

2.1.2 Language by Age

Table 2.4 indicates the distributions of population by language and age group. The proportions of population by language differ from age to age. The age composition of population who speak Khmer, minority languages and Chinese shows the primary age pattern. On the other hand, the age compositions of population who speak Lao, Vietnam, Thai and English concentrate at the working ages. The age composition of foreigners may reflect not only sampling in the survey but also international migration.

Table 2.4 Population and Percentage Distribution of Mother Tongue by 5-year Age Group, 2013

Age Group	Total Population	Khmer	Minority Language	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Others
Total	14,676,591	14,244,330	331,068	61,293	6,928	24,613	837	263	1,591	1,168	91	4,410
0 - 4	1,303,588	1,261,034	35,528	3,724	21	2,452		33				796
5 - 9	1,474,650	1,428,658	37,992	4,267	209	3,131						393
10-14	1,543,160	1,494,619	39,539	4,943	433	3,204						422
15 - 19	1,558,004	1,516,031	33,889	4,163	343	2,855	52		331			340
20 - 24	1,613,940	1,566,046	35,282	8,913	388	2,572	86		231		20	402
25 - 29	1,342,919	1,305,029	29,307	5,733	112	2,007			246			487
30 - 34	1,210,936	1,180,640	23,607	4,116	377	1,407	199		52		71	467
35 - 39	734,970	710,192	17,596	4,214	939	1,544	157	8	33			287
40 - 44	844,823	821,851	14,925	4,475	956	1,410	116	82	505	388		116
45 - 49	772,599	749,404	17,445	4,431	25	947	23		118			206
50 - 54	661,350	643,704	12,588	3,325	705	719	188		7			113
55 - 59	498,504	483,662	10,171	3,392	517	593	15		61			94
60 - 64	390,619	377,613	9,515	2,236	388	411		15		298		143
65 - 69	272,657	263,929	6,099	940	675	626			7	324		58
70 - 74	201,989	197,664	2,829	729	112	471		125				58
75 & over	251,881	244,255	4,756	1,693	727	263				158		29

Table 2.4 Population and Percentage Distribution of Mother Tongue by 5-year Age Group, 2013 (Continued)

Age Group	Total Population	Khmer	Minority Language	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Others
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
0 - 4	8.9	8.9	10.7	6.1	0.3	10.0	0.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.0
5 - 9	10.0	10.0	11.5	7.0	3.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9
10-14	10.5	10.5	11.9	8.1	6.3	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
15 - 19	10.6	10.6	10.2	6.8	5.0	11.6	6.2	0.0	20.8	0.0	0.0	7.7
20 - 24	11.0	11.0	10.7	14.5	5.6	10.5	10.3	0.0	14.5	0.0	21.6	9.1
25 - 29	9.2	9.2	8.9	9.4	1.6	8.2	0.0	0.0	15.4	0.0	0.0	11.0
30 - 34	8.3	8.3	7.1	6.7	5.4	5.7	23.8	0.0	3.3	0.0	78.4	10.6
35 - 39	5.0	5.0	5.3	6.9	13.5	6.3	18.8	2.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	6.5
40 - 44	5.8	5.8	4.5	7.3	13.8	5.7	13.9	31.1	31.7	33.2	0.0	2.6
45 - 49	5.3	5.3	5.3	7.2	0.4	3.8	2.8	0.0	7.4	0.0	0.0	4.7
50 - 54	4.5	4.5	3.8	5.4	10.2	2.9	22.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.6
55 - 59	3.4	3.4	3.1	5.5	7.5	2.4	1.7	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	2.1
60 - 64	2.7	2.7	2.9	3.6	5.6	1.7	0.0	5.6	0.0	25.5	0.0	3.2
65 - 69	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.5	9.7	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	27.7	0.0	1.3
70 - 74	1.4	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.9	0.0	47.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
75 & over	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.8	10.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.5	0.0	0.7

2.1.3 Language by Province

Table 2.5 indicates the distributions of population by mother tongue and province. The provinces where major languages are Khmer (around 95% of total population) are 22

provinces among 24 provinces. The provinces where major languages are minority languages are Ratanak Kiri (minority languages: 51.6%, Khmer:35.8%) and Mondul Kiri (minority languages 57.0%, Khmer:41.8%). The percentage of population speaking Lao is also high in Ratanak Kiri (10.3%) and Stung Treng (3.6%), both provinces are located near the border between Cambodia and Laos. The percentage of population speaking Vietnamese is relatively high in Kampong Chhnang (2.9%), Phnom Penh (1.5%) and Preah Sihanouk (1.4%).

