

Figure 2.8a Percentage Widowed among Males Aged 15 and over by Province

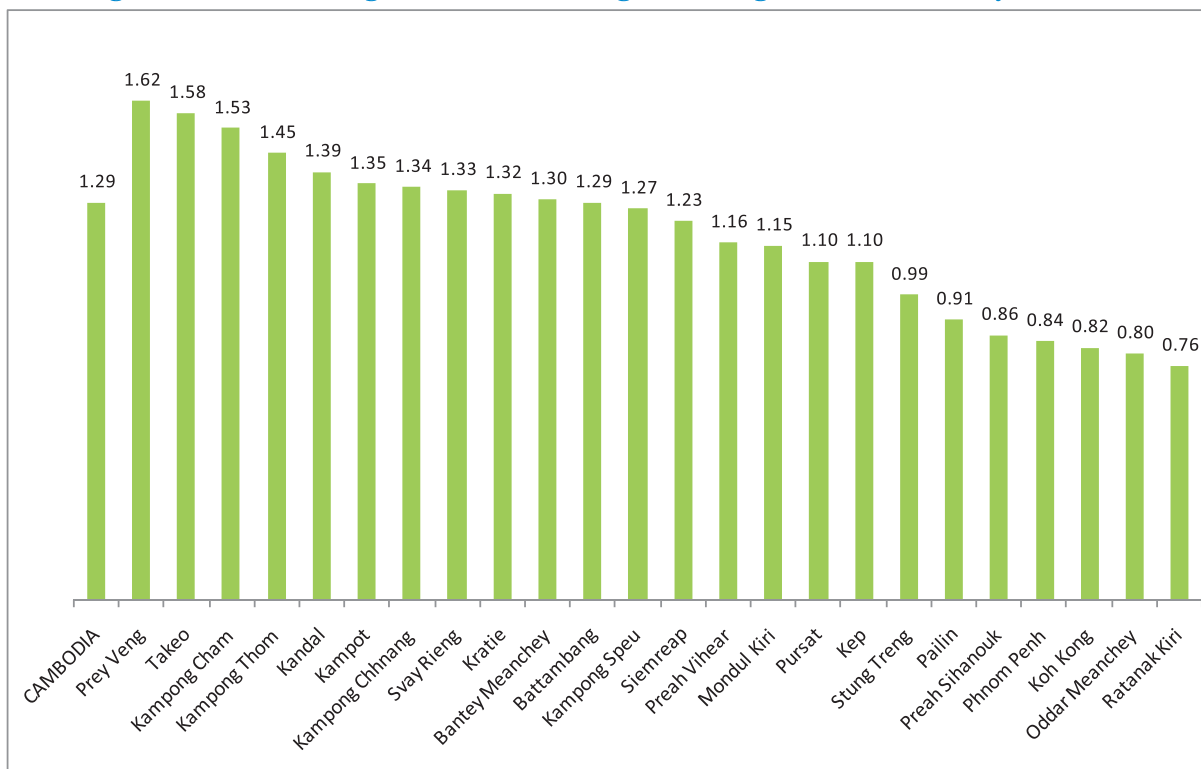


Figure 2.8b Percentage Widowed among Females Aged 15 and over by Province

