

2.3 Household Size

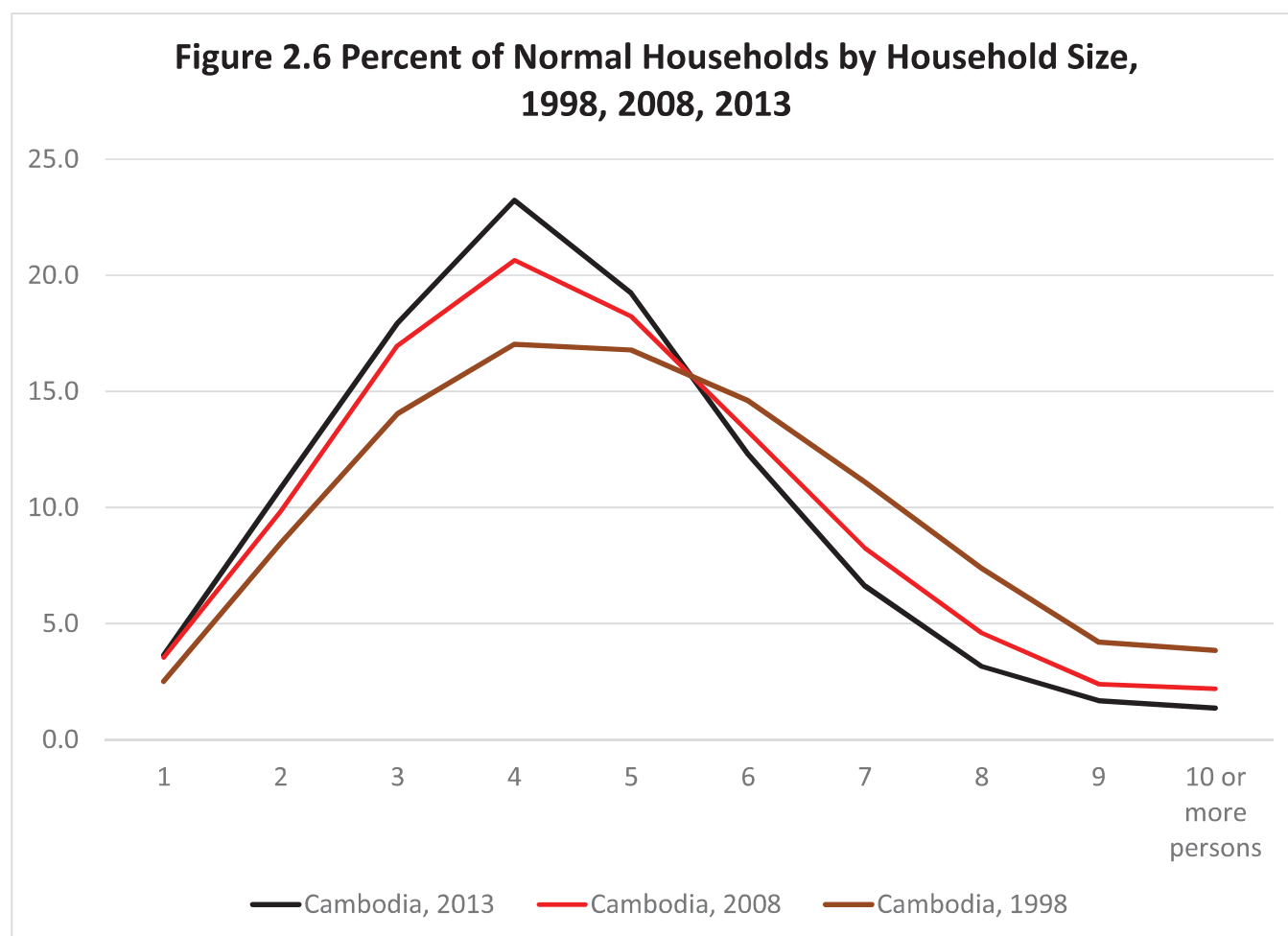
2.3.1 Change of the Household Size

The household size is measured by number of household members per household. Table 2.5 presents the Cambodian household composition by household size. The household size becomes small since 1998. The average number of household size is 4.42 in 2013, whereas it was 4.66 in 2008, and 5.14 in 1998. This decrease is due to the decline in the fertility rate in Cambodia, and the new system in 2004 on the application for the new family book after the wedding of new couples. New couples compulsorily have to do the registration of the act of marriage and the application of new family book separately from their parents'. In case new couples live together with their parents in the same house, however new couples have their own food arrangements, they are taken as different household in the CIPS 2013 same as in 2008 Population Census. This resulted decrease of household size and increase of households number.

