

Chapter 4

Sex Composition, Age Distribution and Marital Status

4.1 Sex Composition

The sex ratio of the disabled population at the national level is 129.0 as against 94.7 among the general population indicating a higher proportion of males among the disabled population in the country. The urban and rural sex ratios of the disabled population are 125.7 and 129.6 respectively. The sex ratio of the disabled population at province level varies over a wide range from 105.8 in Kampong Cham and Prey Veng to 315.6 in Pailin.

**Table 4.1 Sex Ratio by Residence and Broad Age Group of Persons with Disability,
Cambodia, 2008**

Age Group	Sex Ratio		
	Total	Urban	Rural
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Total	129	125.7	129.6
0 - 14	129.2	123.4	130
15 - 64	141.7	136.5	142.7
65+	75	68.2	75.9

At the national level the sex ratio of children among the disabled population is almost the same as that among the total disabled population (Table 4.1). It is the highest in the working age group of 15-64. In the age group 65+, the sex ratio is 75 showing that women outnumber men among the elderly.

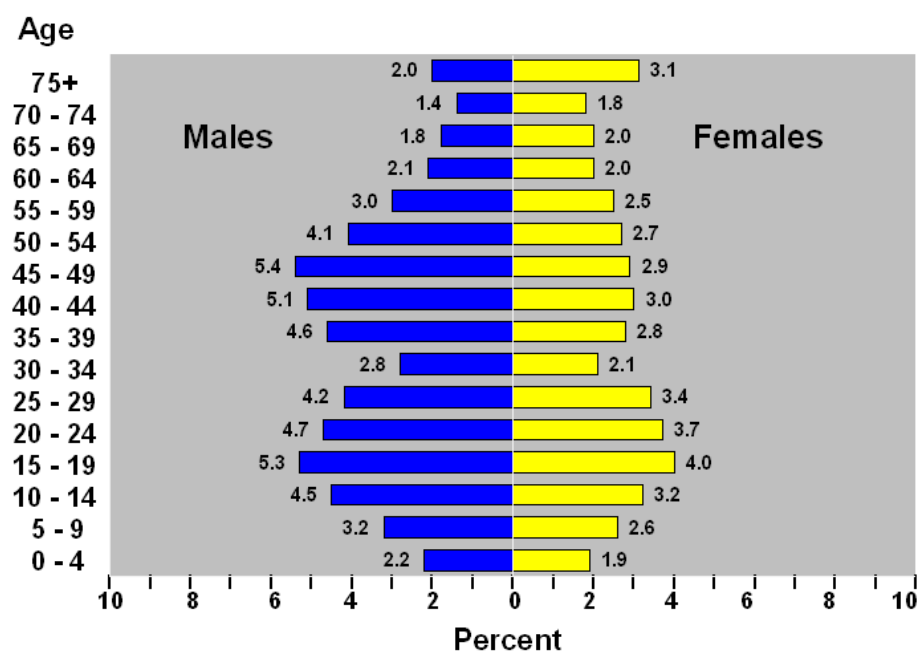
4.2 Age Structure

At the 2008 census of Cambodia information on age in completed years as on last birthday was collected from the respondents. Children form 17.62 percent (Table 4.2) of the total disabled population as against 33.7 percent among the general population (See Chapter 3 of the National report).

**Table 4.2 Percent Distribution of the Disabled Population by Five Year Age Group,
Cambodia Total, 2008**

Age Group	Percentage of Disabled Population					
	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Total	192,538	100.00	108,468	100.00	84,070	100.00
0 - 4	7,952	4.13	4,281	3.95	3,671	4.37
5 - 9	11,201	5.82	6,233	5.75	4,968	5.91
10 - 14	14,775	7.67	8,609	7.94	6,166	7.33
15 - 19	17,865	9.28	10,163	9.37	7,702	9.16
20 - 24	16,270	8.45	9,128	8.42	7,142	8.50
25 - 29	14,596	7.58	8,075	7.44	6,521	7.76
30 - 34	9,526	4.95	5,394	4.97	4,132	4.91
35 - 39	14,350	7.45	8,936	8.24	5,414	6.44
40 - 44	15,493	8.05	9,800	9.03	5,693	6.77
45 - 49	15,888	8.25	10,345	9.54	5,543	6.59
50 - 54	13,013	6.76	7,811	7.20	5,202	6.19
55 - 59	10,581	5.50	5,790	5.34	4,791	5.70
60 - 64	7,911	4.11	3,999	3.69	3,912	4.65
65 - 69	7,173	3.73	3,405	3.14	3,768	4.48
70 - 74	6,284	3.26	2,742	2.53	3,542	4.21
75 +	9,660	5.02	3,757	3.46	5,903	7.02

