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This chapter provides a summary of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the household population in the ADHS, including age, sex, place of residence, educational status, and household characteristics. Information collected on the characteristics of the households and respondents is important in understanding and interpreting the findings of the survey and also provides indicators of the representativeness of the survey.

A household is defined as a person or group of related and unrelated persons who live together in the same dwelling unit(s) or in connected premises, who acknowledge one adult member as head of the household, and who have common arrangements for cooking and eating their food. The questionnaire for the ADHS distinguishes between the *de jure* population (persons who usually live in a selected household) and the *de facto* population (persons who stayed the night before the interview in the household). According to the ADHS data, the differences between these populations are small. Tabulations for the household data presented in this chapter are primarily based on the *de facto* population.

Due to the way the sample was designed, the number of cases in some regions may appear small since they are weighted to make the regional distribution nationally representative. Throughout this report, numbers in the tables reflect weighted numbers. To ensure statistical reliability, percentages based on 25 to 49 unweighted cases are shown within parentheses, and percentages based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases are suppressed.

2.1 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

Age-Sex Structure

Age and sex are important demographic variables and form the primary basis of demographic classification in vital statistics, censuses, and surveys. They are also important variables in the study of mortality, fertility, and nuptiality. Table 2.1 presents the percent distribution of the *de facto* population by five-year age groups, according to urban-rural residence and sex. The information is used to construct the population pyramid shown in Figure 2.1.

The total *de facto* population was 24,372. The data show that 54 percent of the population is female; the gender disparity is more pronounced in urban areas than in rural areas (83 versus 90 men per 100 women). Among the youngest age groups, however, the sex ratio is more balanced; it is not until the 15-19 age cohort that the percentage of women is higher than the percentage of men. Overall, this imbalance in the sex ratio strongly suggests that the outmigration from Armenia in the decade of the 1990s was disproportionately selective of men.

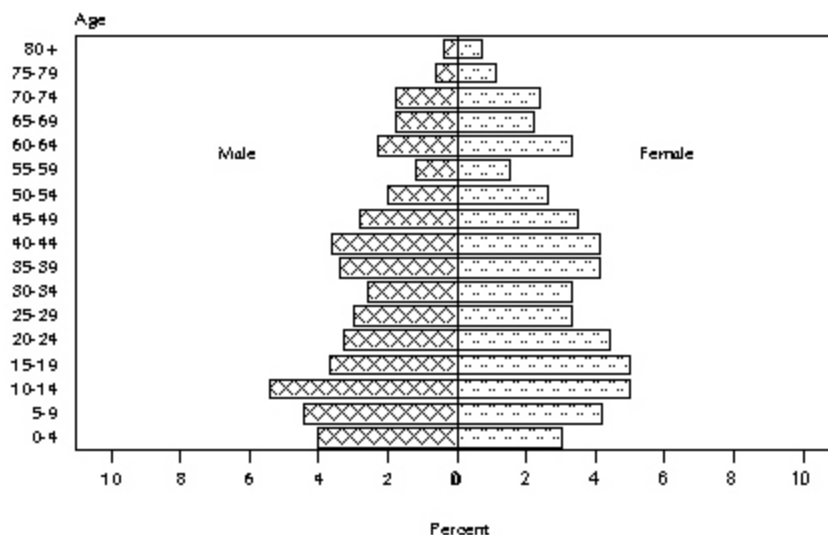
About 63 percent of the population is in the 15-64 age group, also referred to as the economically active population. The proportion of the population falling within this age group is significantly higher in urban areas (66 percent) than in rural areas (59 percent). This difference may be largely attributed to high levels of rural-urban migration, especially among the young in search

Table 2.1 Household population by age, residence, and sex

Percent distribution of the de facto household population by five-year age group, according to sex and urban-rural residence, Armenia 2000

