

Figure 2.2a Percentage Never Married in each Age Group among Males Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998

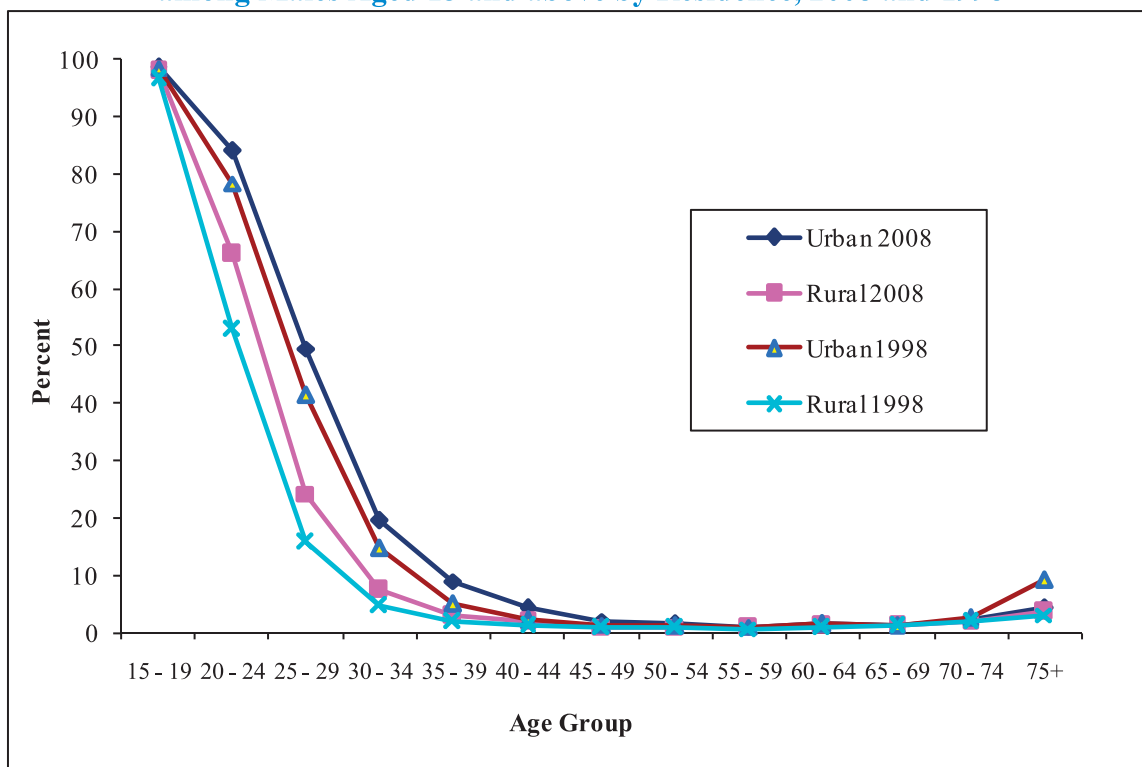
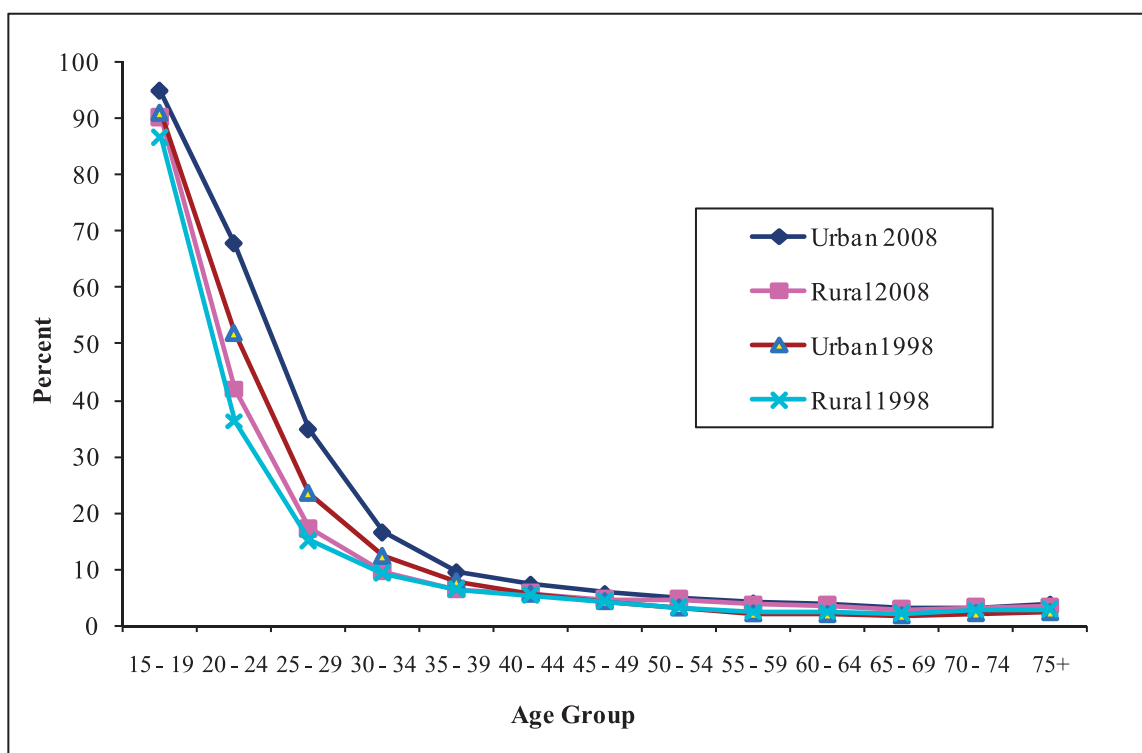


