

**Rwanda  
Demographic  
and Health  
Survey  
2010**

**Preliminary Report**

**National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda  
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning  
Kigali, Rwanda**

**Ministry of Health  
Kigali, Rwanda**

**MEASURE DHS  
ICF Macro  
Calverton, Maryland, USA**

The 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2010 RDHS) was implemented by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), and the field work was conducted from September 26, 2010 to March 10, 2011. The funding for the RDHS was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP), the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the World Vision, and the Government of Rwanda. ICF Macro provided technical assistance to the project through the MEASURE DHS project, a USAID-funded project providing support and technical assistance in the implementation of population and health surveys in countries worldwide.

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REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



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## **PREFACE**

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This report presents preliminary findings from the 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2010 RDHS). Survey findings will be used by policy makers to evaluate the demographic and health status of the Rwandan population in order to formulate appropriate population and health policies and programs in Rwanda. The forthcoming final report and summary report of the RDHS will contain more detailed findings.

This survey was sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP), the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Vision, and the Government of Rwanda. Technical assistance was provided by ICF Macro through the Demographic and Health Surveys program (MEASURE DHS). The National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) were the implementing agencies of the survey. The fieldwork for data collection for the RDHS was conducted for about six months from September 26, 2010 to March 10, 2011; and the data entry took place from November 1, 2010 to April 21, 2011.

The main objective of the 2010 RDHS was to obtain current information on demography, family planning, maternal mortality, infant and child mortality, and health related information such as breastfeeding, antenatal care, delivery, children's immunization, and childhood diseases. In addition, the survey was designed to evaluate the nutritional status of mothers and children, to measure the prevalence of anemia among women and children, and to measure the prevalence of HIV infection among the male and female adult population.

We thank USAID, UNICEF, CDC/GAP, UNFPA, the World Vision, and the Government of Rwanda for financing the project. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Executive Committee and Technical Committee who contributed to the successful implementation of the survey.

We wish to express great appreciation for the work carried out by all persons involved in the RDHS, especially the NISR, MOH and National Reference Laboratory staff who worked with dedication and enthusiasm to make the survey a success.

Finally, we would like to express our special thanks to all the local authorities involved and all study participants who gave their valuable time to make this survey possible.

**DIANE Karusisi**

Acting Director General of the National  
Institute of Statistics of Rwanda

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

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The 2010 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2010 RDHS) was carried out by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) and the Ministry of Health (MoH). ICF Macro provided technical assistance to the project through the MEASURE Demographic and Health Surveys program (MEASURE DHS). The survey was funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP), the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Vision, and the Government of Rwanda.

The 2010 RDHS, the fourth of its kind, is a follow-up to the 1992, 2000, and 2005 RDHS surveys and the 2007-08 Interim DHS (RIDHS). Data collection was conducted from September 26, 2010 to March 10, 2011 on a nationally representative sample of 12,972 households. All women age 15-49 in these households and all men age 15-59 in a sub-sample of one-half of the households were eligible to be individually interviewed.

The 2010 RDHS provides data to monitor the population and health situation in Rwanda. Specifically, the 2010 RDHS collected information on a broad range of demographic, health, and social issues such as household characteristics, maternal and child health, breastfeeding practices, early childhood mortality, maternal mortality, nutritional status of women and young children, fertility levels, marriage, fertility preferences, awareness and use of family planning methods, sexual activity, and awareness and behavior regarding AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. The survey also measures the nutritional status of mothers and children, the prevalence of anemia and malaria among women and children, and the prevalence of HIV infection among the male and female adult population.

This preliminary report presents only a sub-set of results of the 2010 RDHS. A comprehensive analysis of the data is forthcoming. While considered provisional, the results presented here are not expected to differ significantly from those to be presented in the final report.

## **2. SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION**

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### **2.1 Sample Design**

The sample for the 2010 RDHS was designed to provide population and health indicator estimates for the country as a whole and for urban and rural areas. Survey estimates can also be reported for the provinces (South, West, North, and East provinces) and Kigali City. The results presented in this report show key indicators that correspond to these provinces and Kigali City.

A representative sample of 12,972 households was selected for the 2010 RDHS. The sample was selected in two stages. In the first stage, 492 villages (also known as clusters or enumeration areas) were selected with probability proportional to the village size. The village size is the number of households residing in the village. Then, a complete mapping and listing of all households existing in the selected villages was conducted. The resulting lists of households served as the sampling frame for the second stage of sample selection. Households were systematically selected from those lists for participation in the survey.

All women age 15-49 who were either permanent residents of the households or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed. In addition, in a sub-sample of one-half of all households selected for the survey, all men age 15-59 were eligible to be interviewed if they were either permanent residents or visitors present in the household on the night before the survey.

### **2.2 Questionnaires**

Three questionnaires were used for the 2010 RDHS: the Household Questionnaire, the Women's Questionnaire, and the Men's Questionnaire. These questionnaires are based on questionnaires developed by the worldwide Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) program and on the questionnaires used during the 2005 RDHS and 2007-08 RIDHS surveys. To reflect relevant issues in population and health in Rwanda, the questionnaires were adapted during a series of technical meetings with various stakeholders from government ministries and agencies, non-governmental organizations and international donors. The questionnaires were translated from English and French into Kinyarwanda.

The Household Questionnaire was used to list all the usual members and visitors in the selected households. Some basic information was collected on the characteristics of each person listed, including age, sex, education, and relationship to the head of the household. For children under 18, survival status of the parents was determined. The Household Questionnaire also collected information on the following topics:

- Dwelling characteristics
- Utilization of health services and health expenditures for recent illness and injury
- Possession of iodized salt
- Possession and utilization of mosquito nets
- Height and weight of women and children
- Hemoglobin measurement of women and children
- Blood collection from women and children for rapid test and laboratory testing of Malaria
- Blood collection from women and men for laboratory testing of HIV

The Household Questionnaire was also used to identify women and men eligible for the individual interview.

The Women's Questionnaire was used to collect information from all women age 15-49 and was organized into the following sections:



- Respondent background characteristics
- Reproduction, including a complete birth and death history of respondents' children, and information on abortion
- Contraception
- Pregnancy and postnatal care
- Child's immunization, health and nutrition
- Marriage and sexual activity
- Fertility preferences
- Husband's background and woman's work
- HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections
- Other health issues
- Adult mortality
- Relationship in the household

The Men's Questionnaire was administered to all men age 15-59 living in every other household in the CDHS sample. The Men's Questionnaire collected much of the same information found in the Women's Questionnaire but was shorter because it did not contain a detailed reproductive history or questions on maternal and child health or nutrition.

An instruction manual was also developed to support standardized data collection. All data collection instruments were pre-tested in June-July, 2010. The observations and experiences gathered from the pre-test were used to improve the instruments for the main survey data collection.

### **2.3 Training of Field Staff**

Thirty-eight women and men were trained from June 14 to July 2, 2010 in the administration of the RDHS survey instruments, anthropometric measurement, hemoglobin testing, malaria testing, and blood draw for HIV testing. Seven days of fieldwork were followed by one day of interviewer debriefing and examination. Pre-test fieldwork was conducted in 230 households in two rural and two urban villages outside of Kigali. The majority of pretest participants attended the main training and served as field editors and team leaders for the main survey.

NISR recruited and trained 117 participants, and at the end of the training it retained 105 to work as the field personnel. The main training was conducted from August 16 to September 14, 2010. The training consisted of instruction regarding interviewing techniques and field procedures, a detailed review of items on the questionnaires followed by tests, instruction and practice in weighing and measuring children, and mock interviews and role plays between participants in the classroom. Fifteen data collection teams were each comprised of a team leader, a field editor, three female interviewers, a male interviewer, and one biomarker staff member.

### **2.4 Hemoglobin, Malaria and HIV Testing**

In a subsample of one-half of all households selected for the Men's Questionnaire, blood specimens were collected from women age 15-49 and children age 6-59 months for measurement of hemoglobin in the field, testing for malaria in the field using the Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT), and testing for malaria in the lab using the microscopic method. Additionally, in the same one-half of all households, blood specimens for HIV testing were collected from all women 15-49 and men 15-59 who consented to the test. The protocol for the blood specimen collection and testing for HIV was reviewed and approved by the Rwanda National Ethics Committee, the Institutional Review Board of ICF Macro, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.

#### *Hemoglobin testing*

The 2010 RDHS included anemia testing of children 6 to 59 months old and women age 15-49 in the same one-half of households that were selected for the male interview. A consent statement was read to the eligible respondent or to the parent or responsible adult for children and young women

age 15-17. This statement explained the purpose of the test, informed them that the results would be made available as soon as the test was completed, and requested permission for the test to be carried out.

Anemia levels were determined by measuring the level of hemoglobin in the blood, a decreased concentration characterizes anemia. The concentration of hemoglobin in the blood was measured in the field using the HemoCue system. The HemoCue instrument is a special purpose photometer designed specifically for the determination of hemoglobin levels. A capillary blood sample was taken from the palm side of the end of a finger, punctured with a sterile, non-reusable, self-retractable lancet. The blood drop was collected in a HemoCue microcuvette, which serves as a measuring tool, and placed in the HemoCue photometer to determine the level of hemoglobin in the blood. A pamphlet was given to each respondent, explaining symptoms of anemia, prevention methods, and the individual results of the hemoglobin measurement of the respondent and any children for whom she gave permission to be measured. Each person whose hemoglobin level was lower than the recommended cutoff point (testing severely anemic) was advised to visit a health facility for follow-up with a health professional.

### *Malaria testing*

Malaria diagnostic tests, including a rapid diagnostic test (RDT) and thick and thin blood smears, were given to eligible women and children in the 2010 RDHS. For the RDT for malaria, a drop of blood was obtained by a prick at the end of the finger usually at the same time of anemia testing. The test was done using First Response test kits and according to manufacturer recommendations. The results of the malaria RDT were recorded in the Household Questionnaire, which allows them to be linked with the characteristics of the respondents. Results from the RDTs were used to diagnose malaria and guide treatment of parasitemic children during the survey. The parent/guardian of children with a positive RDT was provided written results, and children were given Coartem® to treat malaria according to the Rwanda Malaria treatment guidelines.