Age	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	7.9	4.8	6.2	9.5	6.7	8.0	8.6	5.6	7.0
5-9	8.6	7.0	7.8	10.7	9.1	9.9	9.5	7.9	8.6
10-14	11.4	8.5	9.8	12.0	10.3	11.1	11.6	9.3	10.4
15-19	8.0	9.2	8.7	8.1	9.5	8.8	8.1	9.3	8.7
20-24	7.3	8.7	8.1	6.9	7.2	7.1	7.1	8.1	7.7
25-29	6.9	6.2	6.5	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.4	6.2	6.3
30-34	5.0	6.0	5.5	6.6	6.4	6.5	5.7	6.2	5.9
35-39	7.1	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.7	7.5
40-44	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.2	7.4	7.8	7.6	7.7
45-49	6.9	7.9	7.4	5.0	4.8	4.9	6.1	6.6	6.4
50-54	5.4	5.6	5.5	2.8	3.7	3.3	4.3	4.8	4.6
55-59	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.7
60-64	4.9	6.1	5.6	4.9	6.1	5.5	4.9	6.1	5.5
65-69	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.0
70-74	3.6	4.1	3.9	4.2	5.1	4.7	3.9	4.5	4.2
75-79	1.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.7
80 +	0.7	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.2	0.8	1.4	1.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,423	7,732	14,155	4,847	5,370	10,217	11,271	13,101	24,372

Figure 2.1 Population Pyramid of Armenia



Armenia DHS 2000

of jobs and higher education. The disproportionately low percentage of the population in the 55-59 age group is probably due to low levels of fertility during World War II (Figure 2.1).

The data further indicate that slightly more than one-fourth of the population consists of children under 15 years of age. As table 2.1 shows, the proportion under 15 is greater in the rural population than in the urban population (29 and 24 percent, respectively). This is evidence of higher fertility in the rural areas. The 10- to 14-year-old cohort is the largest of the five-year age groups. This may largely be due to the fertility peaks of both 1986 and 1990-1991—the second of which was the so-called “compensation period” following the earthquake of 1988.

Household Composition

Table 2.2 presents the distribution of households in the ADHS sample by sex of the head of the household and by household size for urban and rural areas. These characteristics are important because they are often associated with differences in household socioeconomic levels. For example, female-headed households are frequently poorer than households headed by males. In addition, the size and composition of the household affects the allocation of financial and other resources among household members, which in turn influences the overall well-being of these individuals. Household size is also associated with crowding in the dwelling, which can lead to unfavorable health conditions.

<u>Table 2.2 Household composition</u>			
Percent distribution of households by sex of head of household and household size, according to urban-rural residence, Armenia 2000			
Characteristic	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Sex of household head			
Male	68.7	74.9	71.1
Female	31.3	25.1	28.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of usual members			
1	9.3	7.0	8.4
2	13.5	11.6	12.7
3	14.5	9.6	12.6
4	22.3	16.4	20.0
5	18.8	21.0	19.7
6	12.0	17.5	14.1
7	4.9	10.0	6.9
8	1.8	3.5	2.5
9+	2.9	3.4	3.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean size	4.1	4.7	4.3

Note: Table is based on de jure members, i.e., usual residents.

In general, heads of household in Armenia are male (71 percent). However, there is a greater proportion of female-headed households in urban areas (31 percent) than in rural areas (25 percent). The average household size in Armenia is 4.3 persons. The data show that rural households (4.7 members) are larger than urban households (4.1 members).

Detailed information on living arrangements and orphanhood for children under 15 years of age is presented in Table 2.3. This shows that the vast majority (90 percent) of children under 15 live with both parents. Countrywide, 9 percent of children live with only one of their parents, in most cases the mother. In Lori, the proportion of children under 15 living with both parents is much lower than in the rest of the country. There, a full 15 percent of children live only with their mother and not their father. This is likely because many men have left the region, which was devastated in the 1988 earthquake, in search of work. Aragatsotn has the highest proportion of children living with both parents (96 percent). Almost no children (0.1 percent) are orphans, i.e., had both of their parents die. Although still small, the highest proportion of orphans is in the earthquake zone of Lori and Shirak.

Table 2.3 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 15 by children's living arrangements and survival status of parents, according to background characteristics, Armenia 2000

