPORT	xxv
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	xxvii
MAP OF MYANMAR	xxx
1 INTRODUCTION AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY	1
1.1 Survey Objectives	1
1.2 Sample Design	1
1.3 Questionnaires	2
1.4 Anthropometry, and Anemia Testing	3
1.5 Training of Trainers and Pretest	3
1.6 Training of Field Staff	4
1.7 Fieldwork	4
1.8 Data Processing	5
1.9 Response Rates	6
2 HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS AND HOUSEHOLD POPULATION	7
2.1 Drinking Water Sources and Treatment	7
2.2 Sanitation	8
2.3 Exposure to Smoke inside the Home	9
2.4 Household Wealth	9
2.5 Hand Washing	10
2.6 Household Population and Composition	11
2.7 Birth Registration	11
2.8 Children's Living Arrangements and Parental Survival	13
2.9 Education	13
2.9.1 Educational Attainment	13
2.9.2 School Attendance	14
3 CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS	27
3.1 Basic Characteristics of Survey Respondents	27
3.2 Education and Literacy	28
3.3 Mass Media Exposure	29
3.4 Employment	30
3.5 Occupation	31
3.6 Tobacco Use	32
3.7 Knowledge of Tuberculosis	33
4 MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ACTIVITY	53
4.1 Marital Status	53
4.2 Polygyny	54
4.3 Age at First Marriage	55
4.4 Age at First Sexual Intercourse	55
4.5 Recent Sexual Activity	56
5 FERTILITY	67
5.1 Current Fertility	67
5.2 Children Ever Born and Living	69
5.3 Birth Intervals	69
5.4 Inseparability to Pregnancy	70
5.5 Age at First Birth	70
5.6 Teenage Childbearing	71
6 FERTILITY PREFERENCES	79
6.1 Desire for Another Child	79
6.2 Ideal Family Size	80
6.3 Fertility Planning Status	81
6.4 Wanted Fertility Rates	82
7 FAMILY PLANNING	89
7.1 Contraceptive Knowledge and Use	89
7.2 Timing of Female Sterilization	91
7.3 Source of Modern Contraceptive Methods	92
7.4 Social Marketing Brands	92
7.5 Informed Choice	92
7.6 Discontinuation of Contraceptives	93
7.7 Demand for Family Planning	93
7.8 Contact of Nonusers with Family Planning Providers	95
8 INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY	111
8.1 Early Childhood Mortality	112
8.2 Biodemographic Risk Factors	113
8.3 Perinatal Mortality	114
9 MATERNAL HEALTH CARE	121
9.1 Antenatal Care Coverage and Content	122
9.1.1 Skilled Providers	122
9.1.2 Timing and Number of ANC Visits	123
9.2 Components of ANC Visits	123
9.3 Protection against Neonatal Tetanus	123
9.4 Delivery Services	124
9.4.1 Institutional Deliveries	124
9.4.2 Skilled Assistance during Delivery	125
9.4.3 Delivery by Caesarean	126
9.5 Postnatal Care	126
9.5.1 Postnatal Health Check for Mothers	126
9.5.2 Postnatal Health Checks for Newborns	127
9.6 Problems in Accessing Health Care	127
10 CHILD HEALTH	141
10.1 Birth Weight	141
10.2 Vaccination of Children	142
10.3 Symptoms of Acute Respiratory Infection	144
10.4 Fever	145
10.5 Diarrheal Disease	145
10.5.1 Prevalence of Diarrhea	145
10.5.2 Treatment of Diarrhea	146
10.5.3 Feeding Practices	147
10.5.4 Knowledge of ORS Packets	147
10.6 Knowledge regarding Treatment of Childhood Illnesses	148
10.7 Disposal of Children's Stools	148
11 NUTRITION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN	161
11.1 Nutritional Status of Children	161
11.1.1 Measurement of Nutritional Status among Young Children	161
11.1.2 Data Collection	163
11.1.3 Levels of Child Malnutrition	163
11.2 Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices	164
11.2.1 Breastfeeding	164
11.2.2 Exclusive Breastfeeding	165
11.2.3 Median Duration of Breastfeeding	166
11.2.4 Complementary Feeding	166
11.2.5 Minimum Acceptable Diet	167
11.3 Anemia Prevalence in Children	168
11.4 Micronutrient Intake and Supplementation among Children	169
11.5 Presence of Iodized Salt in Households	170
11.6 Nutritional Status of Women	170
11.7 Anemia Prevalence in Women	171
11.8 Micronutrient Intake among Mothers	172
12 MALARIA	189
12.1 Ownership of Insecticide-Treated Nets	190
12.2 Household Access to and Use of ITNs	191
12.3 Use of ITNs by Children and Pregnant Women	192