Thin and thick blood smears were also collected from participants who accepted malaria testing. Blood slides were stained with Giemsa stain that was prepared by the laboratory in advance of the field work. Parasite densities were calculated by counting the number of asexual stage parasites/200 white blood cells (WBCs), assuming 6000 WBCs/dl of blood. Blood smears were considered negative if no parasites were found after counting 200 fields.

An informed consent form was read to the eligible person or parent/responsible adult of the child or teenager ages 15-18 years old. This consent form asks, first of all, for the authorization of the person before undertaking the test and then explains the objectives of the test, informs the individual taking the test or those responsible for children that the results would be communicated immediately after the test. For each eligible woman and child, a slide with a thick blood smear was prepared, transmitted, and stored at the NRL for microscopic examination of malaria parasites.

### *HIV testing*

Men and women who were interviewed in the sub-sample of households selected for the men's survey of the 2010 RDHS were asked to voluntarily provide blood for HIV testing. The HIV test is anonymous, that is, the results of the test were not linked to survey data until individual respondent identifying information was destroyed by NISR, therefore, respondents' HIV test results can never be linked to identifying data. For women and men accepting to be tested, drops of blood were drawn and dried on filter paper. Only an identification number (barcode) drawn at random was assigned to each specimen. Since no information containing personal identification will accompany the samples, it will not be possible to inform the respondents of the result of their test. Analysis of the samples for HIV was carried out at the National Reference Laboratory.

Information and education brochures about HIV/AIDS prevention and the existing VCT and PMTCT sites were distributed to all households selected for the survey, whether these households

were selected for the test or not. These brochures were prepared by TRAC-Plus and the CNLS in close collaboration with NISR and were adapted to the population surveyed.

## **2.5 Fieldwork**

Fieldwork was launched immediately upon the conclusion of field staff training. Each of the 15 teams was assigned to two of the 30 districts. Fieldwork supervision was conducted by NISR, NRL, and ICF Macro through regular visits to teams to review their work and monitor data quality. The UNICEF team also regularly visited the teams in the field. Additional contact between the central office and the teams was maintained through cell phones. Fieldwork was conducted from September 26, 2010 to March 10, 2011. Questionnaires and blood samples were regularly delivered to NISR headquarters.

## **2.6 Data Processing**

Processing of the 2010 RDHS data began as soon as questionnaires were received from the field. Completed questionnaires were returned from the field to NISR headquarters, where they were entered and edited by data processing personnel who were specially trained for this task, and who had also attended the questionnaire training of field staff. Processing the data concurrently with data collection allowed for regular monitoring of team performance and data quality. Field check tables were regularly generated during data processing to check various data quality parameters. As a result, feedback was given on a regular basis, encouraging teams to continue their high quality work and to correct areas in need of improvement. Feedback was individually tailored to each team. Data entry, which included 100 percent double entry to minimize keying error and data editing, was completed on April 21, 2011. Data cleaning and finalization was completed on May 27, 2011.

### 3. PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

#### 3.1 Response Rates

Table 1 shows household and individual response rates for the 2010 RDHS. A total of 12,792 households were selected for the sample, of which 12,570 were found to be occupied during data collection. Of the 12,570 occupied households, 12,540 were successfully interviewed, yielding a household response rate of 99.8 percent.

In these interviewed households, 13,790 women were identified as eligible for the individual interview. Interviews were successfully completed with 99.1 percent of these women. Of the 6,414 eligible men identified in half of the household sample, 98.7 percent were successfully interviewed. There is little variation in response rates by urban-rural residence.

Table 1 Results of the household and individual interviews			
Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence (unweighted), Rwanda 2010			
Result	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
<b>Household interviews</b>			
Households selected	2,054	10,738	12,792
Households occupied	2,014	10,556	12,570
Households interviewed	2,009	10,531	12,540
Household response rate <sup>1</sup>	99.8	99.8	99.8
<b>Interviews with women age 15-49</b>			
Number of eligible women	2,386	11,404	13,790
Number of eligible women interviewed	2,367	11,304	13,671
Eligible women response rate <sup>2</sup>	99.2	99.1	99.1
<b>Interviews with men age 15-59</b>			
Number of eligible men	1,178	5,236	6,414
Number of eligible men interviewed	1,156	5,173	6,329
Eligible men response rate <sup>2</sup>	98.1	98.8	98.7

<sup>1</sup> Households interviewed/households occupied  
<sup>2</sup> Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

#### 3.2 Characteristics of Respondents

The distribution of women and men age 15-49 by background characteristics is shown in Table 2. The distribution by age shows a decline in numbers of women and men with increasing age. About 41 percent of women and 46 percent of men are aged 15-24. The overwhelming majority of Rwandan women and men are Christians (Catholics, Protestants, or Adventists). Fifty percent of women are currently married or living with a man in a consensual union as are 48 percent of men. Because Rwandan men tend to marry later in life than women, 51 percent of men in the sample have never been married as opposed to 39 percent of women. A higher percentage of women (11 percent) are divorced, separated or widowed, as opposed to two percent of men.

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number
<b>Age</b>						
15-19	21.5	2,945	2,963	25.5	1,449	1,436
20-24	19.6	2,683	2,692	20.4	1,159	1,159
25-29	18.2	2,494	2,495	18.3	1,038	1,046
30-34	13.3	1,822	1,822	12.5	710	726
35-39	10.6	1,447	1,442	8.6	490	488
40-44	8.5	1,168	1,155	7.6	430	434
45-49	8.1	1,112	1,102	7.2	412	406
<b>Religion</b>						
Catholic	42.7	5,842	5,854	47.7	2,710	2,727
Protestant	41.2	5,627	5,586	35.9	2,044	2,031
Adventist	13.0	1,781	1,792	11.9	680	682
Muslim	1.3	179	197	1.9	106	111
Traditional	0.0	0	0	0.0	1	1
Other	0.9	129	131	0.9	50	50
No religion	0.7	92	91	1.7	96	93
Missing	0.2	21	20	0.0	0	0
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	38.7	5,285	5,362	50.5	2,873	2,900
Married	35.1	4,799	4,757	34.1	1,938	1,930
Living together	15.3	2,098	2,077	13.4	761	751
Divorced/separated	5.5	746	746	1.6	92	93
Widowed	5.4	743	729	0.4	22	21
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	15.0	2,057	2,367	16.5	939	1,082
Rural	85.0	11,614	11,304	83.5	4,748	4,613
<b>Region</b>						
Kigali City	11.7	1,596	1,890	13.0	739	876
South	23.5	3,212	3,340	23.0	1,308	1,373
West	24.2	3,305	3,138	23.0	1,307	1,243
North	16.7	2,278	2,199	15.8	899	859
East	24.0	3,280	3,104	25.2	1,435	1,344
<b>Education</b>						
No education	15.5	2,119	2,061	10.3	757	751
Primary	68.3	9,337	9,277	68.8	4,323	4,283
Post-primary/vocational	1.8	244	247	2.6	167	161
Secondary	12.9	1,765	1,843	16.1	949	979
Tertiary	1.5	207	243	2.2	133	155
Total 15-49	100.0	13,671	13,671	100.0	5,687	5,695
Men 50-59	na	na	na	na	642	634
Total 15-59	na	na	na	na	6,329	6,329

Note: Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was completed.  
na = Not applicable

Rwanda's population is predominantly rural, with more than four in five Rwandans living in rural areas. Fifteen percent of women and 17 percent of men live in urban areas. Overall, 68 percent of women and 69 percent of men have attended some primary school without having gone on to post-primary/vocational or secondary school. Only 21 percent of men have attended post-primary/vocational, secondary, or tertiary education and about 16 percent of women have done so. School experience in Rwanda is not universal; 16 percent of women and 10 percent of men have never attended school.

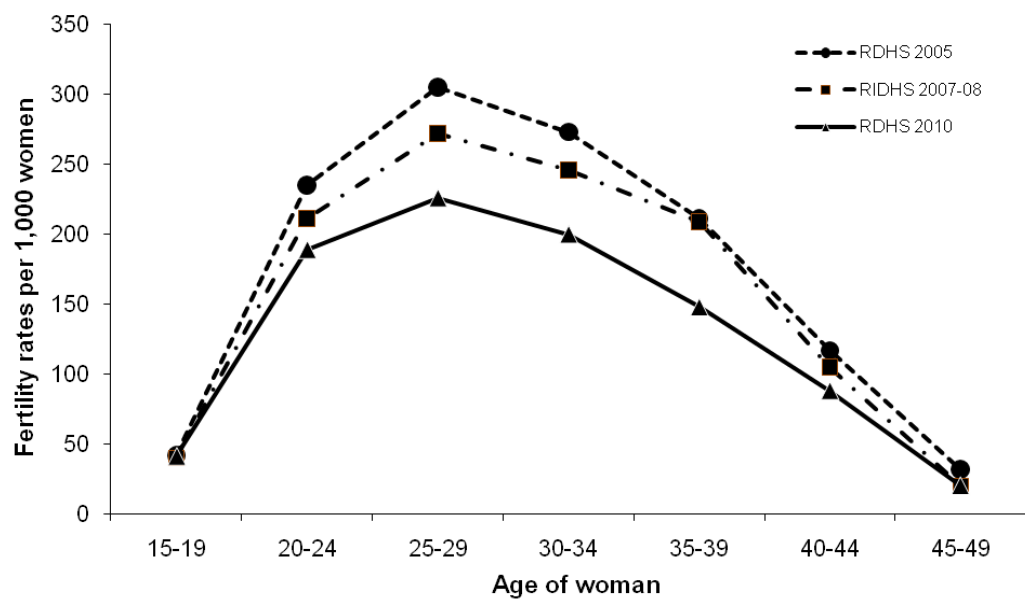
### 3.3 Fertility

Fertility data were collected by asking each woman interviewed for a complete history of her births. Information obtained about each woman's births included information on sex, the month and year of the birth, and survival status of each child; age at death for dead children was recorded. These data are used to calculate the measures of current fertility, the total fertility rate (TFR) and its component age-specific fertility rates. The TFR, which is the sum of the age-specific fertility rates, is interpreted as the mean number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime if she experienced the currently observed age-specific fertility rates throughout her reproductive years.