Background characteristic	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not father		Living with father but not mother		Not living with either parent			Missing information on father/mother	Total	Number of children	
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only father alive	Only mother alive				Both dead
Age												
0-1	94.1	4.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	640
2-4	92.0	4.9	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	100.0	1,095
5-9	89.8	5.3	2.9	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	2,150
10-14	88.0	4.6	4.9	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	100.0	2,550
Sex												
Male	90.2	4.7	3.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	100.0	3,418
Female	89.5	5.2	3.2	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	3,017
Residence												
Urban	87.0	6.9	3.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	100.0	3,402
Rural	93.0	2.7	2.8	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	3,033
Region												
Yerevan	87.5	6.3	3.8	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	100.0	1,747
Aragatsotn	96.0	1.3	1.4	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	365
Ararat	93.8	2.0	3.0	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	784
Armavir	89.0	3.8	4.9	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	100.0	644
Gegharkunik	94.9	2.6	1.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	610
Lori	81.8	10.2	4.8	1.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.7	100.0	505
Kotayk	90.9	6.3	1.3	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	453
Shirak	87.4	5.6	4.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.9	100.0	602
Syunik	89.7	5.3	2.5	0.0	0.4	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	276
Vayots Dzor	94.2	3.5	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	130
Tavush	92.7	4.2	1.5	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.5	100.0	317
Total	89.9	4.9	3.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	100.0	6,435

Note: Orphans are children with both parents dead.

Education

The educational attainment of household members is an important determinant of their opportunities and behaviors. Many phenomena such as use of health facilities, reproductive behavior, health of children, and proper hygienic habits are associated with the educational level of household members, especially women.

The school system in Armenia has three levels. The first level, primary education, consists of grades one through three for students age 7-9. The second level, or middle school, consists of grades four through eight for students age 10-14. The first two levels together are called total general education and are compulsory. Secondary school, the third level of school, comprises grades nine and ten. The three levels together are referred to as a full secondary education.

Students who have completed a minimum of eight grades may enroll in secondary-special education. There are two tracks within secondary-special education. The first track consists of professional-technical institutions that train students in a variety of specializations. Students who have completed at least primary and middle school are eligible for this secondary-special track. The second track prepares specialists with mid-level qualifications, such as teachers, midwives, and mechanics. This track can be completed in two years by students who have completed the tenth grade or can be completed in four years by students who completed the eighth grade.

University and postgraduate education prepares higher level specialists. Students who complete a full secondary education may enroll in university.

Table 2.4 presents information on the educational attainment of the Armenian population age 7 and over. Virtually all Armenians have gone to school. The median number of years of schooling is 10 for both women and men. Individuals residing in urban areas have significantly higher levels of university education than those in rural areas. Approximately one-fourth of those living in the capital city of Yerevan have attended university. The proportion of the population with no education is low, with the highest levels being seen among those 65 years and older.

Table 2.4 Educational attainment of household population

Percent distribution of the de facto male and female household populations age seven and over by highest level of education attended, according to background characteristics, Armenia 2000