Table 2.5 Normal Households by Household Size and Urban/Rural, 1998, 2008, 2013

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Residence	Total	Household Size (Persons)									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 or more
	Number										
2013											
Cambodia	3,163,226	115,125	342,927	567,302	735,069	608,400	388,916	209,425	99,613	53,445	43,003
Urban	657,951	17,957	64,080	99,372	154,529	130,605	88,461	47,856	25,101	12,925	17,065
Rural	2,505,275	97,168	278,847	467,930	580,540	477,796	300,455	161,569	74,513	40,520	25,938
2008											
Cambodia	2,817,637	99,786	277,259	478,393	582,021	513,894	374,376	232,702	129,668	67,591	61,947
Urban	506,579	19,302	48,885	76,048	98,568	89,491	66,682	43,193	26,510	16,236	21,664
Rural	2,311,058	80,484	228,374	402,345	483,453	424,403	307,694	189,509	103,158	51,355	40,283
1998											
Cambodia	2,162,086	54,316	183,491	303,501	368,306	362,977	315,630	240,025	159,745	90,958	83,137
Urban	315,342	8,618	23,987	38,628	50,002	51,348	46,155	35,901	24,699	15,377	20,627
Rural	1,846,744	45,698	159,504	264,873	318,304	311,629	269,475	204,124	135,046	75,581	62,510
2013	Percent										
Cambodia	100.0	3.6	10.8	17.9	23.2	19.2	12.3	6.6	3.1	1.7	1.4
Urban	100.0	2.7	9.7	15.1	23.5	19.9	13.4	7.3	3.8	2.0	2.6
Rural	100.0	3.9	11.1	18.7	23.2	19.1	12.0	6.4	3.0	1.6	1.0
2008											
Cambodia	100.0	3.5	9.8	17.0	20.7	18.2	13.3	8.3	4.6	2.4	2.2
Urban	100.0	3.8	9.7	15.0	19.5	17.7	13.2	8.5	5.2	3.2	4.3
Rural	100.0	3.5	9.9	17.4	20.9	18.4	13.3	8.2	4.5	2.2	1.7
1998											
Cambodia	100.0	2.5	8.5	14.0	17.0	16.8	14.6	11.1	7.4	4.2	3.8
Urban	100.0	2.7	7.6	12.2	15.9	16.3	14.6	11.4	7.8	4.9	6.5
Rural	100.0	2.5	8.6	14.3	17.2	16.9	14.6	11.1	7.3	4.1	3.4
	Annual Growth Rate (%), 1998-2008										
Cambodia	2.65	6.08	4.13	4.55	4.58	3.48	1.71	-0.31	-2.09	-2.97	-2.94
Urban	4.74	8.06	7.12	6.77	6.79	5.56	3.68	1.85	0.71	0.54	0.49
Rural	2.24	5.66	3.59	4.18	4.18	3.09	1.33	-0.74	-2.69	-3.86	-4.39
	Annual Growth Rate (%), 2008-2013										
Cambodia	2.31	2.86	4.25	3.41	4.67	3.38	0.76	-2.11	-5.27	-4.70	-7.30
Urban	5.23	-1.44	5.41	5.35	8.99	7.56	5.65	2.05	-1.09	-4.56	-4.77
Rural	1.61	3.77	3.99	3.02	3.66	2.37	-0.48	-3.19	-6.51	-4.74	-8.80

According to the percent distribution by household size, three or less household member accounts for 32 percent of total households, four or less household member accounts for 56 percent and five or less household member accounts for 75 percent as of 2013. In comparison with the past trend, the three or less household member, four or less and five or less was 30%, 51% and 69% in 2008, respectively, while they were 25%, 42% and 59% in 1998. It may safely be said that small family with three or less or four or less household has been increasing since 1998. The proportion of four-person households is the highest among all distributions by household size in 2013 as well as in both 1998 and 2008. The proportion of “one-person household” is 3.6 percent in 2013, and it has been increasing in comparison with the past trend in 1998 (2.5 percent) and 2008 (3.5 percent) (Figure 2.6, Table 2.5).