Table 3 Current fertility			
Age-specific rates and total fertility rate, general fertility rate, and crude birth rate for the three years preceding the survey, by residence, Rwanda 2010			
Age group	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
15-19	40	41	41
20-24	143	198	189
25-29	180	235	226
30-34	137	211	200
35-39	113	153	148
40-44	58	92	88
45-49	16	21	20
TFR (15-49)	3.4	4.8	4.6
GFR	115	157	151
CBR	30.6	35.0	34.4

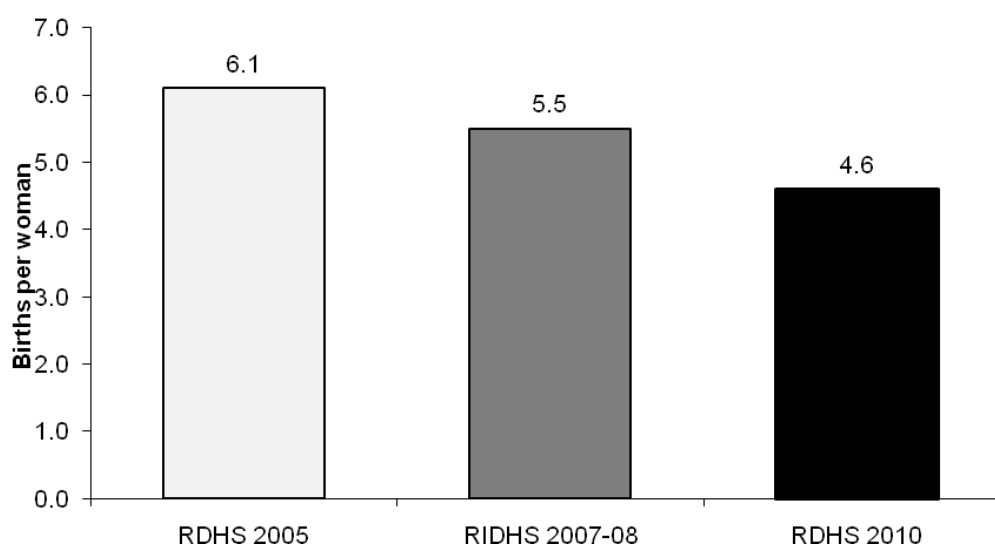
Notes: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Rates for age group 45-49 may be slightly biased due to truncation. Rates are for the period 1-36 months prior to interview.  
TFR: Total fertility rate expressed per woman  
GFR: General fertility rate expressed per 1,000 women age 15-44  
CBR: Crude birth rate expressed per 1,000 population

**Figure 1. Age specific fertility rates, RDHS 2005, RIDHS 2007-08, and RDHS 2010**



The TFR in Rwanda is 4.6 children per woman (Table 3). On average, rural women give birth to approximately 4.8 children during their reproductive life, while urban women give birth to only 3.4 children during their reproductive life if they follow current levels of fertility throughout their reproductive life. Fertility has declined over the past five years: in 2005, the TFR was 6.1 children per woman (RDHS 2005), it dropped to 5.5 children per woman in 2007-08 (RIDHS 2007-08), and to 4.6 in 2010 (Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Total fertility rates, RDHS 2005, RIDHS 2007-08, and RDHS 2010**



### 3.4 Fertility Preferences

Several questions were asked to determine women's fertility preferences. These questions included: a) whether the respondent wanted another child and b) if so, when she would like to have the next child. The answers to these questions allow an estimation of the potential demand for family planning services either to limit or space births.

Table 4 indicates that over half (52 percent) of women currently in union age 15-49 do not want to bear any more children. Women who want no more children and who want to delay the birth of their next child are considered in need of family planning. Eighty-eight percent of married women say that they either want to delay the birth of their next child or want to have no more children at all. Fertility preferences are closely related to the number of living children a woman already has. In general, as the number of living children increases, the desire to stop childbearing increases substantially. For example, 27 percent of women currently in union with 2 living children say they do not want to have more children compared to three out of every four married women who have four children (76 percent). On the other hand 89 percent of women currently in union with no children say that they want to have a child soon.

**Table 4 Fertility preferences by number of living children**

Percent distribution of women currently in union age 15-49 by desire for children, according to number of living children, Rwanda 2010

Desire for children	Number of living children <sup>1</sup>							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
Have another soon <sup>2</sup>	88.5	15.0	8.1	4.6	2.5	1.1	0.5	8.3
Have another later <sup>3</sup>	5.1	79.5	61.7	35.0	15.9	8.3	3.0	35.6
Have another, undecided when	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.5
Undecided	0.0	0.8	1.6	2.6	2.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
Want no more	1.4	3.4	26.9	56.2	76.0	86.1	91.7	52.0
Sterilized <sup>4</sup>	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.6	2.3	0.9	0.9
Declared infecund	4.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.8	1.7	0.8
Missing	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	220	1,159	1,366	1,183	1,045	811	1,112	6,897

<sup>1</sup> The number of living children includes current pregnancy

<sup>2</sup> Wants next birth within 2 years

<sup>3</sup> Wants to delay next birth for 2 or more years

<sup>4</sup> Includes both female and male sterilization

### 3.5 Current Use of Contraception

Family planning refers to a conscious effort by a couple to limit or space the number of children they want to have through the use of contraceptive methods. Information about use of contraceptive methods was collected from female respondents by asking if they (or their partner) were currently using a method. Contraceptive methods are classified as modern and traditional methods. Modern methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, pill, IUD, injectables, implants, male condom, diaphragm, lactational amenorrhea method (LAM), and standard days method. Traditional methods include rhythm (periodic abstinence), withdrawal, and other traditional methods.

Table 5 shows that one of every two women currently in union is using some method of contraception. The majority of users rely on a modern method (45 percent). Use of modern contraceptive methods has increased substantially over the past five years from 10 percent of women currently in union using a modern method in 2005, to 27 percent in 2007-08, and to 45 percent in 2010 (Figure 3). The most commonly used modern methods are injectables (26 percent), followed by pills (7 percent) and implants (6 percent). Six percent of women report using traditional methods.

The use of contraception increases with increasing education. Sixty percent of women with at least some secondary education use a contraceptive method, in contrast to 43 percent of women with no education. In general, women do not begin to use contraception until they have had at least one child. Fifty-two percent of women currently in union with three or four children are currently using a modern method of contraception.

The use of modern methods among women currently in union peaks between age 25-39 (50-52 percent). There is a small variation in the use of modern methods between urban and rural areas (47 versus 45 percent). Distribution by province shows that the percentage of women currently in union using modern contraceptive methods in the West province is the lowest (36 percent) compared to those in the other provinces (46-52 percent).