Background characteristic	Highest level of schooling attended						Total	Number of males/females	Median number of years
	No education	Primary/middle	Secondary	Secondary-special	University	Higher			
MALES									
Age									
7-9	3.3	96.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	668	0.7
10-14	0.8	99.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,311	4.6
15-19	0.5	36.7	43.9	7.7	11.2	0.0	100.0	910	8.6
20-24	0.2	19.5	39.4	20.2	20.3	0.3	100.0	806	9.8
25-29	0.6	11.0	35.1	30.4	22.4	0.6	100.0	726	10.9
30-34	0.5	6.9	30.9	40.5	20.3	0.8	100.0	639	11.5
35-39	0.5	8.0	28.5	42.2	20.0	0.8	100.0	827	11.4
40-44	0.3	10.1	29.2	41.3	18.8	0.3	100.0	883	11.4
45-49	0.5	9.5	25.5	38.5	25.1	0.9	100.0	687	11.8
50-54	1.5	8.3	29.2	33.8	26.3	0.9	100.0	482	11.5
55-59	0.3	15.1	32.5	31.7	19.5	0.9	100.0	295	11.0
60-64	0.7	31.4	25.3	23.0	19.0	0.5	100.0	552	9.7
65+	3.9	49.0	18.8	13.3	14.6	0.4	100.0	1,111	7.7
Residence									
Urban	0.7	32.0	23.7	22.7	20.2	0.7	100.0	5,711	9.7
Rural	1.8	42.0	25.6	22.1	8.5	0.0	100.0	4,186	9.2
Region									
Yerevan	0.4	30.2	22.9	21.5	23.8	1.0	100.0	3,121	9.9
Aragatsotn	2.1	36.0	25.3	25.3	11.0	0.4	100.0	472	9.4
Ararat	2.2	40.6	24.2	22.9	10.0	0.1	100.0	1,098	9.2
Armavir	1.7	43.1	24.8	21.3	9.0	0.1	100.0	893	9.1
Gegharkunik	0.7	37.6	28.0	23.7	9.8	0.1	100.0	825	9.3
Lori	1.1	39.6	22.7	25.0	11.4	0.2	100.0	769	9.3
Kotayk	2.1	37.0	23.4	26.0	11.4	0.2	100.0	704	9.4
Shirak	1.0	34.8	27.3	19.9	16.8	0.3	100.0	949	9.5
Syunik	0.4	38.7	25.0	25.4	10.2	0.0	100.0	412	9.4
Vayots Dzor	1.9	37.4	28.3	23.3	9.1	0.0	100.0	188	9.3
Tavush	1.0	43.8	24.7	17.8	12.5	0.1	100.0	468	9.1
Total	1.1	36.2	24.5	22.5	15.3	0.4	100.0	9,897	9.5
FEMALES									
Age									
7-9	2.4	97.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	660	0.8
10-14	0.4	99.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,212	4.7
15-19	0.0	23.4	52.3	13.4	11.0	0.0	100.0	1,220	9.1
20-24	0.2	8.2	29.9	35.4	25.8	0.4	100.0	1,062	11.3
25-29	0.1	3.8	36.8	38.1	20.5	0.7	100.0	809	11.3
30-34	0.4	4.0	31.6	43.4	19.9	0.7	100.0	807	11.5
35-39	0.4	5.3	35.0	42.9	16.4	0.1	100.0	1,004	11.2
40-44	0.3	6.7	35.4	41.2	16.3	0.1	100.0	996	11.1
45-49	0.4	8.8	30.6	38.0	21.9	0.3	100.0	864	11.4
50-54	0.8	12.6	32.3	29.9	23.9	0.4	100.0	628	11.2
55-59	0.3	27.1	34.8	19.3	18.4	0.0	100.0	364	9.7
60-64	3.0	34.3	34.4	18.2	9.9	0.2	100.0	801	9.3
65+	9.4	48.3	19.5	12.4	10.3	0.1	100.0	1,578	7.2
Residence									
Urban	1.0	25.1	25.3	27.9	20.3	0.4	100.0	7,174	9.9
Rural	2.9	39.2	32.7	19.9	5.3	0.0	100.0	4,829	9.1
Region									
Yerevan	0.8	22.9	24.5	26.6	24.7	0.5	100.0	3,995	10.5
Aragatsotn	3.7	36.1	32.5	20.0	7.3	0.3	100.0	540	9.2
Ararat	4.1	35.6	30.6	23.4	6.3	0.0	100.0	1,255	9.3
Armavir	2.7	37.3	29.9	22.2	7.8	0.0	100.0	1,012	9.2
Gegharkunik	3.7	39.3	33.2	18.8	4.9	0.0	100.0	938	9.1
Lori	0.9	32.6	30.6	26.7	9.3	0.0	100.0	972	9.5
Kotayk	1.8	33.7	25.6	28.8	10.1	0.0	100.0	874	9.5
Shirak	0.8	29.1	29.1	24.5	16.3	0.2	100.0	1,155	9.6
Syunik	0.6	33.6	28.8	28.8	8.2	0.0	100.0	500	9.5
Vayots Dzor	1.3	32.8	39.3	20.6	5.8	0.1	100.0	208	9.3
Tavush	1.6	37.5	28.2	21.6	11.1	0.0	100.0	553	9.3
Total	1.8	30.8	28.2	24.7	14.2	0.2	100.0	12,003	9.6