12.4 Case Management of Malaria in Children	193
12.5 Prevalence of Low Hemoglobin in Children	194
13 HIV/AIDS-RELATED KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIOR	205
13.1 HIV/AIDS Knowledge, Transmission, and Prevention Methods	205
13.2 Knowledge about Mother-to-Child Transmission	207
13.3 HIV/AIDS Attitudes	207
13.3.1 Attitudes toward People Living with HIV/AIDS	207
13.3.2 Attitudes toward Negotiating Safer Sexual Relations with Husbands	208
13.3.3 Attitudes toward Condom Education for Young People	209
13.4 Paid Sex	209
13.5 Coverage of HIV Testing Services	209
13.5.1 Awareness of HIV Testing Services and Experience with HIV Testing	209
13.5.2 HIV Testing of Pregnant Women	211
13.6 Male Circumcision	211
13.7 Self-reporting of Sexually Transmitted Infections	212
13.8 Injections	212
13.9 HIV/AIDS-related Knowledge and Behavior among Young People	212
13.9.1 Knowledge	212
13.9.2 First Sex	213
13.9.3 Coverage of HIV Testing Services	213
14 ADULT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY	235
14.1 Data	235
14.2 Direct Estimates of Adult Mortality	236
14.3 Direct Estimates of Pregnancy-related Mortality	237
15 WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT	241
15.1 Married Women's and Men's Employment	242
15.2 Control over Women's Earnings	242
15.3 Control over Men's Earnings	243
15.4 Women's and Men's Ownership of Assets	243
15.5 Women's Participation in Decision Making	244
15.6 Attitudes toward Wife Beating	245
15.7 Women's Empowerment and Demographic and Health Outcomes	246
16 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	261
16.1 Measurement of Violence	261
16.2 Experience of Physical Violence from Anyone	262
16.2.1 Prevalence of Physical Violence	262
16.2.2 Perpetrators of Physical Violence	263
16.3 Experience of Sexual Violence	264
16.3.1 Prevalence of Sexual Violence	264
16.3.2 Perpetrators of Sexual Violence	264
16.4 Experience of Different Forms of Violence	265
16.5 Marital Control	265
16.6 Spousal Violence	265
16.6.1 Prevalence of Spousal Violence	265
16.6.2 Onset of Spousal Violence	267
16.7 Injuries due to Spousal Violence	267
16.8 Violence Initiated by Women against Husbands	268
16.9 Response to Violence	268
16.9.1 Help-seeking Behavior to Stop the Violence	268
16.9.2 Sources for Help	269
17 EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD DISCIPLINE	285
17.1 Early Childhood Education	285
17.2 Childhood Learning	286
17.2.1 Support for Learning	286
17.2.2 Children's Books and Playthings	287
17.3 Adequate Care for Young Children	288
17.4 Child Discipline	289
17.4.1 Prevalence of Disciplinary Approaches	289
17.4.2 Disciplinary Approaches by Background Characteristics	290
REFERENCES	297
APPENDIX A SAMPLE DESIGN	299
A.1 Introduction	299
A.2 Sample Frame	299
A.3 Sample Design and Implementation	301
A.4 Sample Probabilities and Sampling Weights	302
APPENDIX B ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERRORS	307
APPENDIX C DATA QUALITY TABLES	329
APPENDIX D QUESTIONNAIRES	335

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Myanmar 2015-16 Demographic and Health Survey, Key Findings

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Myanmar 2015-16 Demographic and Health Survey, Wall Chart

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Fast Facts from The 2015-16 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey

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 Date 2017-03-01
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 Filename <http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DM107/DM107.pdf>

Other materials

Frequently Asked Questions about the 2015-16 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS)

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 Author(s) The DHS Program
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 Country Myanmar
 Language English
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