

REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF

Family Planning
Knowledge, Attitude and Practice in Hong Kong
2017

BY

THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG

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Executive Summary

Survey Overview

A total of 14,718 living quarters were visited, and 12,982 households were successfully contacted. After excluding ineligible respondents, the sample yielded 1,805 married/cohabiting women between ages 15 and 49. Eventually 1,514 were successfully interviewed. The overall response rate of female respondents was 83.9%. Male partners were also interviewed for about 70% of the women (1,059 male respondents).

Profile of Women Respondents

- The mean age of the women increased from 34.8 years old in 1982 to 39.7 years in 2007 but decreased in to 38.7 years in 2017.
- There is an increasing trend of women with post-secondary education backgrounds. The figure rose from 2.4% in 1972 to 28.3% in 2017.
- 82.2% of the female respondents were permanent residents (Table 2.3.1).
- 48.5% of women have lived in Hong Kong since birth. Among those who have not been living in Hong Kong since birth, more than 90% were born in Mainland China (Table 2.3.2 & 2.3.3).
- 46.1% of the respondents were living in private housing, while 40.0% were living in public rental housing (Table 2.3.4).
- The majority of the respondents had 4 people in her household (31.3%). (Table 2.3.5)
- Besides the spouse, 75.2% of the respondents lived with her children and 12.2% of them had domestic workers in her household. (Table 2.3.5)
- Around 25% of the respondents had some forms of religious beliefs. (Table 2.4.1).
- Among those who were religious, 39.1% were Christian, while 29.7% were Buddhist (Table 2.4.2).

Economic Activity of Women

- In 2017, slightly less than half (48.6%) of the respondents fell into the HK\$10,000 - 29,999 income group.
- The majority of women's income (76.5%) took up 21%-50% of their household income. 16.5% of the women contributed to 50% or more of the household income. (Table 2.5.2).
- The proportion of women who reported that they have full-time jobs has been increasing steadily over the years, from 25.4% in 1977 to 31.6% in 1997 and 54.3% in 2017.
- The proportion of women who reported being housewives has been declining. The figure has decreased from 57.4% in 1997 to 33.8% in 2017 (Table 2.6.1 & Figure 2.6.2).
- The proportion of women engaged in part-time work has decreased from 25.9% in 1977 to 5.4% in 1992 but increased slightly to 11.2% in 2017 (Table 2.6.1).

- Among those who were working (including full-time and part-time jobs), most work as service workers and salespersons (39.7%) or clerks (25.5%; Table 2.6.3).

Married Life

- More than 90% of the respondents have married only once. Only 60.3% of respondents were permanent residents at the time of marriage/cohabitation (Table 2.7.1-2.7.2).
- The majority of respondents do not have any stepson/stepdaughters (97.1%; Table 2.7.3).
- The infertility rate showed a remarkable decrease compared with 25 years ago, and the drop is observed to be consistent in the previous surveys (from 24.8% in 1972 to 1.7% in 2017; Table 2.8.1). However, the proportion of infertile women in the community should not be that low.

Awareness and Usage of Sub-fertility Service

- Awareness of sub-fertility service increased with age.
- The majority (58.8%) of respondents were aware of the Sub-fertility Service provided by FPAHK, especially among the 35-39 age group (61.6%). Younger respondents (25-29) were less likely to be aware of the service (Table 2.9.1).
- Only 6.0% of those respondents who were aware of FPAHK Sub-fertility Service have used the service in 2012. (Table 2.9.2).
- Among respondents who were not aware of the service or did not use the service, almost all (97.1%) thought they did not need to use the service (Tables 2.9.1 – 2.9.3).
- The majority (83.2%) of respondents did not consult doctors or hospitals about sub-fertility services (Table 2.9.4).

Pregnancy, Parity and Attitudes towards Childbearing

Prevalence of Currently Pregnant

- The prevalence of current pregnancy is decreasing significantly throughout the below 25, 25-29 and 30-34 age groups. Specifically, the prevalence of current pregnancy for below 25 has decreased sharply to 0% in 2017. (Table 3.1.1 & Figure 3.1.1)
- There has been no significant change in other age groups (i.e., 35-39, 40-44, 45-49).
- The 35-39 year age group showed the highest rate of pregnancy (0.9%) among all age groups (Table 3.1.1 & Figure 3.1.1).

Parity Distribution

- Mean parity has been decreasing since 1972, reaching 1.3 parities per currently married or cohabiting woman in 2017.
- 2017 was consistent with the 2012 survey that women with one child made up the largest proportion 38.3%. (Table 3.2.1).

- More than half of those who had no children married for less than 3 years. (Table 3.2.2).
- Educational attainment and household income were found to be significant predictors of the number of parities.
- The proportion of respondents with higher income (\$30,000+) tend to be higher in the fewer parities group, such as 52.6% in 0 parity, 34.5% in 1 parity, 40.8% in 2 parities and 23.2% in 3 or more parities.
- The majority of respondents who have 3 or more children lived in public housing (70.6%) and were housewives.

Characteristics of Women with Zero Parity

- Most of the female respondent who had no children were found to be in the age of below 35 years old.
- The higher the educational attainment, the higher the prevalence rate of having no children.
- The prevalence of zero parity decreased with the number of married years.
- The prevalence of zero parity was higher among households with income of HK\$30,000 (27.9%) than among households with less than HK\$10,000. (8.0%)

Ideal Parity

- The trend of desiring one parity has been significantly increasing (7.5% in 1982 to 28.2% in 2017 for one parity) whereas the proportion of parity three has reduced from 18.9% in 1982 to 4.9% in 2017 (Table 3.4.1).
- Educational attainment was negatively associated with both the number of parity and the ideal number of parities among Hong Kong women in 2017 (Table 3.4.2).
- Female respondents who had higher income and living in private housing tended to desire fewer children.
- Among female who desired 3 children, 32.9% of them had full-time job.
- Among female respondents whose actual number of children was fewer than their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 30-34 group (25.6%), married less than 2 years (22.8%), had secondary education (55.5%), and only had 1 child (49.8%).
- Among female respondents whose actual number of children equal to their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 35-39 group (22.7%), married 11-20 years (37.5%), had secondary education (70.8%), and had 2 children (48.5%).
- Among female respondents whose actual number of children was more than their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 45-49 group (29.7%), married 11-20 years (42.7%), had secondary education (76.6%), and had 3 or more children (47.7%). (Table 3.5.1)

Characteristics of Women with More Children Than They Desired

- There is a decreasing proportion of respondents with more children than they desired among those aged 40-49. 58.5% of women with aged 40-49 had more children than they desired in 2017, comparing with 73% of women in 2012 and 73.9% in 2007.

- A declining trend on prevalence of respondents having more children than they desired across educational attainments was found continuously from 1997.
- Among those who have more children than they desired, around two thirds of them (65.8%) were currently using contraceptive methods and there is a decreasing trend since 2002.
- The major contraceptive method used for these women was condoms (63.0%) (Table 3.5.2).
- “I don’t think that I’ll be pregnant” (28.6%) was one of the major reasons for the respondents who are not currently using contraception and have more children than they desired (Table 3.5.2).
- The majority of women who had more children than they desired have never practiced abortion before. (73.0%; Table 3.5.2).

Desire for Children

- The proportion of desiring more children has increased from 13.1% in 2002 to 20.3% in 2012, and then decreased to 15.3% in 2017. There is also a significant proportion of 14.6% undecided. (Table 3.6.1)
- The major reason for desiring to have additional children was “I like children” (37.8%; Table 3.6.2).
- The major reasons that made respondents desiring not to have additional children was “too much responsibility for raising children” (20.6%; Table 3.6.3).
- The major reasons that made respondents desiring to have one child was “the financial burden of raising children is heavy” (27.3%; Table 3.6.4)
- For those female respondents who had living children or were currently pregnant, a rising trend of desiring children again has increased since 2007, from 6.8% to 12.3% in 2012, then decreased to 10.1% in 2017. (Table 3.6.5)
- The proportion of not desiring to have more children for the zero parity had increased from 10.5% in 1972 and peaked at 2007 (39.5%) but recovered to 27.6% in 2017. (Table 3.6.6)
- More than half of the respondents did not care of the gender of parity. (Table 3.6.7)
- For those respondents who would like to give birth to a son, but she gave birth to a daughter finally, 57.5% would like to give birth to a son again. Comparatively, for those respondents who would like to give birth to a daughter but giving birth to a son finally, only 50.4% would like to give birth to a daughter. (Table 3.6.8-3.6.9)
- 66.3% of respondents would discuss with spouse on the number of parities preferred. More than 90% of respondents thought that the discussion with the spouse on the number of parities was adequate. Around 90% of respondents shared the same views with the spouse on the number of parities preferred. (Table 3.6.11- 3.6.12)

Characteristics of Women Desiring No Additional Children

- The majority (65.1%) of women who desired no additional children aged between 40 and 49 in 2017 (Table 3.7.1).
- The shorter the time that the women stayed in Hong Kong, the lower the prevalence they desired no more children, except for those women who lived in Hong Kong since birth or more than 15 years.
- The prevalence of desiring no more children was approximately the same for all household income group.

- For women with lower educational backgrounds, the majority did not want more children (Table 3.7.1).

Giving Birth to the Children If Get Pregnant Accidentally

- 62.8% of women would/possibly would give birth to children arising from accidental pregnancies (Table 3.8.1).
- The main reasons for those women that would/possibly would give birth to the children are “do not want to kill life” (52.1%; Table 3.8.2).
- The main reasons for those women that would not/possibly would not give birth to the children are “we have enough children already” (59.1%; Table 3.8.3).

Housework Distribution and Time Spent on Children

- The respondents thought that they did more housework than they intended (Actual: 56.7%, Ideal 49.6%) and the husband should put more time in the housework. (Actual: 27.1%, Ideal 33.6%) (Table 3.9.1)
- Wife has spent about double of the time of husband on teaching children.
- Ideally, husband should spend more time in teaching children. (Actual: 15.4 hours, Ideal: 22.4 hours) (Table 3.9.2)

Difficulties in Raising up Children and the Policy to Encourage Giving Birth

- 23.1% of respondents thought that the “heavy economic burden” was their main difficulty in raising children (Table 3.10.1).
- Economic encouragement and educational help are more effective methods in encouraging giving birth compared to others (Table 3.10.2).

Knowledge and Practice of Contraception

Usage of and Satisfaction with Specific Contraceptive Methods

- “Male condoms” (86.3%) was still the most common contraceptive method ever used by the respondents in 2017, and, at the same time, they received the highest satisfaction level (96.2%; Table 4.1.1).
- Female condom, contraceptive patch, vasectomy and spermicide were the least prevalent type of contraceptive methods, and the percentage of satisfaction of those methods were relatively low across the years
- Male condom (96.2%) and female sterilization (91.4%) were the most satisfying contraceptive methods.
- The overall prevalence rate of current contraception use was 68.6% in 2017 (Table 4.2.1).

Current Principal Method

- Most respondents use condoms as their principal method. The proportion has steadily increased from 20.2% in 1982 to 79.8% in 2017 (Table 4.3.1).
- Female sterilization has dropped sharply from 27.5% in 1982 to 2.9% in 2017 while rhythm has dropped from 11.2% in 1982 to 1.6% in 2017.
- More than 95% of respondents did not take any emergency contraceptive pills in the past year (Table 4.3.2).
- Among those who have taken emergency contraceptive pills in the past year, 56.4% got them from the drug store (Table 4.3.3).

Reasons for Discontinuation of/not Practicing Contraception

- The major reason for those who discontinued and did not practice contraception was that they did not think they would be pregnant. (24.3%; Table 4.4.1).
- Among those respondents who indicated that they did not require contraception, 62.7% of them had secondary education. (Table 4.4.2).
- Around 86% of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs have not had any induced abortions (Table 4.4.3).
- Half of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs have a household income of >\$30,000 in 2017. (Table 4.4.4).

Responsibility of Contraception

- Majority of the respondents (71.0%) claimed that contraception was a joint responsibility by both parties. (Table 4.5.1)
- About 65.5% of respondents have discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse. (Table 4.5.2)
- Among those respondents which have discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse, 94.7% thought that the discussion was adequate. Besides that, 95.8% of their spouse considered the contraceptive issues proposed by the respondents were either very acceptable or quite acceptable. (Table 4.5.3-4.5.4)
- The more education the respondents received, the higher probability that she would discuss the contraceptive issues with the spouse. (Table 4.5.5)

General Contraceptive Knowledge

- Over two-thirds of respondents (68.2%) scored below 5 on general contraceptive knowledge, with the average score at 3.5 out of 10 points. (Table 4.6.1).
- “Using oral pills will cause weight gain” (50.7%) is the question with the most wrong answers (Table 4.6.2).

- Age group and the number of parities were not found to be significant predictors of the average scores of contraception knowledge.
- Respondents who had higher educational attainment tended to have higher scores. (Table 4.6.3)

FPAHK Services

Awareness & Usage of FPAHK services

- Slightly less than 70% of female respondents were aware of the “contraceptive methods guidance services”. This was the service that is the most known among respondents.
- “Osteoporosis treatment” (10.9%) had the lowest awareness among all FPAHK services. (Table 5.1.1).
- “Women’s health services” (18.9%), was the FPAHK services that are most frequently used by women respondents. Other services had a minority usage, especially for menopause services and osteoporosis treatment, no one has ever used these services (Table 5.1.2).
- Among those who have used the service, contraceptive methods guidance services were used relatively more recently (5.4 years) while FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services are used a long time ago (10.8 years) (Table 5.1.3)

Contraceptive Product Supply in FPAHK

- 88.6% never used the contraceptive products in FPAHK. (Table 5.2.1).
- For those who were using or have ever used this service, the average year that they used the contraceptive products last was 6.8 years. (Table 5.2.2).
- Among those who have never used the contraceptive products in FPAHK, the main reasons were “not sure how to get contraceptive products in FPAHK” (28.8%) and “Don’t know how to go to FPAHK” (24.4%). (Table 5.2.3)
- Among those who have used the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK before but did not use it anymore, the two main reasons were “the office of FPAHK is inconvenient to visit” (34.9%) and “Not necessary to practice contraception” (20.7%). (Table 5.2.4)
- Moreover, only 10.7% would get the contraceptive products in FPAHK in the future. (Table 5.2.5).

Awareness of FPAHK Advertisements

- Only 29.1% of the female respondents were aware of the TV advertisement of “family big or small, family planning is the best of all (big family series)”. Another same type of TV advertisement with different series (father series) had an even lower awareness (19.8%).
- This decrease in awareness of the TV advertisements may be contributed to the wide use of Internet.

Perception of the Services Provided to Society

- More than 80% of the female respondents either agreed or totally agreed that the services provided by FPAHK could meet the needs of society (Table 5.4.1).

- Almost 80% thought that it was appropriate or appropriate under regulations to provide contraceptive services to unmarried youth aged below 18. (Table 5.4.2).
- Among those respondents who thought that it was inappropriate, the main reasons were “youth may be promiscuous” (52.8%) and “It may mislead the youth that they are allowed to have sex at their age” (46.5%) (Table 5.4.3)

Induced Abortion and Unwanted Births

Induced Abortion

- The percentage who have ever had an induced abortion decreased from 20.6% in 2007 to 11.5% in 2017 (Table 6.1.1 and Figure 6.1.1).
- Among those who have ever practiced induced abortion, 84.4% of them were pregnant for less than 12 weeks at the time/ last time of surgery. Moreover, only 52% of them were married at that time. (Table 6.1.2 & 6.1.3)
- The prevalence of abortion increased as the age increased. (Table 6.1.4).
- The prevalence of induced abortion in all age groups has decreased as well compared to 2007 (Table 6.1.4 & Figure 6.1.2).
- With respect to parity specific abortion rate, the prevalence for 0 to 2 parities has declined when compared to 2012, while the prevalence among 3 parities has increased in 2017. (Table 6.1.5 and Figure 6.1.3).
- The proportion of respondents that practiced contraception before induced abortion has decreased from 50.5% in 2007 to 31.2% in 2017 (Table 6.1.6).
- For those respondents who have practiced contraception before induced abortion or those who have not practiced contraception and got pregnant due to the discontinuation of contraceptive methods, the majority used male condom (60.9%) as their major contraceptive method followed by rhythm (13.0%). (Table 6.1.7)
- The female respondents with higher household income and educational attainment tend to report fewer induced abortions.

Information for Last Induced Abortion

- The most widely cited reason for induced abortion was “I am not mentally prepared for having children”. (46.8%; Table 6.2.1).
- The person who decided to have induced abortion was mainly the women themselves (87.3%) followed by the baby’s father. (17.9%; Table 6.3.1).
- The proportion of respondents who have had their last induced abortion in Mainland China rose from 28.7% in 1987 to 58.4% in 2017. That of FPAHK rose from 5.2% in 1987 to 13.3% in 2017 (Table 6.4.1).
- The most common channel for people to know where to practice induced abortion is by relatives/friends (46.8%), followed by the respondent herself (24.9%) and private doctors (12.1%; Table 6.4.2).
- Among respondents who did not perform induced abortion surgery in FPAHK or local hospitals, 50.4% were “not living in Hong Kong at that time”. (Table 6.4.3).

- Only 1.7% of the respondents who practiced induced abortion did not pay for it. The mean was HK\$2,673.1 (Table 6.4.4).

Psychological and Physiological Change After Induced Abortion

- More than 70% of respondents felt very guilty or somewhat guilty after induced abortion. One fifth of the respondents had no feeling after induced abortion (Table 6.5.1)
- Slightly more than half of the respondents chose not to perform that induced abortion if she could start all over again. (Table 6.5.2)

Sex Life

Health Condition and Life

- More than 70% of female respondents thought that their health condition was either “very good” or “good”. Almost 80% of female respondents said that she was either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the life. (Table 7.1.1 & 7.1.2).
- Young respondents were more likely to express extreme feelings such as “very satisfied” or “very unsatisfied” towards their lives. As the respondents’ age increased, they were more likely to express a neutral feeling towards their lives. (Table 7.1.3).
- The higher the household income, the more satisfaction the respondents had towards their lives. (Table 7.1.3).

Attitude towards Sex Life

- More than half (57.4%) of women were very interested or interested in their sex life. (Table 7.2.1).
- The prevalence of women who were very interested or interested in their sex life increase among all age groups. (Table 7.2.2).
- The prevalence of interest in sex life decreased with increasing number of married/ cohabited years.
- The respondents with post-secondary education had the highest prevalence of interest in sex life compared to other educational attainments. (Table 7.2.2)
- More respondents thought that their relationship with spouse improved rather than deteriorated although still majority of thought that it was the same compared to 12 months ago (Table 7.2.3)

Satisfaction towards Marriage

- More than 80% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with their marriage. (Table 7.3.1).
- The prevalence of satisfaction of marriage did not decrease as age increased in 2017 (Table 7.3.2).
- Those who had married/ cohabited for a shorter time tended to have slightly higher satisfaction of marriage.

- Those who have attained post- secondary level had a slightly higher prevalence, the prevalence increased from 85.6% in 2007 to 89.1% in 2012, and then decreased to 85.3% in 2017. (Table 7.3.2)

Satisfaction towards Sex Life

- Approximately seven in ten (74.6%) women stated that they were satisfied with their sex life in 2017. (Table 7.4.1).
- Among all the age groups, those aged below 25 were the most satisfied in their sex life (88.6%) while those aged 45-49 show the least satisfaction (66.7%; Table 7.4.2).
- Satisfaction declined with the years of marriage.
- Those who attained post-secondary education level had a slightly higher prevalence. (Table 7.4.3).

Relationship of Satisfaction with Marriage and Satisfaction with Sex Life

- More than 80% of married / cohabited women thought their satisfaction with their marriage was related to their satisfaction with their sex life. (Table 7.5.1).
- Younger respondents tended to have a higher prevalence of thinking that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life.
- Almost 90% of respondents who were married for 2 years or less thought that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life.
- Respondents with higher educational attainment had a higher prevalence to think that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life. (Table 7.5.2).

Request for Sex and Refusal of Sexual Requests

- 96.5% of the women agreed that women could initiate sexual requests, and the practice of request has increased from 33.5% in 2002 to 48.2% in 2017 (Table 7.6.1 – 7.6.2).
- In real life, most women know they can refuse sexual activities from their spouses, but they hardly do it. (Table 7.6.3 – 7.6.4).

Frequency of Sex in the Past 30 Days

- The proportion of respondents that did not have sexual intercourse in the past 30 days has increased from 9.5% in 2012 to 12.2% in 2017.
- The mean frequency of sex in the past 30 days was 3.5 times, and the median was 3 times. (Table 7.7.1).
- Women below age 25 had the highest mean frequency (5.2) of having sex. The older the age, the less frequent the women had sexual intercourse (Table 7.7.2).

- Respondents with higher education level had more sex in the past 30 days compared to respondents with lower education level. (Table 7.7.3).
- The mean frequency of sex decreased with increasing number of parities. (Table 7.7.4)
- Sexual satisfaction, marital satisfaction and interest in sex life were all related to the frequency of sex. The higher the sexual or marital satisfaction or interest in sex, the higher mean frequency of sex the women had. (Table 7.7.6 – 7.7.8)

Factors Affecting Sex Life

- “Small living place” was considered the major factor affecting sex life. The figure has risen from approximately 10% in previous years to 27.5% in 2017 (Table 7.8.1).
- Other factors include “living with children” (26.2%) and “work pressure” (18.9%). (Table 7.8.1).

Sex Problems

- 83.7% of the respondents’ spouse did not encounter any problems in sex interest. However, 10.4% of the respondents were not interested in sex. (Table 7.9.1)
- Nearly 90% of respondents’ spouses did not encounter any problems of erection and ejaculation. 94.5% of respondents’ spouse did not take stamina medicine in order to enhance sexual ability. (Table 7.9.2 - 7.9.4)

Professional Advice on Counselling

- The majority of the respondents claim that they (95.7%) and their spouse (93.1%) did not consult doctors for sex problems.
- 4.7% of female respondents did not know whether their spouse consults doctors or not (Table 7.10.1).
- More than 90% of females did not consult anyone because of sex problems, while only 74.4% of females said that their spouse does not consult anyone.
- 15.4% did not know whether their spouse consults anyone or not. Among those who consult someone for sex problems, “friends” (wives: 6.0%, husbands: 3.6%) and “medical professionals” (wives: 2.9%, husbands: 1.7%) were the most popular consulting targets (Table 7.10.2).
- More respondents did not consider they need any professional advice or counseling about sexual subjects in 2017 comparing to that in 2007. (72.0% in 2007 increased to 88.2% in 2017).
- The sexual subjects they would like to seek professional advice or counseling were “conflicts between couples” (8.9%), “conflicts of work and family” (5.3%) and “new contraceptive methods” (5.2%). (Table 7.10.3).

KAP Survey for Males: Respondent Profile

A total of 1,059 husband questionnaires were received and their results are as follows:

- 62.9% of husbands were aged 40 or above, the mean age was 43.3. (Table 8.1.1).
- In terms of educational attainment, most of the couples have attained secondary education (95.5% for husbands and 94.0% for wives; Table 8.2.1).
- There were more husbands that work for full-time job than the wives. (91.4% for husbands and 50.9% for wives; Table 8.2.1 & 8.2.2).
- The majority of the couples were both working full-time (47.2%), another one third (32.8%) of the couples were that the husbands were working full time while their wives were not working. (Table 8.2.3)
- The proportion of husbands that were working as sales and related job decreased to 16.9% in 2017. The proportion of respondents who did arts and crafts related job has risen to 12.3% in 2017. (Table 8.2.4).
- There were more husbands who were permanent resident than wives. (Husband: 94.0%; wife: 83.9%) (Table 8.3.1)
- The majority of the husbands and wives were in their first marriage, but this proportion has decreased from 94.5% in 1997 to 89.5% in 2017. (Table 8.3.3)
- Slightly more wives have some type of religious belief than their husbands (23.7% versus 19.7%; Table 8.4.1).
- Among those who had religious belief, 36.8% of husbands and 41.0% of wife believed in Christian while 31.6% of husbands and 29.1% of wives believed in Buddhist. (Table 8.4.2).
- 34.6% of husbands had incomes that contributed 81-100% of the household income, while only 2.6% of wives have this proportion.
- About 80% of husbands contribute at least half to the household income compared to 17.2% of wives (Table 8.5.1).
- 92.6% of husbands and 95.0% of wives have married only once.
- There were more husbands (85.3%) who were permanent resident at time of marriage/ cohabitation than wives (61.3%; Table 8.6.1 & 8.6.2).
- The majority of husbands and wives do not have any stepsons or stepdaughters (Table 8.6.3).

KAP Survey for Males: Parity and Attitudes towards Childbearing

Choice on Parity

- In 80.5% of couples, both partners did not want to have children. And only 16.8% indicated that both want to have children. (Table 9.1.1).
- There was no significant difference in abortion between couples who have discussed number of children and those who have not (Table 9.1.2).
- Males who have discussed with partners on the number of children had a slightly higher proportion (60.7%) in achieving ideal number of children than those who have not discussed. (58.7%; Table 9.1.3)
- In 2017, 41.0% of husbands and 46.2% of wives desired to have two parities. (Table 9.1.4).

- Slightly more wives did not desire to have children (again) (Wives: 68.4%, husbands: 63.8%). (Table 9.1.5).
- Regarding the reasons for desiring more children, the proportion of “I like children” has doubled in 2017 for both parties (60.1% for husbands, 59.6% for wives) compared to that in 2012.
- For the husbands and wives who did not want to have children, the main reason was that “the financial burden of raising children is heavy”. (Husbands: 18.3%, wives: 19.7%). Another main reason is “too much responsibility for raising children” (Husbands: 12.7%, wives: 12.7%; Table 9.1.7).
- For the respondents that desired to have one child, husbands and wives shared similar views. 32.5% of husbands and 26.5% of wives thought that “the financial burden of raising children is heavy” was the main reason. (Table 9.1.8).
- More than half of the husbands and wives did not care about the gender of parity. Husbands tend to prefer to give birth to sons while wives tend to prefer to give birth to daughters if they give birth to one child only (Table 9.1.9).
- For those respondents who would like to give birth to a son but gave birth to a daughter finally, 65.0% of husbands and 61.6% of wives would like to give birth to a son again.
- Comparatively, for those respondents who would like to give birth to a daughter but she gave birth to a son finally, approximately 50% of the husbands and wives would like to give birth to a daughter again. (Table 9.1.10 & 9.1.11)

Giving Birth to Children from Accidental Pregnancies

- Close to two-thirds of husbands (66.9%) and wives (63.1%) would/possibly would give birth to the child if they got pregnant accidentally (Table 9.2.1).
- The main reason for husbands wanting their wives to give birth/possibly give birth if their wives got pregnant accidentally was “I have the responsibility” (50.9%). This was the second most important reason for wives (49.1%).
- For the wives, the main reason was “I do not want to kill life” (52.0%). This was the second most important reason for husbands (49.1%; Table 9.2.2).
- The main reason for those husbands and wives that would not/ possibly would not give birth to the children was “we have enough children already” (Husbands: 63.6%; wives: 60.9%) followed by “cannot afford to raise the children financially” (Husbands: 39.3%; wives: 35.2%) (Table 9.2.3).

Housework Distribution and Time Spent on Children

- Both husbands and wives reported that the actual housework contribution of husbands was only around half of that of the wives. They all believed that husbands need to contribute more (Table 9.3.1).
- Both husbands and wives said that wives spent more time than husbands in teaching children. However, wives claimed that they spent much more time in teaching children than what husbands said the time that wives have spent. (Wives: 41.7 hours, Husbands: 38.9 hours).
- The ideal number of hours reported by both husbands and wives are quite similar (Table 9.3.2).

Difficulties in Raising Children and Policies Encouraging Giving Birth

- 32.6% of husbands and 23.7% of wives thought that “heavy economic burden” was their main difficulty in raising children.
- “Big responsibility” (husbands: 22.8%; wives: 25.2%) was the other main difficulty. 7.1% of husbands said that their difficulty is “lack of time to communicate with children”, compared with only 4.0% of wives saying so (Table 9.4.1).
- More than half of the husbands and wives thought that “educational subsidies”, “medical subsidies”, “free children education”, “buy/ change/ rent house subsidies”, “powdered milk subsidies” and “enhance education quality” were the policies that can encourage giving birth. (Table 9.4.2).

KAP Survey for Males: Knowledge and Practice of Contraception

General Contraceptive Knowledge

- The majority of male respondents had inadequate contraceptive knowledge. The average score was 3.2. This figure is significantly lower than that of the female respondents (3.6).
- Only 28.2% men correctly answered 5 or more items. This figure was 31.8% among women (Table 10.1.1).
- Similar to their wives, most male respondents did not answer correctly about “using oral pills will gain weight” (39.2%), “male condoms will be worn out if putting Vaseline on it” (36.9%) and “the contraceptive effectiveness of male condom is the same as the oral pills” (27.3%).
- More than half of the respondents answer correctly on “oral pills have to be regularly taken every day”. (46.8%) (Table 10.1.2)
- Age group was not found to be a significant predictor of the scores of answering the 10-item questions among males.
- The result was significantly associated with the educational attainment of the husband – the higher the educational attainment, the higher the average score.
- Only 2.3% of men with a primary education answered 5-10 items correctly. This figure was 39.8% among men who had a tertiary education (Table 10.1.3).

Attitudes towards Responsibility in Family Planning

- More than 70% of the couples believed family planning was the responsibility of both husbands and wives.
- Fewer wives thought family planning was the sole responsibility of wives (from 20.2% in 1997 to 2.9% in 2017; Table 10.2.1).

Attitudes towards Provision of Contraceptive Service to Unmarried Youths

- Almost 80% of the husbands and wives agreed or agreed agree with limitation that it was suitable to provide contraceptive service to unmarried youths.

- Among those who thought that it was inappropriate to provide contraceptive service to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, the main reason was “youth may be promiscuous” (Husband: 50.3%; wife: 48.9%; Table 10.3.2).

Awareness of FPAHK Advertisements

- Slightly more husbands were aware of FPAHK’s advertisement “the choice is yours, plan ahead and plan it well: how many is enough” (Husband: 27.6%; Wife: 30.5%).
- More wives were aware of the advertisement of “big family series. (Husband: 24.0%; Wife: 30.0%) (Table 10.4.1).

KAP Survey for Males: Communication between Partners

Discussion of Parity

- 69.3% of husbands and 68.5% of wives have discussed the number of parities with their spouse (Table 11.1.1).
- Although only two-thirds of respondents have discussed this subject with their spouse, nearly all of them consider the discussion adequate (95.2% for husbands, 93.2% for wives; Table 11.1.2).
- 95.2% of the husbands and 93.2% of the wives thought that they had the same ideas as their spouse on the number of parities (Table 11.1.3).

Discussion of Contraception

- About two-thirds of respondents have discussed contraception with their spouse, and this figure has increased from 2007 (husbands: from 56.6% in 2007 to 65.2% in 2012; wives: from 57.1% in 2007 to 63.6% in 2012; Table 11.2.1)
- Over 90% of respondents who have such discussions think their discussion is adequate (Table 11.2.2).
- Over 95% of husbands and wives express acceptance or strong acceptance of their spouse’s ideas about contraception. Nevertheless, the proportion of “very acceptable” reduced from 2007 (Table 11.2.3).

KAP Survey for Males: Sex Life

Health Condition and Life

- Around 70% of husbands thought that their health condition was either “very good” or “good”.
- More than 70% of husbands and wives said that they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with life. There was no gender difference (Table 12.1.1 & 12.1.2).

Attitude towards Sex Life

- The proportions of husbands and wives who felt very interested/interested in their sex life have increased gradually from 2002 to 2017 (Husband: 59.1% in 2002 to 72.6% in 2017; wife: 34.7% in 2002 to 56.0% in 2017).
- Men continued to show more interest in sex life than women (Table 12.2.1).
- The prevalence of interest in sex life decreased with age. (Table 12.2.2).

Satisfaction with Marriage

- Similar proportions of husbands said that they were very satisfied/ satisfied with marriage (Table 12.3.1).
- The prevalence of very satisfied/ satisfied with marriage generally tended to decrease with age, except for aged 30-34 in 2017. (Table 12.3.2).

Satisfaction with Sex Life

- About 73% of husbands and wives were satisfied with their sex life. (Table 12.4.1).
- The prevalence of satisfaction with sex life tended to decrease with age. Husbands generally had higher prevalence of satisfaction by age compared to wives. (Table 12.4.2)

Relationship between Satisfaction with Marriage and Satisfaction with Sex Life

- The majority of the couple agreed that the satisfaction with marriage was related to the satisfaction with sex life.
- The prevalence of both husbands and wives that believed the relationship increased comparing to past surveys. (Table 12.5.2).