**Figure 4.1 Percent Distribution by Age and Sex of Disabled Population,
Cambodia 2008**



The working age group accounts for 70.37 percent of the disabled population whereas among the general population it constitutes 62 percent. The proportions of the elderly among the disabled population and the general population are 12 percent and 4.3 percent respectively. In the age group 30-34, a decline in the population may be observed (see Figure 4.1). This is due to decline in fertility and high mortality during the Khmer Rouge period.

Tables 4.3 and 4.4 provide the age distribution of the disabled population in the urban and rural areas of Cambodia respectively. In the urban areas children among the disabled population constitute 14.9 percent, the working age population constitutes 75.4 percent and the elderly constitute 9.6 percent. The corresponding proportions among the rural disabled population are: 18.1 percent, 69.5 percent and 12.4 percent respectively.

Table 4.3 Percent Distribution of the Disabled Population by Five Year Age Group, Cambodia- Urban, 2008

Age Group	Percentage of Disabled Population					
	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Total	28,434	100.00	15,838	100.00	12,596	100.00
0 - 4	1,240	4.36	679	4.29	561	4.45
5 - 9	1,331	4.68	727	4.59	604	4.80
10 - 14	1,678	5.90	941	5.94	737	5.85
15 - 19	2,755	9.69	1,480	9.34	1,275	10.12
20 - 24	3,280	11.54	1,847	11.66	1,433	11.38
25 - 29	2,965	10.43	1,634	10.32	1,331	10.57
30 - 34	1,517	5.34	832	5.25	685	5.44
35 - 39	2,128	7.48	1,286	8.12	842	6.68
40 - 44	2,172	7.64	1,363	8.61	809	6.42
45 - 49	2,230	7.84	1,427	9.01	803	6.38
50 - 54	1,838	6.46	1,108	7.00	730	5.80
55 - 59	1,495	5.26	828	5.23	667	5.30
60 - 64	1,072	3.77	578	3.65	494	3.92
65 - 69	846	2.98	403	2.54	443	3.52
70 - 74	787	2.77	334	2.11	453	3.60
75 +	1,100	3.87	371	2.34	729	5.79

**Table 4.4 Percent Distribution of the Disabled Population by Five Year Age Group,
Cambodia-Rural, 2008**

Age Group	Percentage of Disabled Population					
	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Total	164,104	100.00	92,630	100.00	71,474	100.00
0 - 4	6,712	4.09	3,602	3.89	3,110	4.35
5 - 9	9,870	6.01	5,506	5.94	4,364	6.11
10 - 14	13,097	7.98	7,668	8.28	5,429	7.60
15 - 19	15,110	9.21	8,683	9.37	6,427	8.99
20 - 24	12,990	7.92	7,281	7.86	5,709	7.99
25 - 29	11,631	7.09	6,441	6.95	5,190	7.26
30 - 34	8,009	4.88	4,562	4.92	3,447	4.82
35 - 39	12,222	7.45	7,650	8.26	4,572	6.40
40 - 44	13,321	8.12	8,437	9.11	4,884	6.83
45 - 49	13,658	8.32	8,918	9.63	4,740	6.63
50 - 54	11,175	6.81	6,703	7.24	4,472	6.26
55 - 59	9,086	5.54	4,962	5.36	4,124	5.77
60 - 64	6,839	4.17	3,421	3.69	3,418	4.78
65 - 69	6,327	3.86	3,002	3.24	3,325	4.65
70 - 74	5,497	3.35	2,408	2.60	3,089	4.32
75 +	8,560	5.22	3,386	3.66	5,174	7.24

4.2.1 Median Age

The median age of the disabled population works out to 36.42 years as against 22.06 years for the population of Cambodia as a whole. The median ages of males and females among the disabled population are 36.32 and 36.60 respectively. The corresponding median ages among the general population are 20.81 and 23.26 respectively. The median ages of the disabled population in the urban and rural areas are calculated as 33.71 and 36.90 respectively.