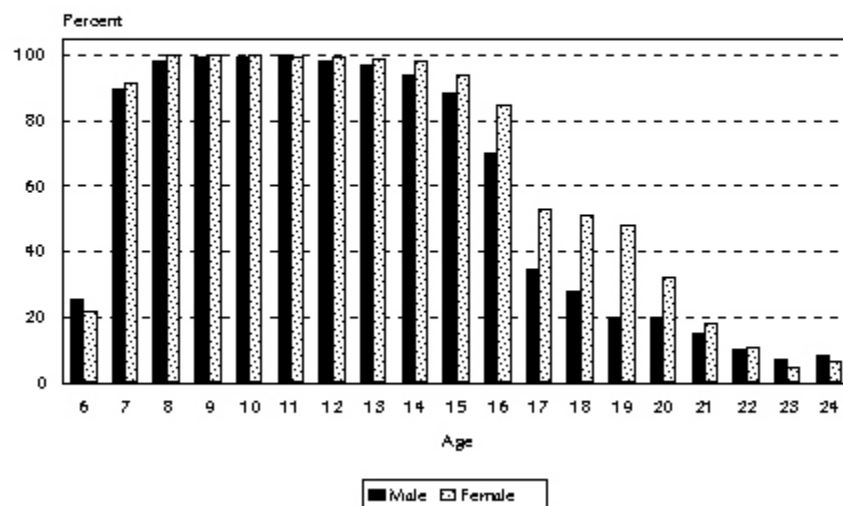
Data on net attendance ratios (NARs) and gross attendance ratios (GARs) by school level, sex, residence, and region are shown in Table 2.5. The NAR indicates participation in primary/middle school for the population age 7-14 and secondary school for the population age 15-16. The GAR measures participation at each level of schooling among those of any age from 6 to 24. The GAR is nearly always higher than the NAR for the same level because the GAR includes participation by those who may be older or younger than the official age range for that level.¹ An NAR of 100 percent would indicate that all those in the official age range for the level are attending at that level. The GAR can exceed 100 percent if there is significant overage or underage participation at a given level of schooling.

In Armenia, school attendance among school-age household members is high. The NAR for primary/middle school is 95 percent and for secondary school is 87 percent. Attendance ratios are, in general, higher for girls than for boys. Attendance ratios are virtually the same among urban and rural populations. A comparison of NARs and GARs indicates that approximately 6 percent of students in primary/middle school and 5 percent of students in secondary school are either underage or overage.

Figure 2.2 presents the age-specific attendance ratios (ASAR) for the population 6-24 by sex. The ASAR indicates participation in schooling at any level, from primary through higher education. The closer the ASAR is to 100 percent, the higher the proportion of a given age attending school.

In Armenia, almost all youths of primary to middle school age (7-14) attend school as there are no significant differences by gender. Among the secondary-school age population (15-16), attendance ratios begin to decline, particularly among males. It should be noted that among 17 to 20 year olds, a significantly higher proportion of females than males are attending school.

Figure 2.2 Age-Specific Attendance Rates
 Percentage of the De Jure Household Population Age 6-24
 Years Attending School, by Age and Sex



Armenia DHS 2000

¹ Students who are overage for a given level of schooling may have started school overage, may have repeated one or more grades in school, or may have dropped out of school and later returned.

Table 2.5 School attendance ratios

Net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de jure household population by level of schooling and sex, according to background characteristics, Armenia 2000

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio ¹			Gross attendance ratio ²		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
PRIMARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL						
Residence						
Urban	93.5	95.6	94.5	100.4	101.8	101.1
Rural	94.1	95.0	94.5	101.3	101.0	101.2
Region						
Yerevan	93.5	95.4	94.4	100.9	101.4	101.1
Aragatsotn	94.9	94.9	94.9	100.8	106.1	103.2
Ararat	93.0	92.7	92.8	99.1	96.7	97.9
Armavir	94.6	96.8	95.6	100.0	101.1	100.5
Gegharkunik	96.0	94.3	95.2	105.6	101.9	103.9
Lori	90.0	95.7	92.9	97.1	101.4	99.3
Kotayk	91.7	93.5	92.5	97.2	95.2	96.3
Shirak	92.5	96.8	94.5	98.1	108.6	103.0
Syunik	98.9	99.0	98.9	109.9	102.0	105.8
Vayots Dzor	96.0	96.6	96.3	101.0	100.0	100.5
Tavush	95.2	95.0	95.1	106.0	100.0	102.7
Total	93.8	95.3	94.5	100.8	101.4	101.1
SECONDARY SCHOOL						
Residence						
Urban	83.8	90.6	87.2	89.1	94.3	91.7
Rural	82.3	89.7	86.0	87.8	95.6	91.7
Region						
Yerevan	82.5	89.2	85.9	88.8	92.1	90.5
Aragatsotn	84.7	87.9	86.5	91.8	90.9	91.3
Ararat	82.3	91.4	86.3	86.4	99.1	92.0
Armavir	78.4	90.9	84.2	83.3	98.9	90.5
Gegharkunik	85.8	86.2	86.0	92.9	95.4	94.1
Lori	79.5	92.8	86.0	83.0	97.6	90.1
Kotayk	82.4	94.5	88.7	88.2	99.1	93.9
Shirak	87.1	86.2	86.6	92.5	89.4	90.9
Syunik	88.9	95.6	92.5	91.9	97.3	94.8
Vayots Dzor	89.2	90.4	89.8	93.7	97.4	95.6
Tavush	83.3	91.7	87.4	87.7	95.4	91.5
Total	83.1	90.2	86.7	88.5	94.9	91.7

