

3.1.5 Headship Rates by Province

It is not possible to expect the same pattern at provincial level as the national level, since in each province, the male and female headship rates are affected by local custom of the region. It is no question that the male headship rates are higher than the female headship rates in all provinces. The insight analysis of each province provides more information (see Annex Table 14).

Table 3.5 shows the provinces which have the highest and lowest headship rates by sex in 1998 and 2008. The both rates in 2008 are higher than those in 1998 except males at the highest level and females at the lowest level.

Table 3.5 Headship Rates by Sex in the Selected Pvinces, 1998 and 2008 (Normal Household)

Year	2008		1998	
Sex	Province	Headship Rate(%)	Province	Headship Rate(%)
The Highest Headship Rate				
Both Sexes	Prey Veng	30.5	Svay Rieng	28.8
Males	Kratie	46.1	Ratanak Kiri	46.2
Females	Prey Veng	20.1	Pailin	18.1
The Lowest Headship Rate(%)				
Both Sexes	Phnom Penh	21.9	Phnom Penh	21.1
Males	Phnom Penh	33.7	Pailin	30.1
Females	Ratanak Kiri	6.0	Ratanak Kiri	6.2

3.2 SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF NORMAL HOUSEHOLD HEADS

3.2.1 Marital Status of Normal Household Heads

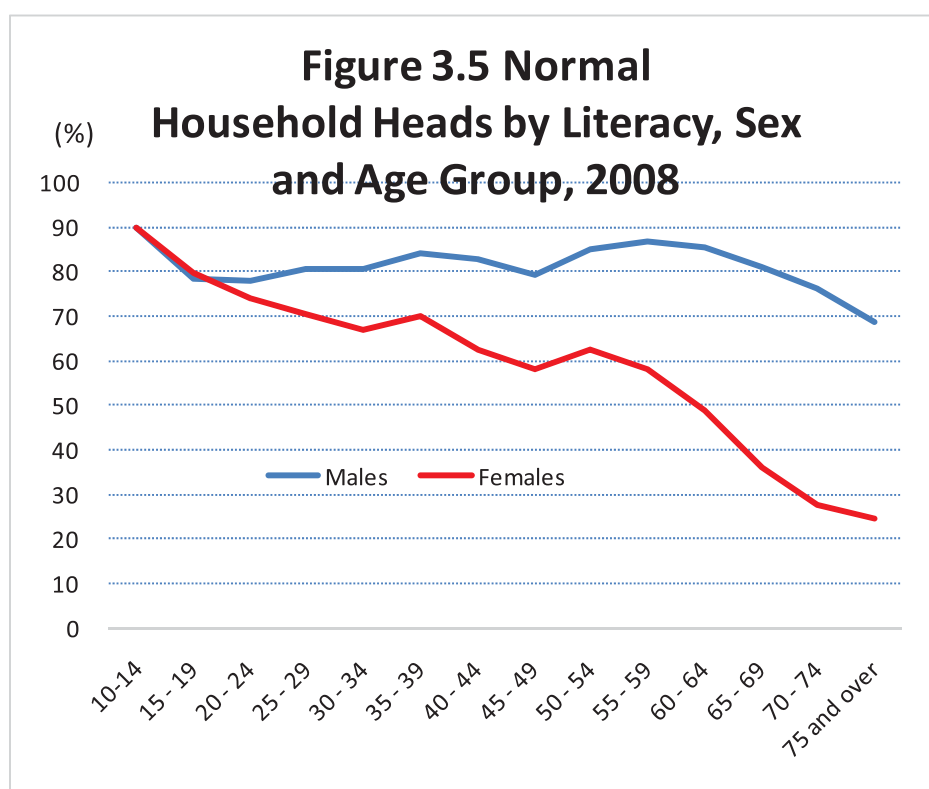
In Cambodian society the majority of reproduction takes place only in wedlock. Marriage is an important fertility indicator for the most Cambodian women. The marital status distribution of household heads by sex by age group has been shown by Annex Table 15. The proportion of “Never married” is 1.7 percent and 7.8 percent for male and female heads, respectively. The proportion of “Married” for male heads is 96.2 percent, and this is higher than the corresponding proportion of females (48.9 percent).