Requests for Sex and Refusal of Sexual Requests

- The majority of both male (97.9%) and female (96.9%) respondents agreed that sexual requests can be made by women (Table 12.6.1).
- 70.4% of husbands can certainly accept sexual requests from women. Wives' acceptance level was lower, with only 48.3% thinking that they can certainly make sexual requests. (Table 12.6.1 & 12.6.2).
- Nearly all of the husbands (97.5%) and wives (98.0%) thought that they can refuse their spouse's sexual requests (Table 12.6.3).
- In reality, only 69.1% of husbands and 60.6% of wives felt that they can certainly accept/practice refusal of sexual requests (Table 12.6.4).

Factors Affecting Sex Life

- The factors influencing sex life have changed dramatically in 2017 compared to those in 2007 and 2012.

- Limited living space has become the major factor hindering sex life (60.9% for husbands and 60.6% for wives), following by pressure-related factors (57.6% for husbands and 49.9% for wives). (Table 12.7.1).

Sex Problems

- 89.8% of the husbands claimed that they did not have any problems in their interest in sex, while 85.4% of wives said their spouse does not have any problems in their interest in sex. (Table 12.8.1).
- The majority of husbands said that they did not have erection or ejaculation problems, and their wives generally agreed with that (Table 12.8.2 and Table 12.8.3).
- Nearly all husbands (98.1%) did not take medicine in order to enhance sexual stamina. Wives (96.0%) had similar perceptions (Table 12.8.4).
- The proportions of husbands thought that their wives did not have those problems were less than the perception of wives, because the husbands were not sure about their wives' conditions. (Table 12.8.5).

Professional Counselling

- The majority of the husbands and wives said that they and their spouse did not consult doctors about sex problems. Only less than 5% of husbands or wives were not sure about that (Table 12.9.1).
- More than 85% of husbands and wives said that they did not consult anyone about personal sex problems (Table 12.9.2).
- Among those who consulted someone for the sex problems, they were more likely to consult them with their friends. (Table 12.9.2).
- More than 80% of husbands and wives said that they did not need any advice on on the sexual subjects or family related issues. 6.3% of husbands and 8.9% of wives would like to know more about “conflicts between couples” while 5.0% of husbands and 6.0% of wives would like to know more about “conflicts of work and family”. (Table 12.9.3).

Violence in Intimate Relationships

- The prevalence of mental, physical and sexual violence in both husbands and wives were low with percentages less than 1.5%.
- It should be noted that the percentage of refuse to answer in wives regarding to the question “suffered from sexual violence by partner(s) was 2.2%. (Table 12.10.1)

Chapter 1 Survey Background

1.1 Research Background

The Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (FPAHK) has been conducting a territory-wide household Survey on Family Planning Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) every 5 years since 1967. It tracks changing trends in couples' knowledge, attitudes and behavior with regard to marriage and family formation, pregnancy and contraception, and sexual relationships.

Consumer Search Group (CSG) is responsible for the entire fieldwork execution, data collection and processing and a draft report for FPAHK for the 2017 study.

1.2 Target Population

For the female part, the target population is the same as the previous KAP Studies, consisting of only currently married or cohabited women in the prime childbearing ages of 15-49 as they contribute the most to the prevailing fertility level and have the greatest potential of using various methods of contraception. In order to compare the thoughts of women with men, at least 70% of women's husbands are interviewed so as to make the survey more systematic.

1.3 Sampling Frame and Sampling Method

FPAHK provided CSG with a sample of 15,000 living quarters (LQs) which was systematically drawn by the Census & Statistics Department (C&SD) using random sampling method. Based on the 15,000 LQs, CSG further selected randomly 14,718 LQs systematically and proportionately to represent the LQs in each of the 18 District Boards of the territory.

1.4 Fieldwork Operation

To ensure the interviews of the KAP Study 2017 were carried out smoothly, a pilot survey was conducted on 27 July to 6 August 2017 prior to the main survey with the objective to ascertain the proposed survey methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork logistics. A total of 21 couples were interviewed for pilot testing.

In terms of respondent selection, a nuclear family is the basic unit from which an eligible woman is requested to participate in the survey. Her spouse will be asked to participate a separate survey as well. The survey for husband consists of two parts. For the first part, we will start by using face-to-face interviews. If the face-to-face interview approach is rejected by the respondents or if the spouse cannot be contacted, the questionnaire will be left for respondents for their self-completion. For the second part, self-completion by the sampled household will be used as it covers embarrassing topics.

1.5 Response Rate

Subjects for this part of the survey are married or cohabited women with age between 15 and 49 and their spouse. The target sample size of women and men are 1,500 and 1,050 respectively. Finally, we achieved 1,514 of women samples and 1,059 of men samples. The Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department (HKCSD) systematically selected a random sample from living quarters.

When fieldwork was completed, 14,718 living quarters had been visited. As shown in Table 1.5.1, a total of 12,982 households were successfully contacted, out of which 12.8% contained married/ cohabited women in the required age group. Based on this percentage, 145 women were estimated to be missed from the non-contact households. Altogether, the sample should yield about 1,805 married/ cohabited women with age between 15 and 49. The response rate of women was 83.9% compared to the 2012 study. (Table 1.5.2)

Table 1.5.1 Summary of KAP Study 2017 fieldwork results

2017 Fieldwork statistics	
Total Completed (Female) ^①	1,514
Non-eligible	9,957
Unknown eligibility, households refusal	1,259
Unknown eligibility, Language problems	106
Eligible, Respondent not in HK	27
Eligible, refused by respondent	119
Total living quarters refused ^②	11,468
Total living quarters contacted ^{①+②}	12,982
Vacant / Not residential address	464
Refused by security guard	141
Non-contact	1,131
Total living quarters non-contacted	1,736

Table 1.5.2 Response rate of KAP Study 2017

LQ with married/ cohabited woman	
contacted living quarter with suitable women	1,660
contacted living quarter	12,982
proportion of contacted living quarters with suitable women	12.8%
Expected non-contacted living quarters with suitable women	145
Expected living quarters with suitable women	1,805
Response rate of women	83.9%

1.6 Comparison of Sample and Census Age Distribution

The proportion of married or cohabited women below the age of 35 has decreased in KAP 2017, from 31.7% in 2012 to 30.3 in 2017. This proportion was the second highest among all KAP studies since 1997. On the contrary, an increasing trend was detected from 2006 Bi-census to 2016 Bi-census.

The age segment of 15-19 in KAP studies has increased since 2007 (0.1% - 0.3%), while the same age group in census remained steady since 2007 (0.1%).

Other age groups have some fluctuations over the six KAPs. (Table 1.6.1)

Table 1.6.1 Distribution of currently married or cohabited women by age, 1991 – 2017 Census and KAP Survey sample

Age	1991 Census %	1992 KAP %	1996 Bi-census %	1997 KAP %	2001 Census %	2002 KAP %	2006 Bi-census %	2007 KAP %	2011 Census %	2012 KAP %	2016 Bi-census %	2017 KAP %
15-19	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
20-24	4.0	2.3	3.0	1.6	2.3	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.3	2.9	1.2	2.0
25-29	17.6	10.2	12.4	7.7	9.8	8.0	8.1	7.2	8.5	8.9	7.6	9.8
30-34	25.9	27.3	22.8	20.7	18.9	18.3	17.9	14.1	18.3	19.7	19.8	18.2
35-39	23.0	24.8	24.8	26.5	25.0	22.8	22.1	22.4	22.6	22.5	23.9	22.2
40-44	18.5	21.5	20.4	25.5	24.4	24.8	25.8	25.2	23.5	25.2	24.3	20.7
45-49	10.8	13.7	16.3	17.9	19.4	24.3	24.3	29.7	25.7	20.7	23.1	26.8
Summary												
15-34	47.8	39.9	38.5	30.1	31.1	28.1	27.8	22.7	28.2	31.7	28.7	30.3
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 married women	901,723	1,681	1,075,354	1,511	1,121,556	1,607	1,057,291	1,510	1,026,486	1,518	1,018,127	1514

Chapter 2 Respondent Profile

2.1 Age Distribution of Women

The mean age of women increased from 34.8 years old in 1982 to 39.7 years old in 2007 but decreased to 38.7 years old in 2017. There is an overall increasing trend in terms of age and it is believed that this can be attributed to two factors: women marrying late and ageing of the population. The age distribution also shows the proportions of the older age brackets, including 40-44 years old (from 18.9% in 1972 to 24.3% in 2017), were rising over times. (Table 2.1.1 and Figure 2.1.1)

The age distribution also shows the proportion of women aged below 25 years old and 25-29 years old had been declining significantly. 'Below 25' decreased from 11.7% in 1972 to 2.3% in 2017 and '25-29' decreased from 16.3% in 1972 to 7.6% in 2017.

Table 2.1.1 Distribution of women by age, 1972 – 2017

Age	1972 %	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Below 25	11.7	13.0	10.1	5.1	2.4	1.7	1.8	1.4	3.1	2.3	↓↓
25-29	16.3	21.2	21.3	19.3	10.2	7.7	8.0	7.2	8.9	7.6	↓↓
30-34	14.2	15.9	24.2	26.1	27.3	20.7	18.3	14.1	19.7	19.8	NS
35-39	21.2	14.6	13.4	22.2	24.8	26.5	22.8	22.4	22.5	23.9	NS
40-44	18.9	17.6	13.0	14.2	21.5	25.5	24.8	25.2	25.2	24.3	↑
45-49	17.7	17.7	18.0	13.0	13.7	17.9	24.3	29.7	20.7	23.1	NS
Mean age (15-49)	35.8	35.0	34.8	35.3	36.7	38.5	38.7	39.7	38.0	38.7	↑↑
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Total respondents	2,270	1,550	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	

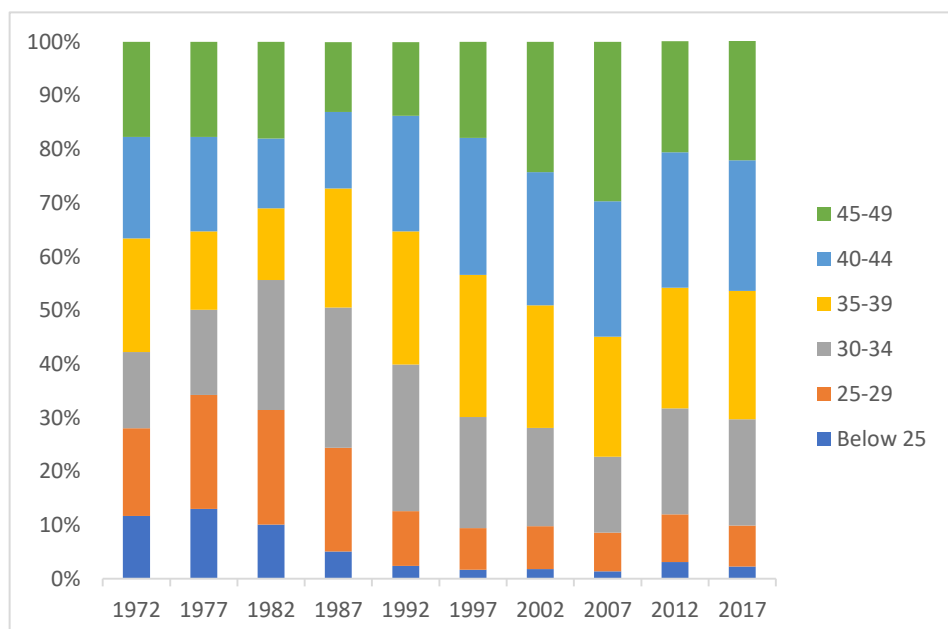
Base: All female respondents

↓↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1972 - 2017; $p < .01$

↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1972 - 2017; $p < .05$

NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend

Figure 2.1.1 Distribution of respondents by age groups, 1972 – 2017



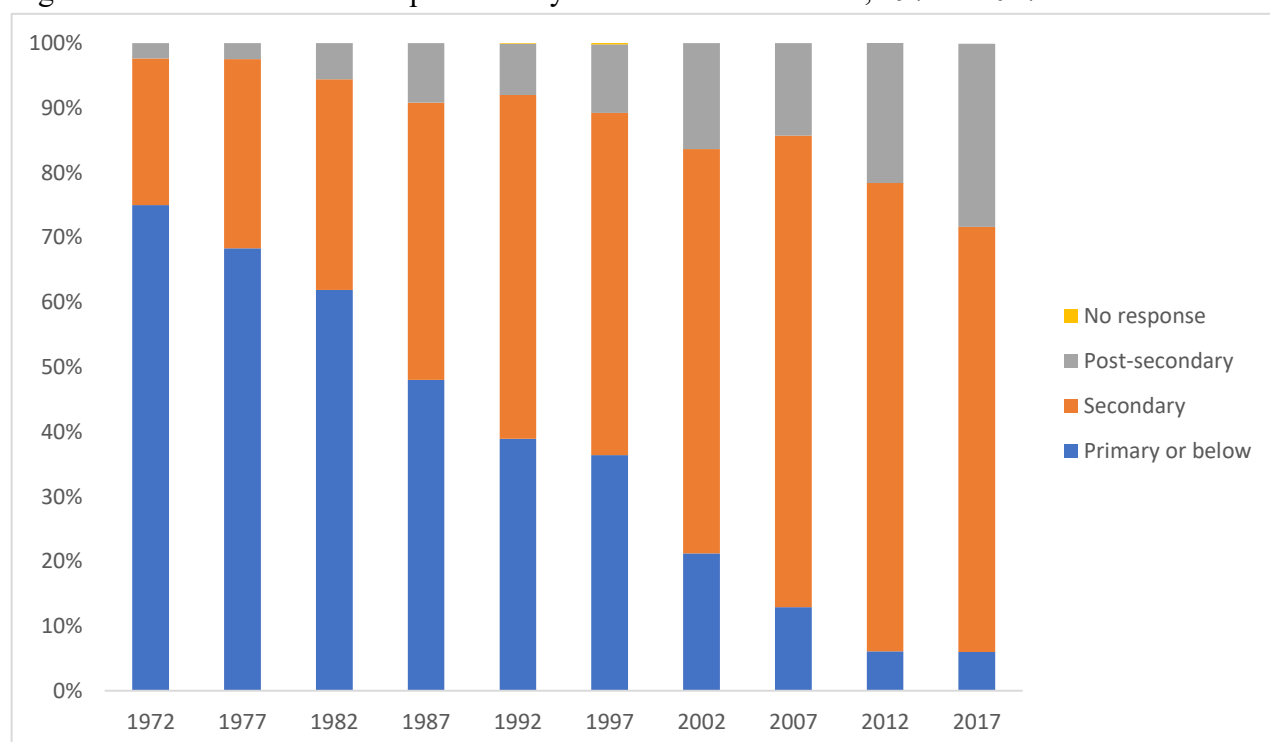
2.2 Educational Attainment

Educational attainment of currently married or cohabited women continues to improve over the previous surveys. There is an increasing trend of women with post-secondary education background. The figure rose from 2.4% in 1972 to 28.3% in 2017. A majority of women has at least secondary education (93.9%) in 2017, compared to 25.0% being observed in 1972. (Table 2.2.1)

Table 2.2.1 Distribution of women by educational attainment, 1972 – 2017

Educational attainment	1972 %	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Primary or below	75.0	68.3	61.9	48.0	38.9	36.4	21.2	12.9	6.1	6.0	↓↓
Secondary	22.6	29.2	32.5	42.8	53.1	52.8	62.4	72.8	72.3	65.6	↑↑
Post-secondary	2.4	2.5	5.6	9.2	7.9	10.6	16.4	14.3	21.7	28.3	↑↑
No response	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	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	
Total respondents	2,270	1,550	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1518	1,514	
<i>Base: All female respondents</i> ↓↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1972 - 2017; $p < .01$ ↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1972 - 2017; $p < .05$											

Figure 2.2.1 Distribution of respondents by educational attainment, 1972 – 2017



2.3 Living Status

82.2% of the female respondents were permanent residents in 2017. (Table 2.3.1) Comparing to 2012, only 48.5% of them have started living in Hong Kong since birth. Among those who were not living in Hong Kong since birth, more than 90% of them were born in Mainland China. (Table 2.3.2 & 2.3.3) Nearly half of the respondents lived in private housing while 40.0% of the respondents lived in public rental housing in 2017. (Table 2.3.4)

The majority of the respondents had 4 people in her household (31.3%). (Table 2.3.5) Besides her spouse, 75.2% of the respondents lived with her children and 12.2% of them had domestic workers in her household. (Table 2.3.5)

Table 2.3.1 Distribution of permanent resident, 2012-2017

Permanent resident	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	90.1	82.2
No	9.9	17.8
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.3.2 Distribution of women by the time they start living in Hong Kong, 2012-2017

Start living in Hong Kong	2012 %	2017 %
From birth	64.8	48.5
Not from birth	35.2	51.5
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.3.3 Distribution of women by place of birth, 2012-2017

Place of birth	2012 %	2017 %
Mainland China	93.1	94.0
Macau	1.5	0.6
Taiwan	0.6	0.4
Others	4.8	5.0
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	535	779
<i>Base: Those female respondents who are not living in Hong Kong from birth</i>		

Table 2.3.4 Distribution of women by housing types, 2017

Housing types	2012 %	2017 %
Private housing	49.6	46.1
Public rental housing	37.0	40.0
Subsidized sale flats	13.2	13.8
Temporarily housing	0.1	0.1
Non-domestic housing	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.3.5 Distribution of the number of people in the household, 2017

The number of people in the household	2017 %
2	18.3
3	27.6
4	31.3
5	15.4
6+	7.5
Total %	100.0
Total respondents	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>	

Table 2.3.6 Distribution of the people living in the household, 2017

The people in the household	2017 %
Spouse	100.0
Children	75.2
Respondent's parent(s)	6.7
Spouse's parent(s)	13.3
Respondent's sibling(s)	1.8
Spouse's sibling(s)	3.2
Other relatives	1.0
Domestic workers	12.2
Total respondents	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>	

2.4 Religion

Around one-fourth of the respondents had some kinds of religious belief. (Table 2.4.1)

Among those who had religious belief, 39.1% believed in Christian while 29.7% believed in Buddhist. (Table 2.4.2)

Table 2.4.1 Distribution of women by religion, 2012-2017

Religion	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	23.1	23.3
No	76.9	76.7
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.4.2 Distribution of women by types of religion, 2012-2017

Types of religion	2012 %	2017 %
Christian	43.9	39.1
Buddhist	26.8	29.7
Catholic	15.1	13.6
Ancestor Worship	12.3	8.8
Islam	2.0	2.0
Taoist	1.7	3.4
Others	0.1	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	351	353
<i>Base: Those female respondents who believe in religion</i>		

2.5 Income

There is a decreasing trend in the respondents' household income who fall into the group of HK\$10,000 - 29,999 since 1997. The number has been dropped to 48.7% in 2017.

The proportion of high-income household (HK\$30,000 or above) showed a significant increase from 14.3% in 2002 to 37.4% in 2017. (Table 2.5.1)

The majority of women's income (76.5%) took up 21%-50% of their household income, and about 16.1% of women had accounted for more than 50% of the household income.

Table 2.5.1 Distribution of women by household income, 1992 – 2017

Household income	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
< HK\$3,999	1.4	0.7	1.7	1.1	0.6	3.7
HK\$4,000-5,999	4.2	1.5	2.6	1.5	0.9	1.1
HK\$6,000-7,999	12.0	4.6	4.7	4.3	1.5	0.9
HK\$8,000-9,999	19.8	9.9	7.8	8.0	5.4	2.5
HK\$10,000-14,999	28.2	25.0	22.5	21.1	12.3	8.9
HK\$15,000-19,999	13.6	19.1	14.5	16.9	11.8	14.2
HK\$20,000-29,999	10.2	18.8	13.5	20.5	28.3	25.6
HK\$30,000-39,999	5.5	8.9	7.3	10.9	17.5	14.7
HK\$40,000 or above	4.1	10.1	7.0	13.0	19.7	22.7
Not fixed	---	---	---	1.1	0.2	0.9
No response / Do not know	1.1	1.4	2.4	1.6	1.7	4.8
Summary						
HK\$10,000-29,999	52.0	62.9	50.5	58.4	52.4	48.7
HK\$30,000 or above	9.6	19.0	14.3	23.8	37.2	37.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>						

Table 2.5.2 Percentage of women's personal income proportion among household income, 2012 - 2017

Percentage of women's personal income proportion among household income	2012 %	2017 %
0-20%	7.2	7.4
21-40%	37.4	37.6
41-50%	41.2	38.9
51-60%	9.7	10.5
61-80%	2.7	3.0
81-100%	1.8	2.6
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	981	992
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have full-time or part-time job</i>		

2.6 Economic Activity of Women

The proportion of women who reported that they had full-time job has been increasing steadily over the years, from 25.4% in 1977 to 54.3% in 2017. The rise has slowed down a bit between 2002 and 2007 but picked up again between 2002 and 2017. The proportion of women who reported having part-time job has been increasing since 1992 and has reached the peak in 2017 (11.2%).

The proportion of women who reported that they were housewife was declining. The figure has decreased from 57.4% in 1997 to 33.8% in 2017. It shows that more females start working in recent years. (Table 2.6.1 & Figure 2.6.2)

Among those who are working (including full-time and part-time job), most of them work as either service workers and salesperson (39.7%) or clerk (25.5%). The distributions of working positions remain approximately the same since 2012. (Table 2.6.3)

Table 2.6.1 Distribution of women by working status, 1977 – 2017

Working status	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Housewife	48.6	60.2	53.3	52.4	57.4	40.6	39.2	33.9	33.8	↓↓
Full-time job	25.4	25.9	35.6	36.6	31.6	50.2	50.9	54.8	54.3	↑↑
Part-time job	25.9	13.8	10.9	5.4	5.5	6.7	8.5	9.8	11.2	NS
Student	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.5	0.1	
Retired	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.1	0.3	
Unemployed	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.9	0.3	
Unidentifiable	0.1	0.0	0.2	4.5	4.2	2.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	NS
No response	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.3	0.0	---	---	0.0	NS
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Total respondents	1,550	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	

Base: All female respondents

↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1977 - 2017; $p < .01$

↓↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1977 - 2017; $p < .05$

NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend

Figure 2.6.2 Distribution of women by working status, 1977 – 2017

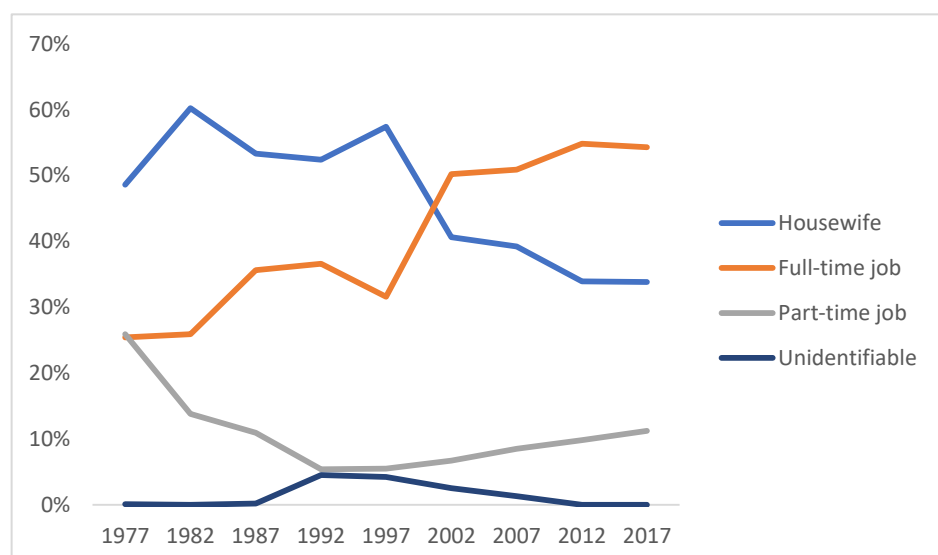


Table 2.6.3 Distribution of women by working position, 2012-2017

Position	2012 %	2017 %
Manager and executive	7.6	8.9
Professional	10.8	11.0
Assistant professional	4.9	5.3
Clerk	33.4	25.5
Service workers and salesperson	35.8	39.7
Craftsmen and related personnel	1.4	1.5
Machinery operator	0.3	0.6
Non-technical worker	5.6	7.5
Others	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	981	992
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have full-time or part-time job</i>		

2.7 Marriage Life

More than 90% of the respondents married only once. Only 60.3% of the respondents were permanent resident at time of marriage/ cohabitation, compared to 76.2% in 2012. (Table 2.7.1 and Table 2.7.2)

The majority of the respondents do not have any stepchildren. (97.1%) (Table 2.7.3)

Table 2.7.1 Distribution of women by marriage times, 2012-2017

Marriage/cohabitation times	2012 %	2017 %
1	92.5	94.5
2	6.9	5.2
3 or above	0.7	0.3
Mean	1.08	1.06
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.7.2 Distribution of women by permanent residence status during marriage/cohabitation, 2012-2017

Permanent resident at time of marriage/cohabitation	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	76.2	60.3
No	23.8	39.7
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 2.7.3 Distribution of women on the number of stepchildren, 2012-2017

Number of stepchildren	2012 %	2017 %
0	98.2	97.1
1	1.6	1.2
2	0.2	1.2
More than 3	0.1	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

2.8 Infertility

The infertility rate showed a remarkable decrease compared with 23 years ago and the drop was observed to be consistent in the previous surveys (from 29.3% in 1987 to 1.7 in 2017). It is important to note the proportion is much lower than in the community (it is estimated about 16.7%) (Table 2.8.1)

(Reference: <https://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/health/article/1271137/infertility-rising-hong-kong-and-city-lacks-medical-staff-field>)

The proportion of male vasectomy and female sterilization has reached 0% since 2012. (Table 2.8.1)

Table 2.8.1 Infertility rate and attribution of infertility, 1972-2017

Infertility	1972	1977	1982	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2017
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Infertility rate	24.8	25.5	28.1	29.3	25.5	22.3	19.5	4.8	1.8	1.7
Cause of infertility										
Male vasectomy	2.8	3.5	3.9	2.7	4.3	0.0	2.6	4.2	0.0	0.0
Female sterilization	43.6	68.2	66.5	76.5	82.4	80.3	81.5	35.4	0.0	0.0
Involuntary infertility*	53.6	28.2	29.5	20.8	13.3	19.7	15.4	60.4	83.3	84.6
Not sure	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	16.7	15.4
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>										
<i>Note: Including menopause, health concern, accidents, primary and secondary sterility. Either the woman or her husband was accounted.</i>										

2.9 Awareness and Usage of Sub-fertility Service

Awareness of Sub-fertility Service increases with increasing age. There was a slight increase in the proportion of respondents are aware of the Sub-fertility Service provided by FPAHK (58.8%) in 2017 compared to that in 2012, especially among the group aged 35-39 (61.6%). On the contrary, younger respondents (25-29) are less likely to be aware of it.

Only 6.0% of those respondents who are aware of the Sub-fertility Service of FPAHK have used the service in 2012, this figure has dropped when compared to 7.5% in 2012.

Among those respondents who are not aware or did not use the service, almost all of them (97.1%) consider they do not have the necessity of using the service. Majority (83.2%) of respondents have never consulted doctors or hospital on the sub-fertility services.

Further, household income and educational attainment significantly predicted whether respondents are aware of sub-fertility service. The results of logistic regression analysis show that the respondents with higher levels of educational attainment and household income are more likely to be aware of sub-fertility service.

Table 2.9.1 Distribution of awareness of FPAHK Sub-fertility Service by age, 2007-2017

	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total awareness	60.9	56.4	58.8
By age group			
Below 25	52.4	27.7	57.1
25-29	41.3	37.8	53.7
30-34	57.3	51.8	54.2
35-39	62.1	63.9	61.6
40-44	63.7	63.4	59.2
45-49	64.6	56.4	61.2
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 2.9.2 Distribution of usage of FPAHK Sub-fertility Service by age, 2007-2017

	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total usage	3.6	7.5	6.0
By age group			
Below 25	0.0	0.0	0.0
25-29	6.7	3.9	6.3
30-34	4.9	4.5	4.0
35-39	1.4	7.3	6.8
40-44	3.7	7.0	4.8
45-49	4.1	12.4	7.7
<i>Base: Those female respondents who were aware of the sub-fertility service of FPAHK</i>			

Table 2.9.3 Distribution of necessity of FPAHK Sub-fertility Service by age, 2007-2017

	2007	2012	2017
	%	%	%
	Yes	Yes	Yes
Necessity	0.7	1.4	2.9
By age group			
Below 25	0.0	0.0	2.9
25-29	1.9	1.5	6.9
30-34	2.0	0.3	4.1
35-39	0.9	2.5	3.4
40-44	0.0	1.9	2.0
45-49	0.0	1.0	1.0
<i>Base: Those female respondents who were not aware of the sub-fertility service or had not used the service</i>			

Table 2.9.4 Distribution of women by ever used consultation of doctors or hospital on the sub-fertility services, 2012-2017

Consultation of doctors or hospital on the sub-fertility services	2012	2017
	%	%
No	90.4	83.2
Yes	9.3	16.8
Services type		
Traditional Chinese clinic	24.8	23.1
Private Clinic (Western)	41.2	31.9
Hospital (Chinese)	6.1	4.3
Hospital (Western)	27.8	40.7
No response	0.3	0.0
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Chapter 3 Pregnancy, Parity and Attitudes towards Childbearing

3.1 Prevalence of Current Pregnancy

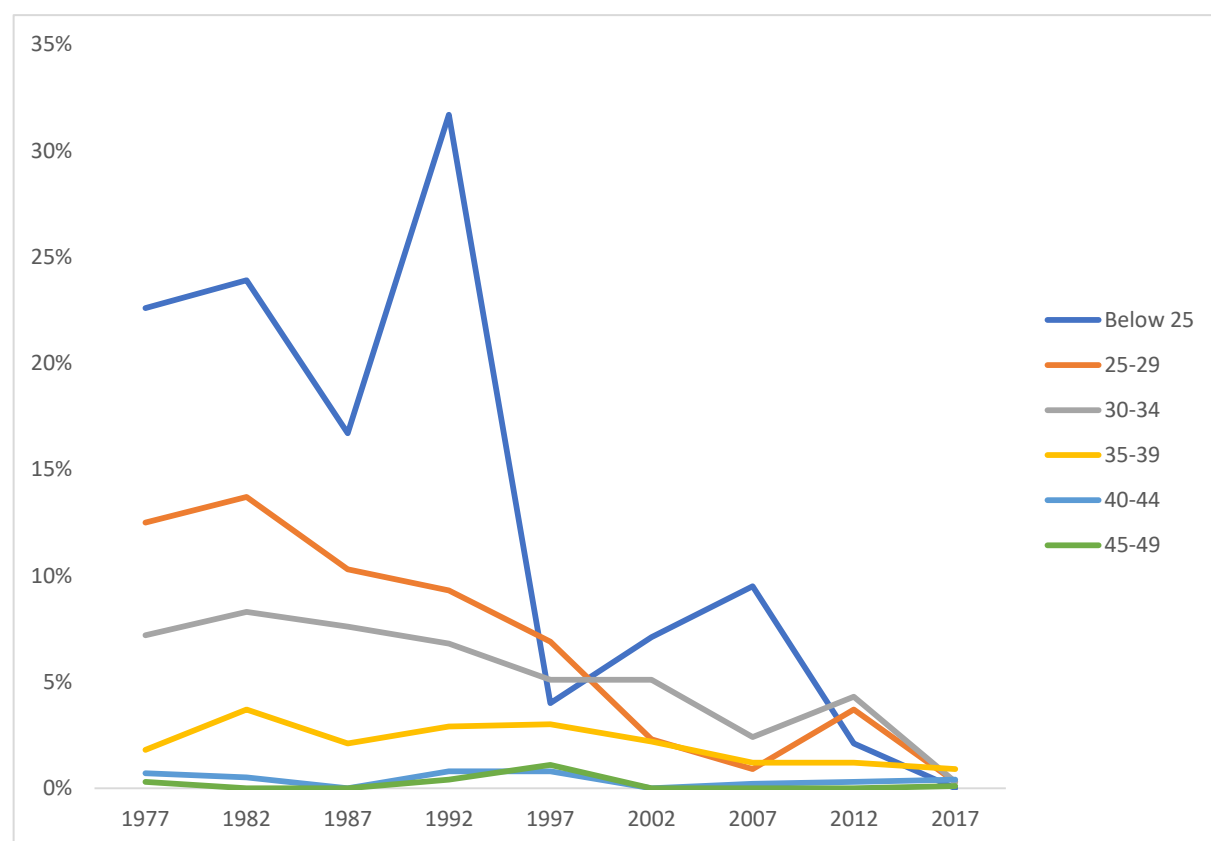
The prevalence of current pregnancy is decreasing significantly throughout the below 25, 25-29 and 30-34 age groups. Specifically, the prevalence of current pregnancy for below 25 has decreased sharply to 0% in 2017. Meanwhile, there is no significant change in other age groups. (Table 3.1.1 & Figure 3.1.1)

Table 3.1.1 Prevalence of respondents currently pregnant by age, 1977 – 2017

Age	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Below 25	22.6	23.9	16.7	31.7	4.0	7.1	9.5	2.1	0.0	↓↓
25-29	12.5	13.7	10.3	9.3	6.9	2.3	0.9	3.7	0.3	↓↓
30-34	7.2	8.3	7.6	6.8	5.1	5.1	2.4	4.3	0.3	↓↓
35-39	1.8	3.7	2.1	2.9	3.0	2.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	NS
40-44	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.4	NS
45-49	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	NS
All ages	6.6	7.9	5.3	4.5	2.3	1.7	0.9	1.6	1.8	↓↓
Total respondents	1,550	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	

Base: All female respondents
 ↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1977 - 2017; $p < .05$
 ↓↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1977 - 2017; $p < .01$
 NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend

Figure 3.1.1 Distribution for prevalence of respondents currently pregnant by age, 1977 - 2017



3.2 Parity Distribution

The mean parity has been reducing since 1972 and reached the lowest level in 2012 at 1.2 parities per currently married or cohabited woman. The number has been slightly increased to 1.3 parities in 2017. Around one fifth of the respondents did not have any child in 2017 (20.6%). 38.3% and 33.8% of the respondents had one child and two children respectively (Table 3.2.1)

The overall pattern of distribution continues to skew to small family size when comparing to the previous years.