**Figure 3. Contraceptive prevalence among women currently in union age 15-49, RDHS 2005, RIDHS 2007-08, and RDHS 2010**

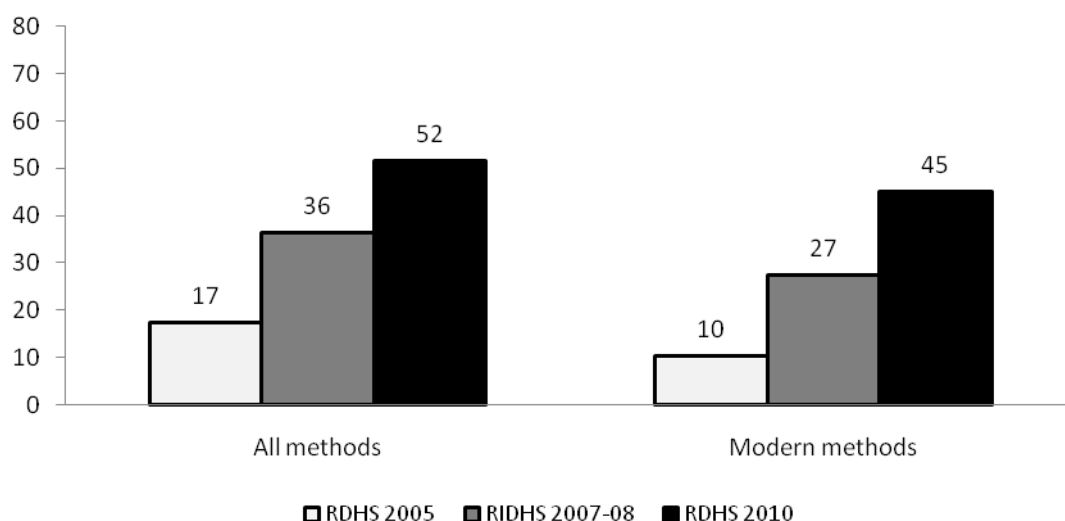




Table 5 Current use of contraception by background characteristics

Percent distribution of women currently in union age 15-49 by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	Any method	Any modern method	Modern method										Traditional method			Not currently using	Total	Number of women		
			Female sterilization	Male sterilization	Pill	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Male condom	Diaphragm	LAM	Standard days method	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal				Other	
<b>Age</b>																				
15-19	32.9	30.6	0.0	0.0	6.7	1.4	19.9	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.2	0.0	2.2	1.2	1.0	0.0	67.1	100.0	89	
20-24	44.5	42.1	0.1	0.0	6.9	0.1	28.9	2.9	2.2	0.0	0.6	0.3	2.4	1.0	1.4	0.0	55.5	100.0	998	
25-29	54.3	49.8	0.1	0.0	8.1	0.2	31.1	6.0	3.1	0.0	0.7	0.6	4.5	1.6	2.8	0.0	45.7	100.0	1,773	
30-34	56.3	50.2	0.4	0.0	8.4	0.6	28.0	8.3	3.2	0.1	0.5	0.7	6.1	2.7	3.3	0.1	43.7	100.0	1,458	
35-39	58.6	51.8	2.1	0.3	6.5	1.2	27.3	9.2	4.1	0.0	0.3	0.9	6.8	3.0	3.9	0.0	41.4	100.0	1,112	
40-44	50.9	42.1	1.3	0.0	7.8	0.6	21.2	6.9	2.6	0.0	0.4	1.3	8.9	4.5	4.1	0.3	49.1	100.0	780	
45-49	36.5	21.4	2.3	0.0	2.6	0.0	11.2	3.4	1.6	0.0	0.2	0.1	15.1	7.7	7.5	0.0	63.5	100.0	688	
<b>Residence</b>																				
Urban	53.1	47.0	2.0	0.0	7.9	2.4	22.3	6.1	4.3	0.0	0.2	1.9	6.0	2.5	3.3	0.2	46.9	100.0	926	
Rural	51.4	44.9	0.7	0.0	7.0	0.2	26.9	6.4	2.7	0.0	0.5	0.4	6.5	3.0	3.5	0.0	48.6	100.0	5,971	
<b>Region</b>																				
Kigali City	53.6	47.5	2.2	0.0	8.2	2.6	20.9	5.9	5.0	0.0	0.1	2.6	6.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	46.4	100.0	726	
South	55.3	48.3	0.6	0.0	7.5	0.4	27.7	8.3	2.5	0.0	0.6	0.7	6.9	2.4	4.4	0.1	44.7	100.0	1,614	
West	42.7	35.5	1.2	0.1	5.0	0.2	19.3	5.5	2.6	0.0	1.2	0.5	7.3	3.7	3.5	0.1	57.3	100.0	1,675	
North	56.9	52.0	0.3	0.2	8.0	0.2	36.0	4.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	4.9	3.0	1.9	0.0	43.1	100.0	1,151	
East	52.3	45.9	0.5	0.0	7.8	0.1	27.5	6.6	2.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	6.4	2.6	3.7	0.0	47.7	100.0	1,731	
<b>Education</b>																				
No education	43.3	37.3	0.5	0.2	5.1	0.1	22.7	6.0	1.6	0.1	1.0	0.1	6.0	3.0	2.9	0.1	56.7	100.0	1,355	
Primary	52.6	46.3	0.7	0.0	7.3	0.2	28.2	6.0	3.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	6.3	2.6	3.7	0.1	47.4	100.0	4,816	
Secondary or higher	60.3	52.3	2.3	0.0	10.1	3.0	20.5	8.9	4.9	0.0	0.6	2.0	8.0	4.9	3.1	0.0	39.7	100.0	727	
<b>Number of living children</b>																				
0	1.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	98.5	100.0	429	
1-2	53.1	48.3	0.1	0.0	8.2	0.5	30.5	4.7	3.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	4.8	2.2	2.6	0.0	46.9	100.0	2,478	
3-4	58.2	52.0	1.3	0.1	8.3	0.6	28.8	8.3	3.5	0.0	0.7	0.5	6.2	2.8	3.4	0.0	41.8	100.0	2,133	
5+	53.5	43.2	1.5	0.1	6.0	0.5	23.7	7.6	2.6	0.0	0.3	0.8	10.3	4.6	5.5	0.1	46.5	100.0	1,858	
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,897</b>	

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.  
LAM = Lactational amenorrhea method

### 3.6 Childhood Mortality

An important objective of the 2010 RDHS was to measure the level and trend of mortality among children. Estimates of childhood mortality are based on information from the birth history section of the questionnaire administered to individual women. This information is used to directly estimate the following five mortality rates, expressed per 1,000 live births:

- Neonatal mortality rate (NNR): the probability of dying within the first month of life;
- Post-neonatal mortality rate (PNNR): the difference between infant and neonatal mortality rates;
- Infant mortality rate ( ${}_1q_0$ ): the probability of dying before the first birthday;
- Child mortality rate ( ${}_4q_1$ ): the probability of dying between the first and fifth birthday;
- Under-five mortality rate ( ${}_5q_0$ ): the probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday.

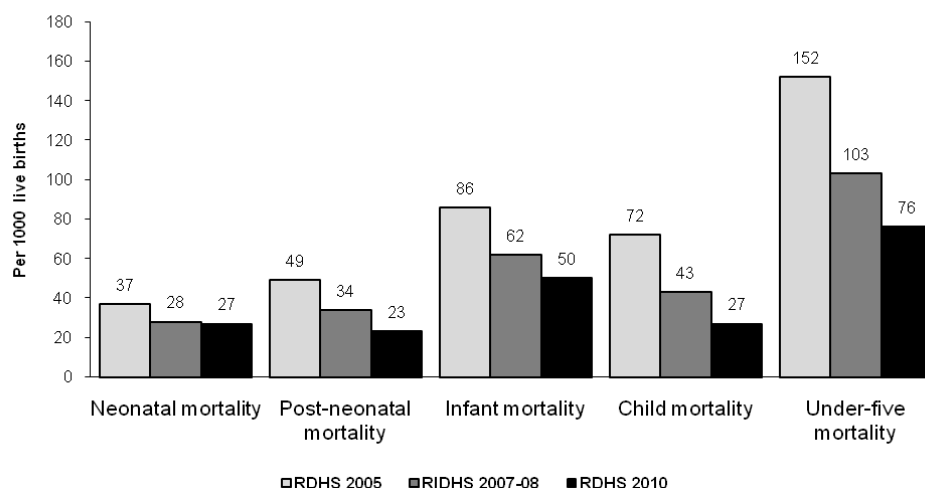
Years preceding the survey	Neonatal mortality rate (NNR)	Post-neonatal mortality rate <sup>1</sup> (PNNR)	Infant mortality rate ( ${}_1q_0$ )	Child mortality rate ( ${}_4q_1$ )	Under-five mortality rate ( ${}_5q_0$ )
0-4	27	23	50	27	76
5-9	32	41	73	64	133
10-14	48	61	109	99	197

<sup>1</sup> Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

Table 6 presents early childhood mortality rates for the 14 years preceding the survey. Under-five mortality rate for the period 0-4 years before the survey (which roughly corresponds to the years 2006-2010) is 76 per 1,000 live births. This means that about one in thirteen children born in Rwanda dies before reaching their fifth birthday. Most mortality occurs during the first year of life: infant mortality rate is 50 per 1,000 live births, while mortality rate (between the first and fifth birthday) is 27 per 1,000 live births. Neonatal mortality (or mortality during the first month) rate is 27 per 1,000 live births; while post-neonatal mortality rate (between the first month and the first birthday) is 23 per 1,000 live births.

Figure 4 compares the mortality rates of the 2010 RDHS to those of the 2005 RDHS and the 2007-08 RIDHS. All figures refer to the period 0-4 years before each survey.

Figure 4. Trend in childhood mortality rates, RDHS 2005, RIDHS 2007-08, and RDHS 2010



### 3.7 Maternal Health

Proper care during pregnancy and delivery are important for the health of both the mother and baby. Women who had given birth in the five years preceding the survey were asked a number of questions about maternal health care. For the last live birth in that period, mothers were asked whether they had obtained antenatal care during the pregnancy, whether they had received tetanus toxoid injections, and what type of assistance they received at the time of delivery and where the delivery took place. Tables 7.1 and 7.2 present the information on these key maternal care indicators.

#### *Antenatal care*

Antenatal care from a trained professional is important for monitoring the pregnancy to reduce potential risks for the mother and child during pregnancy and delivery. Practically all women (98 percent) who gave birth in the 5 years preceding the survey received antenatal care at least once from a health professional (doctor, nurse, or midwife). Because seeing a health professional for antenatal care is nearly universal, it varies very little by background characteristics.

To be effective, antenatal care must continue regularly through delivery. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends at least four ANC visits at regular intervals throughout the pregnancy. Table 7.1 shows the number of ANC visits. The proportion of pregnant women who had four recommended visits in the 2010 RDHS is 35 percent; higher than the proportion found in the 2007-08 RIDHS (24 percent).

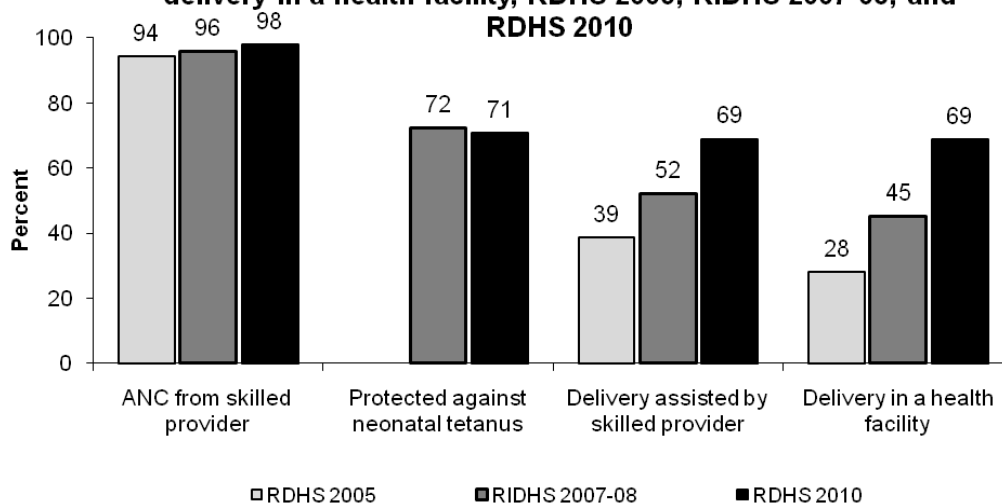
Number of ANC visits	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
None	1.5	1.9	1.8
1	5.4	4.2	4.3
2-3	52.5	59.1	58.3
4+	40.4	34.7	35.4
Don't know/missing	0.3	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

#### *Tetanus toxoid*

Mothers are given tetanus toxoid injections during pregnancy to prevent neonatal tetanus, a potential cause of death among infants. Tetanus toxoid coverage comes from respondent verbal reports of receiving tetanus toxoid injection during pregnancy. To ensure protection for the newborn, the mother must have at least two tetanus toxoid injections during pregnancy or a single one if she has already received an injection during a preceding pregnancy. The figure includes mothers with two injections during the pregnancy of the last live birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the last live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the last live birth), or four or more injections (the last within ten years of the last live birth), or five or more injections prior to the last live birth.