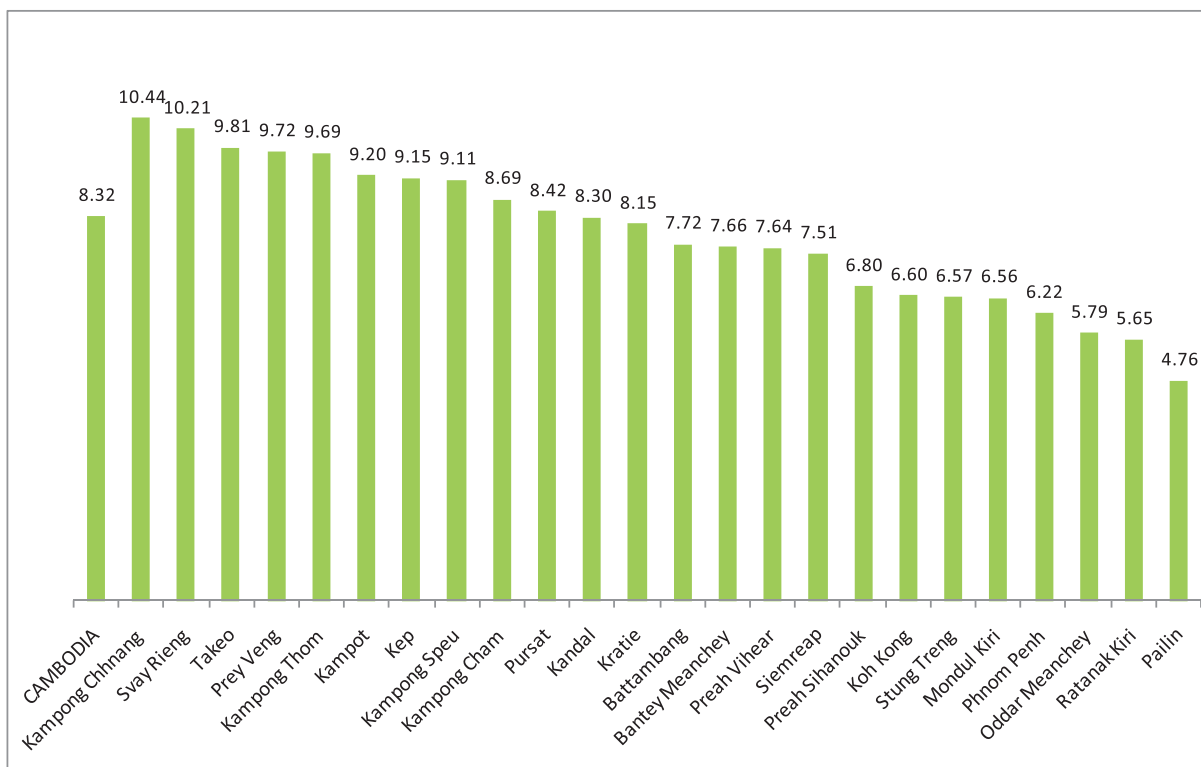


Figure 2.9a Percentage Divorced/ Separated among Males Aged 15 and over by Province

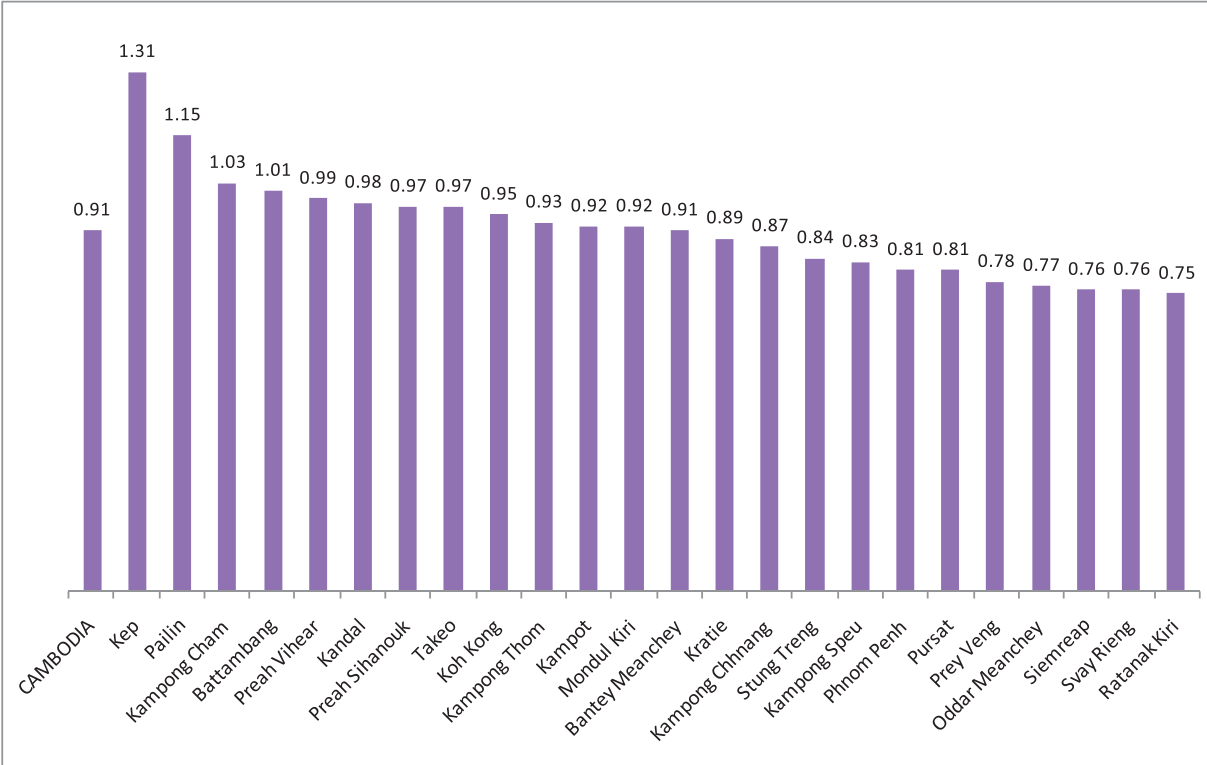
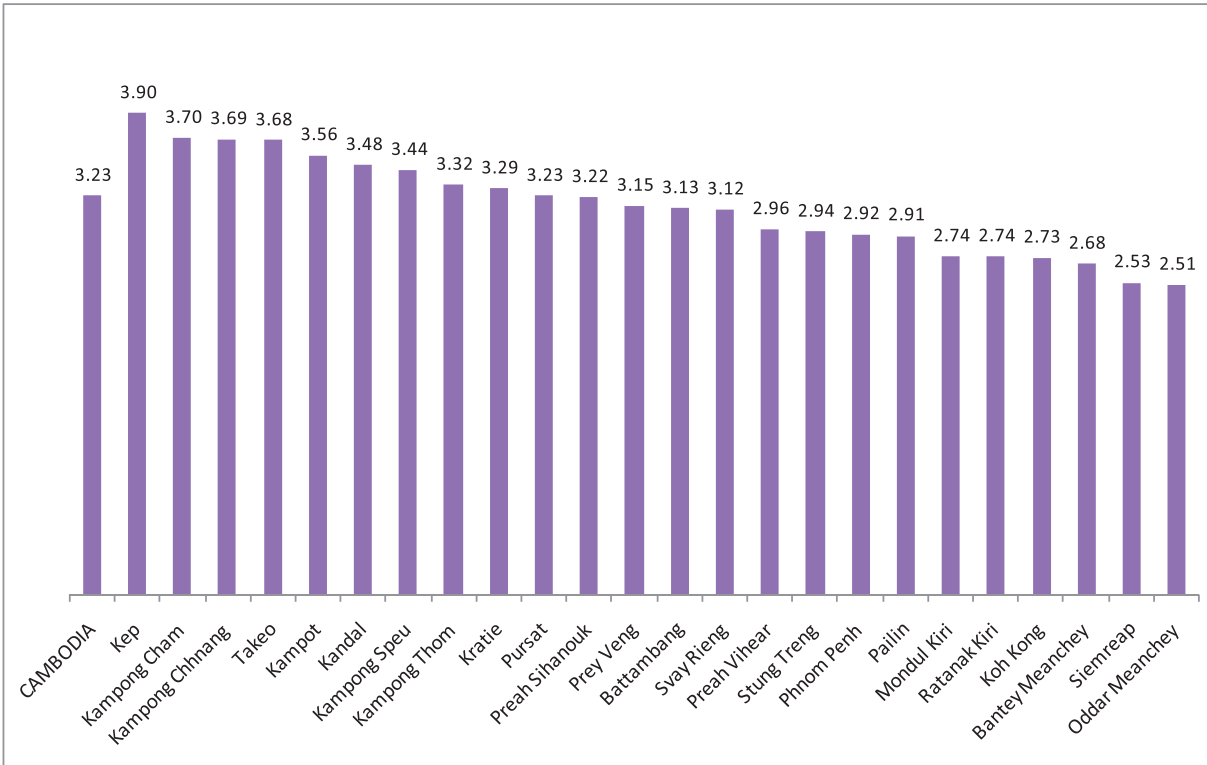