¹ The NAR for primary/middle school is the percentage of the primary/middle-school-age (7-14 years) population that is attending primary/middle school. The NAR for secondary school is the percentage of the secondary-school-age (15-16 years) population that is attending secondary school. By definition the NAR cannot exceed 100 percent.

² The GAR for primary/middle school is the total number of primary/middle school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary/middle-school-age population. The GAR for secondary school is the total number of secondary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official secondary-school-age population. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100 percent.

Table 2.6 Grade repetition and dropout rates

Repetition and dropout rates for the de jure household population age 6-24 years by school grade, according to background characteristics, Armenia 2000

Background characteristic	School grade							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
REPETITION RATE ¹								
Sex								
Male	0.5	0.0	0.2	1.5	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0
Female	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Residence								
Urban	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5
Rural	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.3
Region								
Yerevan	1.2	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Aragatsotn	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ararat	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Armavir	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gegharkunik	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lori	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kotayk	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0
Shirak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Syunik	0.0	0.0	1.9	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Vayots Dzor	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tavush	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4
DROPOUT RATE ²								
Sex								
Male	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.5	10.5
Female	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	4.5
Residence								
Urban	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6
Rural	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	1.4	0.6	9.8
Region								
Yerevan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4
Aragatsotn	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8
Ararat	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.0	15.7
Armavir	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	2.6	0.0	11.8
Gegharkunik	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6
Lori	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	4.3
Kotayk	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.3
Shirak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	10.5
Syunik	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vayots Dzor	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.3
Tavush	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4
Total	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.3	7.4

¹ The repetition rate is the percentage of students in a given grade who are repeating that grade.

² The dropout rate is the percentage of students in a given grade in the previous school year who are not attending school.

Repetition and dropout rates, shown in Table 2.6, describe the flow of students through the school system. Repetition and dropout rates often vary across grades, indicating points in the school system where students are not regularly promoted to the next grade. In Armenia, the repetition rates for grades one through eight are very low—less than 1 percent.

Dropout rates are also less than 1 percent for grades one through seven. The dropout rate after eighth grade, however, is more than 7 percent, meaning that these children stop studying after the compulsory years of school.

2.2 HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

To assess the socioeconomic conditions under which the population lives, respondents were asked to give specific information about their household environment. Tables 2.7 and 2.8 present major housing characteristics by urban-rural residence. Type of water source, sanitation facilities, and floor material are characteristics that affect the health status of household members and particularly of children. They also indicate the socioeconomic status of households.

Virtually all households in Armenia (99 percent) have electricity. A majority of households in the country have water piped into the residence, a flush toilet, a finished floor, and a place for handwashing. Overall, most of the respondents in urban areas live in environments with adequate sanitary conditions. In rural areas, living conditions are more mixed.

Table 2.7 Housing characteristics

Percent distribution of households by housing characteristics, according to urban-rural residence, Armenia 2000

Characteristic	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Electricity	99.1	98.6	98.9
Source of drinking water			
Piped into residence	86.4	26.2	62.8
Piped into yard/plot	10.2	45.7	24.1
Public tap	1.4	10.3	4.9
Open well in yard/plot	0.2	0.7	0.4
Spring	1.2	12.6	5.7
River/stream	0.0	0.4	0.1
Tanker truck	0.3	2.5	1.1
Other	0.3	1.6	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Time to water source <15 minutes	97.5	81.6	91.3
Sanitation facilities			
Own flush toilet	90.3	20.5	62.9
Traditional pit toilet	9.2	79.1	36.6
Other	0.5	0.4	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flooring material			
Earth, sand	0.7	2.7	1.4
Wood planks	34.7	74.7	50.4
Parquet, polished wood	54.8	6.5	35.9
Lynoleum	4.2	3.4	3.9
Cement	1.4	11.1	5.2
Carpet	4.1	1.6	3.1
Other material	0.1	0.1	0.1
Missing	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Place for hand washing			
In dwelling/yard/plot	99.2	94.2	97.2
Nowhere	0.8	5.8	2.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of cooking fuel			
Electricity	48.5	20.4	37.4
LPG, natural gas	12.7	15.5	13.8
Liquid gas	28.1	9.5	20.8
Kerosene	1.9	0.7	1.4
Charcoal	0.6	0.5	0.6
Firewood, straw	6.3	29.3	15.3
Tezek (dung)	1.7	24.2	10.5
Other	0.2	0.0	0.1
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	3,633	2,347	5,980