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013

Mother Tongue	Country	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	Total	Banteay Meanchey	Battambang	Kampong Cham	Kampong Chhnang	Kampong Speu	Kampong Thom	Kampot
Total Population	14,676,591	729,569	1,121,019	1,757,223	523,202	755,465	690,414	611,557
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	97.1	99.7	99.5	96.9	93.2	99.3	98.8	99.7
Vietnamese	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	2.3	0.2	0.2	3.0	3.9	0.7	1.2	0.2
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013 (Continued)

Mother Tongue	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Kandal	Koh Kong	Kratie	Mondul Kiri	Phnom Penh	Preah Vihear	Prey Veng	Pursat
Total Population	1,115,965	122,263	344,195	72,680	1,688,044	235,370	1,156,739	435,596
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	99.2	99.2	93.0	41.8	97.4	97.1	98.8	96.3
Vietnamese	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.5	0.0	0.4	0.2
Chinese	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	0.2	0.2	6.4	57.0	0.8	2.9	0.8	3.5
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013 (Continued)

Mother Tongue	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Ratanak Kiri	Siem Reap	Preah Sihanouk	Stung Treng	Svay Rieng	Takeo	Otdar Meanchey	Kep	Pailin
Total Population	183,699	922,982	250,180	122,791	578,380	923,373	231,390	38,701	65,795
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	35.8	99.7	95.6	84.9	99.8	98.8	99.7	99.4	99.0
Vietnamese	0.2	0.0	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	10.3	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	-	-	0.0
Minority Languages	51.6	0.3	2.4	10.4	0.1	1.2	0.2	0.5	1.0
Others	1.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.6 Percent Distribution by Province for Each Mother Tongue, 2013

Province	Mother Tongue											
	Total	Khmer	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Minority Languages	Others
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Banteay Meanchey	5.0	5.1	0.4	3.5	1.0	10.3	0.0	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	3.8
Battambang	7.6	7.8	2.7	7.1	0.0	46.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0
Kampong Cham	12.0	12.0	1.1	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	60.9	0.0	15.8	0.0
Kampong Chhnang	3.6	3.4	24.7	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0
Kampong Speu	5.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	0.0	0.0	13.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
Kampong Thom	4.7	4.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0
Kampot	4.2	4.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	8.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Kandal	7.6	7.8	7.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	4.5
Koh Kong	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.6	0.1	0.8
Kratie	2.3	2.2	1.9	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0
Mondul Kiri	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	2.0	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.6
Phnom Penh	11.5	11.5	42.4	57.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.2	25.5	0.0	3.8	0.0
Preah Vihear	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0
Prey Veng	7.9	8.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0
Pursat	3.0	2.9	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.0
Ratanak Kiri	1.3	0.5	0.7	4.4	77.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.4	28.6	76.7
Siem Reap	6.3	6.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
Preah Sihanouk	1.7	1.7	5.8	4.3	0.0	1.7	91.5	15.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	13.5
Stung Treng	0.8	0.7	1.6	3.3	18.2	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0
Svay Rieng	3.9	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Takeo	6.3	6.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0
Otdar Meanchey	1.6	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Kep	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Pailin	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0

Table 2.6 presents the distribution by province for each mother tongue. The distribution of Khmer language by province is naturally same as the population distribution by province in Cambodia. Vietnamese is mostly used in Phnom Penh (42.4%) and in Kampong Chhnang (24.7%). Lao is used in Ratanak Kiri (77.1%) and Stung Treng (18.2%) near the border of Vietnam, and Chinese is used mainly in Phnom Penh (57.4%). Minority languages are mostly used in Ratanak Kiri (28.6%), Kampong Cham (15.8%) and in Mondul Kiri (12.5%) where most minority groups live in. Persons who use foreign languages: English, French, Japanese and Korean languages, are likely to concentrate in Phnom Penh, however some foreign languages are spoken in local provinces other than capital city which might be affected by the sampling problem of survey.

2.2 Language among Minority Groups

2.2.1 Minority Language by Sex

Table 2.7 indicates population by minority language. Major minority languages are Chaam (44.5% of minority population), Tumpoon (15.7%), Phnong (14.3%), Krueng (6.8%), Proav (4.2%), Kuoy (4.1%) and Chaaraay (4.0%) among 23 minority languages. As regards the sex ratios of minority population by mother tongue, females surpass males in the number in most minority languages except Khogn, S'ouch, Mel, Por and Kaaveat.

