Jayapura City
Young Adult Reproductive Health Survey
2002–2003
Jayapura City
Young Adult Reproductive
Health Survey
2002-2003

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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This report summarizes the findings of the 2002-2003 Young Adult Reproductive Health Survey (YARHS) in Jayapura City carried out by Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS-Statistics Indonesia). The YARHS is a subsample of the 2002 National Social-Economic Survey. A nationally representative survey of young adult reproductive health was conducted simultaneously with the survey in Jayapura City. The findings of the Indonesia survey are presented in a separate report.

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<td>Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS-Statistics Indonesia)</td>
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<td>IDHS</td>
<td>Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>PKBI</td>
<td>Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia (Indonesian chapter of the International Planned Parenthood Federation)</td>
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<td>Susenas</td>
<td>Survei Sosial-ekonomi Nasional (National Socio-economic Survey), national-level survey conducted by BPS annually</td>
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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

EDUCATION

Most survey respondents have attended formal education; only 2 percent of women and 3 percent of men have less than primary school education. Seventy-one percent of women and 66 percent of men have completed secondary education. Overall, women are slightly better educated than men.

Literacy is almost universal among young adults in Jayapura City (98 percent of women and 99 percent of men). For both women and men, there are no variations by age.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Women are more likely to be in school only, whereas men are more likely to be working only. Two in three women and more than half of men (52 percent) are attending school only, while 9 percent of women and one in five men (21 percent) are working only. Few women and men go to school and hold a job at the same time (5 percent of women and 11 percent of men).

A group of adolescents who deserves a special attention are those who are neither going to school nor working (18 percent of women and 15 percent of men). This is particularly true among older respondents (age 20-24) and those who completed secondary school (18 percent of women and 15 percent of men).

EXPOSURE TO MASS MEDIA

Overall, there are no marked differences in the exposure to mass media between women and men. By far, the most popular mass media among adolescents is television, with 87 percent of women and 86 percent of men report watching television at least once a week. On the other hand, printed materials are the least popular media (51 percent for women and 50 percent for men).

Exposure to radio, television, and print media is widespread, with 45 percent of women and 38 percent of men reporting watching television at least once a week, listening to the radio at least once a week, and reading a newspaper or a magazine at least one a week. Only 6-7 percent of respondents are not exposed to any of the three media.

In general, older women and men (age 20-24) and those with secondary or higher education are more likely to be exposed to the media.

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF SIGNS OF PUBERTY

Knowledge of young adults about physical changes as a girl and a boy move into adulthood was investigated in the survey. For changes in a boy, the most reported change by the respondents is the growth of body hair (51 percent of women and 68 percent of men) and change in voice (about half of women and men). For physical changes in a girl, while growth in breasts is a common knowledge among female and male respondents, cited by 70 percent of women and 59 percent of men, women are more likely than men to mention menstruation (82 percent of women compared with 47 percent of men).

In general, increase in sexual arousal is not cited as much as other physical changes in a girl and in a boy (11-19 percent). For women and men, older respondents (age 20-24) are more likely to name physical changes in adolescence than younger (age 15-19) respondents. It is worth noting that a sizable percentage of women (20 percent) and men (29 percent) do not know any signs of physical changes of the opposite sex.

Four percent of women in the survey in Jayapura City have never menstruated. Eight percent of women had their first menstruation before age 12. By age 13, one in three women has had their first period and by age 16, practically all women have menstruated.
Younger women start to have their period at an earlier age than older women. For example, 60 percent of women age 15 have menstruated at age 13, compared with 36 percent of 24 year olds.

Twenty-three percent of male respondents in the survey reported never having a wet dream. This figure is much higher than that reported by the IYARHS respondents in Indonesia as a whole (7 percent) (BPS and ORC Macro, 2004).

Very few men had their first wet dream before age 12 (one percent). By age 15, almost half (47 percent) of men have had their first wet dream, and by age 17, 77 percent have had wet dreams.

Data in the table also show that younger men experienced their first wet dream earlier than older men. For example, 44 percent of men age 15 have had a wet dream by age 14, compared with 28 percent of 24-year olds.

**DISCUSSION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH TOPICS**

Discussion of topics related to reproductive health among young adults is not common; 8 percent of female respondents and 15 percent of male respondents never discussed sexual matters with anyone. The majority of the respondents who discussed reproductive health issues talked with their peers (58-59 percent). Women talk with family members and relatives on reproductive health and sexuality more than men; 62 percent of women talked to their parents and 39 percent talked to their siblings, compared with 30 percent and 21 percent of men, respectively.

The role of teachers in imparting knowledge about reproductive health is significant; 60 percent of women and 53 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.

**FAMILY PLANNING**

**Knowledge of family planning.** Knowledge of contraceptive methods among unmarried young adults in Indonesia is widespread (95 percent of women and 88 percent of men). All respondents who have heard of at least one contraceptive method have heard of modern methods.