Table 3.2.1 Distribution of women by parity, 1972 – 2017

Parity	1972 %	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
0	9.3	10.0	8.4	10.7	9.8	9.9	15.3	16.1	23.4	20.6	↑↑
1	13.3	17.3	18.9	21.8	23.6	22.0	28.8	32.5	37.5	38.3	↑↑
2	17.8	20.0	29.2	33.4	40.5	43.1	41.0	40.5	32.0	33.8	↑
3	16.7	16.5	17.5	19.3	17.7	17.3	11.4	8.8	6.4	5.9	↓
4	15.3	13.6	12.0	8.9	5.8	4.9	2.6	1.5	0.5	0.6	↓↓
5 or above	27.4	22.7	14.2	5.8	2.8	2.7	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.2	↓
No response	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.1	0.6	NS
Mean parity	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.3	↓
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Total respondents	2,270	1,550	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,510	1,507	1,514	

Base: All female respondents (1972-2017)

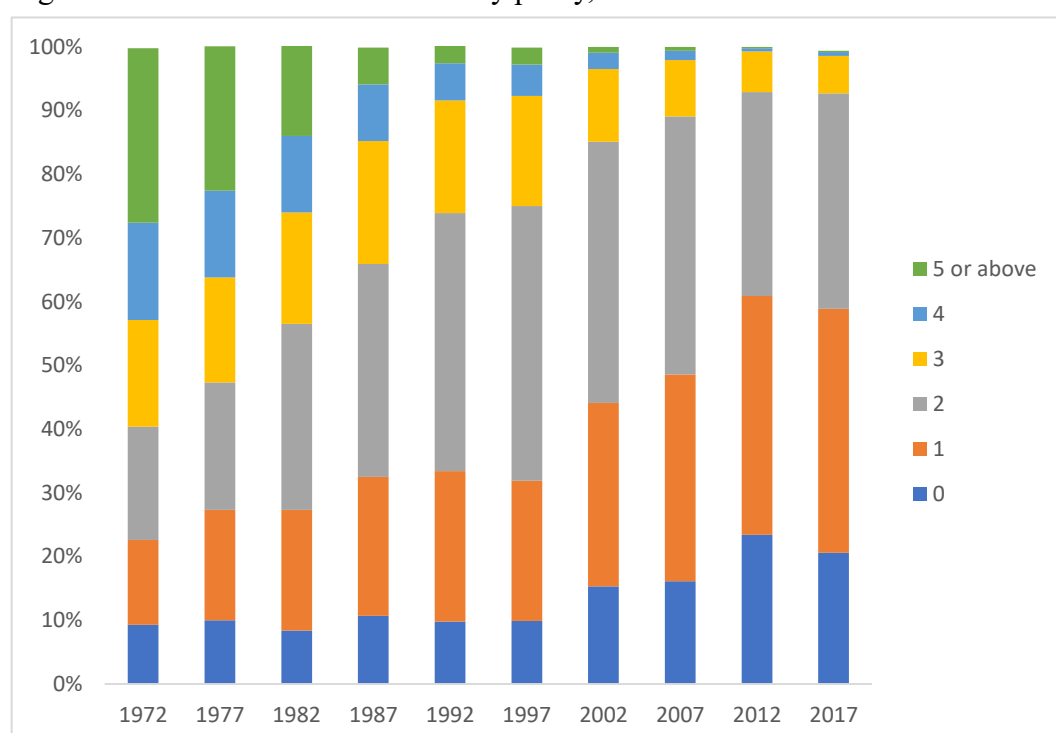
↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .05$, ↑↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .01$

↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .05$, ↓↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .01$

NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend

All linear trend analyses are based on data from 1972 to 2017

Figure 3.2.1 Distribution of women by parity, 1972 – 2017



In 2017, more than half of those who had no child married for less than 3 years. There is a positive correlation between the number of years married and the number of parities. (Table 3.2.2)

Educational attainment and household income were found to be significant predictors of the number of parities. In particular, women with higher levels of household income and educational attainment tend to report fewer number of parities. Only 5.9% of the respondents who gave birth to 3 or more children were with post-secondary education, while 19.6% of them were with primary education or below. The distributions were 28.9% and 5.5% in the respondents who have only 1 child respectively.

The similar pattern can be identified in household income. The proportion of respondents with higher income (\$30,000+) tend to be higher in the fewer parities group, such as 52.6% in 0 parity, 34.5% in 1 parity, 40.8% in 2 parities and 23.2% in 3 or more parities.

The majority of respondents who have 3 or more children lived in public housing (70.6%) and were housewives. However, the distribution was 22.8% and 10.6% for respondents with no child respectively.

Overall, a greater number of parities was correlated with respondents with more years of marriage, lower educational attainment, lower household income, living cheaper housing type and having fewer working opportunities. (Table 3.2.2)

Table 3.2.2 Respondents' characteristics by the number of parities, 2017

	Number of parities			
	%			
	0	1	2	3+
Years married				
Less than 2 years	38.8	4.9	0.6	0.0
2-3 years	19.0	13.1	2.5	2.2
4-5 years	11.4	12.1	6.6	5.4
6-10 years	14.1	22.5	21.6	17.2
11-20 years	13.7	34.4	39.4	33.3
20 years+	3.0	13.0	29.3	41.9
Educational attainment				
Primary or below	2.6	5.5	5.9	19.6
Secondary	56.1	65.6	69.7	74.5
Post-secondary	41.3	28.9	24.4	5.9
Household income				
Less than HK\$10,000	3.3	10.6	9.6	12.1
HK\$10,000-19,999	15.3	26.2	26.2	32.3
HK\$20,000-29,999	28.7	28.8	23.5	32.3
HK\$30,000-39,999	20.3	14.1	15.0	13.1
HK\$40,000+	32.3	20.4	25.8	10.1
Housing type				
Public rental housing	22.8	38.9	45.7	70.6
Subsidized sale flats	9.6	15.7	15.2	8.8
Private housing	67.6	45.3	39.1	20.6
Temporarily housing	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Employment status				
Housewife	10.6	37.1	40.6	54.9
Full-time job	81.4	50.1	46.3	33.3
Part-time job	7.1	12.3	12.7	10.8
Other	1.0	0.5	0.4	1.0
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

3.3 Characteristics of Women with Zero Parity

Most of the female respondent who had no child were found to be in the age of below 35 years old. It is noteworthy that in 2017, women aged below 35 had slightly lower prevalence to have no child when compared to 2007. The prevalence of having no child has dropped to 29.1% in 30-34 age group. (Table 3.3.1)

Most of the married or cohabited women who had no child attained secondary or above education level. It is observed that the higher the educational attainment, the higher is the prevalence rate of having no children. However, the difference is smaller than that in 2012. (Table 3.3.1)

The prevalence rate of having no child among those women who had married for 2-3 years increased from 60.0% in 2007 to 71.4% in 2012 and dropped dramatically to 24.5% in 2017. (Table 3.3.1)

Similar to the previous years, the incidence of married / cohabited women who did not have any children increased with household income. Those who have HK\$30,000 or more indicating the highest proportion of having no children (27.9%). (Table 3.3.1)

Table 3.3.1 Distribution and prevalence of women with zero parity by demographic characteristics, 2002 – 2017

	Distribution of zero-parity women				Prevalence of zero-parity women			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category								
Below 25	7.3	5.8	10.5	7.4	67.9	66.7	80.9	65.7
25-29	27.6	21.4	22.9	24.4	53.5	47.7	61.5	51.0
30-34	30.1	28.4	33.9	25.6	27.2	32.4	41.1	29.1
35-39	15.0	21.4	14.6	18.6	11.2	15.4	15.5	17.3
40-44	11.0	12.8	11.6	14.1	6.5	8.2	11.0	14.0
45-49	8.9	10.3	6.6	9.9	5.6	5.6	7.6	7.7
Educational attainment								
Primary or below	3.7	1.2	0.8	2.6	---	9.0	3.4	8.8
Secondary	70.3	67.9	57.9	56.1	---	15.0	19.1	17.6
Post-secondary	26.0	30.9	41.3	41.3	---	34.7	45.6	30.1
Years married								
Less than 2 years	20.7	21.4	15.7	38.8	---	73.0	68.7	78.9
2-3 years	26.8	21.4	37.2	19.1	---	60.0	71.4	39.3
4-5 years	13.0	14.4	18.5	11.4	---	40.0	43.5	24.5
6-10 years	20.3	21.8	17.4	14.1	---	17.7	18.8	14.6
11-20 years	18.3	21.0	9.9	13.7	---	5.0	6.5	9.0
20 years+	0.8	---	1.4	3.0	---	---	2.5	3.4
Household income								
Less than HK\$10,000	6.1	8.3	3.6	3.2	5.6	8.9	10.1	8.0
HK\$10,000-19,999	28.5	21.2	16.3	14.7	11.8	8.9	16.1	13.2
HK\$20,000-29,999	29.3	30.3	24.2	27.6	21.5	23.6	20.5	22.2
HK\$30,000+	33.3	37.8	54.5	50.6	22.2	25.3	35.0	27.9
Not fixed	---	0.8	---	0.0	---	11.8	---	0.0
Do not know/Refused	2.8	1.6	1.4	3.9	---	---	---	16.7
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have no children</i>								

3.4 Ideal Parity

Similar to the previous surveys, women were asked about their ideal parity through the question “If you could start all over again, how many children would you like to have in your life time?” A majority of women desire two or fewer children (80.5%), with most thinking of two children (45.2%). There was a significant change in favor of one parity, which increased from 7.5% in 1982 to 28.2% in 2017. The proportion of respondents who wanted 2 children has decreased compared to that in 2012.

From the regression analysis, the trend of desiring one parity has been significantly increasing while the trend of desiring three or more parities has been significantly decreasing. (Table 3.4.1)

The mean ideal parity slightly dropped from 2.4 in 1982 to 1.6 in 2017 (Figure 3.4.2).

Table 3.4.1 Distribution of respondents by ideal parity, 1982 – 2017

	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Ideal parity									
0	2.1	4.8	5.1	10.9	15.2	12.5	7.1	7.1	NS
1	7.5	10.1	10.8	13.7	16.6	26.2	28.8	28.2	↑↑
2	53.7	58.4	59.0	52.9	51.2	49.7	55.5	45.2	NS
3	18.9	16.1	11.4	8.1	5.0	6.1	7.6	4.9	↓↓
4 or more	13.1	8.1	4.8	3.6	2.4	2.2	1.0	1.1	↓↓
Number immaterial, depends on God’s will	1.5	1.3	0.9	2.4	2.4	---	---	---	NS
Don’t know / Never thought about it	2.9	0.9	3.7	5.0	3.9	3.3	---	13.5	NS
No response	0.4	0.1	2.3	1.4	0.0	---	---	0.6	NS
Not applicable	0.0	0.3	2.0	1.9	0.2	---	---	---	NS
Mean ideal parity	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	↓↓
Total respondents	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,511	1,607	1,437	1,507	1,505	
<i>Base: (1982 – 2002) All female respondents</i> <i>(2007, 2017) Those female respondents who were fertile (including pregnant women)</i> <i>(2012) All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i> ↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .05$, ↑↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .01$ ↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .05$, ↓↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .01$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017									

Figure 3.4.1 Distribution of respondents by ideal parity, 1982 – 2017

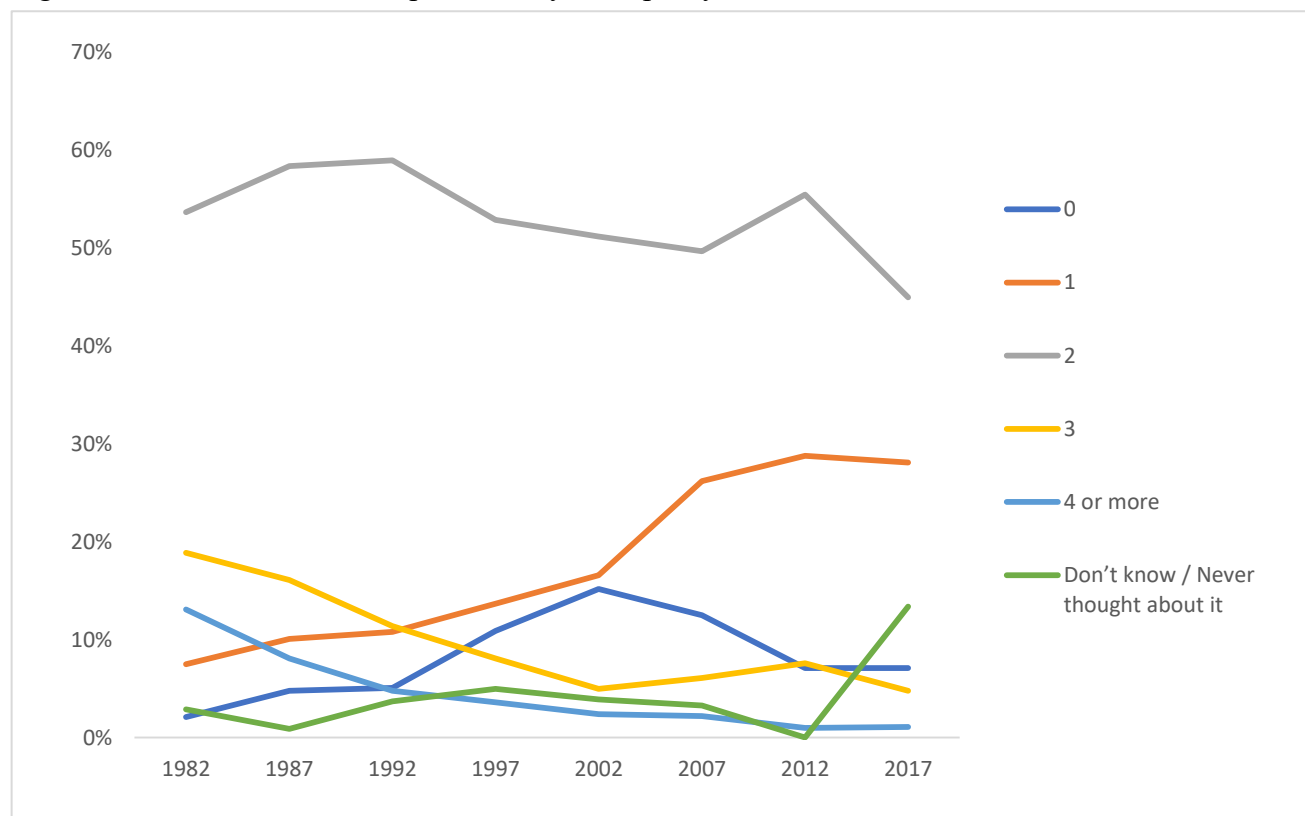
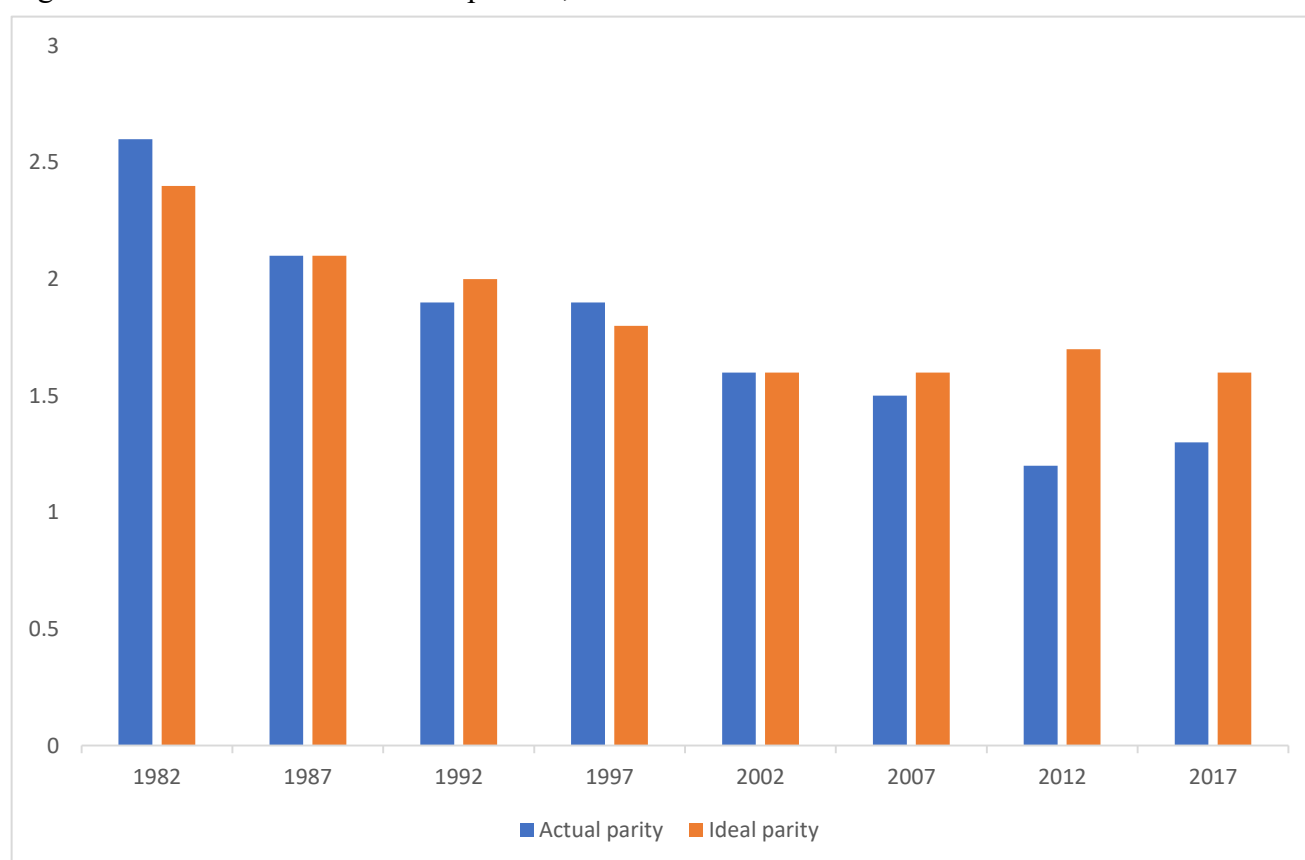


Figure 3.4.2 Actual and ideal mean parities, 1982 – 2017



The ideal number of parities was correlated with educational attainment. There was an increasing trend in the proportion of respondents with primary or below education as the number of ideal parities increased. However, the opposite trend was identified among respondents who had post-secondary education. Similar patterns can also be found in household income and housing type. Female respondents who had higher income and living in private housing tended to desire fewer children. (Table 3.4.2)

With regards to employment status, among female who desired 3 children, 32.9% of them had full-time job. However, the percentage of respondents with full-time job was around 60% among respondents who desired 0, 1, 2, or 4 or more children. (Table 3.4.2)

Table 3.4.2 Respondents' characteristics by the number of ideal parities, 2017

	Number of ideal parities					
	%					
	0	1	2	3	4+	Does not matter
Educational attainment						
Primary or below	2.8	3.8	5.4	13.7	6.3	11.3
Secondary	67.3	69.4	64.2	63.0	68.8	62.6
Post-secondary	29.9	26.8	30.4	23.3	25.0	26.1
Household income						
Less than HK\$10,000	7.5	8.2	6.6	13.7	18.8	11.8
HK\$10,000-19,999	18.7	22.4	24.2	23.3	25.0	21.7
HK\$20,000-29,999	26.2	28.7	24.4	21.9	18.8	25.1
HK\$30,000+	43.9	34.4	40.2	32.9	25.0	33.5
Not fixed	0.0	1.2	0.9	2.7	0.0	0.5
Do not know/Refused	3.7	5.2	3.7	5.5	12.5	7.4
Housing type						
Public rental housing	31.8	38.1	39.8	43.8	64.0	44.3
Subsidized sale flats	8.4	13.2	16.3	11.0	12.0	11.3
Private housing	59.8	48.5	43.9	45.2	24.0	44.3
Temporarily housing	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Employment status						
Housewife	22.4	29.9	37.0	54.8	24.0	31.0
Full-time job	64.5	59.5	51.8	32.9	60.0	53.2
Part-time job	12.2	10.1	10.6	12.3	8.0	15.3
Other	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.0	8.0	0.5
<i>Base: Those female respondents who were fertile (including pregnant women)</i>						

3.5 Characteristics of Women with More Children Than They Desired

Among female respondents whose actual number of children was fewer than their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 30-34 group (25.6%), married less than 2 years (22.8%), had secondary education (55.5%), and only had 1 child (49.8%).

Among female respondents whose actual number of children equal to their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 35-39 group (22.7%), married 11-20 years (37.5%), had secondary education (70.8%), and had 2 children (48.5%).

Among female respondents whose actual number of children was more than their ideal number, the majority of them were in age 45-49 group (29.7%), married 11-20 years (42.7%), had secondary education (76.6%), and had 3 or more children (47.7%). (Table 3.5.1)

Table 3.5.1 Comparison of respondents' demographic characteristics by age groups by difference in actual and ideal parity, 2017

	Difference in actual and ideal parity		
	%		
	Actual < Ideal	Actual = Ideal	Actual > Ideal
Age category			
Below 25	5.3	0.7	0.0
25-29	18.0	4.8	4.5
30-34	25.6	14.6	13.5
35-39	23.5	22.7	23.4
40-44	14.4	24.3	28.8
45-49	13.2	32.9	29.7
Years married			
Less than 2 years	22.8	3.1	0.0
2-3 years	17.8	6.4	1.9
4-5 years	12.8	7.2	9.7
6-10 years	17.3	22.9	20.4
11-20 years	22.3	37.5	42.7
20 years+	6.9	22.9	25.2
Educational attainment			
Primary or below	4.8	4.8	9.0
Secondary	55.5	70.8	76.6
Post-secondary	39.7	24.4	14.4
Number of parities			
0	40.9	10.5	0
1	49.8	37.5	16.2
2	8.9	48.5	36.0
3+	0.5	3.6	47.7
<i>Base: All female respondents who were fertile and did not answer "I do not care" in the ideal parity question</i>			

There is a decreasing proportion of respondents with more children than they desired among those aged 40-49. 58.5% of women with aged 40-49 had more children than they desired in 2017, comparing with 73% of women in 2012 and 73.9% in 2007. From 2012 to 2017, the prevalence of having more children than desired has been increasing among all age groups. However, a declining trend could be observed for the age group of 45-49. Note that the prevalence rates for specific age groups had small base.

A declining trend on prevalence rate across educational attainments was found continuously from 1997. Among the group of primary educated, 14.7% (prevalence rate) of women had more children than they desired, and it decreased sharply as the educational attainment increased. This may imply that the higher the educational attainment, the better the women's planning on parity. Note that the prevalence rates for specific educational attainment groups have small base.

Among those who have more children than they desired, around two thirds of them (65.8%) were currently using contraceptive methods and there is a decreasing trend since 2002 at 88.3%. The prevalence rate for those currently using any contraceptive methods also went down from 25.3% in 2002 to 4.2% in 2012, and then increased to 8.3% in 2017. The major contraceptive method used for these women is condom (63.0%). The prevalence of having more children than desired among all women using condom has decreased from 43.8% in 2002 to 3.6% in 2012 and rebounded to 6.5% in 2017. Note that the prevalence rates for specific contraceptive groups have small base.

Similar to 2007 and 2012, "Don't think that I'll be pregnant" (25.0%) was one of the major reasons for the respondents who were not currently using contraception and had more children than they desired. Therefore, more education on contraception should be reinforced to help them obtain a better understanding on using contraception. There were more women (73.0%) who did not practice induced abortion and had more children than they desire. The prevalence rate of having more children than desired in 0 abortion group (7.2%) in 2017 was lower than that in 1997 (24.6%).

Table 3.5.2 Distribution of characteristics of respondents with more children than they desired, 1997-2017

	Distribution					Prevalence				
	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category										
Below 25	0.0	0.5	---	---	0.0	0.0	8.0	---	---	0.0
25-29	1.9	2.6	2.5	4.1	4.5	6.9	7.8	5.5	2.3	4.1
30-34	14.3	10.7	9.1	5.4	13.5	18.8	13.9	10.3	1.3	6.3
35-39	25.6	21.1	14.5	17.6	23.4	26.4	22.1	10.4	3.8	8.6
40-44	34.5	31.6	24.9	33.8	28.8	37.1	30.4	15.8	6.6	11.5
45-49	23.7	33.4	49.0	39.2	29.7	36.2	32.7	26.3	9.4	9.6
Educational attainment										
Below primary	3.9	6.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	30.2	51.4	45.5	0.0	0.0
Primary	44.2	49.0	19.5	20.3	9.0	36.8	35.2	25.5	17.0	14.7
Secondary	47.1	42.2	66.4	71.6	76.6	24.4	23.0	14.6	4.9	9.8
Post-secondary	4.3	2.6	12.0	8.1	14.4	11.3	5.2	13.4	1.8	4.3
Contraceptive use frequency										
Currently using	83.1	88.3	70.1	63.5	65.8	37.4	25.3	14.1	4.2	8.3
Stop at time of	13.5	9.9	25.7	9.5	0.0	24.5	18.9	23.6	12.1	0.0
Sometimes	---	---	---	10.8	19.8	---	---	---	5.3	13.3
Never use	1.9	1.8	4.1	4.1	9.0	12.9	20.0	21.7	5.0	13.5
Not necessary ¹	---	---	---	12.2	5.4	---	---	---	8.2	3.7

No response	1.4	0.0	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Major method used²										
Pill	10.5	6.2	7.7	7.5	5.5	18.7	16.8	12.9	3.1	6.2
IUD	5.2	11.2	9.5	13.2	13.7	25.7	27.3	11.8	6.9	17.9
Injection	3.2	2.7	1.2	3.8	5.5	34.4	36.0	10.5	8.0	40.0
Diaphragm	---	0.3	---	---	---	---	25.0	---	---	---
Condom	28.8	43.7	58.0	56.6	63.0 ³	18.8	43.8	11.8	3.6	6.5
Sterilization	46.5	30.1 ⁴	22.5 ⁴	17.0 ⁴	6.9	58.8	17.4	36.2	15.3	19.2
Vasectomy	1.2	---	---	---	0.0	44.4	---	---	---	0.0
Withdrawal	---	1.2	0.6	0.0	4.1	---	21.7	3.3	0.0	20.0
Rhythm	2.3	2.9	0.6	1.9	0.0	19.0	33.3	2.6	5.9	0.0
Abstinence	0.3	0.6	---	---	0.0	20.0	40.0	---	---	0.0
Other	---	---	---	---	1.4	---	---	---	---	100.0
Reason for not currently using contraception⁵										
Don't think I'll be pregnant	---	---	56.3	18.2	25.0	---	---	20.5	5.1	14.3
Don't care	---	---	18.8	0.0	9.4	---	---	13.0	0.0	7.5
Afraid of side effect	---	---	12.5	9.1	25.0	---	---	9.5	2.9	22.2
Find contraception very inconvenient	---	---	12.5	18.2	12.5	---	---	14.3	4.9	16.7
Not yet refill	---	---	6.3	18.2	6.3	---	---	12.5	5.4	5.7
Somebody objects to it	---	---	---	9.1	9.4	---	---	---	5.9	21.4
Have not heard/not sure the methods of contraception	---	---	---	9.1	0.0	---	---	---	100.0	0.0
Want to have baby	---	---	---	9.1	---	---	---	---	6.7	---
Religious reasons	---	---	---	---	0.0	---	---	---	---	0.0
Other	---	---	---	---	12.5	---	---	---	---	---
Number of induced abortions										
0	66.9	68.1	78.8	75.7	73.0	24.6	22.1	15.9	4.5	7.2
1	20.5	21.7	13.7	14.9	13.5	32.0	28.9	14.5	7.3	14.0
2	9.4	7.0	6.2	5.4	7.2	45.9	26.2	23.1	8.7	25.0
3	2.7	2.1	0.4	1.4	1.8	45.8	36.4	9.1	9.1	25.0
4	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.0	0	22.2	57.1	40.0	0.0	0.0
5+	---	0.0	---	1.4	0	---	0.0	---	100.0	0.0
Refused to answer	---	0.0	---	1.4	4.5	---	---	---	---	14.3

Base: Those female respondents who have more children than they desire

¹Not necessary includes planning for pregnancy, not sexually active and menopause

²Only include female who are currently using contraceptive methods or stop at time of

³The figure represented both male and female condom

⁴The figure represented female sterilization and male vasectomy

⁵Only include female who sometimes use contraceptive methods or never use

3.6 Desire for Children

The proportion of desiring more children has increased from 13.1% in 2002 to 20.3% in 2012, and then decreased to 15.3% in 2017. There is also a significant proportion of 14.6% undecided. (Table 3.6.1)

The major reason for desiring to have additional children was “I like children” (37.8%), followed by “let the children have partner” (13.9%) and “children is our fruit of love” (10.0%). “children can bring joy to daily life” has dropped from 9.2% in 2012 to 4.8% in 2017. (Table 3.6.2)

Table 3.6.1 Distribution of respondents by whether desiring children (again), 2002 – 2017

Whether desiring children (again)	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	13.1	12.7	20.3	15.3
No	78.0	80.5	64.0	67.4
Not decided	8.2	6.1	10.1	14.6
Don't know / Never thought about it	0.7	0.7	5.5	2.7
Total respondents	1,294	1,437	1,498	1,505
<i>Base: (2002, 2007) Those female respondents who were fertile</i>				
<i>(2012, 2017) All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Table 3.6.2 Distribution of reasons for respondents desiring to have children (again), 2002 – 2017

Main reasons for desiring to have children (again)	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
I like children	23.9	51.4	39.1	37.8
Let the children have play partner	46.3	33.3	11.5	13.9
Children can bring joy to daily life	4.1	18.6	9.2	4.8
Children is our fruit of love	---	11.5	8.6	10.0
To carry on the family line	4.0	15.3	6.9	6.5
Giving birth is a natural ability of women	---	7.7	5.9	3.5
Like to have a big family	5.2	8.7	3.9	6.1
My husband wants to have children	4.2	13.1	3.3	4.3
Children would not be lonely when grown up	9.2	14.8	3.0	3.9
To maintain matrimonial relationship	1.3	3.8	3.0	3.0
My parents want to have grandchildren	2.6	5.5	2.3	0.4
Not achieve ideal number of children	---	---	1.6	2.6
Will be financially supported by the children when getting old	---	3.8	0.3	0.0
Will not feel lonely when getting old	---	---	---	3.0
Naturally/ Accidentally	---	---	0.3	0.0
Want to have one more child with different gender	1.3	1.6	0.3	0.0
Have children to provide for in old age	0.1	---	---	---
None	---	---	0.7	---
Total respondents	78	183	304	230
<i>Base: (2002, 2007) Those female respondents who were fertile and desiring to have (more) children</i>				
<i>(2012, 2017) All female respondents desiring to have (more) children except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