Figure 3.4 shows the contrasting characteristics of marital status of household heads by sex by age group. The proportion of never-married is the highest at ages 10-14 and 15-19 for male and female household-heads. The proportion of married has been going up at ages 20 and over for male and female household heads. In contrast, the proportion of divorced and separated for female heads are gradually increasing at ages 25-29 and over, thereafter the proportion of widowed household heads has been also increasing at age of 40-44 and over. On the contrary, the proportions of divorced and separated male heads are very low, and the proportion of widowed male heads shows increase at the age of 65-69 and over.

3.2.2 Literacy Status of Normal Household Heads

The level of literacy of household heads is regarded as one of the indicators of social development. The general literacy rate of household heads is measured by the number of literate household heads who aged 10 and over, divided by the total normal heads of households. In 2008, the literacy rate was 75.8 percent for both sexes, 81.8 percent for male heads, 58.4 percent for female heads (see Annex Table 16).

The contrasting feature of literacy for household heads by sex was shown in Figure 3.5. Whereas the literacy rate for male household heads was 80 percent at ages 10-14 to 70-74, that for female household heads has dropped as age increases.



3.2.3 Normal Household Heads by Educational Attainment

Table 3.6 shows the number and the percentage of normal household heads by educational attainment by sex. The “primary not completed” had the highest percentage in both sexes. Barring the percentage of “none + not stated”, the “primary” occupies the second position followed by “lower secondary” (14.5 percent) and that of “secondary and above” (2.6 percent) in both sexes. The household heads with educational attainment of “none + not stated” include persons of both illiterate and literate with no educational attainment. Male heads had higher level of educational attainment than female heads. It is noted that female heads were most likely to fall in the category of “none + not stated.”

Table 3.6 Normal Household Heads by Educational Attainment and Sex, 2008

Educational Attainment	Number of Household Heads by Educational Attainment			Percentage of Household Heads by Educational Attainment		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
Total	2,685,479	1,976,037	709,442	100.0	100.0	100.0
None + Not Stated	692,930	384,931	307,999	25.8	19.5	43.4
Primary Not Completed	949,811	703,961	245,850	35.4	35.6	34.7
Primary	581,910	490,146	91,764	21.7	24.8	12.9
Lower Secondary	389,456	333,637	55,819	14.5	16.9	7.9
Secondary & above	69,002	61,324	7,678	2.6	3.1	1.1
Other	2,370	2,038	332	0.1	0.1	0.0

Annex Table 17 presents the household heads' level of educational attainment, by sex by province. Phnom Penh had the lowest proportion (21.6 percent) in "primary not completed", followed by Ratanak Kiri, Preah Sihanouk and Takeo. Preah Vihear had the highest (41.7 percent) in "primary not completed" preceded by Kampong Cham, Prey Veng and Kratie. Phnom Penh, presented lower proportion of male heads whose educational attainment is "primary not completed" than female heads.

The proportion of household heads of both sexes with the level of educational attainment of "primary completed" recorded the highest (27.2 percent) in Takeo, the lowest (12.5 percent) in Ratanak Kiri province. It is observed that the male household heads have higher proportion of "primary completed" than female household heads.