Seventy-one percent of mothers received protection against tetanus for their newborns. Differentials in receiving protection against tetanus vary by province, and the proportion of mothers received protection against tetanus for their newborns is lowest in Kigali (63 percent). The percentage of women receiving protection against tetanus for their newborns in urban and rural areas is not significantly different (67 percent versus 71 percent). The percentage of women receiving protection against tetanus for their newborns has not changed since the RIDHS 2007-08.

**Figure 5. Antenatal care by skilled provider, protected against neonatal tetanus, delivery assisted by skilled provider, and delivery in a health facility, RDHS 2005, RIDHS 2007-08, and RDHS 2010**



### *Delivery care*

Proper medical attention and hygienic conditions during delivery can reduce the risk of complications and infections that may lead to death or serious illness for the mother and/or the baby. The percent of babies in Rwanda delivered by a health professional has increased substantially in the recent past, from 52 percent in the 2007-08 RIDHS to 69 percent in the 2010 RDHS (Figure 5). The proportion of babies delivered at a health facility increased substantially during the same period, from 45 percent in 2007-08 to 69 percent in 2010. As expected there are significant regional variations in the percentage of births delivered in a health facility, the highest percentage of births delivered in a facility is in Kigali City (83 percent) and the lowest percentage is in the North province (63 percent). Eighty-two percent of births to urban women were delivered in a health facility compared to 67 percent of births to rural women. The percentage of births delivered in a health facility increases steadily with the increasing education of the mother. Fifty-seven percent of births to women with no education were delivered in a health facility, 70 percent of births born to women with at least some primary education were delivered in a health facility, and nearly nine in ten births (87 percent) born to women with at least some secondary schooling were delivered in a health facility. The variations in whether or not births are delivered by a skilled provider according to background characteristics are similar to those seen among women who delivered in a health facility.

Table 7.2 Maternal care indicators

Among women age 15-49 who had a live birth in the five years preceding the survey, percentage who received antenatal care from a skilled provider for the last live birth and percentage whose last live birth was protected against neonatal tetanus, and among all live births in the five years before the survey, percentage delivered by a skilled provider and percentage delivered in a health facility, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	Percentage with antenatal care from a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage whose last live birth was protected against neonatal tetanus <sup>2</sup>	Number of women	Percentage delivered by a skilled provider <sup>1</sup>	Percentage delivered in a health facility	Number of births
<b>Mother's age at birth</b>						
<20	97.1	61.5	373	83.1	82.7	556
20-34	98.4	69.0	4,679	70.6	70.6	6,938
35+	97.0	79.4	1,353	57.4	57.0	1,643
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	98.3	66.8	819	82.4	82.0	1,094
Rural	98.0	71.3	5,586	67.2	67.1	8,043
<b>Region</b>						
Kigali City	99.0	63.4	635	83.1	83.0	872
South	97.6	72.5	1,532	66.4	66.6	2,169
West	97.9	67.7	1,545	71.0	70.6	2,284
North	98.3	72.1	1,035	63.8	63.4	1,437
East	98.0	73.8	1,658	67.5	67.5	2,376
<b>Mother's education</b>						
No education	96.4	69.8	1,211	57.1	56.7	1,756
Primary	98.4	70.9	4,571	69.9	69.9	6,578
Secondary or higher	98.7	71.4	623	87.7	87.3	803
Total	98.0	70.7	6,405	69.0	68.9	9,137

<sup>1</sup> Skilled provider includes doctor, nurse, midwife, or auxiliary midwife

<sup>2</sup> Includes mothers with two injections during the pregnancy of her last live birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the last live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the last live birth), or four or more injections (the last within ten years of the last live birth), or five or more injections at any time prior to the last live birth

### 3.8 Vaccination of Children

According to the WHO a child is considered fully vaccinated if he or she has received a BCG vaccination against tuberculosis, three doses of DPT vaccine to prevent diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis, at least three doses of polio vaccine, and one dose of measles vaccine. These vaccinations should be received during the first year of life. Since 2006, the Rwanda National Immunization Program has replaced DPT vaccines with a tetravalent vaccine that includes DTC and Hemophilus Influenza type b vaccine (Hib) and a pentavalent vaccine that includes DPT, Hib, and Hepatitis type b vaccine (HepB). The 2010 RDHS collected information on the coverage for these vaccinations among all children under age five.

**Table 8 Vaccinations by background characteristics**

Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey by source of information (vaccination card or the mother's report), and percentage with a vaccination card, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	BCG	Tetravalent/Pentavalent			Polio <sup>1</sup>			Measles	All basic vaccinations <sup>2</sup>	No vaccinations	Percent age with a vaccination card	Number of children
		1	2	3	0	1	2					
<b>Sex</b>												
Male	99.5	99.2	98.5	97.1	90.3	99.3	98.5	93.3	95.0	90.2	0.4	786
Female	98.8	98.5	98.1	96.5	88.9	99.1	98.4	93.3	95.0	90.0	0.7	831
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	99.7	99.4	99.0	95.7	94.3	99.4	99.0	94.1	97.3	93.3	0.3	181
Rural	99.1	98.8	98.2	97.0	89.0	99.2	98.4	93.2	94.8	89.7	0.6	1,436
<b>Region</b>												
Kigali City	99.6	99.2	98.8	98.5	94.5	99.2	98.8	96.6	98.2	96.3	0.4	142
South	99.0	98.7	98.4	96.8	89.0	99.2	99.0	94.4	97.6	92.8	0.8	383
West	98.3	98.3	97.3	94.5	89.7	98.8	97.7	86.3	91.1	80.9	1.0	426
North	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.2	96.1	100.0	100.0	97.0	97.4	93.6	0.0	251
East	99.5	98.7	98.0	97.2	84.4	99.2	97.7	96.2	94.2	92.8	0.2	414
<b>Education</b>												
No education	98.5	98.0	97.7	95.0	87.6	99.2	98.1	92.3	90.8	87.0	0.8	271
Primary	99.2	98.9	98.3	97.0	89.8	99.2	98.4	93.1	95.6	90.1	0.5	1,217
Secondary or higher	99.5	99.5	99.5	98.3	91.4	99.5	99.5	97.5	98.5	96.8	0.5	128
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>98.8</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>93.3</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1,616</b>

<sup>1</sup> Polio 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth.

<sup>2</sup> BCG, measles, and three doses each of Tetravalent/Pentavalent and polio vaccine, excluding polio vaccine given at birth

Information on vaccination coverage was obtained in two ways—from health cards and from verbal reports of mothers. All mothers were asked by interviewers to show the health cards on which vaccinations are recorded for all children born since January 2005. If the card was available, the interviewer copied into the questionnaire the dates on which each vaccination was received. If a vaccination was not recorded on the health card, the mother was asked to recall whether that particular vaccination had been given. If the mother was not able to present a health card for her child, she was asked to recall whether the child had received BCG, polio, tetravalent/pentavalent and measles. If she indicated that the child had received the polio or tetravalent/pentavalent vaccines, she was asked about the number of doses that the child received.

Taking into consideration the vaccination schedule, Table 8 presents information on vaccination coverage for children age 12-23 months. The percentage of data coming directly from health cards is 82 percent (the 2005 RDHS and the 2007-08 RIDHS fieldwork recorded dates directly from health cards for 76 percent and 67 percent of children age 12-23, respectively). Coverage levels include data from both health cards and verbal reports of mothers. Ninety percent of children aged 12-23 months are fully vaccinated. This is an increase in coverage over the recent past, as the 2005 RDHS and the 2007-08 RIDHS found 75 percent and 80 percent of children age 12-23 to be fully vaccinated respectively. Ninety-eight percent or more of children have received BCG, two doses of tetravalent or pentavalent, and two doses of polio vaccines. The proportions of children receiving the third dose of tetravalent or pentavalent and polio were 97 percent and 93 percent, respectively. Ninety-five percent of the children received a measles vaccination.

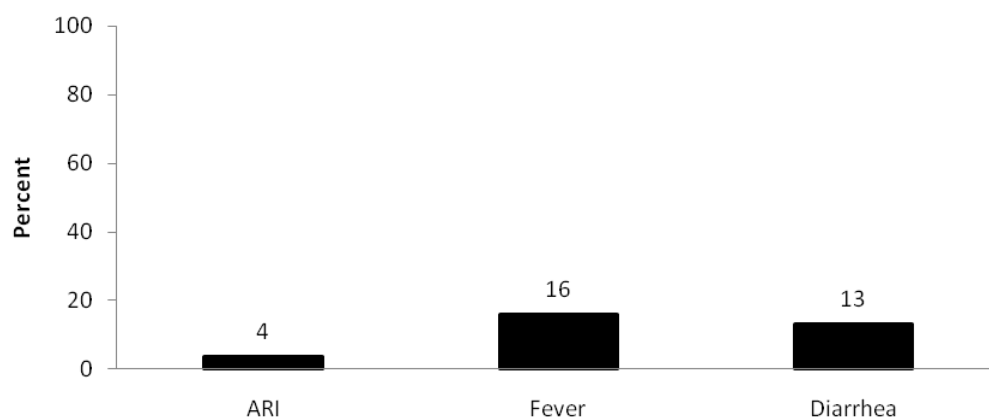
Full vaccination coverage varies by mother's education, increasing from 87 percent among children of mothers with no education, to 90 percent among children of mothers with primary education, and to 97 percent among mothers with secondary or higher education. Full coverage is slightly higher in urban areas (93 percent) than in rural areas (90 percent). Children in Kigali City have the highest full vaccination coverage (96 percent), while children in the West province have the lowest full vaccination coverage (81 percent).

### 3.9 Treatment of Childhood Illnesses

Acute respiratory illness, fever, and dehydration from severe diarrhea are major causes of childhood morbidity and mortality. Prompt medical attention for children experiencing the symptoms of these illnesses is, therefore, crucial in increasing child well-being and reducing child deaths. To

obtain information on how childhood illnesses are treated, mothers were asked (for each child under the age of five years) whether in the two weeks before the survey the child had experienced cough with short, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing due to chest congestion (symptoms of acute respiratory infection ARI), fever, and diarrhea. The percentage of children having experienced each of these illnesses within the two weeks before the survey is shown in Figure 6.