The most commonly known methods among unmarried women are the pill (88 percent) and injectables (81 percent). For men, the most commonly known methods are condoms (82 percent), the pill (73 percent), and injectables (67 percent). Older women and men (age 20-24) are more knowledgeable about family planning methods than their younger counterparts (age 15-19).

**Intention to use family planning.** In the 2002-2003 YARHS, respondents were asked if they intended to use a method at any time in the future. Overall, the majority of respondents express their intention to use a method of family planning in the future. While the majority of respondents want to use a modern method (86 percent of women and 85 percent of men), their preferred methods differ. Most of the women who intend to use contraception in the future prefer to use the pill (36 percent) or injectables (21 percent), while the most popular method for men is condom, mentioned by 54 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 Jayapura City; only 45 percent of women and 41 percent of men gave the correct responses 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
The majority of respondents were able to name two diseases, syphilis (72 percent of women and 85 percent of men) and gonorrhea (60 percent of women and 55 percent of men). In general, younger respondents are more familiar with gonorrhea, while older respondents are more likely to mention syphilis.

**KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ANEMIA**

Four in five respondents who said that they have heard of anemia described anemia as blood deficit (*kurang darah*). The proportion of the IYARHS respondents in Indonesia as a whole who said that anemia is a blood deficit is similar: 81 percent of women and 74 percent of men. It should be added that while the term “blood deficit” is inaccurate, this is the most widely used term to identify anemia in Indonesia.

Two areas related to knowledge of anemia among adolescents call for attention. The first is the misconception of anemia, shown by the large proportions of women and men (28 percent of women and 23 percent of men) whose response to the cause of anemia is has no relation to any of the precoded categories that encompasses the correct answers. The second area of concern refers to the group of respondents who are unable to identify the cause of anemia (5 percent of women and 13 percent of men). These are groups of adolescents who should be targeted for IEC in issues related to anemia.

Among those who give valid responses, lack of various dietary intakes is the most cited reasons for being anemic (45 to 60 percent). Variations between women and men are not significant.

**ATTITUDES ABOUT VIRGINITY, MARRIAGE, AND CHILDREN**

**Virginity.** Both women and men regard virginity highly. Nine in ten women and men say that it is important for a woman to maintain her virginity. This perception does not vary much across age and education.

**Marriage.** Almost all respondents agree that the ideal age at first marriage for women is 20 or above. In general, men think that women should marry at an earlier age than what the women do. Women and men’s education has a positive association with the
ideal age at first marriage for women. Respondents with higher education tend to think that women should marry at an older age than respondents with less education.

Decisions about marriage. Virtually all respondents include themselves in making a decision on marriage; few respondents let their parents alone to decide who their future spouse will be.

Women are more likely than men to say they themselves will decide on whom they will marry (48 percent compared with 28 percent). On the other hand, men are more likely than women to say this decision should be made by their parents and themselves (67 percent compared with 48 percent).

Younger women and women with secondary or higher education are more likely than other women to say that they themselves are going to make the decision on whom they will marry. On the other hand, older women and women with less than secondary education are more likely than younger respondents to involve their parents in making this decision.

For men, there are small differentials by age and educational level.

Premarital sex. In general, women are less likely than men to accept premarital sex and premarital sex is more acceptable for men.

Premarital sex for women is unacceptable. This is true among women regardless of age or education.

Premarital sex for men, however, is viewed differently. Women with less than secondary education are twice as likely as their better-educated peers to accept premarital sex for men. For men, older respondents are more likely than younger men to accept premarital sex for men (11 percent compared with 7 percent).

Sexual intercourse. Eight percent of women and 33 percent for men admitted that they have ever had sex. Men started having sex at an earlier age than women. At age 17, only 4 percent of women have ever had sex. The corresponding proportion among men is 13 percent.

Liking the sexual partner is the most often cited reason for having sex (57 percent of women and 42 percent of men). One in three respondents had sex because they wanted to satisfy their curiosity. The percentage of women who said that they were under the influence of alcohol when they had sex is twice as high as that for men (8 percent compared with 4 percent).

PREFERENCE FOR CHILDREN

Overall, the ideal number of children among women is slightly lower than that for men (2.8 children compared with 3.0 children). These figures are higher than the ideal number expressed by respondents in the Indonesia YARHS, 2.6 children for women and 2.7 children for men.

For both women and men, younger respondents desire a smaller number of children than older respondents. For instance, women 15-19 want 2.6 children compared with 3.0 children for women 20-24. The corresponding figures for men are 2.9 and 3.1 children, respectively.

Decisionmaker on number of children. Individual decisions are not popular among both women and men; nine in ten respondents think that husband and wife together should decide on the number of children they would have. However, if an individual is to make a decision, men are more likely to say that the husband should make the decision (8 percent of men compared with 1 percent of women).

Education has a positive relationship with the likelihood of joint decision in the number of children a couple is going to have.

DATA SOURCE

Data presented in this report come from the 2002-2003 YARHS 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 YARHS sample covered 417 unmarried women and 455 unmarried men age 15-24. The YARHS sample was designed to provide estimates for Jayapura City.