Table 2.8 Housing characteristics by region

Percent distribution of households by housing characteristics, according to region, Armenia 2000

Characteristic	Region											Total
	Yerevan	Aragat- sotn	Ararat	Arma- vir	Geghar- kunik	Lori	Kotayk	Shirak	Syunik	Vayots Dzor	Tavush	
Electricity	99.1	99.3	99.2	99.1	98.3	98.1	99.7	98.7	99.3	97.5	99.2	98.9
Source of drinking water												
Piped into residence	91.0	33.8	30.5	31.1	33.3	52.4	77.9	69.0	83.7	57.0	36.5	62.8
Piped into yard/plot	8.2	26.7	55.3	44.9	39.7	28.1	14.1	18.2	11.2	36.6	29.6	24.1
Public tap	0.2	12.8	13.0	1.2	14.6	4.2	3.9	2.8	0.2	5.0	13.8	4.9
Open well in yard/plot	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.7	1.4	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4
Spring	0.4	26.0	0.4	9.8	6.9	10.4	3.3	8.9	4.0	1.1	16.3	5.7
River/stream	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Tanker truck	0.0	0.0	0.8	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	1.1
Other	0.3	0.7	0.0	1.5	2.6	3.1	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Time to water source <15 minutes	99.6	79.9	90.3	90.9	78.6	86.1	93.1	89.6	95.6	95.5	75.0	91.3
Sanitation facilities												
Own flush toilet	93.0	24.3	27.9	35.7	24.3	54.0	72.7	74.9	80.0	49.5	46.1	62.9
Traditional pit toilet	6.4	75.4	71.8	63.3	75.5	46.0	27.3	24.2	19.8	50.5	53.7	36.6
Other	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flooring material												
Earth, sand	1.1	0.7	1.5	0.5	2.7	0.9	3.0	1.9	0.4	5.2	0.6	1.4
Wood planks	26.9	74.7	74.0	70.3	67.4	47.4	36.5	62.8	59.1	42.0	70.4	50.4
Parquet, polished wood	67.6	10.2	11.8	19.9	12.3	32.1	38.4	11.0	36.3	32.3	17.9	35.9
Lynoleum	1.0	2.4	2.3	0.7	3.1	11.6	0.3	16.2	0.7	2.5	3.3	3.9
Cement	1.1	12.1	8.0	6.5	14.5	3.5	3.3	6.7	1.5	14.8	5.2	5.2
Carpet	2.1	0.0	2.3	2.1	0.0	4.5	18.2	1.3	2.0	3.2	1.9	3.1
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.1
Missing	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Place for handwashing												
In dwelling/yard/plot	99.4	99.3	98.3	97.4	93.4	92.0	99.7	92.4	99.8	96.4	98.8	97.2
Nowhere	0.6	0.7	1.7	2.6	6.6	8.0	0.3	7.6	0.2	3.6	1.2	2.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of cooking fuel												
Electricity	46.0	25.5	32.6	34.6	10.8	28.1	53.3	55.2	45.3	32.3	4.8	37.4
LPG, natural gas	10.4	5.0	22.5	21.3	19.3	6.4	17.7	16.9	10.3	9.3	10.7	13.8
Liquid gas	39.1	7.6	20.8	21.0	6.2	8.7	16.6	8.0	7.7	8.9	4.8	20.8
Kerosene	2.0	0.5	0.8	2.1	0.4	1.4	1.1	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	1.4
Charcoal	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.4	1.2	0.6
Firewood, straw	1.2	12.3	13.5	11.9	22.9	44.8	8.6	3.0	30.5	8.9	78.3	15.3
Tezek (dung)	0.2	49.2	9.0	8.4	39.5	10.1	2.5	14.5	5.5	39.1	0.2	10.5
Other	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Missing	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	1,946	248	580	496	507	519	413	602	258	111	300	5,980