**Figure 6. Prevalence of ARI, fever and diarrhea in the two weeks prior to the survey among children under age 5**



**Table 9 Treatment for acute respiratory infection, fever, and diarrhea**

Among children under five years who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) or were sick with fever in the two weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, and among children under five years who were sick with diarrhea during the two weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom treatment was sought from a health facility or provider, percentage given a solution made from oral rehydration salt (ORS) packets or given prepackaged ORS liquids, and percentage given any oral rehydration therapy (ORT) by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	Children with symptoms of ARI <sup>1</sup>		Children with fever		Children with diarrhea			
	Percentage for whom treatment was sought from a health facility/provider <sup>2</sup>	Number with ARI	Percentage for whom treatment was sought from a health facility/provider <sup>2</sup>	Number with fever	Percentage for whom treatment was sought from a health facility/provider <sup>2</sup>	Percentage given solution from ORS packet <sup>3</sup>	Percentage given any ORT <sup>4</sup>	Number with diarrhea
<b>Age in months</b>								
<6	(39.0)	29	27.4	92	15.8	9.0	11.0	48
6-11	62.7	53	46.5	208	42.9	29.4	33.8	184
12-23	57.8	82	47.7	353	46.5	38.4	44.4	404
24-35	50.7	56	45.5	282	35.5	25.1	30.9	242
36-47	35.1	60	36.5	237	22.3	22.3	26.3	152
48-59	(48.4)	41	40.3	184	27.0	21.1	28.9	103
<b>Sex</b>								
Male	50.1	179	43.2	722	40.0	31.3	36.5	610
Female	50.5	143	42.2	634	33.9	26.6	32.2	522
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	75.8	54	55.9	172	33.0	26.3	32.1	140
Rural	45.1	269	40.8	1,183	37.8	29.5	34.9	992
<b>Region</b>								
Kigali City	(74.2)	38	51.9	144	33.1	32.5	40.9	95
South	46.7	71	46.8	367	33.0	27.1	34.2	319
West	45.3	131	42.3	378	45.5	29.4	34.8	290
North	(47.1)	39	30.8	229	31.5	25.5	27.3	183
East	(52.4)	43	43.2	237	38.9	32.8	37.5	245
<b>Mother's education</b>								
No education	40.6	66	34.0	228	28.4	21.3	28.1	182
Primary	49.2	219	42.8	1,008	38.1	30.1	35.0	862
Secondary or higher	(73.3)	37	59.1	119	47.1	35.4	43.3	88
<b>Total</b>	50.2	322	42.7	1,355	37.2	29.1	34.5	1,132

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Symptoms of ARI (cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing which was chest-related and/or by difficult breathing which was chest-related) is considered a proxy for pneumonia

<sup>2</sup> Excludes pharmacy, shop, and traditional practitioner

<sup>3</sup> Includes ORS from packets and prepackaged ORS liquids

<sup>4</sup> Includes ORS from packets, prepackaged ORS liquids, and recommended home fluids

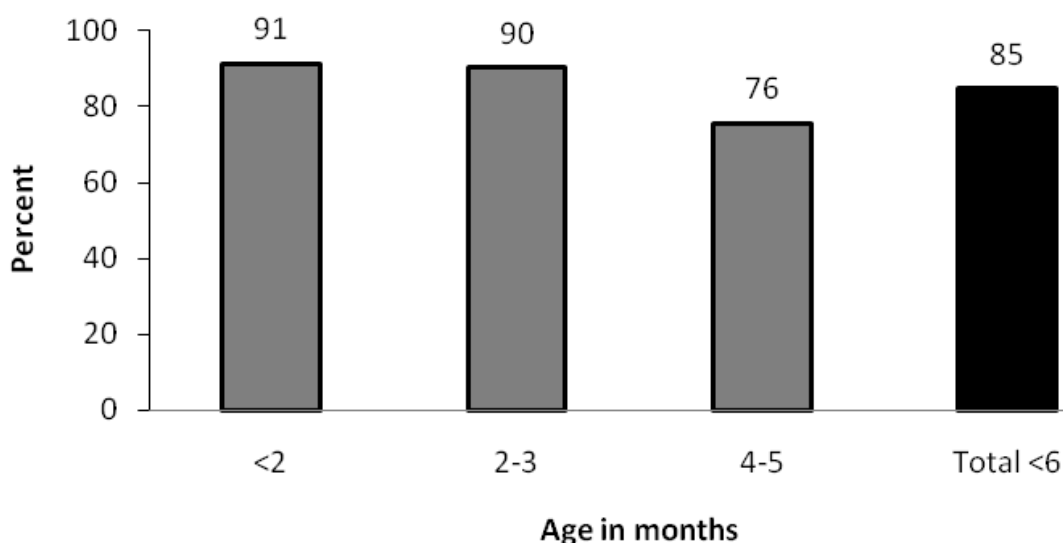
Table 9 shows treatment sought for children with these illnesses. Treatment may have been sought from either the public or the private medical sector. Treatment was sought from a health facility or a health provider for 50 percent of children with ARI symptoms. A treatment was sought from a health facility or health provider for 43 percent of children with fever and for 37 percent of children with diarrhea. When left untreated, the dehydrating effect of diarrhea can and often does lead to death in young children. The administration of oral rehydration therapy (ORT) is a simple means of counteracting the effects of dehydration. Effective therapy can be achieved by administering either a solution prepared by mixing a commercially prepared packet of oral rehydration salts (ORS) with water or a homemade fluid of porridge water or cooked rice with salt and sugar, or simply by increasing the amount of fluids given to children. Mothers with children who had experienced diarrhea in the two weeks before the survey were asked if they gave the children some form of ORT to treat the diarrhea. Thirty-five percent of children who had diarrhea were given some form of ORT, and 29 percent of children with diarrhea were given fluids made from a special ORS packet. While the percent of children who received ORT is not very different between urban and rural areas, it varies substantially across provinces. The percent of children who had diarrhea and received ORT is highest in Kigali City (41 percent), and lowest in the North province (27 percent).

### 3.10 Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices

Breast milk is the optimal source of nutrients for infants. Children who are exclusively breastfed receive only breast milk. Exclusive breastfeeding is recommended during the first 6 months of a child's life because it limits exposure to disease agents as well as providing all of the nutrients that a baby requires. Table 10 shows the breastfeeding practices of mothers with children under the age of two years.

Exclusive breastfeeding is a common practice in Rwanda, with 85 percent of children under 6 months of age being exclusively breastfed (Figure 7). This represents a small decrease from 2005, when 88 percent of children less than 6 months old were exclusively breastfed. The remainders of breastfed infants under 6 months of age consume water, water-based liquids or juice, other milk, or complementary foods; less than one percent only of infants under age 6 months are not being breastfed. Nearly all children are breastfed through the first year of life, but by age 6 to 9 months, most breastfed children (70 percent) are also receiving complementary foods in addition to breast milk. Two percent of children age less than 6 months and 6 percent of children 6-9 months are bottle fed in Rwanda. These figures have slightly decreased since 2005 where 3 percent and 7 percent of children 0-5 months and 6-9 months were bottle fed respectively.

**Figure 7. Exclusive breastfeeding before the age of 6 months by child's age**





**Table 10 Breastfeeding status by age**

Percent distribution of youngest children under two years who are living with their mother, by breastfeeding status, the percentage currently breastfeeding, and the percentage of all children under two years using a bottle with a nipple, according to age in months, Rwanda 2010

Age in months	Percent distribution of youngest children under two living with their mother by breastfeeding status							Total	Percent-age currently breast-feeding	Number of youngest children under two years	Percentag e using a bottle with a nipple	Number of all children under two years
	Not breast-feeding	Exclusivel y breastfed	Breast-feeding and consumin g plain water only	Breast-feeding and consumin g non-milk liquids/ juice	Breast-feeding and consumin g other milk	Breast-feeding and comple-mentary foods						
0-1	0.6	91.4	1.8	5.0	0.7	0.5	100.0	99.4	192	0.5	196	
2-3	0.4	90.4	1.2	5.3	1.4	1.3	100.0	99.6	245	1.9	251	
4-5	0.7	75.7	1.7	8.4	6.0	7.5	100.0	99.3	281	4.2	284	
6-8	1.5	19.5	2.0	8.0	6.7	62.3	100.0	98.5	417	5.7	420	
9-11	3.0	2.9	0.1	1.8	1.0	91.2	100.0	97.0	416	6.6	421	
12-17	5.6	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	93.3	100.0	94.4	756	2.7	772	
18-23	14.1	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	85.1	100.0	85.9	783	1.3	844	
0-3	0.5	90.9	1.4	5.1	1.1	0.9	100.0	99.5	437	1.3	447	
0-5	0.6	84.9	1.5	6.4	3.0	3.5	100.0	99.4	718	2.4	732	
6-9	1.5	15.5	1.6	6.2	5.6	69.7	100.0	98.5	553	6.2	558	
12-15	5.0	0.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	93.8	100.0	95.0	515	3.0	527	
12-23	9.9	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.0	89.1	100.0	90.1	1,539	2.0	1,616	
20-23	16.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	82.9	100.0	83.5	519	1.1	566	

Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a "24-hour" period (yesterday and last night). Children who are classified as breastfeeding and consuming plain water only, consumed no liquid or solid supplements. The categories of not breastfeeding, exclusively breastfed, breastfeeding and consuming plain water, non-milk liquids/juice, other milk, and complementary foods (solids and semi-solids) are hierarchical and mutually exclusive, and their percentages add to 100 percent. Thus children who receive breast milk and non-milk liquids and who do not receive other milk and who do not receive complementary foods are classified in the non-milk liquid category even though they may also get plain water. Any children who get complementary food are classified in that category as long as they are breastfeeding as well.