Figure 2.9b Percentage Divorced/ Separated among Females Aged 15 and over by Province



2.5 Sex Ratio by Marital Status

Table 2.4 Sex-Ratio of Population by Marital Status and Residence

Cambodia/ Residence	Sex Ratio						
	Total Population	Population aged 15 years and above					
		Total	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Total	94.7	89.76	115.1	91.6	13.9	24.5	36.0
Urban	92.4	88.58	102.6	91.8	12.4	24.9	41.9
Rural	95.3	90.09	120.3	91.5	14.3	24.3	34.5

Table 2.4 gives the sex-ratio of the population aged 15 years and above by marital status. It is observed that among the currently married persons the number of females exceeds the number of males in both urban and rural areas. In 2008 the number of currently married females is 2,790,852 as against 2,555,915 males (Table 2.1). In a population which is mainly monogamous and where the effect of migration is not significant, the number of currently married males should be the same as the number of married females. The reasons for the deviation observed in this regard may be: (i) a large number of married males who had out-migrated had not returned to their place of residence at the time of the census and (ii) more women than men who were separated might have reported at the census as married. This type of situation existed in 1998 also.

2.6 Marriage Squeeze

The CDHS 2005 (reference NIS 2005) has found that “only 19 percent of ever married women chose their husband (chose alone, or the respondent and her husband chose each other jointly). In addition, 29 percent of women chose their husband jointly with someone else. The remaining majority of women (52 percent) did not participate at all in the choice of their husband”. However, the trend of girls choosing their own partners is gaining ground especially in the urban areas. There is an average difference of 2.3 years in the ages at marriage of males (25.6 years) and females (23.3 years) based on SMAM.

Taking this in to account, the number of males in the population who are 3 years older than females per hundred females at ages 18, 19, 20 and 21 has been calculated for the year 2008 as 71, 99, 82 and 92 respectively. Overall, for 100 females in the age group 18-21, the number of males who are 3 years older in 2008 was around 85. There is, therefore, a possibility of a deficit of available marriage partners or a marriage squeeze for women at these ages. In 1998, such a marriage squeeze was noticed for women at ages 16-20 when the average difference in the ages of spouses was 1.7 years.

Of late some local women marry foreign husbands. Though no data on such marriages are available it may be said that they are comparatively smaller in number. The grooms in such cases are mostly from the countries of the region (e.g. South Korea, Taiwan)

Though not immediately, in course of time, one more dimension may be added to the marriage squeeze at the early ages with progress of education and employment among women. More than

shortage of required number of males, it may be shortage of equally or better educated men or shortage of better employed men. In cities where sex ratios in the younger age groups are lowered due to predominant female migration this problem is likely to be more acute.