There are two types of methods for estimating the average household size based on summary table, these are the crude one and the refined one as described in the definition (10. Terms and Classification related in This Report, Chapter 1). As mentioned above, this survey covers only normal or regular household and not institutional or homeless household. However, total population of CIPS2013 is estimated to include both normal household population and estimates of institutional, homeless etc. population. That’s why the computation of the average normal household size by refined method is better than the crude method. According to Table 2.6, average household size by crude method is always larger than that by refined one irrespective of years.

Table 2.6 Average Normal Household Size by Urban/Rural, 1998, 2008, 2013

	(unit: persons)		
Residence	1998	2008	2013
Average household size (crude)			
Total	5.29	4.68	4.64
Urban	5.75	4.92	4.78
Rural	5.20	4.63	4.60
Average household size (refined)			
Total	5.14	4.66	4.42
Urban	5.39	4.86	4.66
Rural	5.10	4.61	4.36

Note: Average household size is computed as the following method;

1) Average household size in 2008 (crude) = total normal population ÷ number of total normal households

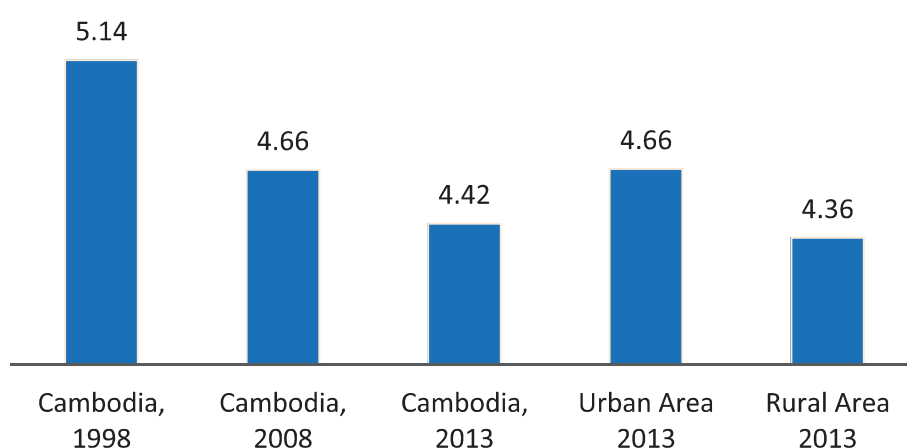
Average household size in 2013 (crude) = total population ÷ number of total normal households

2) Average household size (refined) = $\sum (\text{number of normal households}(i) \times \text{household size}(j)) \div \text{number of total normal households}$

Here the household size j = 1 to 10;

Household size "10 and over" is treated as 10.

Figure 2.7 Average Normal Household Size (Persons) by Refined Method, Urban/Rural, 1998, 2008, 2013



The average size of normal households by both crude and refined methods has been decreasing (Table 2.6, Figure 2.7). The decreasing trend in the size of households combined with a steep increase in the number of household points to a shift from the system of joint and extended family towards nuclear family.

2.3.2 Household Size by Urban/Rural

In urban areas, the average household size by refined method has drastically decreased from 5.39 persons in 1998, 4.86 persons in 2008 to 4.42 in 2013. In rural areas, it has also decreased from 5.10 persons in 1998, 4.61 persons in 2008 to 4.36 persons in 2013. The average household size in urban areas is larger than that in the rural areas (see Table 2.6 and Figure 2.7). The large household size in urban area might be specific to Cambodia due to housing situation and other socioeconomic factors. Generally speaking, the household size in urban area is smaller than that in rural area due to the fertility differentials and socioeconomic circumstances in most Asian countries. For instance, the average household size in urban areas for Malaysia in 2000 is 4.5 persons, compared with 4.8 persons in rural areas (Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2000).

According to the percent distribution of household size in urban area, three or less household member accounts for 28 percent of total urban households, four or less accounts for 51 percent and five or less accounts for 71 percent as of 2013. Whereas, three or less household member accounts for 34 percent of total rural households, four or less accounts for 57 percent and five or less accounts for 76 percent in rural area. It is found that the proportion of three or less household member in urban area is much lower than that in rural area in 2013 as well as in 2008 and 1998 (Table 2.5).