### 3.11 Nutritional Status of Children

Under-nutrition places children at increased risk of morbidity and mortality and has also been shown to be related to impaired mental development. Anthropometry provides one of the most important indicators of children’s nutritional status. Height and weight measurements were obtained for all children born in the five years preceding the survey in one-half of the households selected for the 2010 RDHS. The height and weight data are used to compute three summary indices of nutritional status: height-for-age; weight-for-height; and weight-for-age. These three indices are expressed as standard deviation units from the median for the international reference population recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). The Child Growth Standards applied here are new international growth standards adopted by the WHO on April 27, 2006 and are not comparable to those based on the NCHS/CDC/WHO Reference that were in use prior to 2006, and published in the 2000 and 2005 RDHS reports.

Children whose indices of nutritional status are more than two standard deviations below (-2 SD) the reference median are regarded as undernourished, while those whose indices of nutritional status are more than three standard deviations (-3 SD) below the reference median are considered severely undernourished. Table 11 shows nutritional status for children under five years, according to the three anthropometric indices, by background characteristics.

Children whose height-for-age is more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population are considered stunted or short for their age. Stunting is the outcome of a failure to receive adequate nutrition over an extended period and is also affected by recurrent or chronic illness. Forty-four percent of children under five are short for their age; of those children, approximately two in five (17 percent) are severely stunted.

Children whose weight-for-height is more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population are considered wasted or thin. Wasting represents the failure to receive adequate nutrition in the period immediately before the survey, and typically is the result of recent illness episodes, especially diarrhea, or of a rapid deterioration in food supplies. In 2010, three percent

of Rwandan children were found to be wasted at the time of the survey, including about one percent who were severely wasted.

Children whose weight-for-age is more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population are considered underweight. The measure reflects the effects of both acute and chronic undernutrition. About one in ten children (11 percent) are underweight, including two percent who are severely underweight.

Table 11 Nutritional status of children												
Percentage of children under five years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010												
Background characteristic	Height-for-age <sup>1</sup>			Weight-for-height				Weight-for-age				Number of children
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-score (SD)	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD <sup>2</sup>	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean Z-Score (SD)	
<b>Age in months</b>												
<6	4.4	16.7	-0.6	2.8	5.4	16.2	0.5	1.9	6.4	1.4	-0.2	354
6-8	6.2	18.9	-0.8	2.9	6.4	10.3	0.1	1.9	9.7	1.8	-0.5	201
9-11	9.9	25.6	-1.2	3.4	8.2	3.8	-0.1	4.8	12.2	1.2	-0.7	216
12-17	15.6	42.5	-1.7	0.8	3.8	5.0	0.1	3.3	11.2	0.8	-0.7	383
18-23	24.6	55.1	-2.1	0.4	3.3	6.4	0.3	2.7	14.7	1.1	-0.8	418
24-35	22.6	51.8	-2.0	0.3	1.6	6.5	0.5	1.9	11.9	0.7	-0.8	935
36-47	17.6	50.9	-2.0	0.3	1.0	6.7	0.5	1.1	9.4	0.3	-0.8	926
48-59	16.9	46.1	-1.9	0.4	2.2	4.1	0.3	3.0	13.8	0.2	-1.0	923
<b>Sex</b>												
Male	19.5	47.4	-1.9	1.0	3.3	6.6	0.3	2.6	12.7	0.7	-0.8	2,187
Female	14.5	41.1	-1.7	0.6	2.4	6.8	0.4	2.0	10.2	0.7	-0.7	2,169
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	7.7	27.3	-1.1	1.7	3.5	7.0	0.3	0.8	6.3	1.1	-0.4	517
Rural	18.3	46.5	-1.8	0.7	2.7	6.7	0.4	2.5	12.1	0.6	-0.8	3,839
<b>Region</b>												
Kigali City	7.8	23.5	-1.1	1.4	4.4	7.5	0.3	1.1	7.4	1.5	-0.4	397
South	14.6	42.3	-1.7	1.1	3.8	5.7	0.2	2.8	12.4	0.7	-0.8	1,050
West	20.4	49.9	-1.9	0.4	2.0	6.5	0.4	2.1	12.6	0.3	-0.8	1,086
North	19.3	50.7	-2.0	0.4	1.2	6.8	0.6	1.8	10.4	0.6	-0.8	710
East	18.0	43.9	-1.7	1.1	3.2	7.6	0.4	2.7	11.5	0.8	-0.8	1,112
<b>Mother's education<sup>3</sup></b>												
No education	22.2	52.0	-2.0	0.5	2.3	6.3	0.4	3.0	14.7	0.4	-0.9	806
Primary	16.7	44.5	-1.8	0.9	2.9	7.0	0.3	2.1	11.6	0.6	-0.8	2,947
Secondary or higher	7.3	22.9	-0.9	1.7	3.8	7.5	0.3	1.4	2.8	1.8	-0.3	351
<b>Mother's interview status</b>												
Mother interviewed	16.9	44.1	-1.8	0.9	2.9	6.9	0.3	2.2	11.4	0.7	-0.8	4,070
Mother not interviewed, but in household	(23.7)	(51.0)	(-1.9)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(4.0)	(0.2)	(3.2)	(15.3)	(0.0)	(-1.0)	34
Mother not interviewed, not in household <sup>4</sup>	18.3	46.3	-1.8	0.4	2.1	4.3	0.4	3.6	10.9	1.1	-0.8	249
Total	17.0	44.2	-1.8	0.8	2.8	6.7	0.4	2.3	11.4	0.7	-0.8	4,356

Note: Table is based on children who slept in the household the night before the interview. Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards adopted in 2006. The indices in this table are NOT comparable to those based on the previously used 1977 NCHS/CDC/WHO Reference. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurement of both height and weight. Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2 and less than 85 cm; standing height is measured for all other children

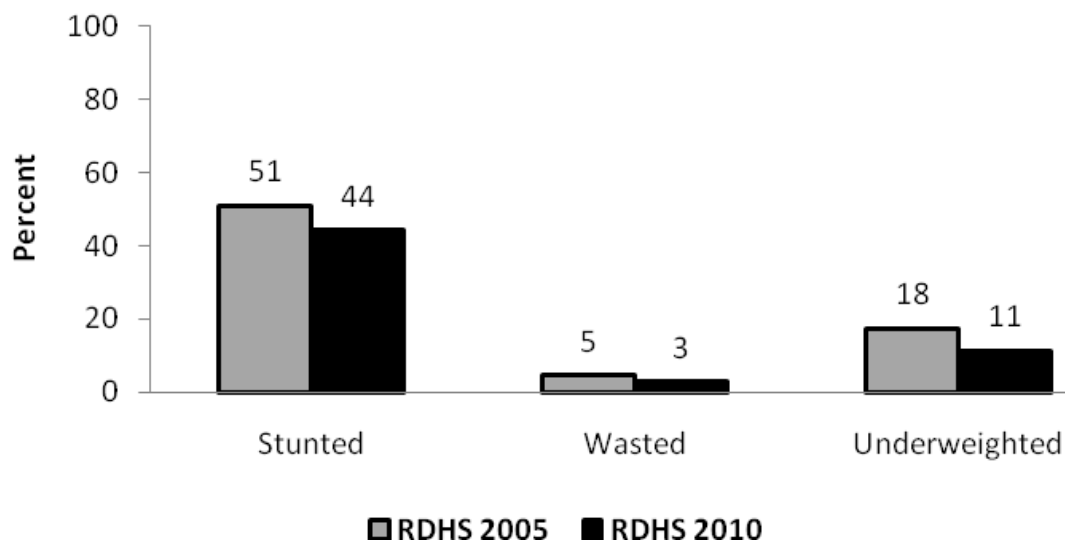
<sup>2</sup> Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Standards population median

<sup>3</sup> For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the Household Questionnaire.

<sup>4</sup> Includes children whose mothers are deceased

As mentioned above, the Child Growth Standards applied here are new international growth standards adopted by the WHO in 2006. Therefore, the nutritional statuses reported in the 2000 RDHS and 2005 RDHS reports assessed nutritional status by comparing the RDHS results against the NCHS/CDC/WHO Reference populations that were in existence prior to 2006, thus, the nutritional status results published in the 2000 and 2005 RDHS reports are not comparable to those published here. The 2005 data were re-calculated applying the new growth standard adopted by the WHO in 2006 in order to compare them with the 2010 RDHS findings. The results are presented in Figure 8.

**Figure 8. Undernourished children 0-59 months, RDHS 2005 and RDHS 2010**



### 3.12 Anemia

Anemia is characterized by a low level of hemoglobin in the blood. Hemoglobin is necessary for transporting oxygen from the lungs to other tissues and organs in the body. Anemia can result from a nutritional deficiency of iron, folate, vitamin B12, or some other nutrients. This type of anemia is commonly referred to as iron-deficiency anemia and is the most widespread form of malnutrition in the world. Anemia can also be the result of hemorrhage, chronic disease, malaria, parasitic infection or genetic disorders such as Hemoglobin E trait, beta-Thalassemia and alpha-Thalassemia.

Table 12 presents anemia levels for children under five years of age (6-59 months) and for women age 15-49 years. Levels of anemia were classified as severe, moderate, or mild according to criteria developed by the World Health Organization. Children with <7.0 g/dl of hemoglobin are classified as having severe anemia, with 7.0-9.9 g/dl as having moderate anemia, and with 10.0-10.9 g/dl as having mild anemia. Women with <7.0 g/dl are classified as having severe anemia, with 7.0-9.9 g/dl as having moderate anemia, non-pregnant women with 10.0-11.9 g/dl and pregnant women with 10.0-10.9 g/dl as having mild anemia.

Anemia is common among children in Rwanda; nearly two in five (38 percent) children are anemic. Practically all children who suffer from anemia are mildly anemic (24 percent of all children) or moderately anemic (14 percent of all children). Less than one percent of children are severely anemic. Anemia is less common among women; 17 percent show any evidence of anemia, and the majority of these women are mildly anemic (14 percent of all women). The prevalence of anemia varies by residence and by region among both children and women.

