



Indonesia

Young Adult Reproductive Health Survey 2002–2003

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Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS-Statistics Indonesia)
Jakarta, Indonesia

National Family Planning Coordinating Board
Jakarta, Indonesia

Ministry of Health
Jakarta, Indonesia

ORC Macro
Calverton, Maryland USA

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Additional information about the survey may be obtained from the Directorate for Population Statistics, BPS, Jalan Dr. Sutomo No. 6-8, Jakarta 10710, Indonesia (Telephone/fax 345-6285, Email: kependudukan@mailhost.bps.go.id).

Additional information about the DHS program may be obtained by contacting: MEASURE DHS, ORC Macro, 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705, USA (Telephone 301-572-0200; Fax 301-572-0999; Email: reports@orcmacro.com Internet: www.measuredhs.com).

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ACRONYMS

BKKBN	Badan Koordinasi Keluarga Berencana Nasional (National Family Planning Coordinating Board)
BPS	Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS-Statistics Indonesia)
IDHS	Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey
PKBI	Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia (Indonesian chapter of the International Planned Parenthood Federation)
Susenas	Survei Sosial-ekonomi Nasional (National Socio-economic Survey), national-level survey conducted by BPS annually
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Most unmarried women and men in Indonesia live with their parents before they are married; three in four women (74 percent) and eight in ten men live in households headed by their parents. Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to live with their parents. Many households in Indonesia include extended families; ten percent each of unmarried women and men are relatives of the household head and 7 percent of women and 2 percent of men are unrelated to the household head.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Women are more likely to be in school only, whereas men are more likely to be working only. As expected, younger respondents are more likely to be in school, while older respondents are more likely to be working. Urban respondents are more likely to be in school than rural respondents, whereas rural respondents are more likely to be working than urban respondents. Better-educated respondents are more likely to be in school only, whereas those with less education are more likely to be working only.

A group of adolescents who deserves a special attention are those who are neither going to school nor working (21 percent of women and 13 percent of men). This group is more likely to be found among rural women (28 percent) and urban men (14 percent).

EXPOSURE TO MASS MEDIA

By far, the most popular mass media among adolescents is television, with 88 percent of women and 86 percent of men report watching television at least once a week. Twenty-eight percent of women and 27 percent of men listen to the radio at least once a week, watch television at least once a week, and read a newspaper or magazine at least once a week, and only 8 percent or less are not exposed to any of these three media. In general, older respondents, those

living in urban areas, and those with secondary or higher education are the most likely to be exposed to the media.

EDUCATION

Most survey respondents have attended formal education. Only 6 percent of women and 7 percent of men have not completed primary education and about one in three women and men have completed secondary education. Urban respondents tend to have better education than rural respondents.

Literacy is almost universal among young adults in Indonesia; urban respondents are only slightly more likely than rural residents to be literate.

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF SIGNS OF PUBERTY

Knowledge of young adults about physical changes as a girl and a boy moves into adulthood was investigated in the survey. For changes in a boy, the most reported change by both female and male respondents is the change in voice and development of muscles and growth of facial hair. For physical changes in a girl, growth in breasts is a common knowledge among female and male respondents. Women are more likely than men to mention menstruation (70 percent of women compared with 37 percent of men). Few respondents mention increase in sexual arousal as one of the signs of adolescence in a girl or in a boy.

Less than one percent of female respondents have never menstruated. A small proportion (4 percent) had their first menstruation before age 12. By age 15, practically all women have menstruated. Younger women start to have their period at an earlier age than older women. For example, 88 percent of women age 15 have menstruated at age 14, compared with 75 percent of 24 year olds.

Two percent of men had their first wet dream before age 12. By age 15, 68 percent of men have had their first wet dream, and by age 17, practically all men reported having had wet dreams. Younger men experienced their first wet dream earlier than older men. For example, 59 percent of men age 15 have had a wet dream by age 14, compared with 29 percent of 24-year olds.

DISCUSSION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH TOPICS

Discussion of topics related to reproductive health among young adults is not common; 13 percent of female respondents and 22 percent of male respondents never discussed sexual matters with anyone. The majority of the respondents who discussed reproductive health issues talked with their peers (74 percent of women and 69 percent of men). Women talk with family members and relatives on reproductive health and sexuality more than men; 49 percent of women talked to their parents and 33 percent talked to their siblings, compared with 13 percent and 15 percent of men, respectively.