The proportion of four-person households is the highest among all distributions by household size in urban area as well as in rural area in 2013. However, the proportion of “one-person household” in urban area (2.7 percent) is lower than that in rural area (3.9 percent). In comparison with the past results, the proportion of “one-person household” in urban area increased from 2.7 percent in 1998 to 3.8 percent in 2008, but it dropped 1.1 point in 2013. On the other hand, the proportion of “one-person household” in rural area has been increasing since 1998. Generally, small family norm is popular in urban area rather than in rural area, however Cambodia does not appear like other countries. It may be due to not only housing situation but also various socioeconomic factors.

2.3.3 Change of Household Size by Province

The average household size has decreased in all the provinces during 2008-2013. Ratanak Kiri has the largest average household size of 4.92 persons in 2013, but it decreased against 5.33 persons in 2008. Svay Rieng has the smallest average household size of 3.97 in 2013 against 4.17 persons in 2008. The average household size in Phnom Penh which has the third largest size among provinces in 2013, also decreased from 5.51 persons in 1998, 4.94 persons in 2008 to 4.78 persons in 2013 (see Table 2.7 and Figure 2.8).

Map 2 shows the average household size by province. It is known that three provinces Preah Vihear, Ratanak Kiri and Mondul Kiri located near the national boundary, and Phnom Penh have large household size around 5 persons. On the other hand, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng and Kampot located in south of Cambodia have small household size.

Table 2.7 Average Normal Household Size by Urban/Rural, Province, 1998, 2008, 2013

							(unit: persons)						
Urban/Rural, Province	2013 crude	2013 refined	2008	1998	Change 2008- 2013R	Change 1998- 2013R	Urban/Rural, Province	2013 crude	2013 refined	2008	1998	Change 2008- 2013R	Change 1998- 2013R
Cambodia	4.64	4.42	4.66	5.14	-0.24	-0.72	Mondul Kiri	4.77	4.77	4.84	5.53	-0.07	-0.76
Urban	4.78	4.66	4.86	5.39	-0.20	-0.73	Phnom Penh	4.79	4.78	4.94	5.51	-0.16	-0.73
Rural	4.60	4.36	4.61	5.10	-0.25	-0.74	Preah Vihear	4.88	4.82	5.09	5.47	-0.27	-0.65
Province							Prey Veng	4.52	4.04	4.15	4.83	-0.11	-0.79
Banteay Meanchey	4.52	4.30	4.60	5.11	-0.30	-0.80	Pursat	4.52	4.34	4.71	5.21	-0.37	-0.87
Battambang	4.87	4.67	4.80	5.23	-0.13	-0.56	Ratanak Kiri	5.08	4.92	5.33	5.52	-0.41	-0.61
Kampong Cham	4.35	4.27	4.52	5.09	-0.25	-0.82	Siem Reap	4.87	4.64	4.90	5.37	-0.26	-0.73
Kampong Chhnang	4.70	4.48	4.63	4.99	-0.15	-0.51	Preah Sihanouk	4.82	4.74	4.81	5.40	-0.07	-0.66
Kampong Speu	4.78	4.54	4.75	5.11	-0.21	-0.57	Stung Treng	4.84	4.72	5.17	5.58	-0.45	-0.87
Kampong Thom	4.62	4.37	4.66	5.27	-0.29	-0.90	Svay Rieng	4.42	3.97	4.17	4.84	-0.19	-0.86
Kampot	4.49	4.09	4.48	4.99	-0.39	-0.90	Takeo	4.61	4.12	4.56	5.06	-0.44	-0.94
Kandal	4.68	4.56	4.84	5.15	-0.28	-0.59	Otdar Meanchey	4.60	4.38	4.73	5.27	-0.36	-0.89
Koh Kong	4.77	4.68	4.78	5.10	-0.10	-0.42	Kep	4.62	4.49	4.90	5.28	-0.41	-0.78
Kratie	4.71	4.57	4.82	5.27	-0.25	-0.70	Pailin	4.54	4.44	4.71	5.14	-0.27	-0.69

Note: The method of average normal household size is shown in Table 2.6. 2013R means the data for 2013 in refined method.

Figure 2.8 Average Household Size by Province, 2013