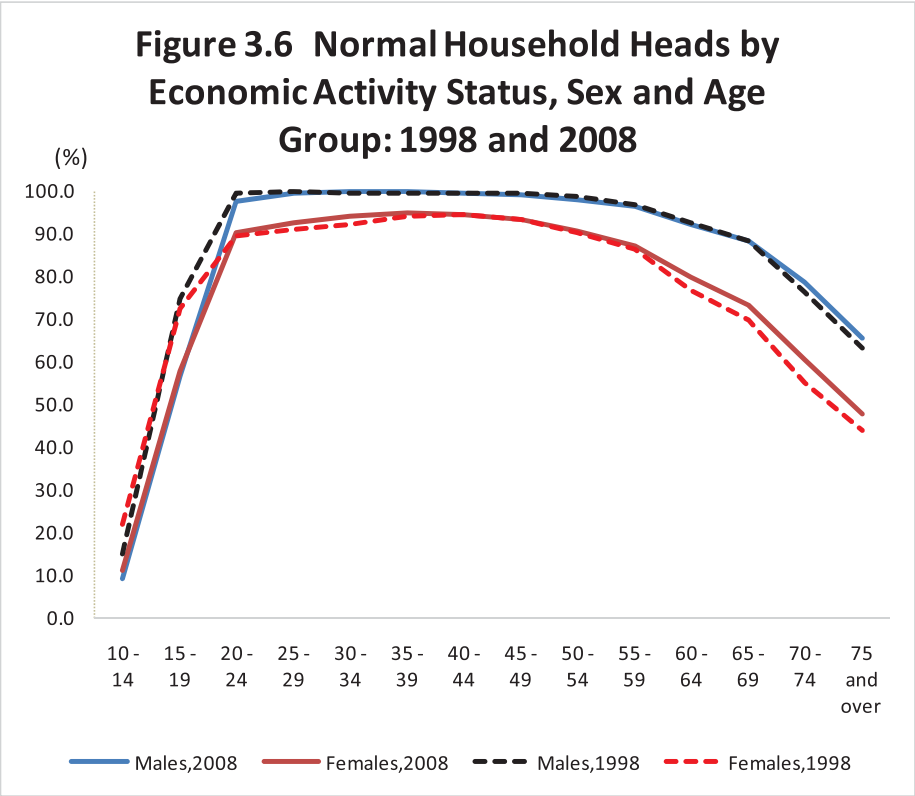
The proportion of household heads of both sexes who attained "lower secondary" presented the lowest (7.8 percent) in Ratanak Kiri province. Ratanak Kiri was preceded by three provinces: Preah Vihear with 8.4 percent, Kampong Thom with 9.0 percent and Otdar Meanchey with 9.9 percent. The highest rate was observed in Phnom Penh (31.3 percent). The municipality of Phnom Penh was followed by three provinces: Preah Sihanouk (18.4 percent), Kandal (17.2 percent) and Takeo (16.7 percent).