The role of teachers in imparting knowledge about reproductive health is significant; 32 percent of women and 30 percent of men said that they discussed these issues with their teachers. It is not clear whether the respondents actually discussed the topic with their teachers or received the information as part of class instructions. Health service providers and religious leaders play a less significant role as a source of information on reproductive health. Overall, for both women and men, younger, rural and less educated respondents are less likely than other subgroups of respondents to discuss reproductive health with anyone.

FAMILY PLANNING

Knowledge of family planning

Knowledge of contraceptive methods among unmarried young adults in Indonesia is widespread. (95 percent of women and 91 percent of men). Virtually all respondents who have heard of at least one contraceptive method have heard

of modern methods. Unmarried women and men are only slightly less knowledgeable about family planning compared with currently married women 15-49 and currently married men 15-54 interviewed in the 2002-2003 Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey (IDHS).

The most commonly known methods among unmarried women are injectables and the pill (90 percent each), followed by the male condom (77 percent). For unmarried men, the most commonly known methods are condoms (86 percent), the pill (79 percent), and injectables (67 percent). Older women and men (age 20-24) are more likely to know family planning methods than their younger counterparts (age 15-19).

Intention to use family planning

In the 2002-2003 IYARHS, respondents were asked if they intended to use a method at any time in the future. Overall, 85 percent of women and 81 percent of men express their intention to use a method of family planning in the future. While the majority of respondents want to use a modern method (84 percent of women and 79 percent of men), their preferred methods differ. Most of the women who intend to use contraception in the future prefer to use injectables or the pill (39 percent and 36 percent, respectively), while the most popular method for men is condom, mentioned by 68 percent of the respondents.

Knowledge of fertile period

The success of periodic abstinence as a family planning method depends on women and men's understanding of the monthly cycle and the days when a woman is most likely to conceive. Therefore, basic knowledge of the mechanisms of reproduction including the women's monthly fertile cycle is important. Knowledge about the fertile period is deficient among young adults in Indonesia; less than one in three gave the correct response that a woman has the greatest chance of becoming pregnant in the middle of her ovulatory cycle.

Family planning services for adolescents

Currently, family planning services that are available to adolescents in Indonesia offer a

wide range of information, education, and counseling. However, provision of contraceptive methods to unmarried persons is not part of the national family planning program. In the 2002-2003 IYARHS survey, one in four women say that family planning services should be provided to unmarried adolescents. More than half of women who think that family planning services should be available to adolescents want to get information about family planning and 15 percent of those who want to have family planning methods available to adolescents want to have the pill be provided to unmarried adolescents if they need it.

Male respondents are less likely than female respondents to agree that family planning services should be available to unmarried adolescents; 41 percent of men think that information on family planning should be available to unmarried young people. For men, the most important contraceptive method which should be provided is condom (20 percent), followed by the pill (6 percent). Two contraceptive methods, the pill and condoms, are the most often mentioned methods by both women and men, probably because they are more accessible in terms of price and availability.

Younger, urban, and better-educated women are more likely to think that information on family planning should be provided to unmarried adolescents than other women. However, with regard to provision of specific methods, less-educated women are more likely to agree that specific methods should be provided to unmarried adolescents. For example, 28 percent of women with no education want to have injectables be available to unmarried young women, compared with 2 percent of women who completed secondary school.

KNOWLEDGE OF HIV/AIDS AND OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (STIs)

Knowledge of HIV/AIDS

Nine in ten women and eight in ten men have heard of AIDS and the majority (67 percent of women and 64 percent of men) say that AIDS can be avoided. Older, those who live in urban

areas, and better-educated respondents are more knowledgeable of HIV/AIDS than other respondents. The most significant difference in knowledge is by the respondent's education. For example, nine in ten women with secondary or higher education believe that there is a way to avoid getting the disease compared with two in ten (22 percent) of women with no education.

Source of knowledge of HIV/AIDS

By far, television is the most important media for obtaining information about HIV/AIDS, with eight in ten women and men reporting having heard of AIDS from television. Health professionals on the other hand, are not cited as a common source of information on AIDS (three percent and five percent among unmarried women and men, respectively).

Knowledge of STIs

The IYARHS respondents were asked if they have heard of other STIs, and whether they can name the infections. Two in three women mention syphilis and 27 percent cite gonorrhea. Knowledge among men shows a different pattern; men are more likely than women to mention syphilis (86 percent), while only 28 percent cite gonorrhea. A large proportion of the respondents mention other infections which cannot be classified in any of the categories provided in the survey.