The major reasons that made respondents desiring not to have additional children were “too much responsibility for raising children” (20.6%), “The financial burden of raising children is heavy” (18.7%) and “want to have more personal time and development space” (14.0%) “worries of downturns of Hong Kong’s economy” (0.0%) was no longer an important reason for not desiring to have children. (Table 3.6.3)

Table 3.6.3 Distribution of reasons for fertile respondents not desiring to have children, 2002 – 2017

Main reasons for not desiring to have children	2012 %	2017 %
Too much responsibility for raising children	31.1	20.6
The financial burden of raising children is heavy	18.9	18.7
I or my husband do not like children	16.4	7.5
Want to have more personal time and development space	7.4	14.0
Too busy at work	5.7	2.8
Social environment is not suitable to raise children	4.9	5.6
Do not want to be controlled by children	4.1	6.5
Have enough children	1.6	0.9
Too old	1.6	6.5
Afraid that children will be led astray by corrupted social values	1.6	0.9
Worries of downturns of Hong Kong’s economy	1.6	0.0
Too much housework, no time to take care of the child	0.0	1.9
Afraid of getting pregnant and giving birth	0.0	1.9
There is no enough living space for a child	0.0	2.8
Not satisfied with the current education system	2.5	4.7
Others	2.6	4.7
Total respondents	122	107
<i>Base: All female fertile respondents not desiring to have children</i>		

The major reasons that made respondents desiring to have one child were “the financial burden of raising children is heavy” (27.3%), “too much responsibility for raising children” (22.4%) and “have enough children” (20.7%) (Table 3.6.4)

For those female respondents who had living children or were currently pregnant, a rising trend of desiring children again has increased since 2007, from 6.8% to 12.3% in 2012, then decreased to 10.1% in 2017. (Table 3.6.5)

Table 3.6.4 Distribution of reasons for fertile respondents desiring to have only one child, 2012-2017

Main reasons for desiring to have only one child	2012 %	2017 %
Too much responsibility for raising children	23.2	22.4
I hope to give every child as much education as possible	5.7	3.1
The financial burden of raising children is heavy	32.2	27.3
I or my husband do not like children	0.7	0.2
Giving birth too many times may affect the health of mother	0.5	0.2
Want to have more personal time and development space	3.5	2.6
Too busy at work	7.3	2.8
Social environment is not suitable to raise children	0.2	1.9
Do not want to be controlled by children	0.9	0.5
Have enough children	14.4	20.7
Too old	3.8	3.1
Afraid that children will be led astray by corrupted social values	0.2	0.7
Worries of downturns of Hong Kong's economy	0.2	0.5
Too much housework, no time to take care of the child	2.8	2.4
Afraid of getting pregnant and giving birth	2.4	1.7
There is no enough living space for a child	0.9	7.1
Not satisfied with the current education system	0.2	1.4
Others	1.1	1.6
Total respondents	422	425
<i>All female fertile respondents desiring to have only one child</i>		

Table 3.6.5 Distribution of fertile respondents with living children or currently pregnant by whether desiring children (again), 1982 – 2017

Whether desiring children (again)	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Yes	31.5	29.1	18.6	14.1	7.3	6.8	12.3	10.1	↓↓
No	58.2	61.2	67.7	74.1	86.7	87.6	73.7	76.9	↑
Not decided	9.6	8.4	9.9	4.1	5.4	5.1	8.9	11.0	NS
Don't know / Never thought about it	0.6	1.3	2.8	2.8	0.6	0.5	4.4	2.0	NS
No response	0.1	0.0	1.0	4.9	0.0	---	0.0	0.0	NS
Total respondents	911	1,062	1,194	1,151	1,064	1,205	1,171	1,208	
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have living children or currently pregnant</i> ↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .05$ ↓↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .01$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017									

The proportion of not desiring to have more children for the zero parity had increased from 10.5% in 1972 and peaked at 2007 (39.5%) but recovered to 27.6% in 2017. (Table 3.6.6)

More than half of the respondents did not care of the gender of parity. (Table 3.6.7)

For those respondents who would like to give birth to a son, but she gave birth to a daughter finally, 57.5% would like to give birth to a son again. Comparatively, for those respondents who would like to give birth to a daughter but giving birth to a son finally, only 50.4% would like to give birth to a daughter. (Table 3.6.8-3.6.9)

Table 3.6.6 Prevalence of respondents not desiring to have children (again) by parity, 1972 – 2017

Parity	1972 %	1977 %	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
0	10.5	12.9	8.5	7.1	6.8	13.6	37.4	39.5	26.4	27.6	↑
1	25.2	29.1	25.1	29.8	47.1	65.6	72.7	71.6	62.3	63.7	↑↑
2	56.5	70.9	69.8	85.9	87.9	88.6	96.2	91.0	85.5	90.6	↑↑
3	78.5	90.9	83.0	93.1	93.0	90.8	98.0	94.7	93.8	93.3	↑
4	91.9	94.9	92.8	91.4	94.9	97.5	95.7	82.6	71.4	100.0	NS
5 or more	94.1	97.9	97.6	100.0	100.0	88.5	88.9	88.9	75.0	100.0	NS
All parities	65.0	68.8	58.2	61.2	67.7	74.1	78.0	76.6	63.2	67.4	NS
<i>Base: (1972-2007) Those female respondents who had living children or currently pregnant</i> <i>(2012, 2017) Those female respondents do not want to have children (again) except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i> ↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .05$; ↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .01$ ↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .05$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017											

Table 3.6.7 Distribution of fertile respondents on the gender preference of parity, 2012-2017

Gender Preference of parity if giving birth to one child only	2012 %	2017 %
Son	20.2	15.4
Daughter	19.0	19.8
Never mind	55.3	61.6
Never thought of it	5.0	3.0
Don't know	0.4	0.1
Total respondents	1,151	1,159
<i>Base: All fertile female respondents who have or willing to have children</i>		

Table 3.6.8 Distribution of fertile respondents who want to have a son on whether giving birth to a son again if having a daughter, 2012-2017

Give birth to a son again if give birth to a daughter finally	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	63.9	57.5
No	22.3	29.1
Undecided	3.0	7.3
Never thought of it	7.3	4.5
Not sure	3.0	1.7
No response	0.4	0.0
Total respondents	233	179
<i>Base: Those respondents who would like to give birth to a son</i>		

Table 3.6.9 Distribution of fertile respondents who want to have a daughter on whether giving birth to a daughter again if having a son, 2012-2017

Give birth to a daughter again if give birth to a son finally	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	63.9	50.4
No	22.3	37.8
Undecided	3.0	5.7
Never thought of it	7.3	3.5
Not sure	3.0	2.6
No response	0.4	0.0
Total respondents	233	230
<i>Base: Those respondents who would like to give birth to a daughter</i>		

66.3% of respondents would discuss with spouse on the number of parities preferred. More than 90% of respondents thought that the discussion with the spouse on the number of parities was adequate. Around 90% of respondents shared the same views with the spouse on the number of parities preferred. (Table 3.6.11- 3.6.12)

Table 3.6.10 Distribution of fertile respondents on the discussion with spouse on the number of parities preferred, 2012-2017

Discussion with spouse on the number of parities preferred	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	64.6	66.3
No	35.4	33.7
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 3.6.11 Distribution of fertile respondents on whether the discussion with spouse on the number of parities preferred is adequate, 2012-2017

Adequate discussion with spouse on the number of parities preferred	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	93.8	93.1
No	6.1	6.9
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	974	998
<i>Base: All female respondents that discussed with spouse on the number of parities</i>		

Table 3.6.12 Distribution of fertile respondents on the difference in views on the number of parities with spouse, 2012-2017

Views with the spouse on the number of parities preferred	2012 %	2017 %
Same views	89.7	93.3
Different views	10.3	6.7
Total respondents	974	998
<i>Base: All female respondents that discussed with spouse on the number of parities</i>		

3.7 Characteristics of Women Desiring No Additional Children

Table 3.7.1 highlighted the profile of the group of women who want no additional children. The majority (65.1%) of such women were aged between 40 and 49 in 2017 and the findings were similar to previous studies. The proportion of women with age 30-34 who want no additional children has declined from 19.8% in 1997 to 8.8% in 2012, and then increased to 11.1% in 2017. (Table 3.7.1) The shorter the time that the women stayed in Hong Kong, the lower the prevalence they desired no more children, except for those women who lived in Hong Kong since birth or more than 15 years.

The prevalence of desiring no more children was approximately the same for all household income group, ranging from 75.2% in HK\$30,000+ group to 78.5% in HK\$10,000-19,999 group. The not-fixed group had the lowest prevalence of desiring no more children (64.3%) For women with lower education background, majority of them does not want more children. A total of 73.3% (prevalence rate) of women who desire no more children have never practiced contraception in 2012 compared with only 56.2% (prevalence rate) in 2002.

The group of women who had 3 or more abortions before had the lowest proportion of desiring no more children (prevalence rate 66.7%), following by the group of women who had 0 abortion (76.0%). The relation between the number of abortions and the prevalence rate was much clearer in 2012. (Table 3.7.1)

Table 3.7.1 Distribution of fertile respondents desiring no more children by age, 1997 – 2017

	Distribution					Prevalence				
	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category										
Below 25	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	20.8	14.3	14.3	44.4	13.3
25-29	4.7	4.3	3.4	2.2	2.4	34.5	33.3	34.9	33.3	29.0
30-34	19.8	16.3	10.5	8.8	11.1	54.0	55.8	54.9	41.1	51.2
35-39	30.9	26.9	21.8	23.5	21.3	65.8	73.8	71.9	70.0	70.5
40-44	27.4	29.0	29.5	34.0	26.3	60.8	73.6	86.6	86.2	90.4
45-49	16.6	23.2	34.6	31.1	38.8	---	---	86.2	92.4	96.3
Residential duration										
Less than 5 years	3.9	8.4	8.6	4.6	10.0	47.1	56.7	68.6	54.8	60.4
5-9 years	6.3	9.7	12.5	8.9	11.7	65.1	68.1	82.4	76.2	73.7
10-14 years	5.2	5.2	9.0	10.4	12.7	66.7	66.7	87.1	84.9	92.2
Since birth / 15 years or more	83.8	76.7	69.8	76.0	65.6	55.2	62.7	72.0	73.6	77.4
No response	0.8	0.0	---	0.0	0.0	---	---	---	---	---
Household income										
Less than HK\$10,000	18.1	17.5	15.9	11.1	9.6	61.3	66.0	78.7	82.8	76.1
HK\$10,000-19,999	44.4	38.3	41.8	27.0	25.5	57.0	64.9	81.5	75.6	78.5
HK\$20,000-29,999	11.6	19.7	19.1	29.2	25.6	53.3	59.4	68.9	73.0	78.0
HK\$30,000+	24.4	21.9	20.3	30.6	33.9	54.0	59.7	63.1	69.7	75.2
Not fixed	---	---	1.3	0.2	1.0	---	---	88.2	66.7	64.3
Do not know/Refused	1.5	2.6	1.6	1.9	4.4	61.3	66.0	75.0	80.0	68.3
Educational attainment										
Below primary	3.2	1.6	0.8	0.3	0.1	50.9	43.2	81.8	100.0	100.0
Primary	32.6	18.8	14.7	8.6	7.5	55.9	62.5	89.1	86.0	85.4
Secondary	54.6	69.9	74.6	77.4	72.4	56.4	65.8	75.9	74.7	82.3
Post-secondary	9.6	9.7	9.1	13.7	19.9	51.6	50.5	50.5	62.8	60.5
Others	---	---	0.7	0.0	0.0	---	---	57.1	---	---

Contraceptive use frequency										
Currently using	80.6	85.6	84.8	78.2	72.1	60.5	65.2	79.0	77.8	82.6
Stop at time of	14.2	1.0	12.4	4.1	1.9	49.0	90.9	52.5	71.4	78.3
Sometimes	---	---	---	8.2	11.7	---	---	---	58.2	65.7
Never use	0.0	11.2	2.9	4.2	5.9	---	56.2	69.6	76.6	73.3
Not necessary ¹	---	---	---	5.3	8.3	---	---	---	54.1	57.9
No response	5.3	2.2	---	0.0	0.0	---	---	---	---	---
Number of abortions										
0	71.7	71.2	76.9	79.6	83.7	54.3	60.8	71.9	72.1	76.0
1	19.0	20.1	17.3	12.4	9.1	61.1	70.7	85.0	81.1	80.0
2	6.9	6.7	4.2	4.2	3.5	69.4	66.0	72.3	83.7	88.9
3 or more	2.4	2.0	1.5	1.4	0.8	61.8	62.5	89.5	85.7	66.7
No response	---	0.0	---	2.4	2.9	---	---	---	72.4	67.5
<i>Base: (1997-2007) Those female respondents who were fertile with living children or currently pregnant and did not want to have children (again)</i> <i>(2012-2017) All female respondents with living children or currently pregnant except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile and did not want to have children (again)</i> <i>¹Not necessary includes planning for pregnancy, not sexually active and menopause</i>										

3.8 Give Birth to the Children If Get Pregnant Accidentally

62.8% of women would/possibly would give birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally. (Table 3.8.1)

The main reasons for those women that would/ possibly would give birth to the children are “Do not want to kill life” (52.1%), “I have the responsibility” (48.7%) and “Children belongs to us” (38.0%) (Table 3.8.2) On the other hand, the main reasons for those women that would not/ possibly would not give birth to the children are “we have enough children already” (59.2%), “cannot afford to raise the children financially” (34.1%) and “It’s not the appropriate time” (24.3%) (Table 3.8.3)

Table 3.8.1 Distribution of fertile respondents on whether giving birth to the children if getting pregnant accidentally, 2012-2017

Give birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	43.4	48.1
Possibly yes	14.0	14.7
No	33.0	29.5
Possibly no	9.3	7.7
No response	0.3	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 3.8.2 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for giving birth/ possibly giving birth, 2012-2017

Reasons for giving birth/ possibly giving birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally	2012 %	2017 %
Do not want to kill life	52.8	52.1
I have the responsibility	43.5	48.7
Children belongs to us	33.4	38.0
I like children	30.6	15.1
It is doomed, so just accept it	27.9	31.9
Abortion is incorrect	22.3	19.2
My husband like children	13.1	32.8
Financial and environmental situation are acceptable	8.6	8.2
Abortion surgery is dangerous	6.8	6.7
Other	0.0	0.0
<i>Base: All female respondents that would like/ possibly like to give birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally</i>		

Table 3.8.3 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for not giving birth/ possibly not giving birth, 2012-2017

Reasons for not giving birth/ possibly not giving birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally	2012 %	2017 %
We have enough children already	54.5	59.1
Cannot afford to raise up the children financially	43.3	34.1
I do not have psychological preparation	18.2	16.0
It is not the appropriate time	16.3	24.3
Society is not stable	9.2	7.8
No other suitable caregiver	---	4.6
I do not have time to look after the children	---	16.5
Worried to be tied up by the children	8.3	5.7
Too old	7.7	7.0
My character is not suitable to be parents	2.5	3.2
My husband or I do not like children	2.0	3.0
<i>Base: All female respondents that would not like/ possibly not like to give birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally</i>		

3.9 Housework Distribution and Time Spent on Children

Respondents indicated that 56.7% of the housework was done by them whereas the ideal percentage of the housework is 49.6%. The respondents thought that they did more housework than they intended (Actual: 56.7%, Ideal 49.6%) and the husband should put more time in the housework. (Actual: 27.1%, Ideal 33.6%) (Table 3.9.1)

Wife has spent about double of the time of husband on teaching children.

Ideally, husband should spend more time in teaching children. (Actual: 15.4 hours, Ideal: 22.4 hours) (Table 3.9.2)

Table 3.9.1 Distribution of respondents on the housework distribution, 2012-2017

	2012		2017	
Housework distribution	Actual %	Ideal %	Actual %	Ideal %
Husband	24.5	31.6	27.1	33.6
Wife	55.9	48.8	56.7	49.6
Others	19.6	19.6	16.1	16.8
Total respondents	1504	1504	1,505	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Table 3.9.2 Distribution of respondents on the hours spent in teaching children, 2012-2017

	2012		2017	
Hours spent in teaching children	Actual hours	Ideal hours	Actual hours	Ideal hours
Husband	19.1	26.1	15.4	22.4
Wife	37.9	39.6	38.9	40.2
Total respondents	1,507	1,507	1,193	1,193
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

3.10 Difficulties in Raising up Children and the Policy to Encourage Giving Birth

23.1% of female respondents thought that “heavy economic burden” was their main difficulties in raising children. Besides that, “big responsibility” (23.7%) and “difficult to understand psychology of children” (8.2%) were the other main difficulties. In 2012, 11.3% of the respondents worried that “children are rebellious and difficult to be taught” while the number has dropped to 5.5 in 2017. (Table 3.10.1)

More than half of the respondents thought that “educational subsidies” (56.6%), “medical subsidies” (55.0%), “free children education” (56.1%), “buy/ change/ rent house subsidies” (55.3%), “free children education” (55.0%) and “enhance education quality” (53.9%) are the policies that can encourage giving birth. Overall, economic encouragement and educational help are more effective methods in encouraging giving birth compared to others. (Table 3.10.2)

Table 3.10.1 Distribution of respondents on the difficulties in raising up children, 2012-2017

Difficulties in raising up children	2012 %	2017 %
Personal factors:		
Big responsibility	24.9	23.7
Difficult to understand psychology of children	6.1	8.2
Children need to afford a big pressure	5.9	7.6
Do not know how to communicate with children	5.2	4.9
Lack of time to communicate with children	4.9	4.3
Too much protection/ spoil from the elderly	2.7	1.6
Economic factors:		
Heavy economic burden	28.0	23.1
Educational factors:		
Children are rebellious and difficult to be taught	11.3	5.5
Afraid that children will be led astray by corrupted social values	4.0	2.3
The education system is difficult to be followed	3.6	6.1
Education and school entrance pressure	---	6.6
Affect the health/safety of the children	1.7	3.3
Difficult for parents to find support	0.9	1.7
Others	0.2	0.2
No response	0.6	1.1
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 3.10.2 Distribution of respondents on the policy that can encourage giving birth, 2012-2017

Whether this policy will encourage you to give birth	2012 %	2017 %
	Yes	Yes
Promotions:		
Increase education on family values	18.0	26.1
Courses to teach you “how to be good parents”	16.7	23.7
Economic encouragement:		
Educational subsidies	59.5	56.6
Medical subsidies	57.4	55.0
Buy/ Change/ Rent house subsidies	53.2	55.3
Powdered milk subsidies	51.4	46.6
Children care subsidies	49.8	49.3
Increase tax allowance of the children	42.2	43.5
Extra tax reduction	40.7	41.3
Birth bonus	39.4	44.5
Lower/ exempt tax on foreign domestic helpers	33.3	34.3
Enhance the support on the parents:		
Increase nourish and children care services	50.4	49.5
Paid parent-child leave	49.5	47.2
Allow flexible working hours	48.9	45.3
Extend paid maternity leave	48.4	46.1
Father can enjoy paid maternity leave	48.2	46.2
Education:		
Free children education	56.1	55.0
Enhance education quality	52.6	53.9
Small group teaching	43.5	48.3
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Chapter 4 Knowledge and Practice of Contraception

4.1 Usage of and Satisfaction with Specific Contraceptive Methods

Similar to past findings, “male condom” (86.3%) was still the most common contraceptive method ever used by the respondents in 2017 and received at the same time the highest satisfaction level (96.2%). 40% of respondents used oral pills in 2012, and the number dropped to 27.4% in 2017. Female condom, contraceptive patch, vasectomy and spermicide were the least prevalent type of contraceptive methods, and the percentage of satisfaction of those methods were relatively low across the years. In 2017, fewer women have ever used injection (4.9%) comparing to that in 2012 (12.4%). (Table 4.1.1 & 4.1.2)

Male condom (96.2%) and female sterilization (91.4%) were the most satisfying contraceptive methods. More respondents were satisfied with oral pills, withdrawal, rhythm, IUD and abstinence in 2017 compared to those in 2012. (Table 4.1.2)

Table 4.1.1 Distribution of ever usage of respective contraceptive methods, 2002 – 2017

	Ever used the contraceptive methods before			
	2002	2007	2012	2017
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Contraceptive methods				
Male condom	85.8	83.0	87.9	86.3
Oral pills	50.0	35.5	40.0	27.4
Withdrawal	27.5	16.8	30.9	20.7
Rhythm	33.6	19.9	27.8	23.3
IUD	18.4	16.6	13.3	10.5
Injection	14.7	10.0	12.4	4.9
Emergency contraceptive pills	4.8	4.2	5.4	7.6
Female sterilization	16.2	11.1	5.2	3.9
Abstinence	6.2	2.1	3.8	4.3
Female condom	1.9	1.3	1.7	1.0
Contraceptive patch	---	1.1	1.6	0.7
Vasectomy	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.7
Spermicide	---	---	0.7	0.7
Total respondents	1,607	1,508	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Table 4.1.2 Distribution of satisfaction of respective contraceptive methods, 2007-2017

	% of Satisfaction			Number of users		
	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017
Contraceptive Methods						
Male condom	93.0	93.7	96.2	1,251	1,425	1,299
Oral pills	67.7	68.3	81.6	536	603	413
Withdrawal	60.1	57.8	78.2	253	465	312
Rhythm	61.0	59.4	75.2	300	419	351
IUD	74.1	69.2	71.5	251	201	158
Injection	52.3	71.7	66.2	151	187	74
Emergency contraceptive pills	4.2	72.0	68.7	63	82	115
Female sterilization	98.2	83.3	91.4	167	78	58
Abstinence	2.1	52.6	69.2	32	57	65
Female condom	1.3	48.0	53.3	19	25	15
Contraceptive patch	1.1	56.0	54.5	17	25	11
Vasectomy	0.7	40.0	50.0	10	15	10
Spermicide	---	30.0	27.3	---	10	11
<i>Base: (2007) Those female respondents who were fertile and those who were not born infertile (including pregnant women) and had ever used the respective contraceptive methods</i> <i>(2012, 2017) Those female respondents that had ever used the respective contraceptive methods except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>						

Among those female respondents who have not tried the respective contraceptive methods, the intention of trying male condom and rhythm was much higher than that of 2007. (Table 4.1.3)

Table 4.1.3 Distribution of intention of trying respective contraceptive methods, 2007 – 2017

	Intent of using the contraceptive methods among non-users								
	Will use %			Will not use %			Number of non-users		
	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017
Contraceptive methods									
Injection	2.3	12.6	2.9	97.7	73.0	83.0	1,357	1,308	1,431
Oral pills	2.1	12.4	5.0	97.9	74.7	82.1	972	893	1,092
IUD	3.9	10.3	3.5	96.1	73.3	82.8	1,257	1,294	1,347
Rhythm	1.4	9.5	9.9	98.6	78.9	74.9	1,208	1,076	1,154
Contraceptive patch	3.1	8.9	4.6	96.9	72.1	78.0	1,491	1,472	1,494
Male condom	7.0	8.0	16.5	93.0	76.7	63.1	257	176	206
Emergency contraceptive pills	2.2	7.3	3.9	97.8	76.5	80.3	1,445	1,415	1,390
Withdrawal	1.4	6.6	6.2	98.6	83.1	77.7	1,255	1,031	1,193
Female condom	2.4	6.5	2.3	97.6	75.0	80.5	1,489	1,471	1,490
Female sterilization	4.7	5.1	2.3	95.3	79.9	85.2	1,341	1,418	1,447
Vasectomy	1.1	4.7	1.7	98.9	79.6	85.9	1,498	1,481	1,495
Abstinence	1.2	4.5	5.2	98.8	79.7	78.3	1,476	1,438	1,440
Spermicide	---	1.9	1.5	---	81.0	81.5	---	1,486	1,494
<i>Base: (2007) Those female respondents who were fertile and those who were not born infertile (including pregnant women) and had not ever used the respective contraceptive methods</i> <i>(2012, 2017) Those female respondents that had not ever used the respective contraceptive methods except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>									

4.2 Current Practice Rate

The prevalence of currently practicing contraception has been decreasing among all age groups throughout the years. The overall proportions of respondents who were currently practicing contraception tend to be those aged 30 or above, especially among those who are aged 45-49 (25.6%). (Table 4.2.1)

Table 4.2.1 Distribution of currently practicing contraceptive methods, 2002 – 2017

	Distribution				Prevalence			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category								
Below 25	3.0	1.3	3.1	2.5	88.9	76.2	78.7	74.3
25-29	7.7	7.3	8.8	9.2	91.1	79.8	77.0	64.2
30-34	18.3	14.6	19.9	17.2	84.9	82.2	78.9	64.8
35-39	24.1	22.9	22.7	22.6	89.9	81.1	78.9	69.8
40-44	25.5	26.0	26.9	23.0	88.0	82.1	83.2	75.7
45-49	21.4	27.9	18.6	25.6	79.8	74.6	70.1	65.7
Overall	---	---	---	---	86.2	79.5	78.0	68.6
Total participants:	1,325	1,199	1,184	1,032	---	---	---	---
<i>Base: Those female respondents who were currently practicing contraception</i>								

4.3 Current Principal Method

Among those respondents who were currently practicing contraception at the time of the survey, most of them used condom as their principal method. The proportion has increased from 20.2% in 1982 to 79.8% in 2017. The rising trend of using IUD did not continue in 2017, as only 6.2% claimed of using IUD as the principle method. (Table 4.3.1) The proportions who used oral pills has been decreasing since 1982 (26.8%) and plummeted to 6.3% in 2017. Female sterilization has dropped sharply from 27.5% in 1982 to 2.9% in 2017 while rhythm has dropped from 11.2% in 1982 to 1.6% in 2017. (Table 4.3.1 and Figure 4.3.1)

Table 4.3.1 Distribution of current users by principal contraceptive method used, 1982 – 2017

Principal contraceptive method used	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Condom ¹	20.2	32.2	40.0	44.4	54.7	63.3 [”]	69.6	79.8	↑↑
Oral pills	26.8	20.3	19.8	16.3	9.4	8.4	10.8	6.3	↓↓
IUD	4.8	5.6	5.9	5.9	10.4	11.7	8.5	6.2	NS
Female sterilization	27.5	28.3	21.9	22.9	16.8	8.9	4.7	2.9	↓↓
Injection	3.8	3.1	2.0	2.7	1.9	1.5	2.1	1.2	↓↓
Withdrawal	---	---	---	0.6	1.7	2.2	2.0	1.6	NS
Rhythm	11.2	6.7	5.9	3.5	3.4	2.9	1.4	1.6	↓↓
Vasectomy	1.6	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.3	↓↓
Contraceptive patch	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.2	0.1	---
Diaphragm / spermicides	3.5	2.2	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	↓↓
No response	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.3	0.0	---
Total respondents	1,015	1,221	1,314	1,187	1,336	1,078	1,184	1,032	

Base: (1982-2007) Those female respondents who were fertile and those who were not born infertile and currently practicing contraception
(2012, 2017) Those female respondents who were practicing contraception except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile

¹Including male condom and female condom

↑↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .01$

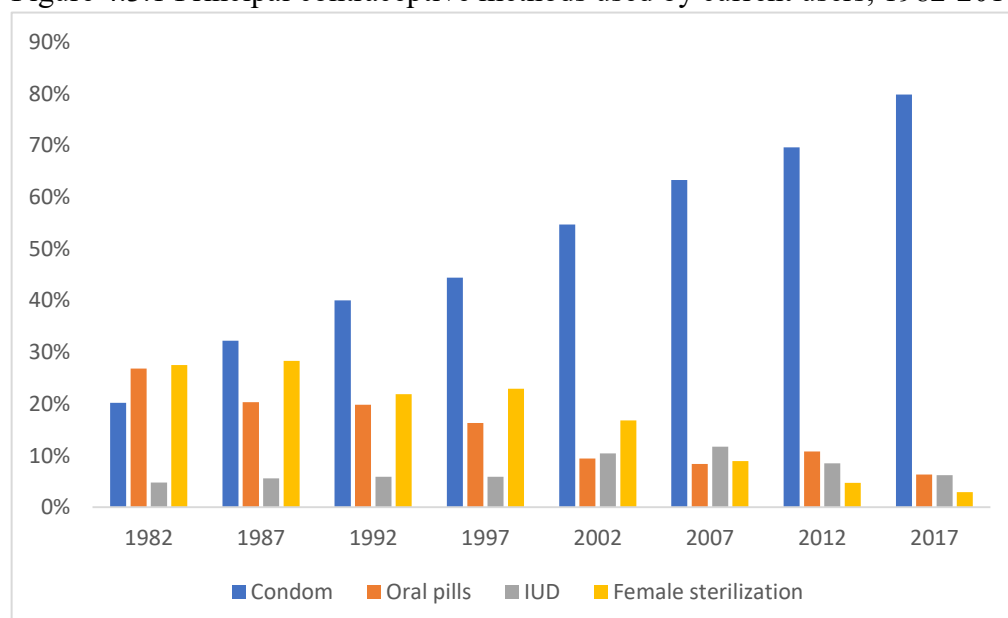
↑: Significant increasing trend; $p < .05$

↓↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .01$

↓: Significant decreasing trend; $p < .05$

All linear trend analyses are based on data from 1982 to 2017

Figure 4.3.1 Principal contraceptive methods used by current users, 1982-2017



More than 95% of the respondents did not take any emergency contraceptive pills in the past year. (Table 4.3.2)

63.3% of the respondents reported that they got the emergency contraceptive pills from the drug store. (Table 4.3.3)

Table 4.3.2 Distribution of respondents on the number of times in taking contraceptive pills in the past year, 2012-2017

Number of times to take emergency contraceptive pills in the past year	2012 %	2017 %
0	95.8	96.7
1	1.9	2.1
2	0.9	0.7
3	0.4	0.2
4	0.2	0.1
5+	0.8	0.2
Forgot	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 4.3.3 Distribution of respondents on the channels to get emergency contraceptive pills, 2012-2017

Channels to get emergency contraceptive pills	2012 %	2017 %
Drug store	76.6	63.3
Private doctors	7.8	26.5
FPAHK clinic	6.3	16.3
Public family health service	6.3	6.1
Family & friends	4.7	0.0
Total respondents	64	49
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have taken emergency contraceptive pills in the past year</i>		

4.4 Reasons for Discontinuation of / Not Practicing Contraception

The major reason for those who discontinued and did not practice contraception was that they did not think they would be pregnant. The figure has decreased from 37.0% in 2007 to 28.2% in 2017. Not refilling contraceptive was the major reason in 2012 (27.8%), but the proportion was dropped to 16.7% in 2017. Other major reasons included “I do not care” (24.4%) and “afraid of side effects” (15.0%). (Table 4.4.1)

Table 4.4.1 Distribution of discontinued users by principal reason for discontinuation of / not practicing contraceptive practice, 2002 – 2017

Principal reason for discontinuation	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Not yet refilled contraceptives	---	6.7	27.8	16.7
Don't think I will be pregnant	---	37.0	25.5	28.2
Contraception is inconvenient	---	11.8	24.5	10.5
Don't care	---	19.3	17.5	24.4
Afraid of side effects	13.4	17.6	16.0	15.0
Partner objects to it	---	5.0	14.6	5.9
Want to have children	25.4	2.5	7.1	3.1
Religious reasons	---	---	---	2.4
Sterilization	---	---	---	4.5
Others	2.0	1.6	5.6	3.8
No response	---	---	0.9	0.7
Total respondents	201	119	212	287
<i>Base: 2007: Those female respondents who had discontinued to use contraception</i>				
<i>2012: Those female respondents who never / sometimes did not practice contraception</i>				

Among those respondents who indicated that they did not require contraception, 62.7% of them had secondary education. The figure for those who have attained post-secondary education has increased from 7.0% in 2007 to 21.9% in 2012, and further increased to 40.3% in 2017. (Table 4.4.2)

Similar to the findings in 2007 and 2012, around 86% of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs do not have any induced abortion in 2017. (Table 4.4.3)

Half of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs have a household income of >\$30,000 in 2017, compared to 30.0% in 2012 and only 14.8% in 2007. (Table 4.4.4)

Table 4.4.2 Distribution of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs by educational attainment, 1992 – 2017

Educational attainment	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Below primary	4.0	4.2	5.8	3.1	---	---
Primary	44.4	45.1	25.0	25.8	15.3	7.0
Secondary	44.4	45.1	65.4	62.5	63.0	62.7
Post-secondary	7.0	5.6	3.8	7.0	21.9	40.3
Others	---	---	---	1.6	---	---
Total respondents	99	71	52	128	170	186
<i>Base: Those female respondents who claimed no contraceptive needs</i>						