Table 4.5 Median Age of Persons with Disability by Sex: Cambodia and Province, 2008

Cambodia/ Province	Median Age		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females
Cambodia	36.42	36.32	36.6
Banteay Meanchey	39.06	39.54	37.96
Battambang	39.53	40.51	37.28
Kampong Cham	35.4	33.01	37.48
Kampong Chhnang	37.86	37.7	38.15
Kampong Speu	38.23	38.15	38.42
Kampong Thom	33.36	32.78	34.18
Kampot	37.64	37.52	37.84
Kandal	34.77	31.98	37.33
Koh Kong	35.29	36.01	33.53
Kratie	36.34	34.94	38.32
Mondul Kiri	32.31	32.59	31.67
Phnom Penh	31.39	31.32	31.46
Preah Vihear	35.34	36.81	35.74
Prey Veng	34.86	32.15	36.65
Pursat	37.08	38.33	34.52
Ratanak Kiri	32.93	33.21	32.41
Siemreap	31.31	32.2	30.01
Preah Sihanouk	34.25	33.7	35.15
Stung Treng	35.73	36.11	35.24
Svay Rieng	37.4	36.47	38.91
Takeo	39.45	37.84	41.65
Otdar Meanchey	37.75	39.57	30.78
Kep	40.58	40.19	41.47
Pailin	43.19	45.07	33.48

The highest median age (Table 4.5) is observed in Pailin province (43.19) and the lowest in Phnom Penh Municipality (31.39). In respect of males also Pailin (45.07) leads with Phnom Penh Municipality recording the lowest figure of 31.32. In the case of females Takeo province has recorded the highest median age (41.65) and Phnom Penh has recorded the lowest figure of 31.46. On the basis of the median age levels, the disabled population in Cambodia may be categorized as an “old population”.

Annex Table 4 presents the percent distribution of the disabled population in each type of disability by broad age group, sex and residence for Cambodia. It is observed that at the national level, under disability since birth, the age group 15-29 has the highest proportions of the disabled in all the categories except visual disability. In the case of disability in seeing since birth the highest proportion (36.34 percent) is among children in the age group 0-14. Under disability after birth the highest proportions are noted in the age group 15-29 of disabled persons in speech and mentally disabled persons. In respect of seeing, hearing and movement disabilities, the incidence is the highest in the

age group 60+, 45-59 and 60+ respectively. In general, those who suffer from different physical handicaps are mostly in the age cohort 15-29 which represents people born during the troubled years 1979-1993 following the Khmer Rouge regime. Disabilities in vision, in hearing and in movement acquired after birth are more prevalent among the older age groups. Following the age group 15-29, children in the age group 0-14 have a high proportion of mentally disabled persons since birth. These characteristics are noticed in most of the provinces also on examining the priority Table E1 (not published in this report).

4.3 Marital Status

Unlike sex or age, marital status is an acquired characteristic and not a biological one. In Cambodia marriage is nearly universal with about 90 percent of the population getting married before they reach the age of 30 years. Table 4.6 prepared by a special tabulation (not covered by Priority Tables) gives the distribution of persons with disability aged 15 years and over by sex and marital status for Cambodia as a whole. It also provides this distribution separately for persons who were disabled since birth and those who were disabled after birth.