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ANEMIA

Four in five women and six in ten men report to have heard of anemia. The majority of these respondents (81 percent of women and 74 percent of men) say that anemia is a blood deficit (*kurang darah*), which is the most widely used term to identify anemia in Indonesia. A large proportion of the respondents are unable to identify the cause of anemia. Among those who give valid responses, about half cite lack of various dietary intakes as reasons for being anemic. More than half of the respondents say that anemia should be treated by taking pills to "increase blood" (*pil tambah darah*). A much lower proportion of respondents mention taking iron tablets (11 percent of women and 14 percent of men).

ATTITUDES ABOUT VIRGINITY, MARRIAGE, AND CHILDREN

Virginity

Both women and men regard virginity for a woman highly (98 percent each). This perception does not vary much across age and residence, although women and men with no education are slightly less likely to agree to virginity than educated respondents.

Marriage

In general, men think that women should marry at an earlier age than what the women do. For example, while four in ten women think that the ideal age at marriage for a woman is 21 years or younger, the corresponding proportion for men is 56 percent. Men and women's education does not have a clear association with their ideal age at first marriage for women. Most respondents, regardless of gender, agreed that men should marry at age 25 or older. Again, urban men think that men should marry at an older age than rural men.

Decisions about marriage

A high proportion of respondents say that they alone will decide whom to marry (63 percent of women and 72 percent of men). Thirty-three percent of women and 25 percent of men say that their parents and they themselves will decide on whom they will marry. Parents' role in determining the future spouse is small, few respondents report that their parents alone will decide on their future spouse (4 percent of women and 3 percent of men).

Among women, older respondents are slightly more likely than younger respondents to say that they are going to make the decision on whom they will marry themselves (64 percent compared with 60 percent). On the other hand, younger men are less likely than older respondents to make this decision themselves (69 percent compared with 76 percent).

Premarital sex

Acceptance of premarital sex is low. In general, women are less likely than men to accept pre-

marital sex and premarital sex is more acceptable for men. Younger respondents and respondents living in rural areas are more open to premarital sex than other respondents. However, the most significant variation is found among women across educational subgroups; women with no education are more than four times more likely to accept premarital sex for women and men than their educated peers.

The 2002-2003 IYARHS respondents report that under certain circumstances, such as if the couple plan to marry each other, if the couple like or love each other, or if they know the consequences, premarital sex is permitted. In general, men have higher acceptance of premarital sex. Six in ten men say approve premarital sex if the couple like sex, love each other, or plan to marry, and more than half of men accept premarital sex if the couple want to show their love to each other. Younger men (age 15-19) are consistently more likely than older men (age 20-24) to accept premarital sex for any reason specified in the survey.

Sexual intercourse

Less than one percent of women and five percent for men admitted openly that they have had sexual intercourse. As expected, older men are more likely to report having had sex. While peer pressure has been assumed to be the strongest force behind adolescents having sex, only one out of seven men say that they feel pressured by their friends to have sex. The strongest motivation reported by men is because they like the person they had sex with (four in ten men) and curiosity (three in ten men).

PREFERENCE FOR CHILDREN

Overall, men and women at all ages want the same number of children; the ideal number of children for women is 2.6 children compared with 2.7 children for men. Comparison with ever-married women and men shows that unmarried women and men are as likely as their married peers to want small families.

Decision Maker on Number of Children

Most of the respondents think that husband and wife together should decide on the number of children they would have. Individual decisions are not popular among both women and men. For instance, the percentage of respondents who think that a wife alone should decide the number of children is only two percent among women and one percent among men.

Less educated respondents are more likely to think that the husband alone should decide on the number of children a couple would have. This is particularly true among men. For example, while 11 percent of men with no education think that the husband should make this decision, the corresponding proportion for men who completed secondary school is 6 percent.

DATA SOURCE

Data presented in this report come from the 2002-2003 IYARHS implemented by Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS-Statistics Indonesia) in collaboration with the National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN) and the Ministry of Health, with technical assistance provided by ORC Macro. This survey is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through ORC Macro.

The 2002-2003 IYARHS sample covered 1,815 unmarried women and 2,341 unmarried men. These respondents were identified in households covered in the 2002-2003 Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey (IDHS). The IYARHS sample was designed to provide estimates at the national level. For this purpose, 15 provinces were covered in the 2002-2003 IYARHS: Riau, South Sumatera, Lampung, DKI Jakarta, West Java, Central Java, DI Yogyakarta, East Java, Banten, West Nusa Tenggara, West Kalimantan, South Kalimantan, North Sulawesi, South Sulawesi and Gorontalo.