Table 4.4.3 Distribution of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs by number of induced abortions, 1992 – 2017

Number of induced abortions	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
0	73.7	59.2	63.5	81.3	80.6	86.0
1	14.1	29.6	23.1	10.9	11.2	5.4
2 or more	12.1	11.3	13.5	7.8	8.3	5.9
Refused	---	---	---	---	---	2.7
Total respondents	99	71	52	128	170	186
<i>Base: Those female respondents who claimed no contraceptive needs</i>						

Table 4.4.4 Distribution of respondents claiming no contraceptive needs by household income, 1992 – 2017

Household income	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
<\$10,000	43.4	32.4	17.3	21.9	16.0	8.1
\$10,000 – 19,999	42.4	39.4	38.5	41.4	28.9	19.9
\$20,000 – 29,999	5.1	16.9	17.3	20.3	21.2	17.7
>\$30,000	8.0	11.2	26.9	14.8	30.0	50.0
No response / not fixed	1.0	---	0.0	1.6	4.1	4.2
Total respondents	99	71	52	128	170	186
<i>Base: Those female respondents who claimed no contraceptive needs</i>						

4.5 Responsibility of Contraception

Majority of the respondents (71.0%) claimed that contraception was a joint responsibility by both parties. (Table 4.5.1)

About 65.5% of respondents have discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse. (Table 4.5.2)

Among those respondents which have discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse, 94.7% thought that the discussion was adequate. Besides that, 95.8% of their spouse considered the contraceptive issues proposed by the respondents were either very acceptable or quite acceptable. (Table 4.5.3-4.5.4)

Education was found to be a significant predictor of the discussion of contraceptive issues with spouse. The more education the respondents received, the higher probability that she would discuss the contraceptive issues with the spouse. (Table 4.5.5)

Table 4.5.1 Distribution of respondents on the responsibility of contraception, 2012-2017

Responsibility of contraception	2012 %	2017 %
Wife	4.8	3.5
Husband	21.9	23.3
Both are responsible	71.0	71.0
Both are not responsible	0.5	0.5
Not sure	1.7	1.7
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 4.5.2 Distribution of respondents on the discussion of contraceptive issues with spouse, 2012-2017

Discussion of contraceptive issues with spouse	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	61.8	65.5
No	38.1	34.5
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 4.5.3 Distribution of respondents on the adequate discussion on contraceptive issues with spouse, 2012-2017

Adequate discussion on contraceptive issues with spouse	2012 %	2017 %
Adequate	93.3	94.7
Not	6.5	5.3
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	932	985
<i>Base: Those female respondents that discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse</i>		

Table 4.5.4 Distribution of respondents on the acceptance of spouse on the respondents' views of contraceptive issues, 2012-2017

Spouse's acceptance on the respondents' views of contraceptive issues	2012 %	2017 %
Very acceptable	47.5	40.1
Quite acceptable	49.0	55.7
Not too acceptable	3.2	1.8
Not acceptable at all	0.1	0.2
Do not have any opinions	---	2.1
No response	0.1	0.0
Total respondents	932	985
<i>Base: Those female respondents that discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse</i>		

Table 4.5.5 The discussion of contraceptive issues with spouse by educational attainment, 2017

Educational attainment	The discussion of contraceptive issues with spouse		
	Yes %	No %	Total
Primary or below	46.7	53.3	90
Secondary	64.0	36.0	988
Post-secondary	72.8	27.2	427
Total	985	520	1,505
<i>Base: Those female respondents that discussed the contraceptive issues with spouse</i>			

4.6 General Contraceptive Knowledge

To test the respondents' general contraceptive knowledge, they were given ten statements concerning the contraceptive knowledge and ask if they thought the statements were correct or not. Over two thirds of respondents (68.2%) scored below 5 in their general contraceptive knowledge, with the average score at 3.5 out of 10 marks. Only 31.8% of the respondents score 5 or more marks. (Table 4.6.1)

Table 4.6.1 Distribution of score summary of general contraceptive knowledge, 2012-2017

Total Score	2012 %	2017 %
0	6.8	8.5
1	11.4	11.4
2	15.5	14.7
3	15.4	16.5
4	18.5	17.2
5	14.9	17.0
6	9.8	8.6
7	5.6	4.4
8	2.0	1.6
9	0.1	0.3
10	0.0	0.1
Summary		
5 or above	32.4	31.8
Below 5	67.6	68.2
Mean	3.5	3.4
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Same as previous years, among the 10 questions in this section, “using oral pills will gain weight” (50.7%) was the question having the most wrong answers. The proportion of respondents who has not answered correctly for “IUD can be used by those females who have not given birth” has increased from 27.0% in 2007 to 35.6% in 2012 but then decreased again to 24.2% in 2017. Another question that respondents have not answered correctly was “Applying Vaseline outside condom will wear it out” (36.9%). Over 50% of the respondents reported they did not know the answer for “The chance of having uterine or pelvic infection will increase progressively every year using IUD”, “Oral pills will increase the risk of womb cancer” and “Spermicide will kill the bacteria of sexually transmitted disease in the vagina”. (Table 4.6.2)

Table 4.6.2 Distribution of respondents who correctly answered the 10 questions, 2007- 2017

	Incorrect			Correct			I don't know		
	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Questions									
Using oral pills will gain weight	53.9	50.9	50.7	26.8	27.8	21.6	19.3	20.8	27.7
IUD can be used by those females who have not given birth	27.0	35.6	24.2	40.9	30.5	37.9	32.2	33.4	37.9
Applying Vaseline outside condom will wear it out	---	35.0	36.9	---	12.0	14.1	---	52.4	49.0
The contraceptive effectiveness of male condom is the same as the oral pills	38.3	33.6	31.3	29.0	27.1	29.0	32.7	38.8	39.7
7 days before menses is the safe period	---	30.5	24.5	---	47.1	53.6	---	21.9	21.9
The chance of having uterine or pelvic infection will increase progressively every year using IUD	30.2	26.7	29.5	24.9	24.2	19.1	44.9	48.4	51.4
Oral pills will increase the risk of womb cancer	24.4	25.0	23.5	30.7	26.6	20.5	45.0	47.9	56.0
The emergency contraceptive pills have to be used within 72 hours	19.0	16.4	11.9	39.6	53.8	58.7	41.4	29.3	29.4
Oral pills have to be regularly taken every day	11.7	18.0	18.1	70.3	65.2	59.1	18.0	16.2	22.8
Spermicide will kill the bacteria of sexually transmitted disease in the vagina	9.2	11.8	11.2	46.5	37.6	30.0	44.3	50.0	58.7
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>									

Looking into other factors affecting the contraceptive knowledge, there were no clear relationships between the mean score and age group and the number of parities. However, contraceptive knowledge was related to the educational attainment. Respondents who had higher educational attainment tended to have higher scores. (Table 4.6.3)

Table 4.6.3 Distribution of respondents' characteristics by score of general contraceptive knowledge, 2017

	Scores of contraceptive knowledge		
	0-4 %	5-10 %	Mean score
Age group			
under 25	60.0	40.0	3.5
25-29	56.4	43.6	3.9
30-34	68.0	32.0	3.4
35-39	70.0	30.0	3.4
40-44	69.8	30.2	3.4
45-49	70.6	29.4	3.3
Educational attainment			
Primary or below	82.4	17.6	2.6
Secondary	69.4	30.6	3.3
Post-secondary	62.2	37.8	3.8
Number of parities			
0	62.8	37.2	3.8
1	68.6	31.4	3.6
2	71.1	28.9	3.3
3+	64.7	35.3	3.3
<i>Base: All fertile women</i>			

Chapter 5 FPAHK Service

5.1 Awareness & Usage of FPAHK services

68.0% of female respondents were aware of the “contraceptive methods guidance services”. This was the service mostly known by respondents. More than 50% of female respondents are aware of “FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services”, “Sub-fertility services”, “women’s health services”, “FPAHK pre-pregnancy check-up services”, “induced abortion”, and “male vasectomy services” provided by FPAHK. “Osteoporosis treatment” (10.9%) had the lowest awareness among all FPAHK services. (Table 5.1.1)

Table 5.1.1 Distribution of respondents on the awareness of FPAHK services, 2017

Awareness of FPAHK services	Yes %	No %
Contraceptive methods guidance services	68.0	31.4
FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services	63.6	35.8
Sub-fertility services	64.1	35.3
Women’s health services	64.6	34.8
FPAHK pre-pregnancy check-up services	59.3	40.1
Induced abortion	56.4	43.0
Male vasectomy services	50.1	49.3
Male’s health services	29.0	70.4
Sex Therapy	33.6	65.8
Menopause services	17.0	82.4
Youth’s health services	23.4	76.0
Osteoporosis treatment	10.9	88.5
<i>Total respondents: 1508 (exclude infertile women)</i>		

Table 5.1.2 showed the usage of the FPAHK services that the respondents were aware of. “Women’s health services” (18.9%), “contraceptive methods consulting services” (11.3%), “FPAHK pre-pregnancy check-up services” (10.7%), and “FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services” (10.6%) were the FPAHK services that mostly used by the women. Other services had a minority usage, especially for menopause services and osteoporosis treatment, no one has ever used these services.

Table 5.1.2 Distribution of respondents on the usage of FPAHK services, 2017

Usage of FPAHK services	Yes %	No %	Forgot %	Not Sure %	Base
Contraceptive methods guidance services	11.3	87.8	0.9	0.1	1,029
FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services	10.6	88.3	0.7	0.4	963
Sub-fertility services	3.9	95.3	0.6	0.2	970
Women’s health services	18.9	79.8	1.3	0.0	978
FPAHK pre-pregnancy check-up services	10.7	88.5	0.7	0.1	898
Induced abortion	3.5	96.0	0.4	0.1	854
Male vasectomy services	0.7	99.1	0.0	0.3	758
Male’s health services	2.1	97.7	0.0	0.2	439
Sex Therapy	0.6	99.4	0.0	0.0	508
Menopause services	0.0	99.6	0.4	0.0	257
Youth’s health services	3.7	96.1	0.3	0.0	355
Osteoporosis treatment	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	165

Among those who have used the service, contraceptive methods guidance services were used relatively more recently (5.4 years) while FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services are used a long time ago (10.8 years) (Table 5.1.3)

Table 5.1.3 Distribution of respondents on the average years using the FPAHK service for the last time, 2017

Mean years for FPAHK services used last time	2017 (year)	Base
Contraceptive methods guidance services	5.4	103
FPAHK pre-marriage integrated services	10.8	89
Sub-fertility services	7.6	32
Women's health services	5.5	160
FPAHK pre-pregnancy check-up services	8.7	82
Induced abortion	7.5	26
Male vasectomy services	7.8	5
Male's health services	9.8	8
Menopause services	---	0
Youth's health services	7.2	12
Osteoporosis treatment	---	0
Sex Therapy	7.3	3
<i>Base: All female respondents who have used that kind of FPAHK service excluding those who have no response on it</i>		

5.2 Contraceptive Products Supply in FPAHK

88.6% never used the contraceptive products in FPAHK. (Table 5.2.1)

For those who were using or have ever used this service, the average year that they used the contraceptive products last was 6.8 years. Most of them either used the contraceptive products in FPAHK 0-<2 years before (39.1%) or 10 years or above before (21.2%) (Table 5.2.2)

Among those who have never used the contraceptive products in FPAHK, the main reasons were “not sure how to get contraceptive products in FPAHK” (28.8%) and “Don’t know how to go to FPAHK” (24.4%). (Table 5.2.3)

Table 5.2.1 Distribution of respondents on the usage of contraceptive products in FPAHK, 2012-2017

Usage of contraceptive products in FPAHK	2012 %	2017 %
Using now	3.8	3.1
Used before, but change to other places now	6.3	5.0
Used before, but no contraceptive now	42.8	3.4
Never used before	86.9	88.6
No response	0.2	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 5.2.2 Distribution of respondents on the years contraceptive products offered by FPAHK are used last time, 2012-2017

Years since the last time that use the contraceptive products in FPAHK	2012 %	2017 %
0-<2 years	33.6	39.1
2-<4 years	14.8	9.6
4-<6 years	10.0	12.2
6-<8 years	7.1	5.1
8-<10 years	5.3	12.8
10 years or above	29.0	21.2
Mean years	6.7 years	6.8 years
Total respondents	170	172
<i>Base: All female respondents that are using or have ever used the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK excluding those who have no response</i>		

Table 5.2.3 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for not getting contraceptive products in FPAHK, 2012-2017

Reasons for not getting contraceptive products in FPAHK	2012 %	2017 %
Don't think it is necessary to change to another one	27.9	21.0
Not sure how to get contraceptive products in FPAHK	25.4	28.8
Not necessary to use contraceptive products	20.0	19.4
It is inconvenient to visit the office of FPAHK	19.5	20.6
Don't know how to go to FPAHK	10.2	24.4
The service hour of FPAHK is inappropriate	10.0	12.4
Not confident with FPAHK	2.7	0.9
Better/ Convenient to choose/ buy myself	2.4	0.9
Don't know FPAHK offer contraceptive services	1.9	1.4
Others	1.9	1.0
No response	0.4	0.1
Total respondents	1,310	1,333
<i>Base: All female respondents that never used the contraceptive products in FPAHK before</i>		

Among those who have used the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK before but did not use it anymore, the two main reasons were “the office of FPAHK is inconvenient to visit” (34.9%) and “Not necessary to practice contraception” (20.7%). (Table 5.2.4)

Moreover, only 10.7% would get the contraceptive products in FPAHK in the future. It indicates that if the respondents stop using the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK, they are unlikely to reuse the service. (Table 5.2.5)

Table 5.2.4 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for not getting contraceptive products in FPAHK anymore, 2012-2017

Reasons for not getting contraceptive products in FPAHK anymore	2012 %	2017 %
The office of FPAHK is inconvenient to visit	30.5	34.9
The service hour of FPAHK is inappropriate	30.5	18.2
Change to use the contraceptive methods that don't need contraceptive products	12.6	16.7
The waiting time is too long	9.5	4.0
Poor quality	7.4	1.6
Better/ Convenient to choose/buy myself	7.4	0.8
Not sure	5.3	6.3
Not necessary to practice contraception	4.2	20.7
Health care centre is much cheaper	3.2	---
Not satisfied with the services provided by FPAHK staff	2.1	0.0
Sterilization	2.1	7.1
The procedure of FPAHK is too clumsy	1.1	0.0
No response	3.2	0.0
Other	---	6.4
Total respondents	95	126
<i>Base: All female respondents that used the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK before but do not use it anymore</i>		

Table 5.2.5 Distribution of respondents on the possibility to get the contraceptive products in FPAHK in the future, 2012-2017

Get the contraceptive products in FPAHK in the future	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	11.6	10.7
No	48.4	50.7
Not sure	36.8	38.7
No response	3.2	0.0
Total respondents	95	75
<i>Base: All female respondents that used the supply of contraceptive products in FPAHK before but do not use it anymore</i>		

5.3 Awareness of FPAHK Advertisement

Compared with 2012 (67.5%), only 22.7% of the female respondents were aware of the TV advertisement of “family big or small, family planning is the best of all (big family series)”. Another same type of TV advertisement with different series (father series) had an even lower awareness (15.4%). This decrease in awareness of the TV advertisements may be contributed to the wide use of Internet.

Table 5.3.1 Distribution of respondents on the awareness of FPAHK’s TV advertisement, 2012-2017

Awareness of FPAHK’s TV advertisement	2012 %	2017 %
Family big or small, family planning is the best of all (big family series)	67.5	29.1
Lottery	53.9	---
Family big or small, family planning is the best of all (father series)	39.9	19.8
The choice is yours, plan ahead and plan it well: how many is enough	---	24.2
No response	3.7	37.7
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

5.4 Perception of the Services Provided to Society

More than 80% of the female respondents either totally agreed or agreed that the services provided by FPAHK can meet the society needs in 2017. This number has increased since 2012. (Table 5.4.1)

Respondents were being asked on whether it was appropriate or not to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, almost 80% thought that it was appropriate or appropriate under regulations. Only 17.9% of the respondents thought that it was inappropriate. It showed that the society was more open to sex and contraception now. (Table 5.4.2)

Among those respondents who thought that it was inappropriate, the main reasons were “youth may be promiscuous” (52.8%) and “It may mislead the youth that they are allowed to have sex at their age” (46.5%) (Table 5.4.3)

Table 5.4.1 Distribution of respondents on the perception of the services provided by FPAHK that can meet the society needs, 2012-2017

Perception of the services provided by FPAHK can meet the society needs	2012 %	2017 %
Totally agree	8.6	10.7
Agree	64.2	71.4
Disagree	4.0	4.5
Totally disagree	0.5	0.6
No comments	21.5	12.8
No response	1.3	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 5.4.2 Distribution of respondents on whether it is appropriate or not to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, 2012-2017

Appropriate or not to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18	2012 %	2017 %
Appropriate	38.7	50.5
Appropriate under regulations	32.2	27.6
Not appropriate	19.0	17.9
Not sure	9.0	4.0
No response	1.1	0.0
Total respondents	1,507	1,505
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

Table 5.4.3 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, 2012-2017

Reasons for not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18	2017 %
Youth may be promiscuous	52.8
It may mislead the youth that they are allowed to have sex at their age	46.5
Youth may be attracted to have pre-marital sex	45.7
Youth may be attracted to have sex	43.1
Youth may abuse the contraceptive services	37.9
Too young to use the services	0.4
No response	0.0
Total respondents	269
<i>Base: All female respondents think that it is not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18</i>	

Chapter 6 Induced Abortion and Unwanted Births

6.1 Induced Abortion

The distribution of induced abortion in 2017 is similar to that of 2007 and 2012. The proportion of respondents who did not have induced abortion before (85.9%) was slightly higher than that of 2012, and that of ever having induced abortion continued decreasing from 20.6% in 2007 to 14.1% in 2012 and 11.4% in 2017. (Table 6.1.1 and Figure 6.1.1)

Among those who have ever practiced induced abortion, 84.4% of them were pregnant for less than 12 weeks at the time/ last time of surgery. Moreover, only 52% of them were married compared to that in 2012 (66.0%). (Table 6.1.2 & 6.1.3)

Table 6.1.1 Distribution of respondents by number of induced abortions, 1982 – 2017

Number of induced abortions	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
0	86.0	78.2	75.4	74.6	73.7	79.2	82.9	85.9	NS
1	9.6	14.4	14.5	17.6	17.9	15.1	10.0	8.1	NS
2	3.1	5.2	6.2	5.6	6.4	4.3	3.1	2.6	NS
3	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	NS
4 or more	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	NS
No response	0.1	0.3	1.8	---	---	0.2	3.0	2.6	NS
Total respondents	1,403	1,511	1,681	1,509	1,603	1,508	1,507	1,514	

Base: (1982-2007) All female respondents excluding those who were born infertile
 (2012) All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who are born infertile
 (2017) All female respondents
 NS: Insignificant increasing nor decreasing trend for the period 1982 – 2017

Figure 6.1.1 Number of induced abortions experienced by respondents, 1982 – 2017

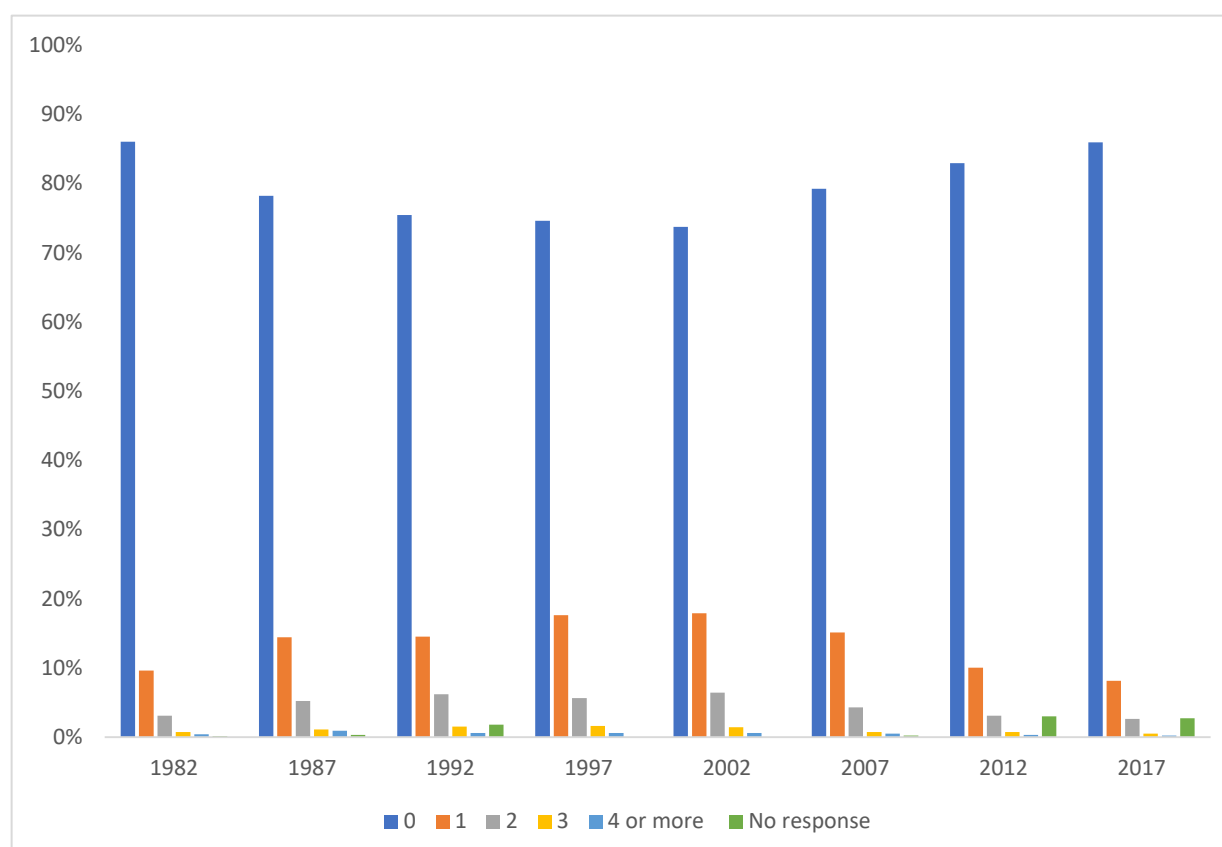


Table 6.1.2 Distribution of respondents of the pregnancy period at the time/ last time of induced abortion surgery, 2012-2017

Pregnancy period at the time/ last time of induced abortion surgery	2012 %	2017 %
Less than 12 weeks	89.6	84.4
12 weeks or above	9.4	15.0
No response	0.9	0.6
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: All female respondents that have ever practiced induced abortion</i>		

Table 6.1.3 Distribution of respondents of the marital status at the time/ last time of induced abortion surgery, 2012-2017

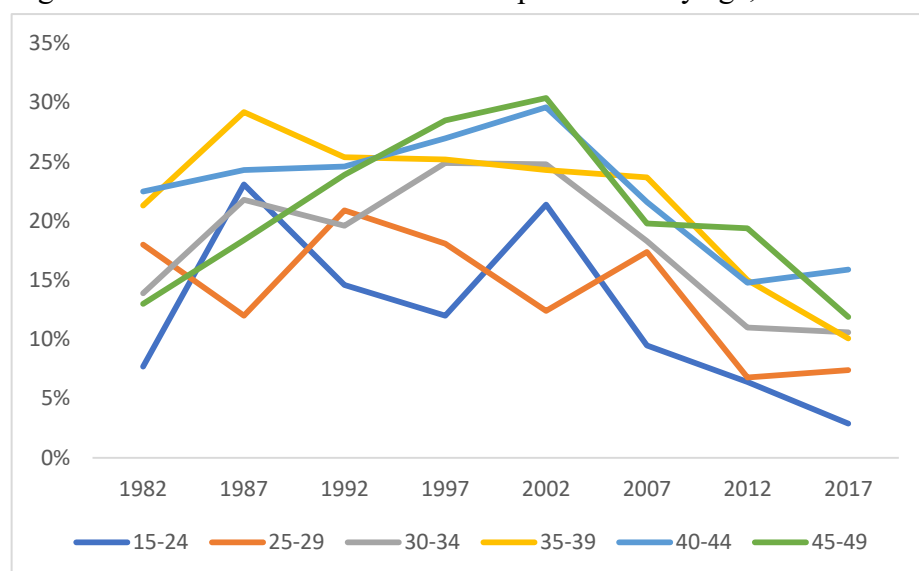
Marital status at the time/ last time of induced abortion surgery	2012 %	2017 %
Unmarried	23.6	39.9
Married	66.0	52.0
Cohabitated	10.4	7.5
Divorced/separated	---	0.0
Widowed	---	0.6
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: All female respondents that have ever practiced induced abortion</i>		

In terms of prevalence of induced abortion by age, a sharp decline from 2007 to 2017 was recorded in the below 30 age group. Meanwhile, there was a significant decrease in the induced abortion prevalence in the 35-39 group throughout the years. The prevalence of induced abortion by all age groups has decreased as well when compared to 2007. Apparently, the abortion has increased from 1982 and peaked at 2002 and has gradually reduced since then. (Table 6.1.4 & Figure 6.1.2)

Table 6.1.4 Prevalence of induced abortion by age, 1982 – 2017

Age	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
15-24	7.7	23.1	14.6	12.0	21.4	9.5	6.4	2.9	NS
25-29	18.0	12.0	20.9	18.1	12.4	17.4	6.8	7.4	NS
30-34	13.9	21.8	19.6	24.9	24.8	18.3	11.0	10.6	NS
35-39	21.3	29.2	25.4	25.2	24.3	23.7	15.0	10.1	↓
40-44	22.5	24.3	24.6	27.0	29.6	21.6	14.8	15.9	NS
45-49	13.0	18.4	23.9	28.5	30.4	19.8	19.4	11.9	NS
<i>Base: All female respondents excluding those who were born infertile</i> ↓: Significant decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017; $p < .05$ NS: Insignificant increasing nor decreasing trend for the period 1982 - 2017									

Figure 6.1.2 Trend of induced abortion prevalence by age, 1982 – 2017



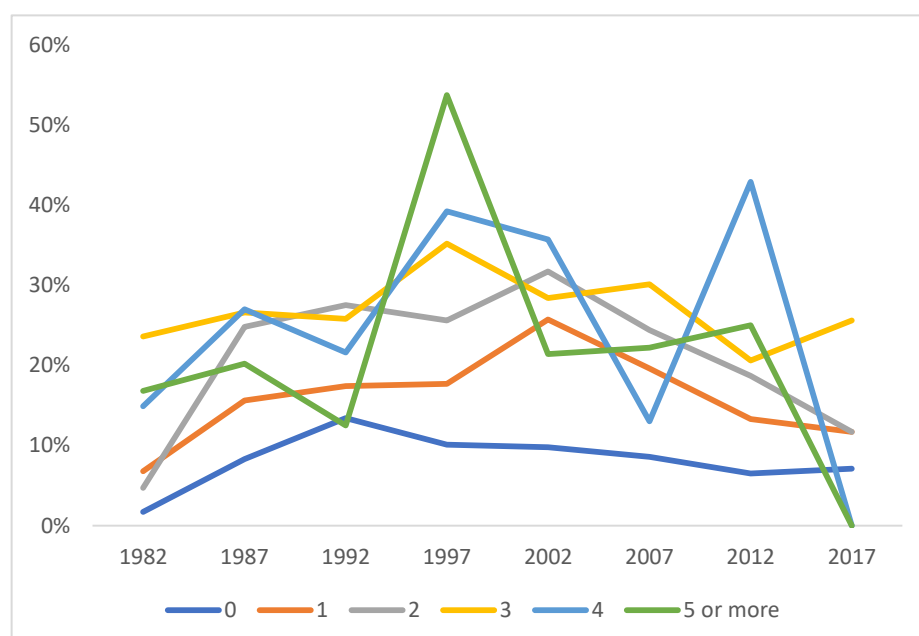
With respect to parity specific abortion rate, the prevalence for 0 to 2 parities has declined when compared to 2012, while the prevalence among 3 parities has increased to 25.6% in 2017. The largest decline recorded was among women who have two children (from 18.7% in 2012 to 11.7% in 2017). (Table 6.1.5 and Figure 6.1.3)

Table 6.1.5 Prevalence of induced abortion by parity, 1982 – 2017

Parity	1982 %	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
0	1.7	8.3	13.4	10.1	9.8	8.6	6.5	7.1	NS
1	6.8	15.6	17.4	17.7	25.7	19.6	13.3	11.7	NS
2	4.7	24.8	27.5	25.6	31.7	24.4	18.7	11.7	NS
3	23.6	26.6	25.8	35.2	28.4	30.1	20.6	25.6	NS
4	14.9	27.0	21.6	39.2	35.7	13.0	42.9	0.0	NS
5 or more	16.8	20.2	12.5	53.7	21.4	22.2	25.0	0.0	NS

Base: All female respondents excluding those who were born infertile
NS: Insignificant increasing nor decreasing trend for the period 1982 – 2017

Figure 6.1.3 Trend of induced abortion prevalence by parity, 1982 – 2017



The two tables below showed the prevalence of practicing contraception and the major contraceptive methods used before induced abortion. It was observed that the proportion of respondents that practiced contraception before induced abortion has decreased from 50.5% in 2007 to 31.2% in 2017. This indicated that respondents were using contraceptive methods more accurate and safer. The proportion of respondents that did not practice contraception and got pregnant due to discontinuation of contraceptive methods has doubled. (From 22.2% in 2007 to 48.6% in 2017) (Table 6.1.6)

For those respondents who have practiced contraception before induced abortion or those who have not practiced contraception and got pregnant due to the discontinuation of contraceptive methods, the majority used male condom (60.9%) as their major contraceptive method followed by rhythm (13.0%). (Table 6.1.7)

Table 6.1.6 Distribution of incidence of practicing contraception before induced abortion, 2002 – 2017

Whether practice contraception before induced abortion	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	42.9	50.5	34.0	31.2
No, pregnant due to the discontinuation of contraceptive methods	34.8	22.2	43.4	48.6
No, pregnant because not ever practiced contraception before	22.3	27.3	21.7	16.2
No Response	---	---	---	4.1
Total respondents	422	311	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>				

Table 6.1.7 Distribution of respondents by major contraceptive method used before induced abortion, 2002 – 2017

Major contraceptive method used	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Male condom	52.1	61.5	51.2	60.9
Rhythm	11.9	8.4	14.6	13.0
Withdrawal	5.2	4.0	9.8	10.9
Oral pills	18.9	11.9	7.3	8.0
IUD	7.0	8.8	6.7	2.2
Emergency contraceptive pills	---	---	1.2	1.5
Spermicide	---	---	0.6	1.5
Don't know	---	---	3.0	0.0
Others	---	---	---	1.4
No response	---	---	4.9	0.7
Total respondents	328	226	164	138
<i>Base: (2002- 2007) Those female respondents who practiced contraception before induced abortions (2012-2017) Those female respondents who practiced contraception before induced abortions or those who get pregnant due to discontinuation of contraceptive methods</i>				

The female respondents with higher household income and educational attainment tend to report fewer induced abortions. In particular, among people with primary or below education, 18.7% of the respondents had at least one abortion. However, the number was 12.9% and 6.5 for secondary and post-secondary accordingly.

With regards to household income, 81.6% of the respondents who made less than HK\$10,000 did not had any abortion. The number increased to 91.2% for the respondents whose income was over HK\$30,000.