Figure 4.2 Percentage of Currently Married by 5-Year Age Group among Persons Aged 15 and over by Sex for General Population and Disabled Population, Cambodia 2008

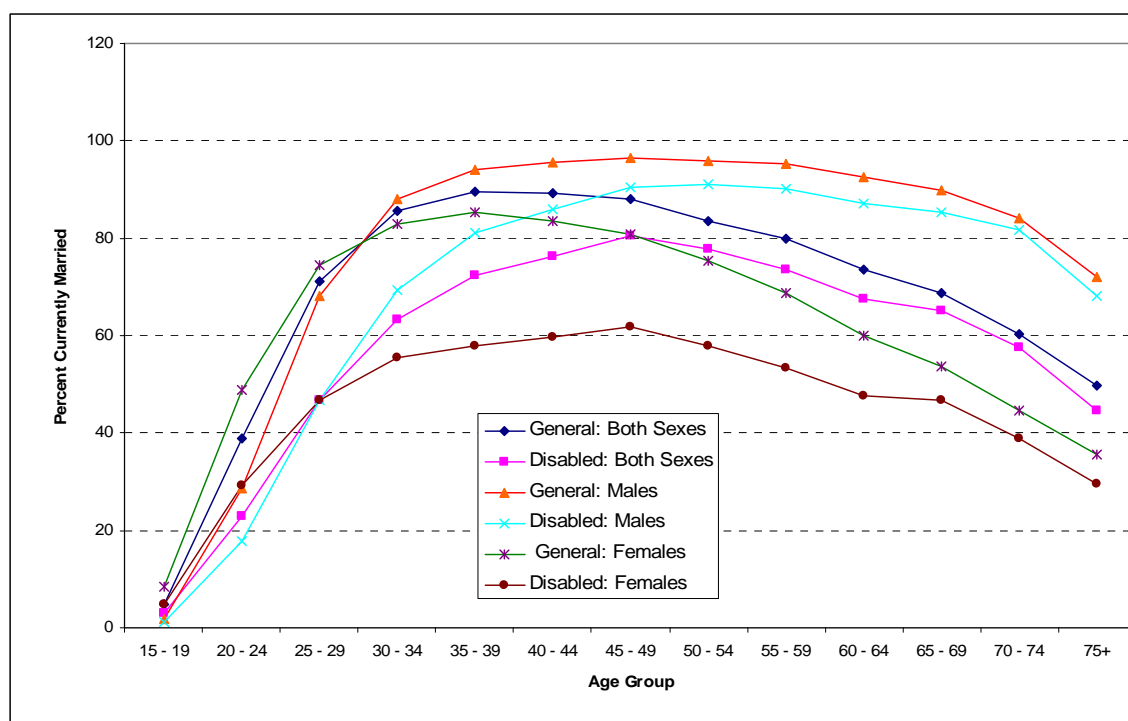


Table 4.6 Percent distribution of Population Aged 15 and over among the Disabled Population by Marital Status, Sex, and Five-year Age group, Cambodia, 2008

Age Group	Number	Total	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Total disabled							
Both Sexes							
15+	158,610	100	31.78	55.45	9.24	3.35	0.19
15 – 19	17,865	100	96.86	2.87	0.12	0.13	0.02
20 – 24	16,270	100	75.61	22.86	0.39	1.03	0.11
25 – 29	14,596	100	49.86	46.82	0.72	2.47	0.13
30 – 34	9,526	100	31.05	63.33	1.50	3.97	0.15
35 – 39	14,350	100	20.37	72.41	2.65	4.29	0.28
40 – 44	15,493	100	15.25	76.31	3.62	4.49	0.33
45 – 49	15,888	100	10.08	80.46	5.09	4.22	0.15
50 – 54	13,013	100	9.51	77.91	8.40	3.93	0.26
55 – 59	10,581	100	8.52	73.45	13.22	4.55	0.26
60 – 64	7,911	100	6.99	67.55	20.95	4.26	0.25
65 – 69	7,173	100	4.94	65.02	25.97	3.93	0.14
70 – 74	6,284	100	4.15	57.64	33.74	4.23	0.24
75+	9,660	100	3.91	44.60	45.95	5.35	0.19
Males							
15+	89,345	100	30.01	64.75	3.07	2.01	0.15
15 – 19	10,163	100	98.49	1.32	0.12	0.07	0.00
20 – 24	9,128	100	81.08	17.92	0.21	0.74	0.04
25 – 29	8,075	100	51.06	46.84	0.36	1.63	0.11
30 – 34	5,394	100	26.66	69.34	0.89	3.00	0.11
35 – 39	8,936	100	14.85	81.12	1.00	2.83	0.20
40 – 44	9,800	100	9.77	86.02	1.43	2.52	0.27
45 – 49	10,345	100	5.45	90.50	1.87	2.11	0.08
50 – 54	7,811	100	4.30	91.14	2.46	1.86	0.24
55 – 59	5,790	100	3.70	90.16	3.75	2.25	0.16
60 – 64	3,999	100	3.65	87.02	6.75	2.25	0.33
65 – 69	3,405	100	2.97	85.23	8.87	2.79	0.15
70 – 74	2,742	100	2.81	81.69	12.58	2.59	0.33
75+	3,757	100	3.09	68.09	23.66	4.84	0.32
Females							
15+	69,265	100	34.07	43.45	17.19	5.06	0.23
15 – 19	7,702	100	94.70	4.91	0.13	0.22	0.04
20 – 24	7,142	100	68.61	29.18	0.62	1.40	0.20
25 – 29	6,521	100	48.37	46.80	1.17	3.51	0.15
30 – 34	4,132	100	36.79	55.49	2.30	5.23	0.19
35 – 39	5,414	100	29.48	58.03	5.37	6.70	0.41
40 – 44	5,693	100	24.70	59.60	7.40	7.87	0.44
45 – 49	5,543	100	18.71	61.74	11.10	8.17	0.29
50 – 54	,202	100	17.32	58.04	17.32	7.04	0.29
55 – 59	,791	100	14.34	53.27	24.67	7.33	0.40
60 – 64	,912	100	10.40	47.65	35.46	6.31	0.18
65 – 69	,768	100	6.71	46.76	41.43	4.96	0.13
70 – 74	,542	100	5.19	39.02	50.11	5.51	0.17
75+	,903	100	4.44	29.65	60.14	5.68	0.10