Figure 2.2b Percentage Never Married in each Age Group among Females Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998



In the higher age groups, males marry much younger women either for the first time or as remarriage once they had lost their spouses or had got divorced or separated. Such a tendency is not prevalent among older women.

2.4.2 Persons Currently Married

The age group 30-34 marks the great divide as the proportion married is higher for females than males in each age group below the age of 30 and the opposite trend is observed in each age group above the age of 34. In the age group 30-34 which is the turning point, the difference between the proportion of males and females is at its minimum (5.2 percentage points).

After this age group more males than females are married and the gap between the proportions becomes wider and wider. At the age group 30-34 about 88 percent of the males are married and by the age group 50-54 the proportion rises to about 96 percent. In the case of females, however the highest proportion of the currently married is observed in the age group 35-39 (85.4 percent). A similar pattern existed in 1998 also.

Figure 2.3a Percentage Married in each Age Group among Males Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998

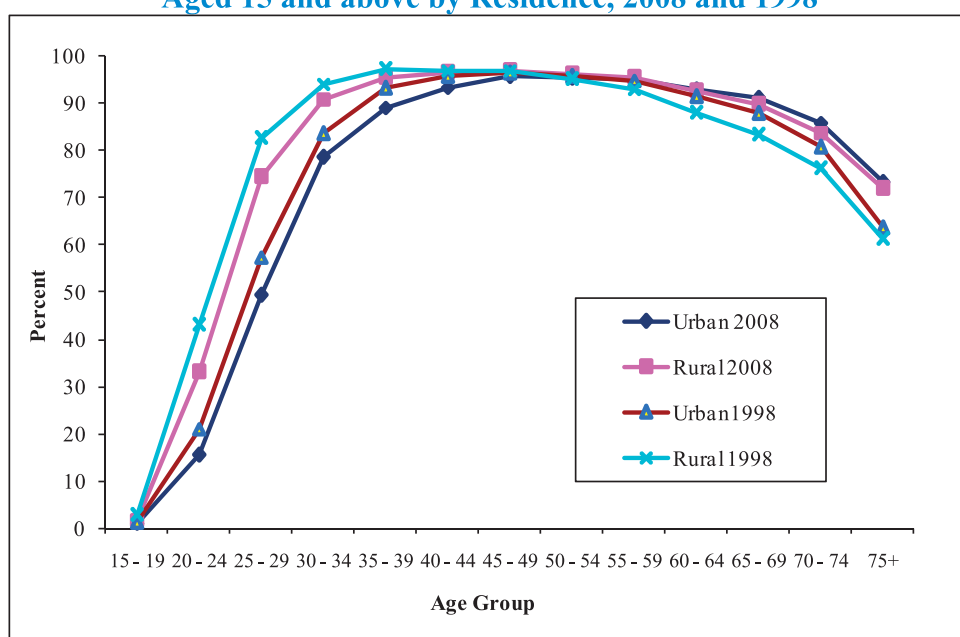
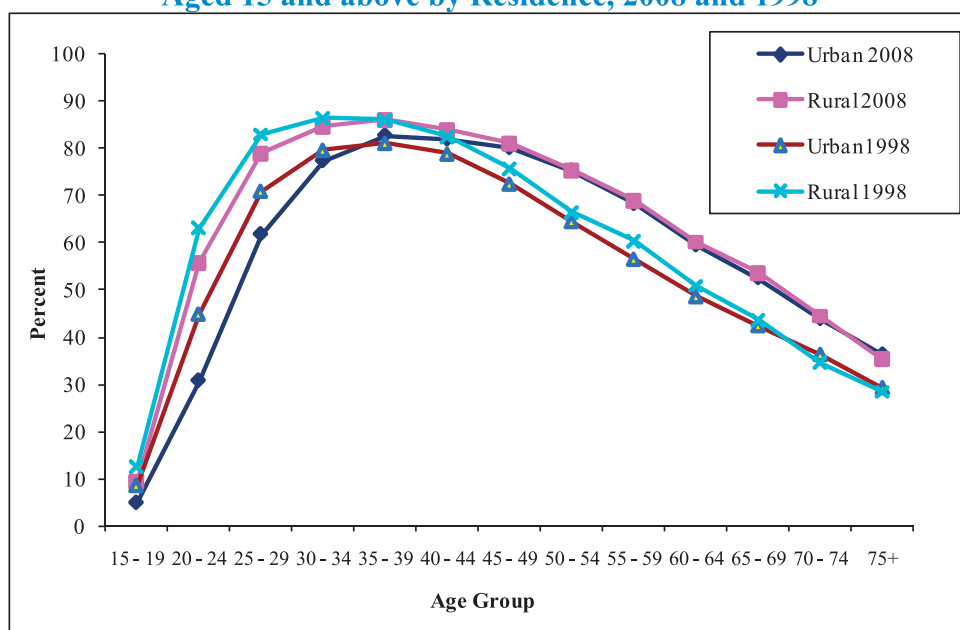


Figure 2.3b Percentage Married in each Age Group among Females Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998



2.4.3 Persons Widowed

As expected the proportions in Col. 5 of Table 2.3 relating to widowed persons increase with age due to mortality. Among the adult population (age 15+), the proportion of widows is more than six times that of widowers. In 1998 also a similar situation prevailed with proportions of widowers and widows at 1.6percent and 10.8 percent respectively. The difference in the proportion of widowers and widows has decreased from about 9.2 in 1998 to about 7 percentage points in 2008. The proportion of widowed is the highest in the age group 75+ both in respect of males and females. In all the age groups the proportion of widows is higher with its rise being faster compared to that of widowers. In the age group 50-54 for example the number of widows reaches 42,738 as against 3,650 widowers. The high proportion of widowhood among women is due to three factors. Firstly, in conformity with the Asian culture, wives are generally younger than their husbands. Secondly, the expectation of life is higher for women than men. Thirdly, men tend to remarry at a proportion very much higher than women.

Figure 2.4a Percentage Widowed in each Age Group among Males Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998