Table 6.1.8 The number of induced abortions by educational attainment, 2017

	The number of induced abortions			
	%			
Educational attainment	0	1	2	3 or more
Primary or below	81.3	12.1	6.6	0.0
Secondary	87.1	8.9	3.0	1.0
Post-secondary	93.5	5.4	0.7	0.5
<i>Base: All female respondents excluding those who were born infertile</i>				

Table 6.1.9 The number of induced abortions by household income, 2017

	The number of induced abortions			
	%			
Household income	0	1	2	3 or more
Less than HK\$10,000	81.6	12.8	5.6	0.0
HK\$10,000-19,999	84.7	10.1	3.8	1.4
HK\$20,000-29,999	90.7	7.0	1.3	1.0
HK\$30,000+	91.2	6.2	2.1	0.5
Not fixed	92.9	7.1	0.0	0.0
Do not know/Refused	86.1	11.1	2.8	0.0
<i>Base: All female respondents excluding those who were born infertile</i>				

6.2 Reasons of Last Induced Abortion

Unlike the findings in 2007 and 2012, the most widely cited reason for induced abortion became “I am not mentally prepared for having children”. The figure has risen from 21.5% in 2007 to 46.8% in 2017. Other major factors included “financial burden” (31.8%) and “It is not a suitable time for giving birth” (24.9%). (Table 6.2.1)

Table 6.2.1 Distribution of reasons for last induced abortion, 2002 – 2017

Reasons for last induced abortion	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Financial burden	23.4	26.7	35.8	31.8
I am not mentally prepared for having children	---	21.5	30.7	46.8
It is not a suitable time for giving birth	0.5	21.5	28.3	24.9
Already have the ideal number of children	25.6	24.8	19.8	15.6
Health problems of the baby/ Baby is dead	---	---	10.8	2.9
Poor health and not suitable for pregnancy	8.1	7.7	6.6	4.6
Not married	4.6	---	2.4	2.9
Not enough space at home	---	---	---	0.6
The economy is unstable	---	1.9	2.4	3.5
Required by the Government	6.0	1.3	1.9	---
Afraid to be constrained by children	---	0.3	1.9	5.2
I don't/ My spouse doesn't like children	---	2.0	1.0	3.5
My personality is not suitable for parenthood	---	2.3	0.5	2.3
Too old at that time	---	---	0.5	---
No response	---	---	0.9	0.0
Others	---	---	---	0.9
Total respondents	422	311	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>				

6.3 Decision Making for Last Induced Abortion

The person who decided to have induced abortion was mainly the women themselves (87.3%) followed by the baby's father (17.9%). Comparing to 2002, the proportion of baby's father being the decision maker dropped from 44.5% to 17.9%. The others remained approximately the same compared to those in 2012. (Table 6.3.1)

Table 6.3.1 Distribution of the person who made the decision for last induced abortion, 2002 – 2017

Person who made the decision to have induced abortion	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Myself	79.1	88.4	80.2	87.3
Baby's father	44.5	36.0	33.5	17.9
Doctor	18.7	5.5	12.3	10.4
My parents	0.5	1.3	3.3	3.5
Relatives / Friends	0.5	---	2.4	5.8
Siblings	0.2	---	0.5	0.0
Others	---	---	1.0	0.6
No response	---	---	0.9	0.0
Total respondents	422	311	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>				

6.4 Place & Price of Last Induced Abortion

There is a significant increasing trend of having last induced abortion in Mainland China from 1987 (28.7%) to 2017 (58.4%). The proportion of FPAHK rose from 5.2% in 1987 to 9.4% in 2012, and further increased to 13.3% in 2017. The proportion of respondents who choose to have induced abortion illegally has dropped significantly over the years. Only 2.3% of respondents in 2012 choose this method, compared with 21.8% in 1987. (Table 6.4.1 and Figure 6.4.1)

Table 6.4.1 Distribution of respondents with induced abortion experience by place of last induced abortion, 1987 – 2017

Place of last induced abortion	1987 %	1992 %	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear trend
Mainland China	28.7	24.3	31.3	32.7	43.4	47.2	58.4	↑↑
Hospitals in Hong Kong	32.9	39.8	47.1	45.5	37.0	36.8	21.4	NS
FPAHK	5.2	6.0	7.0	8.5	9.3	9.4	13.3	↑↑
Registered medical clinic in Hong Kong	---	---	---	7.6	5.8	3.3	2.9	NS
Illegal in Hong Kong	21.8	16.0	13.8	3.3	3.9	1.4	2.3	↓↓
Buy some abortion medicine to take	---	---	---	---	---	0.5	1.2	---
Others	11.4	11.5	0.5	1.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	↓
No response / Refuse	---	2.4	0.3	0.9	---	0.9	0.0	NS
Total respondents	325	382	384	422	311	212	173	

Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion (E1=1-7)

↑: Significant increasing trend, $p < .05$ for the period 1987 - 2017

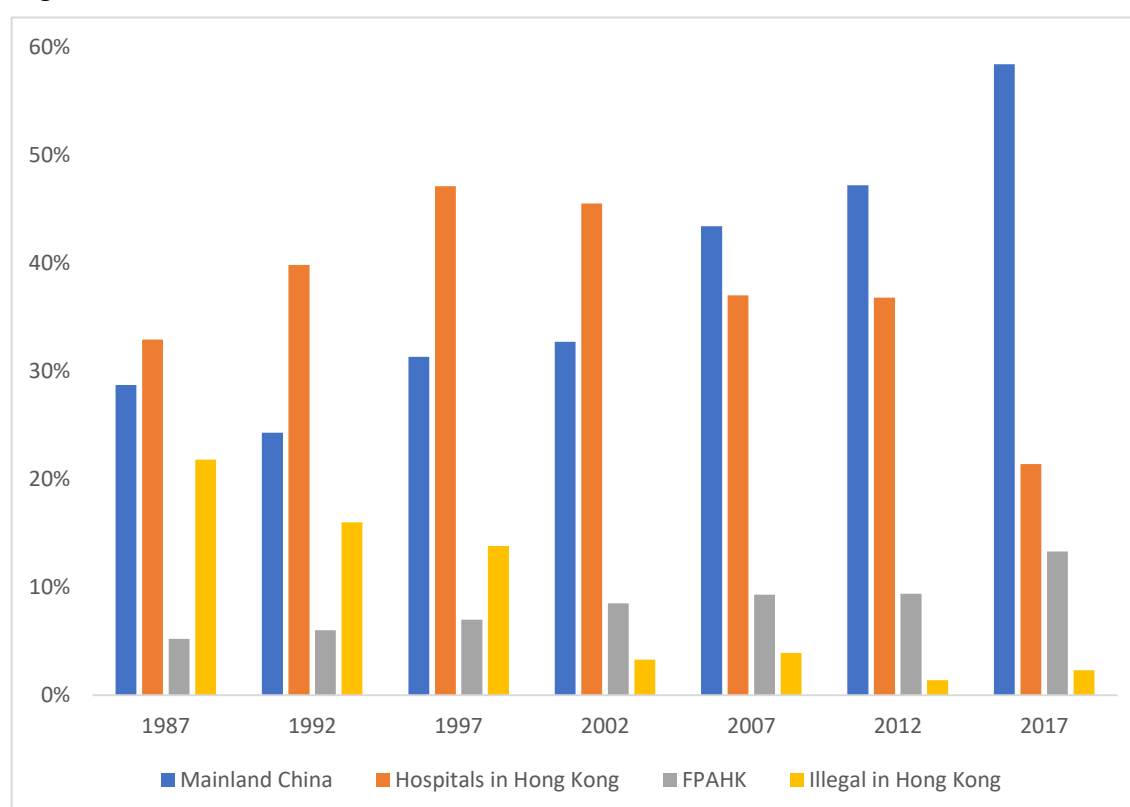
↑↑: Significant increasing trend, $p < .01$ for the period 1987 - 2017

↓: Significant decreasing trend, $p < .05$ for the period 1987 - 2017

↓↓: Significant decreasing trend, $p < .01$ for the period 1987 - 2017

NS: Insignificant increasing nor decreasing trend for the period 1987 - 2017

Figure 6.4.1 Places of last induced abortion, 1987 – 2017



Same as 2012, the most common channel to know where to practice induced abortion was by relatives/ friends (46.8%), followed by the respondent herself (24.9%) and private doctors (12.1%). (Table 6.4.2)

Table 6.4.2 Distribution of respondents on the channels to know where to practice induced abortion, 2017

Channels to know where to practice induced abortion	2012 %	2017 %
Relatives/ Friends	38.2	46.8
By myself	37.3	24.9
Private doctors	28.3	12.1
FPAHK	5.7	6.9
Pregnancy checking clinic/ Drug store	2.4	2.3
Billboard	2.4	5.2
Public hospital/ Health care centre	2.4	2.3
Social welfare organizations	1.9	0.0
Internet	1.9	4.0
Newspapers/ Magazines	1.4	5.8
Husband	0.5	0.0
No response	0.2	8.7
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>		

Among those respondents who did not perform induced abortion surgery in FPAHK or local hospital, 50.0% were “not living in Hong Kong at that time”, followed by “not sure that FPAHK or local hospital provide this service” (21.9%) and “cheaper surgery fees” (14.9%). “short waiting time” has increased from 9.0% in 2012 to 12.3% in 2017. (Table 6.4.3)

Table 6.4.3 Distribution of respondents for not choosing FPAHK or local hospital to perform induced abortion, 2017

Reasons for not choosing FPAHK or local hospital to perform induced abortion	2012 %	2017 %
Not living in Hong Kong at that time	44.1	50.4
Not sure that FPAHK or local hospital provide this service	29.7	22.1
Simpler procedure	15.3	12.4
Cheaper surgery fees	12.6	15.0
Unmarried	12.6	8.0
Not reach 18 years old	11.7	4.4
Afraid that parents may know	10.8	6.2
Shorter waiting time	9.0	12.4
In Hong Kong for a short time	5.4	9.7
Afraid to meet friends in FPAHK or local hospital	2.7	1.8
Think that those places are secure as well	1.8	4.4
Other	---	1.8
No response	3.6	0.0
Total respondents	111	113
<i>Base: Those female respondents who do not perform induced abortion surgery in FPAHK or local hospital</i>		

Only 1.7% of the respondents who practiced induced abortion did not pay for it. 64.7% claimed that they did not remember the price for the abortion. The mean was HK\$2673 in 2017, which was higher than the mean price in 2012 (HK\$1,985). (Table 6.4.4)

Table 6.4.4 Distribution of fees of induced abortion, 2012-2017

Fees of induced abortion	2012 %	2017 %
HK\$0	1.4	1.7
HK\$1- HK\$250	54.3	2.9
HK\$251-HK\$500	8.9	8.2
HK\$501-HK\$1,000	9.5	4.1
HK\$1,001-HK\$2,000	4.7	5.9
HK\$2001-5,000	5.2	6.4
HK\$5,001-HK\$10,000	11.8	3.1
>HK\$10,000	4.2	1.2
Cannot remember	---	64.7
Mean fees	1,985	2673
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>		

6.5 Psychological and Physiological Change After Induced Abortion

More than 70% of respondents felt very guilty or somewhat guilty after induced abortion. One fifth of the respondents had no feeling after induced abortion (Table 6.5.1)

Slightly more than half of the respondents chose not to perform that induced abortion if she could start all over again. (Table 6.5.2)

Table 6.5.1 Distribution of respondents on the feeling after induced abortion, 2012-2017

Feeling after induced abortion	2012 %	2017 %
Very guilty	25.5	31.2
Somewhat guilty	48.6	41.6
No feeling	25.0	20.8
Released	---	6.4
No response	0.9	0.0
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>		

Table 6.5.2 Distribution of respondents on whether perform that time of induced abortion if you can start all over again, 2012-2017

Perform that time of induced abortion if you can start all over again	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	47.2	46.2
No	51.4	50.9
No response	1.4	2.9
Total respondents	212	173
<i>Base: Those female respondents who have practiced induced abortion</i>		

Chapter 7 Sex Life

7.1 Health Condition and Life

More than 70% of female respondents thought that their health condition was either “very good” or “good”. This number was higher than that in 2012. Also, almost 80% of female respondents said that she was either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the life. However, the proportion of respondents who claimed as “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” was higher than that in 2012. (Table 7.1.1 & 7.1.2)

Table 7.1.1 Distribution of respondents on the health condition now, 2012-2017

Health condition now	2012 %	2017 %
Very good	13.9	13.6
Good	48.5	58.2
Average	34.8	25.1
Poor	2.4	2.1
Very poor	0.3	0.9
No response	0.1	0.1
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 7.1.2 Distribution of respondents on the satisfaction of life, 2012-2017

Satisfaction of life	2012 %	2017 %
Very satisfied	12.8	10.6
Satisfied	59.6	66.4
Average	26.1	20.0
Dissatisfied	1.3	2.3
Very dissatisfied	0.2	0.6
No response	0.1	0.1
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

With regards to age, there was a trend showing that the younger the respondents, the more extreme feelings they had towards their lives. It meant that the young respondents were more likely to express “very satisfied” or “very unsatisfied” towards their lives. As the respondents’ age increased, they were more likely to express a neutral feeling towards their lives. (Table 7.1.3)

There was a relationship between household income and satisfaction of life. The higher the household income, the more satisfaction the respondents had towards their lives. Specifically, in the “over HK\$30,000” group, 13.6% of the respondents were very satisfied and 70.3% were satisfied. However, the numbers were 8.4% and 60.2% in the “HK\$10,000-19,999” group. (Table 7.1.3)

Table 7.1.3 Satisfaction of life by age and household income, 2017

	Satisfaction of life				
	Very satisfied %	Satisfied %	Average %	Dissatisfied %	Very dissatisfied %
Age category					
Below 25	17.1	65.7	8.6	5.7	2.9
25-29	18.1	63.8	15.4	2.0	0.7
30-34	12.4	69.5	15.3	1.5	0.7
35-39	10.4	64.9	20.2	3.9	0.6
40-44	9.6	64.6	22.0	3.2	0.6
45-49	6.9	67.9	24.2	0.7	0.2
Household income					
Less than HK\$10,000	9.6	60.8	22.4	5.6	1.6
HK\$10,000-19,999	8.3	60.1	26.2	4.6	0.6
HK\$20,000-29,999	9.8	68.8	19.8	0.8	0.8
HK\$30,000+	13.6	70.2	15.0	0.9	0.2
Not fixed	0.0	64.3	28.6	0.0	7.1
Do not know/Refused	5.6	63.9	25.0	5.6	0.0
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>					

7.2 Attitude towards Sex Life

More than half (57.4%) of women were very interested or interested in their sex life, comparing with only 35.2% of women who have the same attitude in 2007. An increasing trend was detected. (Table 7.2.1)

Table 7.2.1 Distribution of attitude towards sex life, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards sex life	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Very interested	2.5	4.2	2.3	4.0
Interested	28.7	31.0	43.3	53.4
Average	59.4	58.2	47.8	35.7
Uninterested	5.4	5.5	5.8	2.8
Very uninterested	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.7
No response	3.7	0.5	0.2	3.5
Summary				
Top 2 boxes	31.2	35.2	45.6	57.4
Bottom 2 boxes	5.7	6.2	6.4	3.5
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

The prevalence of women who were very interested or interested in their sex life increase among all age groups. Those who were aged below 25 had a sharp increase from 42.9% in 2007 to 77.1% in 2017, which was the highest among all age groups. The largest increase from 2012 to 2017 was in 45-49 age group. The prevalence of interest in sex life decreased as age increased. The prevalence of women who were very interested or interested in their sex life increased among various married/ cohabited years from 2002 to 2017. The prevalence of interest in sex life decreased with increasing number of married/ cohabited years. The respondents with post-secondary education had the highest prevalence of interest in sex life compared to other educational attainments. (Table 7.2.2)

More respondents thought that their relationship with spouse improved rather than deteriorated although still majority of thought that it was the same compared to 12 months ago (Table 7.2.3)

Table 7.2.2 Respondents' characteristics by the attitudes towards sex life, 2002-2017

	Prevalence of women interested / very interested in sex life			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category				
Below 25	50.0	42.9	70.2	77.1
25-29	56.6	50.5	68.1	71.8
30-34	45.9	46.0	57.2	67.6
35-39	31.9	44.4	46.0	58.9
40-44	21.9	27.1	38.5	51.3
45-49	19.2	25.8	29.6	46.9
Years married				
Less than 2 years	63.9	58.2	61.4	79.6
2-3 years	57.3	53.8	67.7	71.7
4-5 years	48.0	50.0	56.5	61.9
6-10 years	37.4	42.7	43.3	54.2
11-20 years	24.5	30.4	40.1	53.1
20 years+	17.1	25.7	29.1	48.5
Educational attainment				
Below primary	16.2	45.5	33.3	---
Primary	16.4	26.1	44.9	45.1
Secondary	31.8	34.9	42.8	55.0
Post-secondary	53.6	44.1	55.6	65.5
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

Table 7.2.5 Distribution of respondents on the relationship with spouse compared with 12 months ago, 2012-2017

Relationship with spouse compared with 12 months ago	2012 %	2017 %
A lot better	4.3	4.0
Slightly better	17.3	17.0
The same	73.1	75.0
Slightly poorer	4.3	2.7
A lot poorer	0.7	1.2
No response	0.2	0.1
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

7.3 Satisfaction towards Marriage

More than 80% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with their marriage; the figure was increasing since 2007. (Table 7.3.1)

Unlike previous years, the prevalence of satisfaction of marriage did not decrease as age increased in 2017. Those women who have married for 2 years to less than 4 years had the highest proportion in satisfaction of marriage (86.2%). Those who had married/ cohabited for a shorter time tended to have slightly higher satisfaction of marriage. Those who have attained post- secondary level had a slightly higher prevalence, the prevalence increased from 85.6% in 2007 to 89.1% in 2012, and then decreased to 85.3% in 2017. (Table 7.3.2)

Table 7.3.1 Distribution of satisfaction of marriage, 2002 – 2017

Satisfied with marriage	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Very satisfied	21.4	25.4	17.3	14.7
Satisfied	52.0	50.6	59.7	66.2
Average	20.5	21.1	21.0	16.9
Dissatisfied	2.4	1.7	1.3	1.0
Very dissatisfied	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.7
<i>Summary</i>				
Top 2 boxes	73.4	76.0	77.0	80.9
Bottom 2 boxes	2.7	2.4	1.9	1.7
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

Table 7.3.2 Respondents' characteristics by the satisfaction of marriage, 2002-2017

	Prevalence of women satisfied / very satisfied in marriage			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category				
Below 25	78.6	81.0	91.5	77.1
25-29	82.9	78.9	83.7	81.9
30-34	78.6	78.4	80.9	88.7
35-39	74.1	83.1	75.4	79.8
40-44	70.9	72.6	77.5	80.3
45-49	68.0	71.5	69.7	77.0
Years married				
Less than 2 years	91.8	80.6	84.3	85.7
2-3 years	79.5	82.5	87.8	86.2
4-5 years	81.0	83.3	84.4	78.4
6-10 years	77.7	78.9	76.7	82.6
11-20 years	71.0	75.2	72.0	78.0
20 years+	65.5	71.1	72.9	83.2
Educational attainment				
Below primary	54.1	81.8	66.7	---
Primary	66.8	69.6	61.8	80.2
Secondary	55.0	75.3	74.7	79.1
Post-secondary	86.1	85.6	89.1	85.3
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

7.4 Satisfaction towards Sex Life

Approximately seven in ten (74.6%) women stated that they were satisfied with their sex life in 2017, comparing with only six in ten (60.7%) women who had the same perception in 2007. An increasing trend was detected since 2002. (Table 7.4.1)

Among all the age groups, those aged below 25 were the most satisfied in their sex life (88.6%) while those aged 40-44 show the least satisfaction (66.7%). Respondents satisfaction towards sex life decreased as age increased, and this trend was consistent across the years. The satisfaction also declined with the years of marriage – from 83.7% among those who were married for less than 2 years to 70.2% among those who were married for 21 years or more. Those who attained post-secondary education level had a slightly higher prevalence. The number increased from 64.4% in 2007 to 78.1% in 2017. (Table 7.4.2)

Table 7.4.1 Distribution of satisfaction of sex life, 2002 – 2017

Satisfied with sex life	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Very satisfied	7.8	10.2	11.5	8.1
Satisfied	49.2	50.5	58.0	66.5
Average	36.7	35.8	27.8	23.1
Dissatisfied	2.1	2.6	1.9	1.3
Very dissatisfied	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.7
No response	4.0	0.2	0.1	0.3
Summary				
Top 2 boxes	57.0	60.7	69.5	74.6
Bottom 2 boxes	2.3	3.3	2.5	2.0
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

Table 7.4.2 Respondents' characteristics by the satisfaction of sex life, 2002-2017

	Prevalence of women satisfied / very satisfied in sex life			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category				
Below 25	75.0	71.4	91.5	88.6
25-29	74.4	68.8	82.2	85.2
30-34	62.6	63.4	74.6	80.4
35-39	60.2	67.5	69.8	75.3
40-44	51.3	54.5	69.6	72.6
45-49	48.6	57.2	55.7	66.7
Years married				
Less than 2 years	83.6	74.6	78.3	83.7
2-3 years	66.7	73.8	86.2	85.5
4-5 years	72.0	72.6	76.6	74.8
6-10 years	59.7	59.5	71.3	74.7
11-20 years	53.6	58.3	62.5	72.7
20 years+	47.7	57.7	61.3	70.2
Educational attainment				
Below primary	29.7	72.7	66.7	---
Primary	46.7	55.4	57.3	64.8
Secondary	58.1	60.7	68.1	74.0
Post-secondary	72.2	64.4	77.8	78.1
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

7.5 Relationship of Satisfaction with Marriage and Satisfaction with Sex Life

More than 80% of married / cohabited women thought their satisfaction with their marriage was related to their satisfaction with their sex life. This figure was increasing since 2002. (Table 7.5.1)

Table 7.5.1 Distribution of attitude towards relationship between satisfaction of marriage and sex life, 2002 – 2017

Satisfaction with marriage and satisfaction with sexual life	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Highly related	9.4	11.7	9.2	9.5
Related	58.7	61.9	65.9	73.2
Not very related	23.8	21.0	20.0	15.5
Not related at all	4.2	4.1	4.8	1.6
No response	3.9	1.3	0.1	0.2
Summary				
Top 2 boxes	68.1	73.6	75.1	82.7
Bottom 2 boxes	28.0	25.1	24.8	17.1
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

Respondents with younger age tended to have a higher prevalence to think that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life. Almost 90% of respondents who were married for 2 years or less thought that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life. The prevalence increased to 91.7% when the women were married for 2 – 4 years but then the prevalence decreased with an increasing number of years of marriage. On the other hand, respondents with higher educational attainment had a higher prevalence to think that satisfaction with marriage was related to satisfaction with sex life. 88.6% of respondents with post-secondary level satisfaction of marriage had this belief in 2017, compared to only 69.3% in 2007. (Table 7.5.2)

Table 7.5.2 Respondents' characteristics by the relationship between sex life and marriage, 2002-2017

	Prevalence of women who thought satisfaction of marriage is related to satisfaction			
	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Age category				
Below 25	71.4	66.7	85.1	88.6
25-29	73.6	78.9	83.0	87.9
30-34	72.1	80.3	79.3	86.5
35-39	68.7	77.5	75.7	86.6
40-44	66.3	69.7	74.9	79.6
45-49	64.2	69.7	65.9	76.8
Years married				
Less than 2 years	82.0	83.6	78.3	88.4
2-3 years	70.9	81.3	82.5	91.7
4-5 years	69.0	73.8	79.2	88.5
6-10 years	68.7	74.9	75.2	81.9
11-20 years	67.3	72.9	72.6	81.3
20 years+	64.8	70.0	70.4	77.1
Educational attainment				
Below primary	56.8	72.7	33.3	---
Primary	56.9	65.8	67.4	72.5
Secondary	70.2	75.5	75.3	81.1
Post-secondary	75.8	69.3	76.9	88.6
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

7.6 Request for Sex and Refusal of Sexual Requests

When compared with the previous survey, more women agreed that women could initiate sexual request (from 90.4% in 2002 to 96.5% in 2017) and the practice of request has increased from 33.5% in 2002 to 48.2% in 2017. (Table 7.6.1 – 7.6.2)

Table 7.6.1 Attitude towards request for sex from women, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards request for sex from women	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear Trend
Yes	90.4	92.8	94.5	96.5	↑↑
No	5.5	6.0	5.4	2.9	NS
No response	4.0	1.1	0.1	0.6	NS
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	
<i>Base: All female respondents</i> ↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 2002 - 2017; $p < .01$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend					

Table 7.6.2 Practice of request for sex from women, 2002 – 2017

Practice of request for sex from women	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear Trend
Certainly can	33.5	38.3	42.2	48.2	↑↑
Sometimes can	48.7	48.7	45.8	42.3	NS
Hardly can	13.6	11.1	11.9	9.3	NS
No response	4.2	1.9	0.1	0.2	
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	
<i>Base: All female respondents</i> ↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 2002 - 2017; $p < .01$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend					

In real life, most of the women knew they can refuse sexual activities from their spouse, but they were not confident in doing it. More women (97.6%) agreed that women could refuse spouse's sexual request comparing to 91.4% in 2002. However, in practice, the proportion of respondents who thought that they could certainly refuse spouse's request was only 60% in 2017. (Table 7.6.3 – 7.6.4)

Table 7.6.3 Attitude towards women refusal to spouse's sexual request, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards women refusal to spouse's sexual request	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear Trend
Yes*	91.4	93.8	96.8	97.6	↑
No	4.4	4.6	3.2	2.2	NS
No response	4.2	1.6	0.1	0.2	NS
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	
<i>Base: All female respondents</i> ↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 2002 - 2017; $p < .05$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend					

Table 7.6.4 Practice of refuse spouse's sexual request, 2002 – 2017

Practice of refuse spouse's sexual request	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear Trend
Certainly can	52.5	50.7	48.5	60.0	NS
Sometimes can	38.5	43.5	43.5	36.1	NS
Hardly can	4.8	4.1	7.4	3.1	NS
No response	4.3	1.7	0.6	0.8	NS
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514	
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>					
<i>NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend</i>					

7.7 Frequency of Sex in the Past 30 Days

The proportion of respondents that did not have sexual intercourse has decreased sharply from 23.6% in 2007 to 9.5% in 2012, and then slightly increased to 12.2% in 2017. The mean and median are 3.5 and 3 times in the past 30 days respectively and these figures have decreased comparing to 2007 and 2012. (Table 7.7.1)

Similar to the findings in 2007, those women aged below 25 had the highest frequency (5.2) of having sex. The older the age, the less frequent the women had sexual intercourse. (Table 7.7.2)

In 2017, respondents with higher education level had more sex in the past 30 days compared to respondents with lower education level. (Table 7.7.3)

The mean frequency of sex decreased with increasing number of parities. The proportion of respondents who had no parities had the lowest frequency of sex comparing to 2007 and 2012. (4.1 times) (Table 7.7.4)

Sexual satisfaction, marital satisfaction and interest in sex life were all related to the frequency of sex. The higher the sexual or marital satisfaction or interest in sex, the higher mean frequency of sex the women had. (Table 7.7.6 – 7.7.8)

Table 7.7.1 Distribution of frequency of sex in the past 30 days, 2007 – 2017

Number of sexes in the past 30 days	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
None	23.6	9.5	12.2
Once	7.4	7.2	9.5
Twice	13.5	14.9	13.7
Thrice	11.4	13.3	12.0
Four times	13.3	14.1	13.2
5-8 times	20.3	25.1	18.5
9-12 times	6.7	9.9	3.8
13 times or more	3.6	2.3	0.7
No response	0.1	3.6	16.3
Mean (times)	4.0	4.4	3.5
Median	3	4	3
Mode	0	2	2
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.2 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by age, 2007 – 2017

Age	2007	2012	2017
Below 25	6.6	7.4	5.2
25-29	5.3	5.8	4.4
30-34	4.5	5.1	3.7
35-39	3.8	4.2	3.7
40-44	3.5	4.1	3.4
45-49	3.3	3.4	2.8
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.3 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by educational attainment, 2007– 2017

Educational attainment	2007	2012	2017
Below primary	2.4	4.0	3.0
Primary	3.3	3.0	2.6
Secondary	3.9	4.4	3.5
Matriculation	4.2	4.9	3.8
Post-secondary	3.9	4.6	3.5
Others	2.9	---	---
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.4 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by number of parities, 2007– 2017

Number of parities	2007	2012	2017
No parity	4.5	5.7	4.1
1 parity	3.7	4.3	3.3
2 parities	3.8	3.9	3.3
3 parities or above	3.2	3.3	3.4
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.5 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by sexual satisfaction, 2007– 2017

Sexual satisfaction	2007	2012	2017
Satisfied	4.3	5.2	4.0
Average	3.2	2.8	2.2
Dissatisfied	1.2	1.4	0.5
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.6 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by marital satisfaction, 2007– 2017

Marital satisfaction	2007	2012	2017
Satisfied	4.0	4.8	3.8
Average	3.3	3.5	2.4
Dissatisfied	1.4	0.9	0.7
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

Table 7.7.7 Mean of frequency of sex in the past 30 days by interest in sex life, 2007– 2017

Interest in sex life	2007	2012	2017
Interested	4.8	5.9	4.1
Average	3.5	3.4	2.6
Not interested	1.4	1.6	1.3
Total respondents	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>			

7.8 Factors Affecting Sex Life

When women were asked about what factors were harmful to their sex life, “small living space” was considered the major factor, the figure has risen from approximately 10% in previous years to 27.5% in 2017. Unlike past survey, factors related to limited living space have become the major concerns that affecting sex life. Other factors include “living with children” (26.2%) and “work pressure” (18.9%). However, decreasing proportion (from 38.8% in 2012 to 26.2% in 2017) of women thought that there were no factors hindering their sex life. (Table 7.8.1)

Table 7.8.1 Distribution of factors affecting sex life, 2002 – 2017

Factors	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
<i>Pressure</i>				
Work pressure	20.7	23.1	26.7	18.9
Pressure from housework	8.5	10.3	13.2	8.3
Financial burden	13.5	13.0	12.8	13.7
Other pressure	6.1	5.6	6.6	10.2
<i>Limited living space</i>				
Living with children	14.7	17.9	15.0	26.2
Small living space	10.5	13.6	10.7	27.5
Living with parents	---	5.6	4.8	6.1
<i>Unmatched timing</i>				
Schedule does not match with working time of spouse	13.3	17.0	14.4	13.8
Spouse need to work in other countries	11.5	17.5	8.2	5.9
I have to work in other countries	13.4	3.4	2.0	2
<i>Health</i>				
Health problems	8.7	14.8	8.8	10.7
Tired	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.5
<i>Poor relationship</i>				
Poor relationship of couples	---	10.7	4.0	4.4
<i>Others</i>				
Afraid of pregnancy	---	0.1	0.1	---
Moody / psychological problems	0.2	---	0.1	---
Pregnant now	---	---	0.2	---
Menopause	---	---	0.1	---
Other causes	---	---	---	0.7
No factors that hinder my sexual life	35.6	23.5	38.8	26.2
No response	0.0	2.7	0.5	0.3
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

7.9 Sex Problems

The same as that in 2012, 83.7% of the respondents' spouse did not encounter any problems in sex interest. However, 10.4% of the respondents were not interested in sex, and the figure was higher than that in 2012 (7.0%). (Table 7.9.1)

Nearly 90% of respondents' spouses did not encounter any problems of erection and ejaculation. 94.5% of respondents' spouse did not take stamina medicine in order to enhance sexual ability. The distribution was similar to that in 2012. (Table 7.9.2 - 7.9.4)

Respondents were asked if they face any sexual problems consistently for three months in the past year. More than 90% of the respondents did not face any problems. (Table 7.9.5)

Table 7.9.1 Distribution of respondents' spouse on the problems of sex interest, 2012-2017

Sex interest	2012 %	2017 %
No problem	83.7	83.7
Not interested	7.0	10.4
Too interested	1.3	0.7
Not sure	6.9	4.7
No response	1.1	0.5
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 7.9.2 Distribution of respondents' spouse on the problems of erection, 2012-2017

Erection	2012 %	2017 %
No problem	88.4	90.6
Cannot erect	0.7	0.3
Cannot maintain erection	2.4	2.0
Not sure	7.2	6.0
No response	1.3	1.1
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 7.9.3 Distribution of respondents' spouse on the problems of ejaculation, 2012-2017

Ejaculation	2012 %	2017 %
No problem	89.1	90.2
Premature ejaculation	1.6	1.7
Cannot ejaculate	0.5	0.9
Not sure	7.5	6.1
No response	1.2	1.1
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 7.9.4 Distribution of respondents' spouse on whether taking stamina medicine, 2012-2017

Take stamina medicine in order to enhance sexual ability	2012 %	2017 %
Yes	0.9	0.9
No	93.5	94.5
Not sure	5.0	4.5
No response	0.5	0.2
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

Table 7.9.5 Distribution of respondents on whether facing any sexual problems, 2012-2017

Prevalence of the following problems consistently for three months in the past year	2012 %	2017 %
No sexual illusion during sex	10.5	7.8
Not excited during sex	10.3	9.1
Vagina is dry	9.2	8.5
No sexual climax	8.6	8.4
Reach climax before sex	4.9	3.7
Reach climax only after sex	8.6	6.9
Painful during sex	8.3	8.3
Total respondents	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>		

7.10 Professional Advice on Counselling

Majority of the respondents claimed that she and her spouse did not consult the doctors on the sex problems. However, 4.7% of female respondents were not sure whether their spouse consult the doctors. (Table 7.10.1)

Slightly less than 90% of female did not consult anyone because of sex problems while only 74.4% said that their spouse did not consult anyone. 15.4% of them did not know whether their spouse consult anyone or not. Compared with that in 2012, more women claimed that they consulted sex problem with other people. (6.7% in 2012, 10.9% in 2017) Among those who consulted someone for the sex problems, “friends” (female: 6.0%, spouse: 3.6%) and “medicine professionals” (female: 2.9%, spouse: 1.7%) were the most popular consulting targets. (Table 7.10.2)

Table 7.10.1 Distribution of respondents on whether consulting the doctors on the sex problems, 2012-2017

Consult the doctors on the sex problems	2012		2017	
	%		%	
	Respondents	Spouse	Respondents	Spouse
Yes	1.9	1.0	1.7	0.9
No	96.4	91.7	95.7	93.1
Not sure	---	7.1	---	4.7
No response	1.7	0.2	2.6	1.3
Total respondents	1,518		1,514	
Base: All female respondents				

Table 7.10.2 Distribution of respondents on whether consulting anyone on the sex problems, 2012-2017

Consult anyone because of sex problems	2012		2017	
	%		%	
	Respondents	Spouse	Respondents	Spouse
Yes	6.7	3.0	10.9	6.5
- Friends	3.9	1.4	6.0	3.6
- Medicine professionals	1.6	1.3	2.9	1.7
- Newspapers, magazines, e-mail	0.9	0.1	0.7	0.7
- FPAHK	0.8	0.6	1.6	1.1
- Parents	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.3
- Brothers and sisters	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.3
- Relatives	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4
- Radio or hotline	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
- Forum	0.1	0.1	---	---
- Social workers	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
No	93.0	73.3	87.8	77.4
Not sure	NA	23.2	0.0	15.4
No response	0.1	0.5	1.3	0.7
Total respondents	1,518		1,514	
Base: All female respondents				

More respondents did not consider they need any professional advice or counseling about sexual subjects in 2017 comparing to that in 2007. (72.0% in 2007 increased to 88.2% in 2017) The sexual subjects they would like to seek professional advice or counseling were “conflicts between couples” (8.9%), “conflicts of work and family” (5.3%) and “new contraceptive methods” (5.2%). The ranking did not change compared to that in 2012. (Table 7.10.3)

Table 7.10.3 Distribution of sexual subjects or family related that respondents would like to have professional advice or counseling, 2002 – 2017

Sexual subjects or family related issues	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Conflicts between couples	11.4	10.7	6.3	8.9
Conflicts of work and family	7.0	6.8	5.1	5.3
New contraceptive methods	5.1	6.5	4.7	5.2
Sexual harmonization	3.9	5.6	3.8	5.1
Relationship between the mother and the daughter-in-law	2.1	2.1	2.8	3.6
Sexual intercourse technique	1.5	3.1	2.8	2.7
Methods for encountering extramarital affairs	3.7	2.4	2.0	1.6
Prevention and medication of sexual transmitted diseases	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.5
Prevention and medication of sexual dysfunction	1.7	1.8	1.2	1.1
Prevention and medication of AIDS	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.7
New methods of induced abortion (new contraceptive methods)	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.3
Abnormal sexual behavior	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Methods of teaching children	0.1	0.1	0.1	---
Pregnancy problem	---	0.1	0.1	---
Not necessary	71.6	72.0	84.4	88.2
Other	---	---	---	0.3
Total respondents	1,607	1,510	1,518	1,514
<i>Base: All female respondents</i>				

Chapter 8 KAP Survey for Males: Respondent Profile

This is the fifth time the “Knowledge, Attitude and Practice” study on family planning to collect information from husbands of the female respondents. The objective of the exercise is to compare the differences in knowledge, attitude and practice between husbands and wives. If possible, analysis will focus on the differences within the couples.