Age Group	Number	Total	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Since Birth							
Both Sexes							
15+	42,031	100	47.06	45.44	5.05	2.32	0.13
15 – 19	7,597	100	96.66	3.13	0.03	0.17	0.01
20 – 24	6,682	100	74.41	24.23	0.39	0.91	0.06
25 – 29	5,565	100	49.00	48.45	0.63	1.81	0.11
30 – 34	3,114	100	32.92	63.10	1.35	2.54	0.10
35 – 39	3,906	100	25.68	68.15	2.59	3.28	0.31
40 – 44	3,483	100	23.72	68.99	3.73	3.22	0.34
45 – 49	3,120	100	19.26	71.31	5.22	4.07	0.13
50 – 54	2,364	100	19.42	68.36	8.50	3.64	0.08
55 – 59	1,909	100	16.50	66.42	12.78	4.09	0.21
60 – 64	1,356	100	16.30	61.36	17.92	4.28	0.15
65 – 69	1,099	100	11.19	60.78	24.29	3.64	0.09
70 – 74	822	100	9.25	54.74	30.54	5.35	0.12
75+	1,014	100	8.78	44.87	41.12	4.83	0.39
Males							
15+	20,810	100	48.81	48.20	1.68	1.25	0.06
15 – 19	4,173	100	98.25	1.61	0.02	0.12	0.00
20 – 24	3,591	100	80.92	18.18	0.22	0.67	0.00
25 – 29	2,765	100	52.19	46.15	0.33	1.30	0.04
30 – 34	1,499	100	28.75	68.18	1.00	2.00	0.07
35 – 39	2,043	100	20.85	76.31	0.88	1.86	0.10
40 – 44	1,715	100	18.78	78.31	1.28	1.57	0.06
45 – 49	1,508	100	13.40	82.49	1.92	2.12	0.07
50 – 54	1,039	100	10.88	85.47	2.21	1.44	0.00
55 – 59	818	100	9.05	85.33	3.79	1.71	0.12
60 – 64	564	100	9.57	81.74	6.74	1.60	0.35
65 – 69	418	100	8.13	82.30	7.18	2.39	0.00
70 – 74	311	100	9.32	76.85	11.25	2.25	0.32
75+	366	100	6.28	64.75	24.86	3.55	0.55
Females							
15+	21,221	100	45.35	42.72	8.35	3.37	0.21
15 – 19	3,424	100	94.71	4.99	0.03	0.23	0.03
20 – 24	3,091	100	66.84	31.25	0.58	1.20	0.13
25 – 29	2,800	100	45.86	50.71	0.93	2.32	0.18
30 – 34	1,615	100	36.78	58.39	1.67	3.03	0.12
35 – 39	1,863	100	30.97	59.21	4.46	4.83	0.54
40 – 44	1,768	100	28.51	59.95	6.11	4.81	0.62
45 – 49	1,612	100	24.75	60.86	8.31	5.89	0.19
50 – 54	1,325	100	26.11	54.94	13.43	5.36	0.15
55 – 59	1,091	100	22.09	52.25	19.52	5.87	0.27
60 – 64	792	100	21.09	46.84	25.88	6.19	0.00
65 – 69	681	100	13.07	47.58	34.80	4.41	0.15
70 – 74	511	100	9.20	41.29	42.27	7.24	0.00
75+	648	100	10.19	33.64	50.31	5.56	0.31