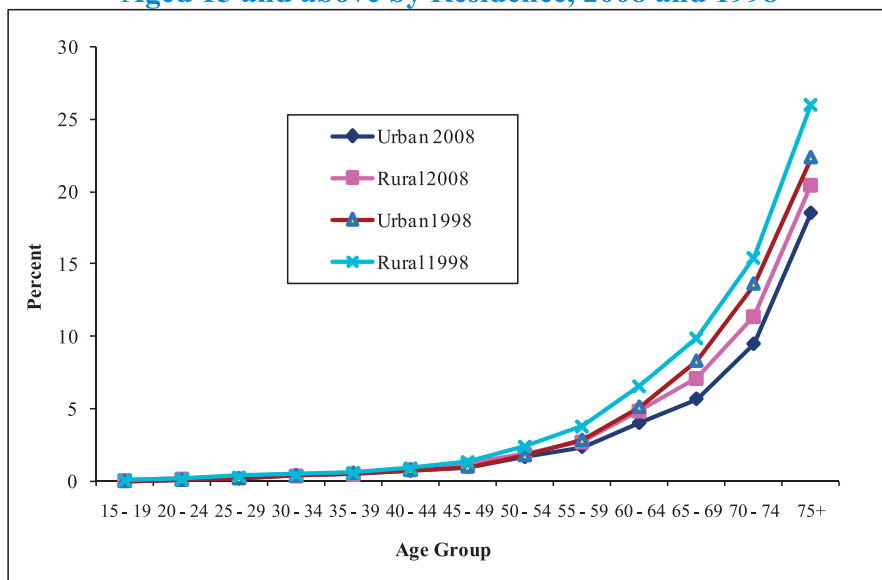
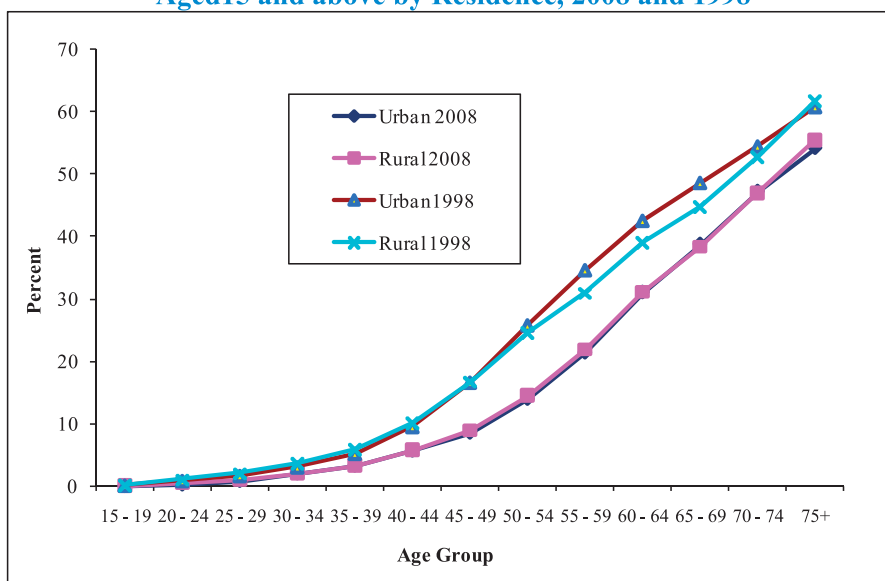


Figure 2.4b Percentage Widowed in each Age Group among Females Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998



2.4.4 Persons Divorced/ Separated

Dissolution of marriage union by divorce or separation is generally viewed as a consequence of economic development and modernisation. In Cambodia 2 percent and 0.1 percent of adults are divorced and separated respectively (Table 2.3). The corresponding proportions in 1998 were 2.4 percent and 0.4percent. For the purpose of this analysis the two categories are clubbed together since the category "Separated" shows a negligible percentage.

Figure 2.5a Percentage Divorced/ Separated in each Age Group among Males Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998