Mother Tongue	Total				Total		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Sex Ratio	Both Sexes	Males	Females
Total	331,068	157,357	173,710	91	100.0	100.0	100.0
Chaaraay	13,326	6,636	6,689	99	4.0	4.2	3.9
Chaam	147,236	67,415	79,822	84	44.5	42.8	46.0
Kaaveat	5,618	3,008	2,610	115	1.7	1.9	1.5
Klueng	208	69	138	50	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kuoy	13,530	6,749	6,781	100	4.1	4.3	3.9
Krueng	22,385	10,162	12,223	83	6.8	6.5	7.0
Lon	436	22	413	5	0.1	0.0	0.2
Phnong	47,296	23,070	24,226	95	14.3	14.7	13.9
Proav	13,902	6,661	7,241	92	4.2	4.2	4.2
Tumpoon	51,947	25,737	26,211	98	15.7	16.4	15.1
Stieng	1,279	547	732	75	0.4	0.3	0.4
Ro Ong	266	67	199	34	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kraol	7,413	3,621	3,792	95	2.2	2.3	2.2
Raadeat	1,003	418	586	71	0.3	0.3	0.3
Thmoon	763	362	401	90	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mel	1,905	1,280	625	205	0.6	0.8	0.4
Khogn	270	226	44	515	0.1	0.1	0.0
Por	215	117	98	120	0.1	0.1	0.1
Suoy	0	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0
S'ouch	837	638	199	321	0.3	0.4	0.1
Kchrak	731	328	403	81	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mon	174	174	0	-	0.1	0.1	0.0
Kchak	328	49	279	18	0.1	0.0	0.2

2.2.2 Minority Language by Urban and Rural Areas

Table 2.8 shows the minority language distribution by urban and rural areas. It is clear that minority languages are predominantly used in rural area (306,956 persons or 93% of total minority population). Among minority languages, Chaam is predominantly used in both urban and rural areas, 87.4% in urban area versus 41.1% in rural area. The top 5 languages used in rural areas are Chaam, Tumpoon, Phnong, Krueng and Proav, and those in urban area are Chaam, Chaaaray, Mel, Phnong and Raadear.

Total			Urban			Rural		
Mother Tongue	Population	%	Mother Tongue	Population	%	Mother Tongue	Population	%
Total	331,068	100.0	Total	24,112	100.0	Total	306,956	100.0
Chaam	147,236	44.5	Chaam	21,084	87.4	Chaam	126,152	41.1
Tumpoon	51,947	15.7	Chaaaray	886	3.7	Tumpoon	51,947	16.9
Phnong	47,296	14.3	Mel	528	2.2	Phnong	46,869	15.3
Krueng	22,385	6.8	Phnong	427	1.8	Krueng	22,361	7.3
Proav	13,902	4.2	Raadear	339	1.4	Proav	13,835	4.5
Kuoy	13,530	4.1	Kchak	279	1.2	Kuoy	13,530	4.4
Chaaaray	13,326	4.0	Lon	246	1.0	Chaaaray	12,439	4.1
Kraol	7,413	2.2	S'ouch	199	0.8	Kraol	7,413	2.4
Kaaveat	5,618	1.7	Proav	67	0.3	Kaaveat	5,618	1.8
Mel	1,905	0.6	Khogn	32	0.1	Mel	1,377	0.4
Stieng	1,279	0.4	Krueng	24	0.1	Stieng	1,279	0.4
Raadear	1,003	0.3	Suoy	0	0.0	Thmoon	763	0.2
S'ouch	837	0.3	Kaaveat	0	0.0	Kchruk	731	0.2
Thmoon	763	0.2	Klueng	0	0.0	Raadear	665	0.2
Kchruk	731	0.2	Kuoy	0	0.0	S'ouch	638	0.2
Lon	436	0.1	Tumpoon	0	0.0	Ro Ong	266	0.1
Kchak	328	0.1	Stieng	0	0.0	Khogn	237	0.1
Khogn	270	0.1	Ro Ong	0	0.0	Por	215	0.1
Ro Ong	266	0.1	Kraol	0	0.0	Klueng	208	0.1
Por	215	0.1	Thmoon	0	0.0	Lon	190	0.1
Klueng	208	0.1	Por	0	0.0	Mon	174	0.1
Mon	174	0.1	Kchruk	0	0.0	Kchak	49	0.0
Suoy	0	0.0	Mon	0	0.0	Suoy	0	0.0

Note: The table is presented as descending order of population by mother tongue.