Age Group	Number	Total	Never Married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
After Birth							
Both Sexes							
15+	116,579	100	26.27	59.06	10.75	3.72	0.20
15 – 19	10,268	100	97.01	2.67	0.19	0.11	0.02
20 – 24	9,588	100	76.44	21.91	0.39	1.12	0.15
25 – 29	9,031	100	50.38	45.82	0.78	2.88	0.14
30 – 34	6,412	100	30.15	63.44	1.58	4.66	0.17
35 – 39	10,444	100	18.38	74.00	2.67	4.67	0.27
40 - 44	12,010	100	12.80	78.43	3.59	4.85	0.32
45 - 49	12,768	100	7.83	82.70	5.05	4.26	0.16
50 - 54	10,649	100	7.31	80.03	8.38	3.99	0.30
55 - 59	8,672	100	6.76	75.00	13.32	4.65	0.28
60 - 64	6,555	100	5.06	68.83	21.57	4.26	0.27
65 - 69	6,074	100	3.80	65.79	26.28	3.98	0.15
70 - 74	5,462	100	3.39	58.07	34.22	4.06	0.26
75+	8,646	100	3.34	44.56	46.52	5.41	0.16
Males							
15+	68,535	100	24.30	69.78	3.49	2.25	0.18
15 - 19	5,990	100	98.66	1.12	0.18	0.03	0.00
20 - 24	5,537	100	81.18	17.75	0.20	0.79	0.07
25 - 29	5,310	100	50.47	47.19	0.38	1.81	0.15
30 - 34	3,895	100	25.85	69.78	0.85	3.39	0.13
35 - 39	6,893	100	13.07	82.55	1.03	3.12	0.23
40 - 44	8,085	100	7.85	87.66	1.46	2.72	0.31
45 - 49	8,837	100	4.10	91.86	1.86	2.10	0.08
50 - 54	6,772	100	3.29	92.01	2.50	1.92	0.28
55 - 59	4,972	100	2.82	90.95	3.74	2.33	0.16
60 - 64	3,435	100	2.68	87.89	6.75	2.36	0.32
65 - 69	2,987	100	2.24	85.64	9.11	2.85	0.17
70 - 74	2,431	100	1.97	82.31	12.75	2.63	0.33
75+	3,391	100	2.74	68.45	23.53	4.98	0.29
Females							
15+	48,044	100	29.09	43.77	21.10	5.81	0.23
15 - 19	4,278	100	94.69	4.84	0.21	0.21	0.05
20 - 24	4,051	100	69.96	27.60	0.64	1.56	0.25
25 - 29	3,721	100	50.26	43.86	1.34	4.41	0.13
30 - 34	2,517	100	36.79	53.64	2.70	6.63	0.24
35 - 39	3,551	100	28.70	57.42	5.86	7.69	0.34
40 - 44	3,925	100	22.98	59.44	7.97	9.25	0.36
45 - 49	3,931	100	16.23	62.10	12.24	9.11	0.33
50 - 54	3,877	100	14.32	59.09	18.65	7.61	0.34
55 - 59	3,700	100	12.05	53.57	26.19	7.76	0.43
60 - 64	3,120	100	7.69	47.85	37.88	6.35	0.22
65 - 69	3,087	100	5.31	46.58	42.89	5.09	0.13
70 - 74	3,031	100	4.52	38.63	51.44	5.21	0.20
75+	5,255	100	3.73	29.15	61.35	5.69	0.08