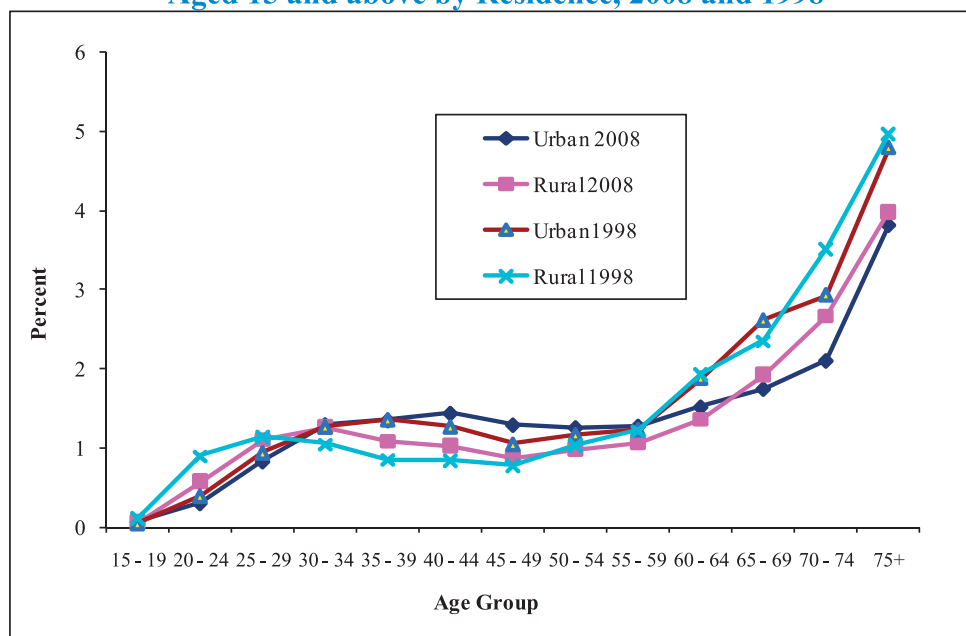
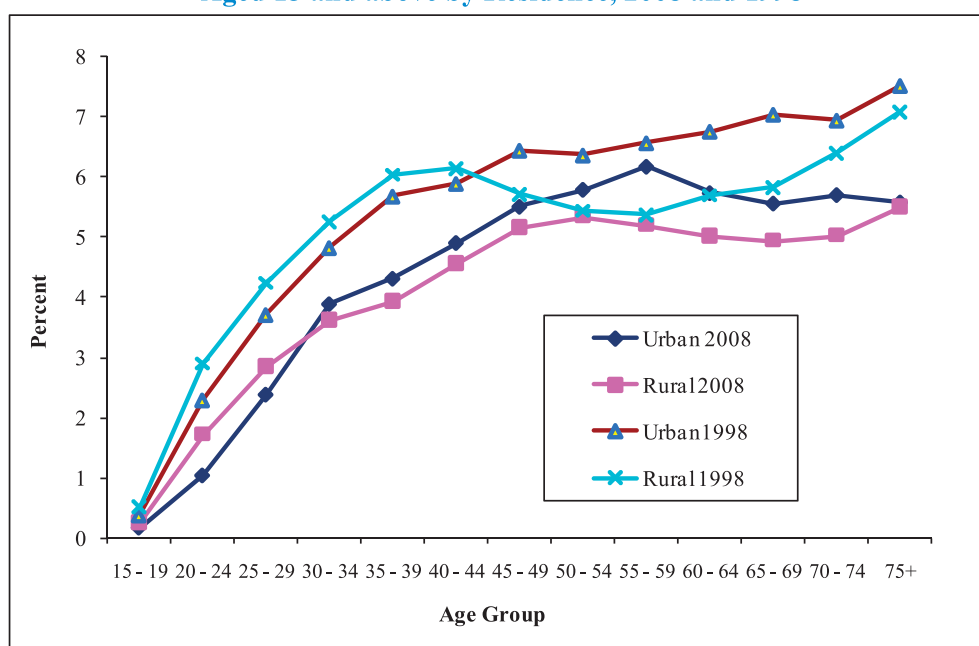


Figure 2.5b Percentage Divorced/ Separated in each Age Group among Females Aged 15 and above by Residence, 2008 and 1998



The proportion of divorced/ separated among men aged 15 and above is about 1 percent as against 3.3 percent among women of that age (Table2.3). The proportion of divorced/ separated among males which is hovering around 1 percent up to the age of 60, increases thereafter and reaches 4percent at the age of 75+. In the case of females, on the other hand, the proportion of divorced/ separated gradually increases from the age of 20 and peaks at the age of 55-59. In 1998 the proportion of divorced/ separated among women was in the order of 6 percent at ages 40 to 69 whereas in 2008 the corresponding proportion is 5 percent (as computed from Annex Table 1, and Table A2 of the 1998 Census). Compared to males, females have a higher proportion of divorced/ separated in every age group in 2008. It is five times the proportion of divorced/separated males in each of the age groups 45-49, 50-54 and 55-59.

The higher remarriage rate among males reduces the proportion of divorced/ separated among them. The scenario of divorced/ separated in Cambodia is typical of a developing country whose people are influenced very much by religion and culture.

2.4.5 Marital Status at Provincial Level

The proportion in each marital status category for each sex in respect of every province could be compared to highlight differentials if any in the marital status pattern (see Figures 2.6a to 2.9b). It is observed that the overall marital situation at the national level is reflected in each province albeit some variations in the proportions. The percentages in the never married category among males are higher than the corresponding proportions among females in all the provinces. In 15 out of 24 provinces the proportion of married among males is higher than that of females. In each of the categories widowed, divorced and separated the proportion of females is much higher than males in all the provinces. This scenario is not very different from what existed in 1998.