A total of 1,059 husband questionnaires were received. In the following parts, we will report the findings of 1,059 males.

8.1 Age Structure

63.0% of husbands were aged 40 or above, which has decreased by 6.7% and 1.4% when compared to the figure in 2007 and 2012 respectively. The mean age of both husbands and wives have slightly increased when compared with 2012. (Husband: from 42.6 to 43.3; Wife: from 37.3 to 38.8) (Table 8.1.1)

Table 8.1.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by age, 1997 – 2017

Age	1997		2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Under 25	0.8	1.5	0.8	1.8	0.6	1.3	1.3	2.8	0.8	1.9
25-29	3.7	8.4	4.4	9.0	3.6	7.4	5.1	8.1	4.6	9.5
30-34	12.3	22.8	13.0	20.1	9.7	16.8	12.1	18.2	12.9	17.8
35-39	23.5	26.2	17.3	23.2	16.2	22.9	17.3	24.3	18.8	22.5
40-44	21.5	24.7	23.5	23.9	21.0	25.5	23.4	26.3	18.0	22.2
45-49	24.7	16.4	22.9	22.1	24.4	26.2	20.9	20.0	20.2	26.2
50 or above	14.0	---	18.1	---	24.3	---	20.1	---	24.6	---
Summary										
40 or above	60.2	41.1	64.5	46.0	69.7	51.7	64.4	46.3	63.0	47.4
Mean age	42.1	38.5	42.4	38.2	43.7	39.2	42.6	37.3	43.3	38.8
Total respondent	871	871	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>										

8.2 Educational Attainment and Working Status

In terms of educational attainment, most of the couples have attained secondary level and the figures were quite similar to that of 2007. The proportion of the couples that attained post-secondary has increased sharply when compared to 2007. (Husbands: 18.7% in 2007 to 30.1% in 2017; Wives: 16.0% in 2007 to 29.3% in 2017) There were more husbands that work for full-time job than the wives. (91.4% for husbands and 50.9% for wives) (Table 8.2.1 & 8.2.2)

Table 8.2.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by educational attainment, 1997 – 2017

Educational attainment	1997		2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Below primary	1.6	2.3	1.4	1.9	0.6	0.6	---	0.1	---	0.1
Primary	24.3	30.7	17.0	16.9	12.7	9.9	8.0	6.0	4.5	5.9
Secondary	58.2	58.6	63.4	63.6	67.4	73.1	66.2	72.0	65.3	64.7
Post-secondary	15.6	8.0	18.2	17.5	18.7	16.0	25.4	21.7	30.1	29.3
Others	---	---	---	---	0.5	0.4	---	---	---	---
No response	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	---	---	0.4	---	---	---
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	871	871	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>										

Table 8.2.2 Distribution of husbands and wives by couples' working status, 1997 – 2017

Working status	1997		2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Full-time job	90.6	49.9	87.7	53.2	89.5	56.2	93.0	55.6	91.4	50.9
Not-working	5.7	48.0	9.9	40.4	7.3	36.6	4.2	34.4	4.3	36.8
Part-time job	2.1	1.8	2.4	6.5	3.2	7.1	2.8	10.0	4.1	12.3
Unidentifiable	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	---	---	---	---	---	---
No response	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	---	---	---	---	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	871	871	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>										

Though majority of the couples were both working full-time (47.2%), another one third (32.8%) of the couples were that the husbands were working full time while their wives were not working. The proportion of husbands that were working full-time while their wives working part-time have significantly increased from 1.6% in 1997 to 11.5% in 2017. (Table 8.2.3)

The proportion of husbands that were working as sales and related job decreased to 16.9% in 2017 compared to that in 2012. The proportion of respondents who did arts and crafts related job has risen from 7.4% in 2012 to 12.3% in 2017. (Table 8.2.4)

Table 8.2.3 Distribution of couples by couples' working status, 1997 – 2017

Occupation	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %	Linear Trend
Both had full-time job	47.7	47.6	51.0	52.1	47.2	NS
Husband full-time; wife not-working	45.5	34.5	32.2	31.9	32.8	NS
Husband full-time; wife part-time	1.6	5.6	6.2	8.9	11.5	↑↑
Husband not-working; wife working	2.4	5.6	4.3	2.0	2.2	NS
Both not-working	2.5	4.3	3.0	1.3	2.0	NS
Husband part-time, wife working	---	---	1.8	1.5	1.4	NS
Husband part-time, wife not working	---	---	---	1.1	2.1	NS
Husband not working, wife part-time	---	---	---	0.9	0.2	NS
Both had part-time job	---	---	0.5	0.2	0.6	NS
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Total respondents	871	1,147	770	1,059	1,059	
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i> ↑↑: Significant increasing trend for the period 1997 - 2012; $p < .01$ NS: Insignificant increasing or decreasing trend						

Table 8.2.4 Distribution of husbands working by occupation, 1997 – 2017

Occupation	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Sales	17.9	11.6	18.6	21.8	16.9
Machinist	14.4	13.2	15.8	13.6	15.1
Administration	14.1	18.2	14.9	14.2	13.1
Professional	14.6	6.1	13.9	15.3	17.8
Non-technical	7.9	0.0	13.2	10.2	11.5
Clerical	6.1	4.4	8.1	6.5	7.7
Associate professional	6.8	11.8	8.0	7.9	5.0
Arts and crafts	12.2	21.9	7.0	7.4	12.3
Fisheries and agriculture	0.2	0.0	0.4	---	---
Elementary occupations	---	9.1	---	---	---
Others	1.7	0.1	---	1.5	0.7
No response	4.0	3.7	---	1.7	---
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	806	1,034	689	1,014	1,011
<i>Base: Male respondents who had full time or part time work</i>					

8.3 Place of Birth and Marital Status

There were more husbands who were permanent resident than wives. (Husband: 94.0%; wife: 83.9%) (Table 8.3.1)

The proportion of husbands who were born in Hong Kong was increasing continuously till 2012, (from 60.5% in 1997 to 77.1% in 2012) and then dropped to 65.8% in 2017. The proportions of wives who were born in Hong Kong were increasing till 2012 and reach the lowest in 2017. (48.8%) (Table 8.3.2)

Regarding the marital status, majority of the husbands and the wives were at their first time of marriage. The proportion was decreasing from 94.5% in 1997 to 89.5% in 2017. The proportion of husbands that were not the first time of marriage and the wives were the first time of marriage has increased from 2.3% in 1997 to 5.5% in 2017. (Table 8.3.3)

Table 8.3.1 Distribution of permanent resident, 2012-2017

Permanent Resident	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	97.1	89.0	94.0	83.9
No	2.9	11.0	5.8	16.1
Other	---	---	0.2	---
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,509
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 8.3.2 Distribution of husbands and wives by place of birth, 1997 – 2017

Place of birth	1997		2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Born in Hong Kong	60.5	68.5	64.7	62.2	69.2	58.3	77.1	62.2	65.8	48.8
Total respondents	871	871	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>										

Table 8.3.3 Distribution of husbands and wives by number of marriages, 1997 – 2017

Number of marriages	1997 %	2002 %	2007 %	2012 %	2017 %
Both first	94.5	94.4	93.6	86.9	89.5
Husband not first, wife first	2.3	3.1	3.5	6.2	5.5
Husband first, wife not first	1.6	2.0	1.9	3.4	3.1
Both not first	0.6	0.4	0.9	2.9	1.9
No response	0.5	0.0	---	0.6	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	871	1,147	770	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>					

8.4 Religion

Similar to that in 2012, slightly more wives had some kinds of religious belief than their husbands. (Table 8.4.1)

Among those who had religious belief, 36.8% of husbands and 41.0% of wife believed in Christian while 31.6% of husbands and 12.4% of wives believed in Buddhist. (Table 8.4.2)

Table 8.4.1 Distribution of husband and wife by religion, 2012-2017

Religion	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	19.5	23.5	19.7	23.7
No	80.5	76.5	80.3	76.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 8.4.2 Distribution of husband and wife by types of religion, 2012-2017

Types of religion	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Christian	40.6	43.9	36.8	41.0
Buddhist	25.1	26.8	31.6	29.1
Catholic	14.5	15.1	10.0	12.4
Ancestor Worship	16.9	12.3	12.0	9.6
Islam	1.4	2.0	3.8	3.2
Taoist	2.9	1.7	4.3	3.6
Others	0.5	0.3	1.5	1.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	207	351	209	251
<i>Base: Those male respondents and wife who believe in religion</i>				

8.5 Income

34.6% of husband had their personal income contributed to 81-100% of the household income while only 2.6% of wives contributed to this proportion. On the whole, about 80% of husbands contributed at least half to the household income and 17.2% of wives do that. It indicates that husbands play an important role in the contribution of household income. The distribution did not change much from 2012 to 2017. (Table 8.5.1)

Table 8.5.1 Percentage of personal income proportion among household income, 2012-2017

Percentage of Personal Income Proportion among Household Income	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
0-20%	0.9	7.2	0.8	7.6
21-40%	5.0	37.4	4.7	35.9
41-50%	14.2	41.2	13.5	39.3
51-60%	25.1	9.7	27.3	11.7
61-80%	23.3	2.7	19.0	3.0
81-100%	31.2	1.8	34.6	2.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,014	981	1,011	669
<i>Base: All husbands and female respondents who have full-time job</i>				

8.6 Married Life

92.6% of husbands and 95.0% of wives have married for once only. There were more husbands (85.3%) who were permanent resident at time of marriage/ cohabitation than wives (61.3%). This number has dropped since 2012. (Table 8.6.1 & 8.6.2)

Majority of husbands and wives did not have any stepson/ stepdaughter. (Table 8.6.3)

Table 8.6.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by marriage times, 2012-2017

Marriage times	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
1	90.3	93.6	92.6	95.0
2	8.4	5.9	6.6	4.6
3 or above	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.3
No response	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1
Mean	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 8.6.2 Distribution of the permanent husbands and wives during marriage/ cohabitation, 2012-2017

Permanent resident at time of marriage/ cohabitation	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	92.3	73.6	85.3	61.3
No	7.6	26.3	14.4	38.7
No response	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 8.6.3 Distribution of husbands and wives on the number of stepson/ stepdaughters, 2012-2017

Number of stepson/stepdaughters	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
0	98.2	97.8	93.9	97.6
1	1.6	1.9	4.0	0.9
2	0.2	0.3	1.6	1.0
3+	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Chapter 9 KAP Survey for Males: Parity and Attitudes towards Childbearing

9.1 Choice on Parities

Similar to the previous survey, respondents were asked whether they would like to have children (again). Table 9.1.1 gave a cross analysis of the views of the couples. The couples were consistent on whether desiring for more children. Based on the respondents who had opinion on having children (excluding those who did not know or not yet decide on having children), the proportion that both husband and wife who did not want to have children drops from 2002 to 2012 (from 81.7% in 2002 to 73.3% in 2012), and then increased to 80.5% in 2017. (Table 9.1.1)

Table 9.1.1 A 2x2 table for couples desiring more children or not by number of mentions, 1997 – 2017

		1997		2002		2007		2012		2017	
		Wife		Wife		Wife		Wife		Wife	
	Count (%)	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Husband	No	138 (29.2)	39 (8.3)	615 (81.7)	9 (1.2)	511 (81.2)	15 (2.4)	574 (73.3)	29 (3.7)	634 (80.5)	4 (0.5)
	Yes	280 (59.3)	15 (3.2)	32 (4.2)	97 (12.9)	30 (4.8)	73 (11.6)	26 (3.3)	154 (19.7)	18 (2.3)	132 (16.8)

Base: Husband and wife who have opinion on having children

There was no significant difference in the prevalence of abortion between couples who have discussed number of children and those who have not. (Table 9.1.2)

Table 9.1.2 Distribution of abortion and discussion the number of children with partner, 2007– 2017

Ever abortion	Discussion about the number of children with partner (column %)					
	2007		2012		2017	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	15.1	18.1	13.6	17.9	11.4	14.5
No	84.9	81.9	84.0	78.5	86.3	82.1
No response	---	---	2.3	3.6	2.3	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	913	524	689	363	730	324

Base: All male respondents and their wives

Males who have discussed with partners on the number of children had a slightly higher proportion (60.7%) in achieving ideal number of children than those who have not discussed. (58.7%) (Table 9.1.3)

Table 9.1.3 Distribution of the target children number and discussion the number of children with partner, 2007 – 2017

Ideal and actual no of children	Discussion about the number of children with partner (column %)					
	2007		2012		2017	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Actual < Ideal	27.1	24.9	38.6	40.6	33.4	28.9
Actual = Ideal	64.9	67.6	57.6	53.3	60.7	58.7
Actual > Ideal	8.0	7.5	3.8	6.1	5.9	12.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	772	438	687	362	628	208
<i>Base: All male respondents except those and their spouse who born infertile</i>						

In 2017, 41.0% of husbands and 46.3% of wives desired to have two parities. The figure has dropped compared to that in 2012. (Table 9.1.4)

Slightly more wives did not desire to have children (again) (Wives: 68.4%, husbands: 63.8%). (Table 9.1.5)

Table 9.1.4 Distribution of the male respondents and their wives on the ideal number of children, 2012-2017

Ideal Number of children	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
0	5.3	7.1	6.7	6.7
1	29.0	28.8	25.4	27.9
2	55.2	55.5	41.0	46.2
3	8.2	7.6	5.0	5.6
4 or above	2.2	1.0	1.2	0.9
I do not care	---	---	20.7	12.6
Total respondents	1,050	1,507	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those and the spouse who born infertile</i>				

Table 9.1.5 Distribution of the male respondents and their wives on whether desiring children (again), 2012-2017

Whether desiring children (again)	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	19.6	20.1	17.2	15.5
No	61.9	64.0	63.8	68.4
Not decided	12.1	9.8	14.7	13.9
Don't know / Never thought about it	6.2	5.6	4.4	2.3
No response	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those and the spouse who born infertile</i>				

Regarding the reasons for desiring more children, the proportion of “I like children” has doubled in 2017 for both parties (60.1% for husbands, 59.6% for wives) compared to that in 2012. The proportion of “to carry on the family line” has also increased since 2012 (39.8% for husbands, 33.7% for wives). More than 10% of the wives had/desired to have children because they thought “Giving birth is an innate ability of females”. Comparatively, only 4.8% of husbands had the same thoughts. (Table 9.1.6)

Table 9.1.6 Distribution of husbands and wives on the reasons for having/desiring children, 2002 – 2017

Reason for having/desiring children	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
To carry on the family line	38.4	3.3	17.8	16.4	29.3	19.8	39.8	33.7
I like children	37.4	26.4	56.2	52.1	27.9	32.6	60.1	59.6
Let the children have partners	---	44.7	26.0	28.8	21.5	22.5	22.2	23.4
Children can bring happiness to daily life	7.9	3.5	17.8	23.3	21.5	22.8	27.7	28.0
Will not be lonely when getting old and can be accompanied by children	---	8.2	13.7	15.1	19.4	17.4	26.1	28.4
Children is our fruit of love	---	---	12.3	15.1	15.3	15.7	21.4	20.1
Like to have a big family	5.3	6.4	11.0	8.2	13.5	13.9	15.2	16.6
To maintain the matrimony	3.3	1.6	5.5	4.1	10.1	9.7	11.2	10.4
My spouse wants to have children	---	5.0	6.8	12.3	8.3	10.3	17.9	22.0
To be financially supported by the children when getting old	---	---	4.1	1.4	6.4	6.7	11.0	9.5
Giving birth is an innate ability of females	---	---	---	8.2	5.6	14.7	4.8	13.2
My parents want to have grandchildren	10.4	1.6	8.2	9.6	4.1	3.2	14.1	7.2
Total respondents	79	76	73	73	791	826	794	824
<i>Base: Couples who have or desire to have children</i>								

For the husbands and wives who did not want to have children, the main reason was that “the financial burden of raising children is heavy”. (Husbands: 18.3%, wives: 19.7%). Another main reason is “too much responsibility for raising children” (Husbands: 12.7%, wives: 12.7%). The proportion of “Want to have more personal time and development space” for wives was nearly 3 times the proportion for husbands. (Table 9.1.7).

Table 9.1.7 Distribution of reasons for male respondents and their wives who desire no children, 2017

Main reasons for desiring to have no children	2017	
	Husband %	Wife %
The financial burden of raising children is heavy	18.3	19.7
Have enough children	2.8	1.4
Too much responsibility for raising children	12.7	12.7
Too busy at work	4.2	2.8
Too old	12.7	8.5
Too many children, therefore with housing problems	4.2	2.8
I or husband do not like children	11.3	11.3
Want to have more personal time and development space	5.6	14.1
Too much housework, no time to take care of the child	1.4	2.8
Worried about pregnancy and giving birth	2.8	2.8
Do not want to restrict the children	9.9	5.6
Hard to adapt to the education system	2.8	4.2
The society is unsuitable for raising children	9.9	4.2
Total respondents	71	71
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who did not want to have children except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

For the respondents that desired to have one child, husbands and wives shared similar views. 32.5% of husbands and 26.5% of wives thought that “the financial burden of raising children is heavy” was the main reason. More wives (24.1%) thought that “too much responsibility for raising children” than husbands (19.0%). “Have enough children” was also another main reason. (Husbands: 24.6%, wives: 22.4%) (Table 9.1.8)

Table 9.1.8 Distribution of reasons for male respondents and their wives who desire only one child, 2017

Main reasons for desiring to have one child	2017	
	Husband %	Wife %
The financial burden of raising children is heavy	32.5	26.5
Have enough children	24.6	22.4
Giving birth to many children may affect mother's health	1.1	0.0
Too much responsibility for raising children	19.0	24.1
Too busy at work	5.2	2.4
Too old	4.1	3.4
Too many children, therefore with housing problems	4.5	6.8
I hope to give every child as much education as possible	2.2	2.7
I or husband do not like children	0.0	0.3
Want to have more personal time and development space	2.2	1.7
Too much housework, no time to take care of the child	0.4	2.0
Worried about pregnancy and giving birth	0.0	1.0
Do not want to restrict the children	0.4	0.3
Hard to adapt to the education system	1.5	0.7
The society is unsuitable for raising children	0.4	2.0
Total respondents	268	294
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who wanted to have one child except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>		

More than half of the husbands and wives did not care the gender of the parity. Husbands tended to prefer giving birth to a son (Husbands: 22.3%, wives: 16.7%) while wives tended to prefer giving birth to a daughter (Wives: 20.4%, husbands: 9.9%) if giving birth to one child only. (Table 9.1.9)

Table 9.1.9 Distribution of fertile husbands and wives on the gender preference of parity, 2012-2017

Gender preference of parity if giving birth to one child only	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Never mind	57.6	53.3	62.8	59.7
Son	30.1	20.3	22.3	16.7
Daughter	9.2	19.7	9.9	20.4
Never thought of it	2.3	4.2	4.3	3.0
Don't know	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.1
No response	0.4	1.8	0.3	0.0
Total respondents	791	826	794	824
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives who want to have children or do not want to have children (for those who have children) except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

For those respondents who would like to give birth to a son but gave birth to a daughter finally, 65.0% of husbands and 61.6% of wives would like to give birth to a son again. Comparatively, for those respondents who would like to give birth to a daughter, but she gave birth to a son finally, approximately 50% of the husbands and wives would like to give birth to a daughter again. (Table 9.1.10 & 9.1.11)

Table 9.1.10 Distribution of fertile husbands and wives on whether giving birth to a son again if having given birth to a daughter finally, 2012-2017

Give birth to a son again if give birth to a daughter finally	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	65.7	64.3	65.0	61.6
No	23.0	22.0	21.5	26.1
Undecided	3.8	3.6	3.4	7.2
Never thought of it	4.2	7.1	7.3	5.1
Not sure	2.5	2.4	0.6	0.0
No response	0.8	0.6	2.3	0.0
Total respondents	239	168	177	138
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who would like to give birth to a son</i>				

Table 9.1.11 Distribution of fertile husbands and wives on whether giving birth to a daughter again if given birth to a son finally, 2012-2017

Give birth to a daughter again if give birth to a son finally	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	49.3	45.4	48.1	50.0
No	34.2	40.5	36.7	40.5
Undecided	2.7	7.4	7.6	4.8
Never thought of it	8.2	3.7	5.1	3.0
Not sure	5.5	2.5	1.3	1.8
No response	0.0	0.6	1.3	0.0
Total respondents	73	163	79	168
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who would like to give birth to a daughter</i>				

9.2 Give Birth to the Children If Get Pregnant Accidentally

Close to two third of husbands (66.9%) and wives (63.1%) would/possibly would give birth to the children if get pregnant accidentally. (Table 9.2.1)

The main reason for those husbands for giving birth/ possibly giving birth if their wives get pregnant accidentally was “I have the responsibility” (50.9%), this was the second important reason for wives (49.1%). For wives, the main reason was “do not want to kill life” (52.0%) and this was the second important for husbands. (49.1%) (Table 9.2.2)

On the other hand, the main reason for those husbands and wives that would not/ possibly would not give birth to the children was “we have enough children already” (Husbands: 63.6%; wives: 60.9%) followed by “cannot afford to raise the children financially” (Husbands: 39.3%; wives: 35.2%) (Table 9.2.3)

Table 9.2.1 Distribution of fertile husbands and wives on whether giving birth to the children if getting pregnant accidentally, 2012-2017

Give birth to the children if (your wife) get pregnant accidentally	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	47.4	45.4	53.3	49.1
Possibly yes	15.1	13.7	13.6	14.0
No	29.0	31.9	25.2	29.6
Possibly no	8.4	8.7	7.9	7.3
No response	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0
Total respondents	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Table 9.2.2 Distribution of husbands and wives on the reasons for giving birth/ possibly giving birth, 2012-2017

Reasons for giving birth/ possibly giving birth to the children if (your wife) get pregnant accidentally	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
I have the responsibility	47.5	42.6	50.9	49.1
Do not want to kill life	43.5	51.6	49.1	52.0
Children belong to us	35.8	35.7	34.3	39.0
I like children	29.4	28.8	27.5	33.4
It is fate, so just accept it	27.1	28.9	34.2	32.7
Abortion is incorrect	18.9	21.4	16.3	20.6
My spouse like children	16.4	13.8	18.0	17.0
Financial and environmental situation are acceptable	8.8	7.9	6.7	9.5
Abortion surgery is dangerous	8.4	6.4	10.6	7.8
Others	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.0
Total respondents	657	622	705	664
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives that would like/ possibly like to give birth to the children if (their wives) get pregnant accidentally</i>				

Table 9.2.3 Distribution of husbands and wives on the reasons for not giving birth/ possibly not giving birth, 2012-2017

Reasons for not giving birth/ possibly not giving birth to the children if (your wife) get pregnant accidentally	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
We have enough children already	52.4	53.6	63.6	60.9
Cannot afford to raise up children financially	42.0	43.1	39.3	35.2
It is not the appropriate time	13.5	15.0	29.5	25.2
I am not psychologically prepared	10.4	18.7	11.5	15.4
Socially unstable	8.7	10.3	9.7	7.7
Worried to be tied up by children	5.9	10.1	8.3	6.4
Too old	3.8	8.2	2.0	6.4
I do not like children	2.8	1.9	1.7	2.1
My character is not suitable to be parents	1.5	1.9	2.9	2.1
Do not have time	---	---	16.9	16.7
Do not have other appropriate people to help	---	---	4.9	4.4
Others	2.0	1.9	2.2	3.4
Total respondents	393	229	349	389
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives that would not like/ possibly not like to give birth to the children if (their wives) get pregnant accidentally</i>				

9.3 Housework Distribution and Time Spent on Children

Both husbands and wives said that the actual housework contribution of husbands was only around half of the wives. They all thought that husbands needed to contribute more. (Table 9.3.1)

Both husbands and wives said that wives spent more time than husbands in teaching children. However, wives claimed that they spent much more time in teaching children than what husbands said the time that wives have spent. (Wives: 41.7 hours, Husbands: 38.9 hours). Nevertheless, the ideal hours said by both husbands and wives are quite similar. (Table 9.3.2)

Table 9.3.1 Distribution of husbands and wives on the housework distribution, 2012-2017

Housework distribution	2012				2017			
	Husband		Wife		Husband		Wife	
	Actual %	Ideal %	Actual %	Ideal %	Actual %	Ideal %	Actual %	Ideal %
Husband	27.2	30.5	25.6	32.7	28.9	30.6	27.5	34.0
Wife	54.0	50.4	54.9	48.1	55.7	52.0	56.2	48.7
Others	18.8	19.1	19.5	19.2	15.5	17.4	16.3	17.3
Total respondents	1,044	1,044	1,050	1,050	1,053	1,053	1,053	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>								

Table 9.3.2 Distribution of husbands and wives on the mean hours spent in teaching children per week, 2012-2017

Mean hours spent in teaching children	2012				2017			
	Husband		Wife		Husband		Wife	
	Actual hours	Ideal hours	Actual hours	Ideal hours	Actual hours	Ideal hours	Actual hours	Ideal hours
Husband	16.3	22.1	18.4	22.6	16.5	22.6	16.5	24.4
Wife	23.9	34.1	32.2	33.9	38.9	41.1	41.7	43.3
Total respondents	818	818	822	822	848	848	846	846
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who have at least 1 child</i>								

9.4 Difficulties in Raising up Children and the Policy to Encourage Giving Birth

There were 32.6% of husbands and 23.7% of wives thought that “heavy economic burden” was one of their main difficulties in raising children. Besides, “big responsibility” (Husbands: 22.8%; wives: 25.2%) was another main difficulty. There were 7.1% of husbands said that their difficulty was “lack of time to communicate with children”, comparing with only 4.0% of wives saying so (Table 9.4.1)

Table 9.4.1 Distribution of husbands and wives on the difficulties in raising up children, 2012-2017

Difficulties in raising up children	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Economic factors:				
Heavy economic burden	31.9	28.7	32.6	23.7
Personal factors:				
Big responsibility	24.1	25.8	22.8	25.2
Lack of time to communicate with children	10.1	5.8	7.1	4.0
Difficult to understand psychology of children	7.4	6.3	8.1	8.4
Do not know how to communicate with children	5.9	5.8	4.1	4.8
Children need to face a big pressure	5.7	6.6	5.2	7.8
Too much protection/ spoil from the elderly	1.9	2.5	1.1	1.3
Educational factors:				
Children are rebellious and difficult to be taught	9.7	12.8	3.6	4.5
Afraid that children will be led astray by corrupted social values	5.0	4.6	2.9	2.0
The education system is difficult to be followed	4.2	4.4	4.7	5.4
Affect the health/safety of the children	1.6	2.5	1.9	3.3
Difficult for parents to find support	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.5
Education and school entrance pressure	---	---	7.5	6.8
Others	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
No response	1.0	0.1	0.3	1.0
Total respondents	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Husbands and wives shared similar thoughts on the policies that can encourage giving birth. More than half of the husbands and wives thought that “educational subsidies”, “medical subsidies”, “free children education”, “buy/ change/ rent house subsidies”, “powdered milk subsidies” and “enhance education quality” were the policies that can encourage giving birth. (Table 9.4.2)

Table 9.4.2 Distribution of male respondents and wives on the policy that can encourage giving birth, 2012-2017

Policy that can encourage giving birth	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Economic encouragement:				
Educational subsidies	60.3	60.6	59.8	58.3
Medical subsidies	58.3	58.3	57.4	56.7
Buy/ Change/ Rent house subsidies	53.6	54.0	58.4	57.4
Powdered milk subsidies	50.1	51.4	50.3	49.3
Children care subsidies	49.4	50.5	50.6	50.7
Increase tax allowance of the children	43.9	43.3	46.7	46.3
Extra tax reduction	40.5	40.9	43.8	44.3
Birth bonus	41.9	41.0	48.7	47.1
Lower/ exempt tax on foreign domestic helpers	31.2	32.9	37.3	36.6
Education:				
Free children education	56.4	57.4	55.9	55.7
Enhance education quality	52.8	53.7	53.7	54.5
Small group teaching	43.3	44.6	47.2	49.4
Enhance the support on the parents:				
Increase nourish and children care services	48.9	51.0	50.5	50.3
Paid parent-child leave	47.8	50.1	47.7	48.0
Extend paid maternity leave	47.5	48.5	45.4	47.3
Father can enjoy paid paternity leave	47.5	47.9	46.0	47.0
Allow flexible working hours	47.2	49.7	46.0	47.1
Promotions:				
Increase education on family values	18.8	18.9	28.3	28.9
Courses to teach you “how to be good parents”	16.4	18.2	24.1	25.7
Total respondents	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Chapter 10 KAP Survey for Males: Knowledges and Practice of Contraception

10.1 General Contraceptive Knowledge

The majority of male respondents had inadequate contraceptive knowledge and had a mean score of 3.2. This is slightly lower than that of the female respondents (3.4). Only 28.2% men can correctly answer 5 or more items, while 31.8% women can do so. (Table 10.1.1)

Table 10.1.1 Distribution of score summary of general contraceptive knowledge, 2012-2017