Considering the persons with disability aged 15 and over as a whole it is observed that 31.78 percent is never married as against the corresponding percentage of 32.71 among the general population. The percentage widowed (9.24) among the disabled population (aged 15+) is much higher than that of the general population (4.99). This is mainly because the disabled population is an “old population” whereas the general population is comparatively younger. The percentage of divorced among disabled women (5.06 percent) is also higher than that in the general population (3.1 percent). The percentages of never married among males and females aged 15+ in the general population are 37.0 and 28.86 respectively. The corresponding percentages among the disabled population are 30.01 and 34.07. The proportion of never married decreases with the increase in age. However about 90 percent of the disabled population are already married by the age of 45 whereas such a situation is reached by the general population even by the age of 30.

In the higher age for women, from the age group 55-59 upwards, the proportion of widowed is substantially high and it increases with age (Table 4.6). These old and physically challenged widows constitute the most vulnerable group who need assistance and support.

The following marital status scenario of the total disabled population emerges on examining the data in Table 4.6:

The proportion of never married (single) is higher for females than that of males. The proportions of those who are currently married among males are higher than the corresponding proportion for females among the disabled persons. The proportion in each of the categories widowed, divorced or separated in respect of females is higher than the corresponding proportion among males.

If looked at from the point of view of age, the proportion of single males is very much higher than the corresponding proportion of single females in every age group below 30. From the age group 30-34 onwards the opposite trend is noticed. In the higher age groups males marry much younger women either for the first time or as remarriage once they are widowed, divorced or separated. This tendency does not exist among older women. In all the age groups the proportion of widows is higher, with its rise being faster compared to that of widowers. This is due to the following reasons: (i) wives are generally younger than their husbands (ii) the expectation of life is higher for women than men (iii) men tend to remarry at a proportion very much higher than that of women.

Table 4.7 Percentage Distribution of Disabled Persons Aged 15 and over in each Type of Disability by Sex and Marital Status, Cambodia, 2008

Sex	Marital Status	Disability in						
		Number	Total	Seeing	Speech	Hearing	Movement	Mental
Both Sexes	Total	158,610	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Never Married	50,411	31.78	24.61	60.67	24.43	25.18	59.48
	Married	87,945	55.45	61.57	33.89	56.74	62.96	26.62
	Widowed	14,653	9.24	10.82	3.35	14.67	8.63	7.61
	Divorced	5,307	3.35	2.86	1.97	4.00	3.05	5.94
	Separated	294	0.19	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.36
Males	Total	89,345	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Never Married	26,810	30.01	26.44	60.83	27.14	21.11	61.34
	Married	57,852	64.75	68.91	36.51	64.81	74.02	30.60
	Widowed	2,745	3.07	3.22	1.38	5.81	2.91	2.81
	Divorced	1,800	2.01	1.32	1.20	2.18	1.82	4.82
	Separated	138	0.15	0.10	0.08	0.06	0.14	0.43
Females	Total	69,265	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Never Married	23,601	34.07	22.86	60.51	22.07	32.87	57.49
	Married	30,093	43.45	54.60	31.17	49.67	42.05	22.38
	Widowed	11,908	17.19	18.03	5.40	22.43	19.45	12.72
	Divorced	3,507	5.06	4.32	2.77	5.60	5.38	7.13
	Separated	156	0.23	0.19	0.15	0.23	0.26	0.28

Table 4.7 gives the proportion in each marital status category by type of disability. It reveals the following major deviations from the general marital status pattern of the disabled. The percentage of single is higher among males than females having “seeing”, “hearing” or mental disability. In the case of disability in speech the proportions of single males and females are nearly the same.

Table 4.8 Singulate Mean Age at Marriage for the General Population and the Persons with Disability by Sex

Category	Sex	
	Males	Females
(1)	(2)	(3)
General Population	25.60	23.30
Disabled Population		
Total	28.31	26.91
Since Birth	27.99	25.08
After Birth	28.26	27.55

The Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) of the disabled population is much higher than that of the general population, as may be seen from Table 4.8. Marriage among the disabled population seems to be relatively delayed.