Figure 2.6a Percentage Never Married among Males Aged 15 and over by Province

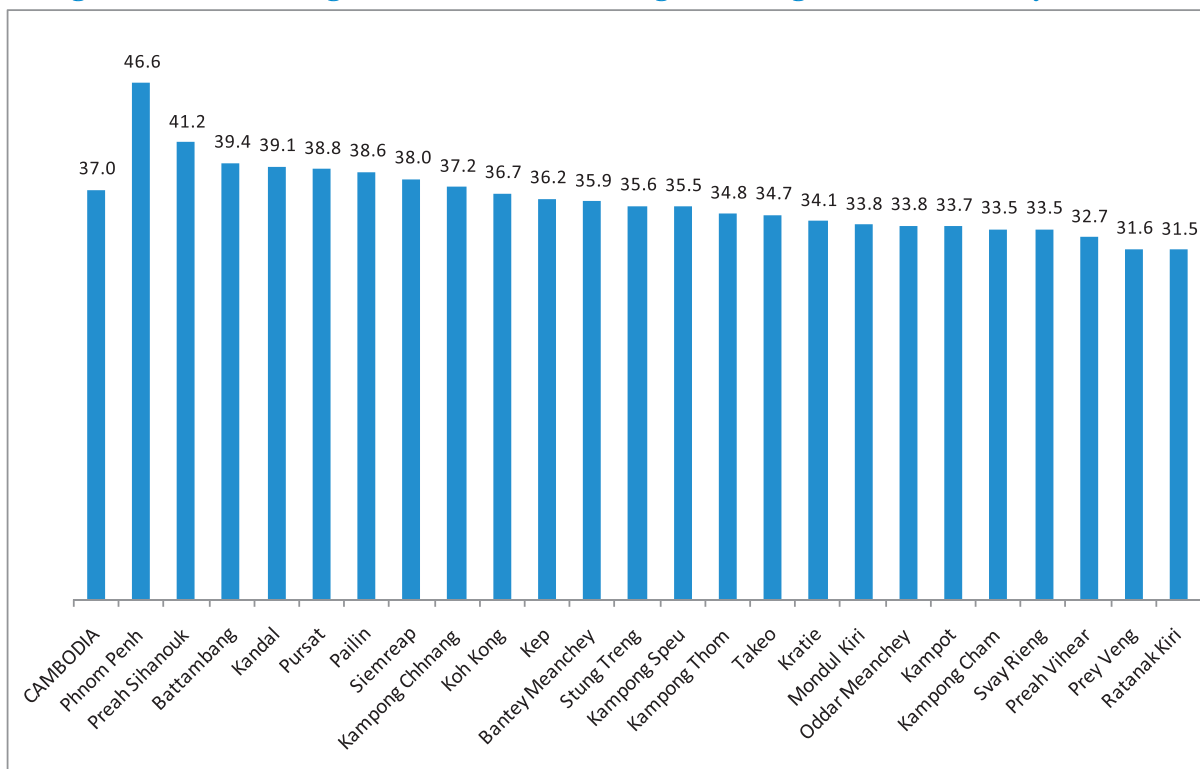


Figure 2.6b Percentage Never Married among Females Aged 15 and over by Province

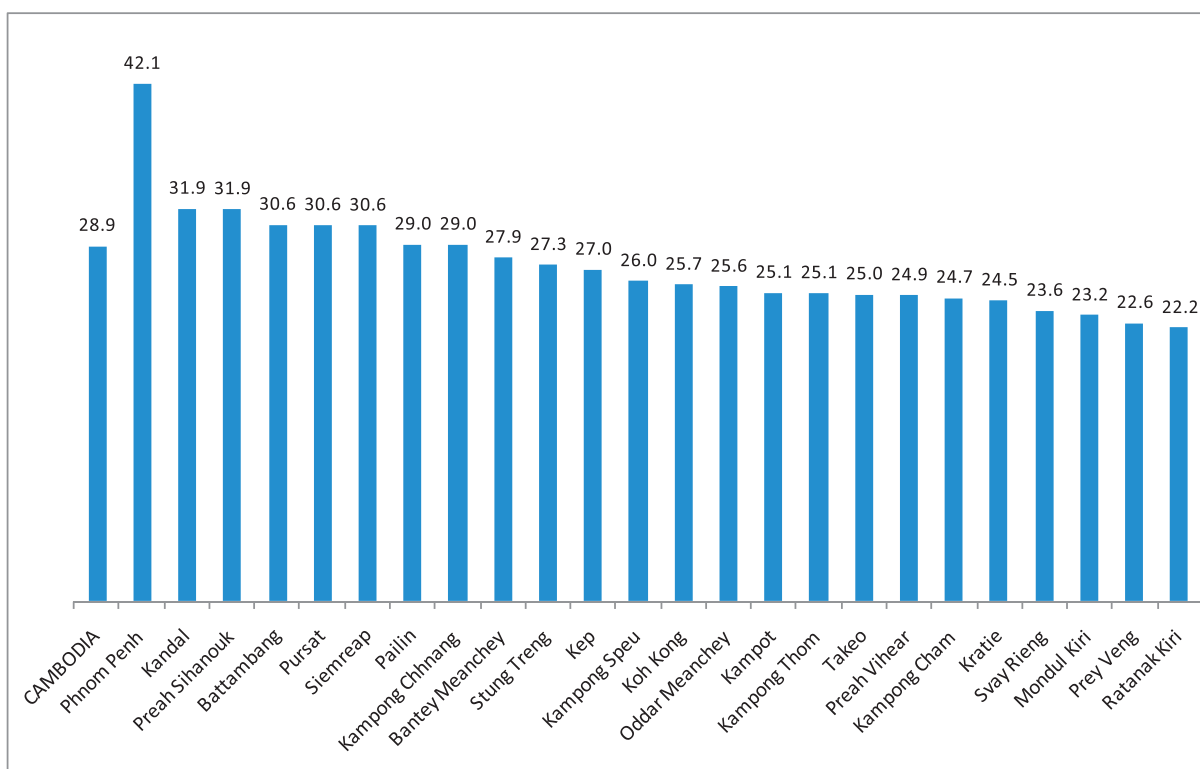


Figure 2.7a Percentage Married among Males Aged 15 and over by Province