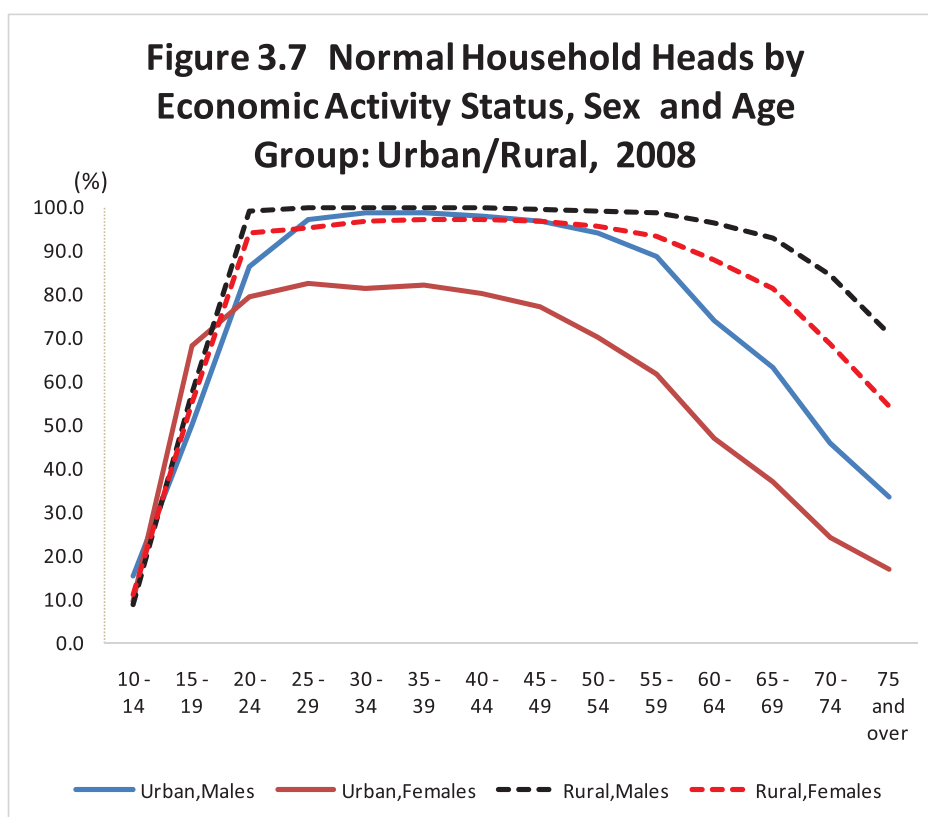
The "secondary and above" includes secondary, technical- pre-secondary, technical-post secondary, undergraduate, graduate/post-graduate. The proportion of household heads of both sexes with the educational attainment level of "secondary and above" recorded the lowest (0.9 percent) in Prey Veng province. Prey Veng was preceded by three provinces: Kampong Cham (1.0 percent), Otdar Meanchey(1.0 percent) and Kampong Speu(1.1 percent). The highest was observed in Phnom Penh(12.4 percent). The municipality of Phnom Penh was followed by three provinces: Preah Sihanouk (4.2 percent), Kandal (2.4 percent) and Kep, Koh Kong and Kampot with the same 2.2 percent. In all provinces, male household heads have higher proportion of attaining the level for "secondary and above" than female ones do.

3.2.4 Normal Household Heads by Economic Activity Status

Data on the economic activity status of household heads provides one of important socioeconomic aspects of households. Figure 3.6 and Annex Table 18 provide the proportion of usually active heads of households aged 10 and above by sex and age group, 1998 and 2008. In 2008, the proportion of

usually active male household heads was lower than that of female household heads at the age groups of 10-14 and 15-19, since usually active male heads were engaged in economic activity later than their female cohort did. At the ages of 20 and over, the proportions of usually active male household heads were higher than usually active female household heads. In urban areas, male household heads at the two lower age groups of 10-14 and 15-19 may be caused by more tendency to enter slowly in economic activity than those in rural areas in 2008. The former might be still in the school or educational institutions. Starting at the ages 20-24, the proportions of usually active male household heads become higher than their female cohort in each age group. The proportions of usually active male household heads in urban areas are lower than those in rural areas, presumably due to the higher participation of males in farm labour in rural areas and higher proportion of school attendance in urban areas. The same phenomena are noticed for usually active female household heads in urban and rural areas. The proportions of usually active female heads in urban areas are lower than those in rural areas (see Figure 3.7).





3.2.5 Household Heads by Occupation

Table 3.7 provides the number and the proportion of household heads by major group of occupation by sex. In 2008, 69.1 percent of male household heads are working as “skilled agricultural and fishery workers”, 6.6 percent as “service workers and shop and market sales workers”, 4.5 percent as “elementary occupations,” 4.1 percent as “craft and related workers.” It is to be noted that less than six percent of male household heads are working as “managers, professionals and technicians.”

In 2008, 65.9 percent of female household heads are working as “skilled agricultural and fishery workers,” 9.9 percent as “service workers and shop and market sales workers,” 2.8 percent as “elementary occupations,” 3.6 percent as “craft and related workers.” It is to be noted that less than three percent of female household heads are working as “managers, professionals and technicians.” Compared to male heads and female heads are engaged more in services and other related works, and less worked as “managers, professionals and technicians.”