Total Score	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
0	14.9	6.5	13.9	8.7
1	13.9	10.9	12.6	11.6
2	13.7	14.4	13.2	15.8
3	15.2	16.0	16.3	16.2
4	16.2	20.1	15.8	16.0
5	12.0	14.5	14.1	16.1
6	8.0	9.7	7.7	9.0
7	3.8	5.8	4.6	4.7
8	1.9	2.0	1.3	1.8
9	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.3
10	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary				
5 or above	26.1	32.1	28.2	31.8
Below 5	73.9	67.9	71.8	68.2
Mean	3.0	3.6	3.2	3.4
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Similar to their wives, most male respondents did not answer correctly about “using oral pills will gain weight” (39.2%), “male condoms will be worn out if putting Vaseline on it” (36.9%) and “the contraceptive effectiveness of male condom is the same as the oral pills” (27.3%). More than half of the respondents answer correctly on “oral pills have to be regularly taken every day”. (46.8%) (Table 10.1.2)

Table 10.1.2 Distribution of husbands towards the knowledge of contraceptive questions, 2007- 2017

Questions	Incorrect			Correct			I don't know		
	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017	2007	2012	2017
Using oral pills will gain weight	37.1	41.8	39.2	23.9	19.4	21.6	39.0	38.2	38.6
Applying Vaseline outside condom will wear it out	---	33.1	36.9	---	15.7	15.9	---	50.7	46.1
The contraceptive effectiveness of male condom is the same as oral pills	35.5	30.4	27.3	29.3	26.0	31.3	35.2	43.2	40.4
The chance of having uterine or pelvic infection will increase progressively every year using IUD	21.2	22.8	20.8	19.8	15.6	18.0	59.0	61.0	60.2
IUD can be used by those females who have not given birth	19.2	22.0	19.0	31.9	26.3	32.2	48.9	51.2	48.1
Oral pills will increase the risk of womb cancer	19.8	21.7	17.6	25.7	20.7	21.1	54.5	57.1	59.9
7 days before menses is the safe period	---	17.6	23.0	---	45.4	43.0	---	36.4	32.9
Oral pills have to be regularly taken every day	19.2	16.7	21.4	46.4	58.0	46.8	34.3	24.7	31.3
Spermicide will kill the bacteria of sexually transmitted disease in the vagina	7.8	14.3	9.9	43.8	33.3	32.2	48.4	52.0	56.6
The emergency contraceptive pills have to be used within 72 hours	17.2	13.1	12.8	32.6	46.8	54.6	50.2	39.5	31.8
<i>Total respondents (husbands): 1,059</i>									

Age group was not a significant factor in determining the results of answering the 10-item questions among males. However, the results were significantly depending on the educational attainment of the husband – the higher the educational attainment, the higher the average score. Only 2.3% of men with primary or below educational level can answer 5-10 items correctly, while 39.8% of post-secondary graduated men can do so. (Table 10.1.3)

Table 10.1.3 Distribution of score summary of general contraceptive knowledge by age group and educational attainment, 2017

	Scores of contraceptive knowledge		
	0-4	5-10	Mean
Age group			
under 25	0.8	0.3	3.4
25-29	5.0	3.7	3.2
30-34	12.8	13.4	3.3
35-39	17.2	22.8	3.5
40-44	17.1	20.5	3.3
45-49	20.5	19.5	3.1
50 or above	26.6	19.8	2.8
Educational attainment			
Primary or below	5.4	2.3	2.3
Secondary	68.3	57.9	3.0
Post-secondary	26.3	39.8	3.7
Total respondents	760	299	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents except those who born infertile</i>			

10.2 Attitude towards Responsibility in Family Planning

More couples believed family planning was the responsibility of both husbands and wives, with the proportion increased significantly from less than 60% in 2002 to more than 70% in 2017. Fewer wives thought family planning was the sole responsibility of wives (from 12.0% in 2002 to 2.9% in 2017). (Table 10.2.1)

Table 10.2.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by attitude towards responsibility in family planning, 2002 – 2017

Family Planning is the responsibility of	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Both husband and wife	56.4	59.5	69.4	70.6	73.4	70.2	70.3	70.9
Husband	20.0	22.8	23.1	19.0	17.1	22.2	22.2	24.2
Wife	17.1	12.0	6.0	8.2	7.3	5.4	6.0	2.9
Neither	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.2
No response	0.0	0.0	---	---	---	0.1	0.1	0.0
Don't know	5.1	5.1	1.2	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	769	769	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,054
<i>Base: (2002): All male respondents and their wives</i> <i>(2007 – 2017): Those male respondents who are not born infertile and their wives</i>								

10.3 Attitude towards Provision of Contraceptive Service to the Unmarried Youths

There was a smaller proportion of husbands and wives who agreed that it was suitable to provide contraceptive service to the unmarried youths comparing to 2007. The proportion had decreased by about 10% for both husbands and wives (from roughly 60% in 2007 to 50% in 2017). This was offset by an increase in agreement that contraceptive service should be provided to unmarried youths with limitations (Table 10.3.1)

Table 10.3.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by attitude towards the provision of contraceptive service to the unmarried youths, 2007- 2017

Attitude towards the provision of contraceptive service to the unmarried youths	2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Agree	61.1	58.9	41.1	39.0	47.4	49.2
Agree with limitation	18.7	17.8	32.6	32.7	30.4	30.1
Disagree	18.3	21.3	19.4	19.4	18.7	16.9
Do not know	1.8	2.0	6.8	8.0	3.2	3.8
No response	---	---	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	769	769	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: Those male respondents who are not born infertile and their wives</i>						

Among those who thought that it was inappropriate to provide contraceptive service to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, the main reason was “youth may be promiscuous” (Husband: 50.3%; wife: 48.9%), followed by “it may mislead the youth that they are allowed to have sex at their age” (Husband: 41.1%, wife: 47.8%) and “youth may be attracted to have pre-marital sex” (Husband: 43.7%, wife: 45.5%) (Table 10.3.2)

Table 10.3.2 Distribution of respondents on the reasons for not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18, 2012-2017

Reasons for not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Youth may be promiscuous	53.9	56.4	50.3	48.9
It may mislead the youth that they are allowed to have sex at their age	46.1	50.0	41.1	47.8
Youth may be attracted to have pre-marital sex	39.7	46.1	43.7	45.5
Youth may be attracted to have sex	38.2	44.1	40.6	44.9
Youth may abuse the contraceptive services	26.0	30.4	33.5	39.3
Too young to use the services	3.4	2.5	---	0.6
No response	1.5	1.0	2.0	0.0
Total respondents	204	204	197	178
<i>Base: All male respondents and wives think that it is not appropriate to provide contraceptive services to the unmarried youth that aged below 18</i>				

10.4 Awareness of FPAHK advertisement

Slightly more husbands were aware of FPAHK's advertisement "the choice is yours, plan ahead and plan it well: how many is enough" (Husband: 27.6%; Wife: 30.5%). However, more wives were aware of the advertisement of "big family series. (Husband: 24.0%; Wife: 30.0%) (Table 10.4.1).

Table 10.4.1 Distribution of respondents on the awareness of FPAHK's TV advertisement, 2012-2017

Awareness of FPAHK's TV advertisement	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Lottery	57.0	53.3	---	---
The choice is yours, plan ahead and plan it well: how many is enough	---	---	27.6	30.5
Family big or small, family planning is the best of all (big family series)	56.6	66.3	24.0	30.0
Family big or small, family planning is the best of all (father series)	33.1	36.5	17.5	19.1
Never	---	---	55.0	48.2
No response	4.1	12.5	0.7	0.0
Total respondents	1,051	1,051	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: All female respondents except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>				

Chapter 11 KAP Survey for Males: Communication between Partners

11.1 Discussion of Parity

Communication plays an important role in maintaining good family relationship. The survey asked respondents whether they have discussed with their spouse on the number of parity and contraceptive method. The result regarding discussion on parity was similar to the findings of previous studies; with 69.3% of husbands and 68.5% of wives having such discussions. Similar to past survey, although there were only two-thirds of respondents who had discussions on this subject with their spouse, nearly all of them consider the discussion was enough. (95.2% for husbands, 93.2% for wives). There was a slightly decreasing trend for both husbands and wives that they had the same ideas with spouse on number of parities from 2002 to 2012 (Husband: 94.2% in 2002 to 89.1% in 2012; wife: 92.1% in 2002 to 88.7% in 2012). However, the number rebounded to 92.3% for husbands and 93.5 for wives in 2017. (Table 11.1.1- 11.1.3)

Table 11.1.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by discussion with spouse on number of parities, 2002 – 2017

Discussion with spouse	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	64.9	65.5	63.8	66.2	65.4	65.5	69.3	68.5
No	35.1	33.7	36.2	33.8	34.4	34.5	30.7	31.5
No response	0.0	0.8	---	---	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	911	911	730	728	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
Base: (2002-2007) All male respondents who were fertile and their wives (2012,2017) All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile								

Table 11.1.2 Distribution of husbands and wives by sufficiency in discussed with spouse on parity, 2002 – 2017

Opinion towards discussion with spouse on number of parities	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Enough	94.2	95.0	95.9	96.9	93.6	93.5	95.2	93.2
Not enough	5.8	5.0	4.1	3.1	6.4	6.4	4.8	6.8
No response	0.0	0.0	---	---	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	591	597	466	482	687	689	730	721
Base: Those male respondents and their wives who have discussion with spouse on parity								

Table 11.1.3 Distribution of husbands and wives by whether they have the same ideas with spouse on the number of parities, 2002 – 2017

Whether spouse have the same ideas on parity	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes, same as spouse	94.2	92.1	92.3	91.7	89.1	88.7	92.3	93.5
No (Number of parities that spouse prefer to have)	5.8	7.9	7.7	8.3	10.9	11.3	7.5	6.5
- 0	---	---	---	---	1.5	0.4	0.7	0.4
- 1	---	---	---	---	3.8	3.8	2.5	2.5
- 2	---	---	---	---	4.7	5.1	2.6	2.5
- 3	---	---	---	---	0.9	1.6	1.1	0.7
- 4	---	---	---	---	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3
- 5	---	---	---	---	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	591	597	466	482	687	689	730	721
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who have discussion with spouse on parity</i>								

11.2 Discussion of Contraception

About two-thirds of respondents have discussed with their spouse on contraception and the figures increased since 2007. (Husband: from 56.6% in 2007 to 67.6% in 2017; wife: from 57.1% in 2007 to 68.0% in 2017). Same as in the number of parity discussion, over 90% of those respondents who had such discussion regard their discussion was enough. However, the percentage for both parties was lower compared to that in 2007. Over 95% of husbands and wives expressed the acceptance on spouse' idea on contraception. (Table 11.2.1 – 11.2.3)

Table 11.2.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by discussion with spouse on contraception, 2002 – 2017

Discussion with spouse on contraception	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	63.9	60.9	56.6	57.1	65.2	63.6	67.6	68.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	769	769	1,051	1,052	1,054	1,053
<i>Base: (2002) All male respondents and their wives</i> <i>(2007) All male respondents who were fertile and their wives</i> <i>(2012, 2017) All male respondents and their wives except those respondents or their spouse who born infertile</i>								

Table 11.2.2 Distribution of husbands and wives by sufficiency in discussion with spouse on contraception, 2002 – 2017

Opinion towards discussion with spouse on contraception	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Enough	91.8	94.0	97.2	95.4	93.3	92.7	94.1	94.7
Not enough	8.2	6.0	2.8	4.6	6.6	7.2	5.6	5.3
No response	0.0	0.0	---	---	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	733	698	435	439	685	669	714	716
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who have discussion with spouse on contraception</i>								

Table 11.2.3 Distribution of husbands and wives by whether they accepted the idea on contraception from their spouse, 2002 – 2017

Ideas accepted by spouse on contraception	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very acceptable	34.0	37.1	51.5	54.9	37.8	46.0	39.0	43.0
Acceptable	63.2	59.5	48.3	43.5	59.3	50.2	54.2	52.4
Unacceptable	2.5	3.3	---	---	2.5	3.4	2.9	2.2
Very unacceptable	0.4	0.1	0.2	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3
I do not care	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.2	2.1
No response	0.0	0.0	---	---	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	733	698	435	439	685	669	712	716
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who have discussion with spouse on contraception</i>								

Chapter 12 KAP Survey for Males: Marriage and Sex Life

12.1 Health Condition and Life

About 70% of husbands and wives thought that their health conditions were either “very good” or “good”. More than 70% of husbands and wives said that they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the life. The figures were quite similar for husbands and wives for satisfaction of life between 2012 and 2017. The health condition was similar for husbands between 2012 and 2017, while the condition slightly improved for wives. (Table 12.1.1 & 12.1.2)

Table 12.1.1 Distribution of respondents on the health condition now, 2012-2017

Health condition now	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very good	20.3	13.3	15.9	12.7
Good	50.9	48.0	57.2	57.0
Average	27.0	35.8	24.7	26.6
Poor	1.5	2.4	2.0	2.6
Very poor	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.9
No response	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.1.2 Distribution of respondents on the satisfaction of life, 2012-2017

Satisfaction of life	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very satisfied	11.2	11.8	9.2	9.7
Satisfied	60.8	60.4	63.9	66.0
Average	26.4	26.3	24.3	21.3
Dissatisfied	1.5	1.2	2.5	2.3
Very dissatisfied	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.6
No response	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

12.2 Attitude towards Sex Life

The proportions of husbands and wives who felt very interested / interested in sex life increased gradually from 2002 to 2017. Men continually showed more interest in sex life than women. (Husband: 59.1% in 2002 to 72.6% in 2017; wife: 34.7% in 2002 to 56.0% in 2017) The prevalence of interest in sex life decreased with increasing age. Men had higher prevalence across all age groups than women. (Table 12.2.1 – 12.2.2)

Table 12.2.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by attitude towards sex life, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards sex life	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very interested in	9.2	2.8	9.0	4.5	9.4	2.1	9.5	4.2
Interested in	49.9	31.9	50.1	36.9	55.6	43.1	63.1	51.7
Average	36.0	58.0	39.0	53.8	33.1	48.2	26.2	37.3
Not interested in	1.2	4.9	1.7	4.4	1.6	6.1	0.9	2.7
Not interested in at all	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.8
No response	3.4	2.3	---	---	0.2	0.1	0.2	3.3
Summary								
Top 2 boxes	59.1	34.7	59.1	41.4	65.0	45.2	72.6	56.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Table 12.2.2 Prevalence of interested / very interested in sex life by age, 2002 – 2017

Current age	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
24 or less	77.8	61.9	80.0	50.0	92.3	69.0	87.5	65.0
25-29	72.0	62.1	82.2	64.9	85.2	70.9	83.7	67.3
30-34	77.9	47.4	69.4	49.6	83.6	54.9	85.4	64.4
35-39	65.7	35.0	64.0	48.9	72.8	45.7	81.9	58.8
40-44	58.1	23.7	64.0	35.2	63.7	38.7	73.8	48.5
45-49	52.5	21.3	54.8	28.7	54.5	30.4	72.9	49.1
50 or above	45.2	---	47.1	---	52.9	---	55.2	---
Total respondents	678	398	455	319	689	478	769	592
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who are very interested/ interested in sex life</i>								

12.3 Satisfaction with Marriage

In general, similar proportions of husbands said that they were very satisfied/ satisfied with marriage comparing to previous surveys. Wives were with lower satisfaction comparing to husbands over years. (Table 12.3.1)

Table 12.3.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by satisfaction of marriage, 2002 – 2017

Satisfaction of marriage	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very satisfied	29.6	23.6	34.5	30.0	18.5	16.1	17.1	15.0
Satisfied	54.2	53.9	50.1	50.8	65.6	62.2	65.9	66.1
Average	11.9	18.5	14.7	17.0	15.0	19.8	16.0	16.5
Dissatisfied	0.7	1.7	0.4	1.2	0.8	1.3	0.9	0.9
Very dissatisfied	0.3	0.3	---	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.8
No response	3.2	2.0	---	---	---	0.1	0.2	0.8
Summary								
Top 2 boxes	83.8	77.5	84.7	80.8	84.1	78.3	83.0	81.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

The prevalence of very satisfied/ satisfied with marriage generally tended to decrease with age, except for aged 30-34 in 2017. (Table 12.3.2)

Table 12.3.2 Prevalence of very satisfied / satisfied with marriage by age, 2002 – 2017

Current age	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
24 or less	77.8	52.4	60.0	90.0	100.0	89.7	100.0	90.0
25-29	90.0	75.7	85.7	86.0	90.7	84.9	85.7	78.2
30-34	87.2	76.1	84.0	83.7	89.1	83.4	93.4	88.8
35-39	83.8	75.2	91.2	85.2	87.5	77.5	85.9	80.3
40-44	83.0	79.6	85.8	76.5	81.9	78.9	83.2	78.3
45-49	84.4	68.0	86.2	77.2	78.4	69.6	81.8	79.4
50 or above	80.8	---	78.6	---	84.3	---	75.1	---
Total respondents	962	854	652	622	891	829	878	859
<i>Base: Those male respondents and their wives who are satisfied/ very satisfied with marriage</i>								

12.4 Satisfaction with Sex Life

About 73% of husbands and wives were satisfied with their sex life. (Table 12.4.1)

The prevalence of satisfaction with sex life tended to decrease with age. Husbands generally had higher prevalence of satisfaction by age compared to wives. (Table 12.4.2)

Table 12.4.1 Distribution of husbands and wives by satisfaction of sex life, 2002 – 2017

Satisfaction of sex life	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Very satisfied	13.5	9.5	14.5	11.8	13.3	10.7	10.6	8.2
Satisfied	56.6	51.7	56.8	53.8	55.2	59.5	62.6	65.1
Average	24.5	34.1	27.3	31.6	28.4	27.0	24.3	24.2
Dissatisfied	1.7	2.2	1.2	2.1	2.8	2.0	2.1	1.6
Very dissatisfied	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.7
No response	3.5	2.4	---	---	---	0.1	0.2	0.3
Summary								
Top 2 boxes	70.1	61.2	71.3	65.6	68.5	70.2	73.2	73.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Table 12.4.2 Prevalence of very satisfied / satisfied with sex life by age, 2002 – 2017

Current age	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
24 or less	66.7	76.2	80.0	70.0	92.3	93.1	75.0	90.0
25-29	84.0	81.6	82.2	82.5	79.6	84.9	83.7	82.2
30-34	78.5	64.3	72.0	68.2	76.6	76.2	81.8	77.7
35-39	69.2	61.7	77.6	67.6	70.1	68.6	76.4	73.5
40-44	68.5	56.2	74.1	57.2	62.9	71.7	74.3	71.1
45-49	71.5	53.8	68.1	65.4	65.8	55.6	74.8	67.5
50 or above	62.0	---	65.8	---	67.6	---	62.1	---
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

12.5 Relationship between Satisfaction with Marriage and Satisfaction with Sex Life

The respondents were asked whether their satisfaction with marriage was related to their satisfaction with sex life. The majority agreed to the relationship of satisfaction with marriage and with sex life. There was an increasing trend that couples agree with the relationship of satisfaction with marriage and sex life from 2002 to 2017 for both genders. (Husband: 72.5% in 2002 to 83.2% in 2017; wife: 68.7% in 2002 to 81.7% in 2017) (Table 12.5.1)

Generally speaking, the prevalence of both husbands and wives that believed the relationship increased comparing to past surveys. (Table 12.5.2)

Table 12.5.1 Distribution of attitude towards relationship between satisfaction of marriage and sex life, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards relationship between satisfaction of marriage and sex life	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Highly related	11.5	10.3	11.7	11.6	10.8	9.2	11.3	9.2
Related	61.0	58.4	64.7	61.9	70.5	67.1	71.9	72.5
Not very related	20.3	24.6	19.5	22.2	15.8	19.7	14.8	16.6
Not related at all	3.6	4.4	2.9	3.1	2.8	4.0	1.7	1.5
No response	3.6	2.4	---	---	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2
Summary								
Top 2 boxes	72.5	68.7	76.4	73.5	81.3	76.3	83.2	81.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Table 12.5.2 Prevalence of respondents who thought the satisfaction with marriage is (highly) related to the satisfaction of sex life by age, 2002 – 2017

Current age	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
24 or less	66.7	76.2	100.0	80.0	76.9	89.7	62.5	80.0
25-29	82.0	78.6	71.4	79.0	88.9	84.9	83.7	85.1
30-34	75.8	70.9	81.3	79.1	90.6	78.8	81.8	85.1
35-39	68.2	69.5	72.8	80.7	83.7	77.1	90.5	83.6
40-44	76.3	66.8	79.0	66.8	79.4	76.7	82.2	78.7
45-49	73.8	63.2	78.7	68.3	74.8	67.3	84.1	79.1
50 or above	65.9	---	72.2	---	81.0	---	78.9	---
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

12.6 Requests for Sex and Refusal of Sexual Requests

The vast majority of both male (97.9%) and female (96.9%) respondents agreed that sexual request can be made by women. There were 70.4% of husbands certainly could accept the sexual request from women. Wives' acceptance level was lower, with only 48.3% thought that they can certainly practice sexual request. However, the proportion has increased continuously from 2002 (34.4%). (Table 12.6.1 & 12.6.2)

Table 12.6.1 Distribution of the attitude towards sexual request from women, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards request sexual from women	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	95.2	92.9	96.1	94.0	97.6	94.7	97.9	96.9
No	1.3	4.7	2.7	5.1	2.3	5.3	1.9	2.3
No response	3.5	2.4	1.2	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Table 12.6.2 Distribution of accepting / practicing sexual request from women in reality, 2002 – 2017

Accept / Practice sexual request from women	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Certainly could	74.1	34.4	68.8	40.6	71.2	42.3	70.4	48.3
Sometimes could	20.8	50.5	27.7	48.8	26.7	45.5	27.0	42.9
Hardly could	1.4	12.6	1.9	9.0	1.9	12.1	2.3	8.6
No response	3.7	2.6	1.6	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Nearly all of the husbands (97.5%) and wives (98.0%) thought that they can refuse spouse's sexual request. However, in reality, only 69.1% of husbands and 60.6% of wives can certainly accept/ practice in refusing sexual request. (Table 12.6.3-12.6.4)

Table 12.6.3 Distribution of the attitude towards women could refuse spouse's sexual request, 2002 – 2017

Attitude towards women could refuse spouse's sexual request	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	92.5	93.6	94.2	94.4	93.8	97.4	97.5	98.0
No	3.8	3.7	4.5	4.4	6.1	2.6	2.4	1.8
No response	3.7	2.6	1.3	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

Table 12.6.4 Distribution of accepting / practicing on women in refusing spouse's sexual request, 2002 – 2017

Accept / practice on women in refusing sexual request	2002		2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Certainly could	65.5	54.1	62.5	53.1	53.7	48.4	69.1	60.6
Sometimes could	28.1	39.4	33.5	42.3	40.4	43.6	28.4	35.6
Hardly could	2.4	3.8	2.6	3.2	5.2	7.2	2.3	3.1
No response	4.1	2.7	1.4	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total respondents	1,147	1,147	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>								

12.7 Factors Affecting Sex Life

The factors influencing sex life have changed dramatically in 2017 compared to those in 2007 and 2012. Limited living space has become the major factor hindering sex life (60.9% for husbands and 60.6% for wives), following by pressure-related factors (57.6% for husbands and 49.9% for wives). Specifically, small living space and living with children were two major reasons affecting sex life in 2017. Working pressure was also influencing sex life (23.8% for husbands and 17.7% for wives). 31.4% of the husbands and 26.4% of the wives reported that no factors influenced their sex life. (Table 12.7.1)

Table 12.7.1 Distribution of factors affecting sex life, 2007- 2017

Factors	2007		2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Pressure	43.9	37.9	63.6	61.4	57.6	49.9
Work pressure	30.1	24.7	31.2	26.7	23.8	17.7
Financial burden	19.2	13.2	19.0	13.7	15.1	13.0
Pressure from housework	6.9	9.9	7.2	13.5	7.4	8.3
Other pressure	7.7	6.0	6.2	6.5	11.3	10.9
Limited living space	31.8	30.4	34.1	32.2	60.9	60.6
Living with children	19.5	20.9	17.2	16.0	27.2	27.4
Small living space	17.1	14.2	12.4	11.5	27.3	27.4
Living with parents	6.4	5.5	4.5	4.7	6.3	5.8
Living with maid	---	0.1	---	---	0.1	0.0
Unmatched timing	29.4	31.8	24.6	25.3	21.0	21.3
Schedule does not match with working time of spouse	16.4	18.8	13.5	15.5	12.7	13.9
Spouse need to work in other countries	11.2	16.5	8.6	8.1	2.2	2.2
I have to work in other countries	9.7	4.9	2.5	1.7	6.1	5.2
The rest time cannot be matched	---	0.1	---	---	---	---
Health	23.0	15.8	9.1	10.0	11.6	11.2
Health problems	22.9	15.1	8.9	9.7	11.6	10.5
Tired	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.3	---	0.7
Long period of menstruation	---	0.1	---	---	---	---
Poor relationship	14.7	11.8	5.2	4.4	5.9	4.5
Poor relationship of couples	14.7	11.8	5.2	4.4	5.9	4.5
Others	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.9	1.0
No factors hinder my sexual life	21.0	23.8	31.1	35.7	31.4	26.4
No response	1.7	2.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4
Total respondents	770	770	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>						

12.8 Sex Problems

Husbands and wives were asked whether they/ their spouse encountered any sex problems. 89.8% of the husbands claimed that they did not have any problems in sex interest while 85.4% of wives said their spouse did not have any problems in sex interest. The difference between husbands and wives is of interest to explore. Similar to sex interest, majority of the husbands (94.3%) said that they did not encounter erection and ejaculation problems and their wives (92.0%) generally agreed with that.

1.8% of the husbands claimed that they took stamina medicine in order to enhance sexual ability. However, only 0.5% of the wives reported their husbands taking the medicine. (Table 12.8.1 - 12.8.4)

Table 12.8.1 Distribution of husbands and spouse's perception on whether husbands are having the problems of sex interest, 2012-2017

Sex interest	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
No problem	88.4	82.7	89.8	85.4
Not interested	9.5	7.9	8.1	9.9
Too interested	0.8	1.5	1.4	0.8
Not sure	---	6.7	0.0	3.5
No response	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.5
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.8.2 Distribution of husbands and spouse's perception on whether husbands are having the problems of erection, 2012-2017

Erection	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
No problem	94.3	88.4	94.3	92.0
Cannot erect	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.4
Cannot maintain erection	3.9	2.5	3.9	1.9
Not sure	---	7.1	0.0	4.6
No response	1.3	1.4	0.9	1.1
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.8.3 Distribution of husbands and spouse's perception on whether husbands are having the problems of ejaculation, 2012-2017

Ejaculation	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
No problem	95.6	88.5	95.1	91.5
Premature ejaculation	2.5	2.3	2.9	1.9
Cannot ejaculate	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.9
Not sure	---	7.5	0.0	4.5
No response	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.1
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.8.4 Distribution of husbands and spouse's perception on whether husbands are taking stamina medicine, 2012-2017

Husband take stamina medicine in order to enhance sexual ability	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Yes	1.3	1.0	1.8	0.5
No	98.6	94.3	98.1	96.0
Not sure	---	4.2	0.0	3.3
No response	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Husbands and wives were asked if the wives face any sexual problems consistently for three months in the past year. Although both husbands and the wives themselves agreed that wives have little defined problems consistently for three months in the past year, there were some differences for the figures of husbands and wives. More than 12% of the husbands claimed that they did not know whether their partner had any sexual problems. Generally speaking, the proportions of husbands thought that their wives did not have those problems were less than the perception of wives, because the husbands were not sure about their wives' conditions. (Table 12.8.5).

Table 12.8.5 Distribution of husbands and spouse's perception on whether wives are facing any sexual problems, 2017

problems, 2017

Wife face any of the following problems consistently for three months in the past year	Husband %			Wife %	
	Yes	No	Do not know	Yes	No
Reach climax only after sex	9.4	68.8	20.1	7.2	90.8
No sexual illusion during sex	6.4	67.4	24.9	7.7	91.3
Vagina is dry	7.8	78.9	12.3	9.1	89.8
No sexual climax	6.3	75.6	17.2	8.5	90.0
Not excited during sex	7.9	77.1	14.2	8.8	90.2
Reach climax before sex	4.2	75.5	18.6	4.0	94.1
Painful during sex	6.0	78.1	14.5	8.9	89.4
Total respondents	1,059			1,059	

Base: All male respondents and their wives

12.9 Professional Advise on Counselling

Majority of the husbands and wives said that they and their spouse have never consulted doctors on sex problems. Both parties had a quite clear understanding on whether their spouses consult doctors or not. Only less than 5% of husbands or wives were not sure about that. (Table 12.9.1)

More than 85% of husbands and wives said that they did not consult anyone on the sex problems personally. However, only 72.3% of husbands and 76.8% of wives knew that their spouse did not consult anyone on the sex problems. Around 15% of husbands and wives are not sure about it respectively. Among those who consulted someone for the sex problems, they were more likely to consult them with their friends. (Table 12.9.2)

Husbands and wives had similar preference on the sexual subjects or family related issues that they would like to have professional advice or counseling on. More than 80% of husbands and wives said that they did not need any advice on such. 6.3% of husbands and 8.9% of wives would like to know more about “conflicts between couples” while 5.0% of husbands and 6.0% of wives would like to know more about “conflicts of work and family”. The patterns for subjects did not change much from 2012 to 2017. (Table 12.9.3)

Table 12.9.1 Distribution of respondents on whether consulting the doctors on the sex problems

Consult the doctors on the sex problems	Husband %		Wife %	
	Respondent	Spouse	Respondent	Spouse
Yes	2.2	3.0	1.4	0.9
No	97.7	91.7	96.4	94.3
Not sure	0.1	4.7	2.2	3.3
No response	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.4
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.9.2 Distribution of respondents on whether consulting anyone on the sex problems

Consult anyone because of sex problems	Husband %		Wife %	
	Respondent	Spouse	Respondent	Spouse
Yes	10.3	11.4	11.2	8.2
- Friends	4.3	3.3	5.8	3.3
- Newspapers, magazines, e-mail	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9
- FPAHK	1.8	3.2	1.7	1.3
- Medicine professionals	2.0	2.3	1.9	1.7
- Brothers and sisters	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1
- Radio or hotline	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
- Parents	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.3
- Social workers	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
- Relatives	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
- Others	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0
No	89.5	72.3	87.5	76.8
Not sure	---	16.1	---	14.3
No response	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.7
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

Table 12.9.3 Distribution of sexual subjects or family related that husbands and wives would like to have professional advice or counseling, 2012-2017

Sexual subjects or family related issues	2012		2017	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Conflicts between couples	6.7	7.5	6.3	8.9
Conflicts of work and family	5.9	6.0	5.0	6.0
Sexual harmonization	4.7	4.4	4.3	6.0
Prevention and medication of sexual dysfunction	4.6	1.3	3.2	1.1
New contraceptive methods	4.1	5.3	3.9	5.8
Sexual intercourse technique	3.3	3.4	4.6	2.7
Relationship between the mother and the daughter-in-law	2.3	2.9	3.3	3.6
Prevention and medication of sexual transmitted diseases	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7
Prevention and medication of aids	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.7
Methods for encountering extramarital affairs	0.8	2.4	0.8	1.7
Abnormal sexual behavior	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.1
Methods of teaching children	0.0	0.1	---	---
Pregnancy problem	0.0	0.2	---	---
Not necessary	83.0	82.0	82.1	75.4
Total respondents	1,059	1,059	1,059	1,059
<i>Base: All male respondents and their wives</i>				

12.10 Violence in Intimate Relationships

The prevalence of mental, physical and sexual violence in both husbands and wives were low with percentages less than 1.5%. Though, it should be noted that the percentage of refuse to answer in wives regarding to the question “suffered from sexual violence by partner(s) was 2.2%. (Table 12.10.1)

Table 12.10.1 Distribution of participants who experienced violence in intimated relationship, 2017

Ever experienced the following events:	Never		Once		Twice or more	
	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %	Husband %	Wife %
Abused partner(s) with mental violence	98.3	98.9	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.4
Suffered from mental violence by partner(s)	97.7	98.2	0.2	0.4	1.7	0.9
Abused partner(s) with physical violence	98.8	98.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.5
Suffered from physical violence by partner(s)	98.3	97.9	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.6
Abused partner(s) with sexual violence	99.2	98.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Suffered from sexual violence by partner(s)	99.1	97.7	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
Total respondents	1059	1514	1059	1514	1059	1514
<i>Base: All female respondents and their husbands</i>						