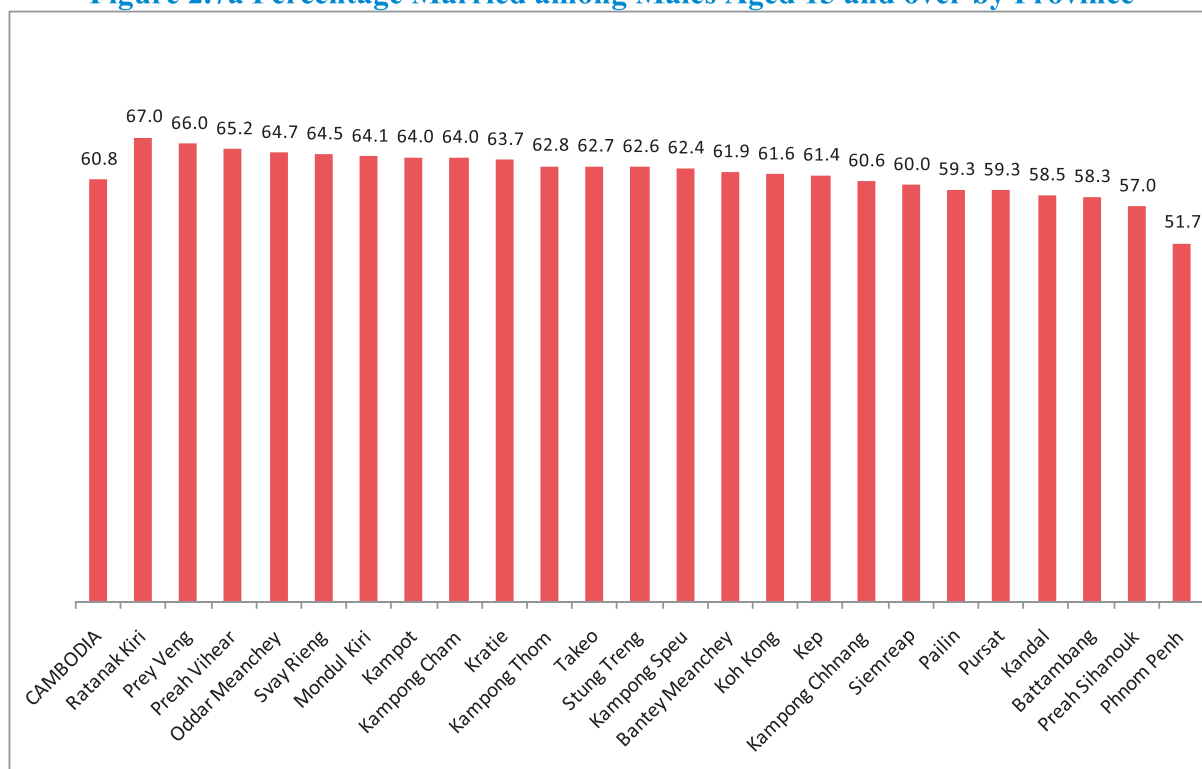
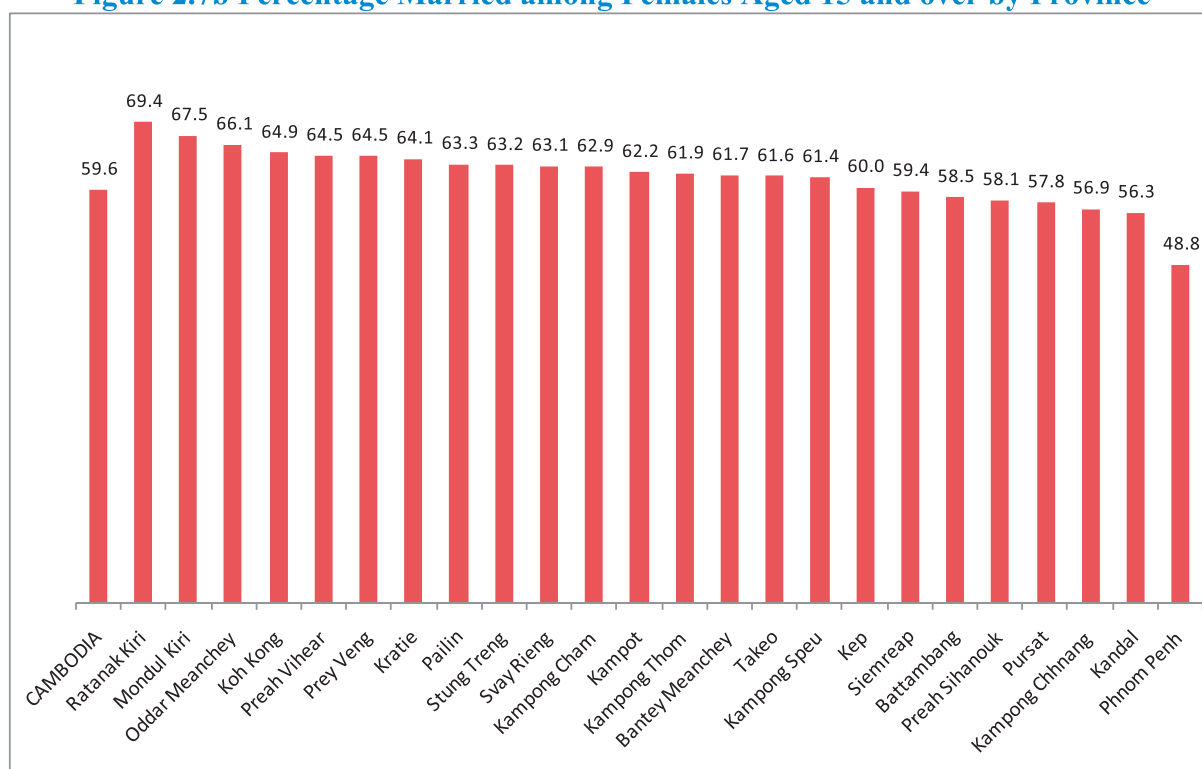


Figure 2.7b Percentage Married among Females Aged 15 and over by Province



The highest proportions of never married males and females are observed in Phnom Penh Municipality. The lowest proportions of this category are seen in the relatively backward provinces of Mondul Kiri and Ratnak Kiri.

The provincial distributions re-confirm the following conclusions drawn already: (i) higher proportions of women than men do not re marry once they have lost their husbands (ii) men have better chances of remarrying than women and (iii) mortality is higher among men than women.