In urban areas, drinking water is most often piped directly into the household (86 percent). In rural areas, the most common source is water that has been piped into the yard (46 percent), and only one-fourth (26 percent) of households have drinking water that has been piped directly into the residence. Flush toilets are widespread in urban areas (90 percent), while pit latrines are more common in rural areas (79 percent). Yerevan has the best sanitary conditions of the country: 93 percent of the population in the capital use a flush toilet, and 99 percent have a convenient place for handwashing. In other regions, the proportion of households with a flush toilet ranges from 80 percent in Syunik to 24 percent in Aragatsotn and Gegharkunik, where many people live in rural areas and pit toilets are common.

Finished wood floors are most common in urban areas (55 percent). In rural areas, the majority of households have wooden plank floors (75 percent), and 3 percent of households have an earth or sand floor. In the urban areas, most cooking is done with electricity (49 percent) or liquid gas (28 percent). In rural areas, however, wood and tezek (dung) are more commonly used. Firewood is most commonly used in Tavush and in Lori, which are famous for huge forests (78 percent and 45 percent, respectively). Tezek is more commonly used in Aragatsotn, Gegharkunik, and Vayots Dzor, where cattle breeding is one of the primary economic activities.

Household Durable Goods

The availability of durable goods is a proximate measure of household socioeconomic status. Tables 2.9 and 2.10 provide information on household ownership of durable goods (radios, televisions, telephones, and refrigerators) and modes of transportation (bicycles, motorcycles, and automobiles).

Table 2.9 shows that urban households are more likely than rural households to own durable goods, while rural households are more likely to own a means of transportation. Overall, 89 percent of Armenian households have televisions and 75 percent have refrigerators. Telephones

Table 2.9 Household durable goods

Percentage of households possessing various durable consumer goods, by urban-rural residence, Armenia 2000

Durable consumer goods	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Radio	47.5	23.6	38.1
Television	91.8	83.7	88.6
Telephone	74.9	40.4	61.3
Refrigerator	80.9	66.9	75.4
Bicycle	5.3	8.4	6.6
Motorcycle	0.8	2.8	1.6
Car/truck	21.0	27.6	23.6
None of the above	2.6	6.9	4.3
Number of households	3,633	2,347	5,980

Table 2.10 Household durable goods by region

Percentage of households possessing various durable consumer goods, by region, Armenia 2000

Durable consumer good	Yerevan	Aragat- sotn	Ararat	Arma- vir	Geghar- kunik	Lori	Kotayk	Shirak	Syunik	Vayots Dzor	Tavush	Total
Radio	53.2	32.2	38.4	22.0	19.7	21.2	32.3	26.4	69.0	49.1	33.2	38.1
Television	94.0	81.1	93.1	88.1	85.0	79.2	87.8	89.2	79.3	86.8	83.1	88.6
Telephone	81.6	32.4	53.8	43.9	51.4	44.8	62.4	43.7	69.0	76.1	64.1	61.3
Refrigerator	86.9	62.6	85.3	71.7	60.9	57.5	76.0	69.5	75.2	74.1	64.7	75.4
Bicycle	5.3	3.1	16.2	13.3	4.8	6.4	4.4	3.5	4.0	4.5	3.3	6.6
Motorcycle	0.2	4.3	6.3	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.1	2.7	2.3	1.6
Car/truck	22.9	21.3	30.5	31.5	22.9	18.6	27.6	15.8	24.2	26.6	22.1	23.6
None of the above	1.6	8.7	1.7	4.7	6.7	10.4	4.7	6.3	2.2	3.4	5.6	4.3
Number of households	1,946	248	580	496	507	519	413	602	258	111	300	5,980

are much more common in urban areas than in rural areas (75 percent versus 40 percent). In Aragatsotn, for example, less than one-third of households have a telephone, compared with 82 percent of households in the capital city of Yerevan. Throughout the country, automobiles are much more common than either bicycles or motorcycles. In Armenia, almost a fourth of households possess a car or truck, while only 7 percent have a bicycle, and less than 2 percent have a motorcycle.