Table 12 Anemia among children and women					
Percentage of children age 6-59 months and women age 15-49 years classified as having anemia, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010					
Background characteristic	Any anemia	Percentage with anemia			Number
		Mild anemia	Moderate anemia	Severe anemia	
<b>CHILDREN</b>					
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	35.7	22.3	12.3	1.2	475
Rural	38.4	24.5	13.6	0.4	3,562
<b>Region</b>					
Kigali City	38.1	23.2	13.3	1.6	365
South	37.5	24.1	13.0	0.4	986
West	38.4	24.5	13.9	0.1	1,003
North	30.6	21.6	8.7	0.3	656
East	43.2	26.1	16.6	0.6	1,027
Total	38.1	24.2	13.5	0.5	4,037
<b>WOMEN</b>					
<b>Residence</b>					
Urban	16.2	13.1	2.9	0.2	1,050
Rural	17.4	14.4	2.9	0.2	5,895
<b>Region</b>					
Kigali City	18.0	13.8	4.0	0.2	807
South	17.4	14.4	2.8	0.1	1,593
West	15.3	13.7	1.5	0.1	1,698
North	11.6	10.2	1.3	0.1	1,178
East	22.8	17.3	4.8	0.6	1,668
Total	17.3	14.2	2.9	0.2	6,945

Note: Table is based on children and women who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Prevalence of anemia, based on hemoglobin levels, is adjusted for altitude (for children and women) and smoking (for women) using CDC formulas (CDC, 1998). Women and children with <7.0 g/dl of hemoglobin have severe anemia, women and children with 7.0-9.9 g/dl have moderate anemia, non-pregnant women with 10.0-11.9 g/dl and children and pregnant women with 10.0-10.9 g/dl have mild anemia.

### 3.13 Malaria Indicators

Malaria is one of the leading causes of death in developing countries. The 2010 RDHS collected data on measures to prevent malaria, including the use of mosquito nets among women and children and the prophylactic use of antimalarial drugs.

Table 13.1 shows that 83 percent of households nationwide own at least one mosquito net of any type, and 82 percent own at least one insecticide-treated net (ITN). More urban (85 percent) than rural (82 percent) households own at least one net. Ownership of ITNs also differs by urban-rural residence (85 percent for urban households and 82 percent for rural households).

The 2010 RDHS shows that Rwanda has made great progress in net ownership between 2007-08 and 2010. In the 2007-08 RIDHS, only 59 percent of households owned at least one mosquito net, and 56 percent owned at least one ITN.

Table 13.1 shows that a total of 71 percent of children under age 5 slept under a mosquito net the night before the survey. Seventy percent of children under age 5 in rural areas slept under a mosquito net the night before the survey compared with 76 percent in urban areas. The proportion of children under age 5 sleeping under an ITN the night before the survey is 70 percent, 69 percent in rural areas and 76 percent in urban areas. Among households with an ITN, three in four children under age 5 were reported to have slept under an ITN the night before the survey, 75 percent in rural areas, and 80 percent in urban areas. Overall, 73 percent of pregnant women age 15-49 slept under a mosquito net the night before the survey, 71 percent in rural areas versus 81 percent in urban areas. The proportion of pregnant women who slept under an ITN the night before the survey is similar to the proportion of women who slept under any mosquito net. Among households with an ITN, 80

percent of pregnant women in rural areas and 87 percent of women in urban areas slept under an ITN the night before the survey.

The 2010 RDHS also asked women whether they took any antimalarial drugs during antenatal care visits for their last pregnancy two years prior to the interview. The results show that 15 percent of women in urban areas took antimalarial drugs for malaria prevention during their last pregnancy in the two years preceding the survey compared with 13 percent of women in rural areas.

Sixteen percent of children under age 5 were reported to have had a fever in the two weeks preceding the survey. Among children under age 5 with fever in the two weeks preceding the survey, 11 percent took antimalarial drugs. More children in rural areas than urban areas took antimalarial drugs during fever (11 percent and 8 percent, respectively). Among children with fever, 7 percent in urban areas and 8 percent in rural areas took antimalarial drugs the same or next day after developing a fever.

Malaria indicator	Residence					
	Urban		Rural		Percentage	Number
	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number		
<b>Mosquito net</b>						
Percentage of households with at least one mosquito net (treated or untreated)	85.4	1,759	82.2	10,781	82.7	12,540
Percentage of households with at least one insecticide-treated net (ITN) <sup>1</sup>	84.5	1,759	81.6	10,781	82.0	12,540
Percentage of children under five years who slept under a mosquito net (treated or untreated) last night	76.2	1,060	69.7	7,882	70.5	8,942
Percentage of children under five years who slept under an insecticide-treated net (ITN) last night <sup>1</sup>	75.6	1,060	69.0	7,882	69.8	8,942
Percentage of children under five years who slept under an insecticide-treated net (ITN) last night in households with an ITN <sup>1</sup>	79.6	1,007	74.7	7,281	75.3	8,288
Percentage of pregnant women age 15-49 who slept under a mosquito net (treated or untreated) last night	80.9	149	71.1	803	72.7	952
Percentage of pregnant women age 15-49 who slept under an insecticide-treated net (ITN) last night <sup>1</sup>	80.2	149	70.9	803	72.3	952
Percentage of pregnant women age 15-49 who slept under an insecticide-treated net (ITN) last night in households with an ITN <sup>1</sup>	86.7	138	80.0	712	81.1	849
<b>Preventive malaria treatment during pregnancy</b>						
Percentage of last births in the two years preceding the survey for which the mother took antimalarial drugs for prevention during the pregnancy	15.0	383	13.1	2,823	13.3	3,208
<b>Children with fever</b>						
Percentage of children under five years who were sick with fever the two weeks preceding the survey	16.6	1,036	15.6	7,566	15.8	8,605
<b>Among children under five years with fever in the two weeks preceding the survey, percentage who took:</b>						
Any antimalarial drug	7.9	172	11.3	1,183	10.8	1,355
Artemether/lumefantrine	4.2	172	4.0	1,183	4.0	1,355
Primo	3.1	172	7.0	1,183	6.5	1,355
Quinine	0.0	172	0.4	1,183	0.4	1,355
Other antimalarial	0.6	172	0.1	1,183	0.1	1,355
<b>Among children under five years with fever in the two weeks preceding the survey, percentage who took on the same day/next day after developing fever:</b>						
Any antimalarial drug	7.1	172	7.8	1,183	7.7	1,355
Artemether/lumefantrine	3.4	172	2.5	1,183	2.6	1,355
Primo	3.1	172	5.1	1,183	4.9	1,355
Quinine	0.0	172	0.2	1,183	0.1	1,355
Other antimalarial	0.6	172	0.0	1,183	0.1	1,355

<sup>1</sup> An insecticide-treated net (ITN) is a permanent net that does not require any treatment, a pretreated net obtained within the past 12 months or a net that has been soaked with insecticide within the past 12 months.

Table 13.2 shows the results of the malaria microscopic diagnostic (blood smear) for women and children. Nationally, 1.4 percent of children age 6 to 59 months are infected with at least one form of malarial parasites. Children 6-11 months are less likely to be infected with malaria than children 12 months old or older. Prevalence in boys and girls is not substantially different. Overall, the proportion of children with malaria is higher in rural areas than urban areas (1.4 percent compared with 0.8 percent). In addition, the results show that children in the East province (3.5 percent) and the South province (1.4 percent) are more likely to be infected with malaria than those in other provinces.

Children whose mothers never attended school are more likely to be infected than children whose mothers attended some school.

Women are less likely to be infected with malaria than children. In the country as a whole, only 0.7 percent of women have malaria. There is no clear relationship between malaria infection and the age of a woman. Similar to children, rural women are more likely to be infected than urban women, and malaria prevalence among women is higher in the East province (1.6 percent) and the South province (1.0 percent) than other provinces. Malaria prevalence is negatively associated with the level of a woman's education.

<b>Table 13.2 Malaria among children and women</b>			
Percentage of children age 6-59 months and women age 15-49 classified as having malaria, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010			
Background characteristic	Results of the laboratory test		Number
	Positive	Negative	
<b>CHILDREN</b>			
<b>Age in months</b>			
6-8	0.6	99.4	188
9-11	0.5	99.5	219
12-17	1.0	99.0	391
18-23	1.3	98.7	423
24-35	1.4	98.6	943
36-47	1.8	98.2	943
48-59	1.5	98.5	929
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	1.5	98.5	2,037
Female	1.2	98.8	1,998
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	0.8	99.2	475
Rural	1.4	98.6	3,561
<b>Region</b>			
Kigali City	0.2	99.8	365
South	1.4	98.6	985
West	0.5	99.5	1,003
North	0.0	100.0	656
East	3.5	96.5	1,027
<b>Mother's education</b>			
No education	1.6	98.4	740
Primary	1.0	99.0	2,706
Secondary or higher	1.1	98.9	316
Total	1.4	98.6	4,036
<b>WOMEN</b>			
<b>Age</b>			
15-19	1.0	99.0	1,535
20-24	0.9	99.1	1,368
25-29	0.6	99.4	1,269
30-34	0.6	99.4	879
35-39	0.9	99.1	719
40-44	0.5	99.5	611
45-49	0.0	100.0	532
<b>Residence</b>			
Urban	0.2	99.8	1,045
Rural	0.8	99.2	5,868
<b>Region</b>			
Kigali City	0.1	99.9	800
South	1.0	99.0	1,596
West	0.2	99.8	1,680
North	0.1	99.9	1,174
East	1.6	98.4	1,664
<b>Education</b>			
No education	1.0	99.0	1,063
Primary	0.7	99.3	4,741
Secondary or higher	0.5	99.5	1,109
Total	0.7	99.3	6,913

### 3.14 HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Behavior

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a serious threat to social and economic development around the world. The 2010 RDHS included a series of questions that addressed respondents' knowledge about AIDS and their knowledge of modes of transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS, and of behaviors that can prevent the spread of HIV. Table 14 shows that virtually all women and men in Rwanda say that they have heard of AIDS. Knowledge does not vary by background characteristics.

Table 14 Knowledge of AIDS				
Percentage of women and men who have heard of AIDS, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010				
Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Have heard of AIDS	Number of women	Have heard of AIDS	Number of men
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	99.9	5,628	99.9	2,607
15-19	99.9	2,945	99.9	1,449
20-24	100.0	2,683	100.0	1,159
25-29	100.0	2,494	100.0	1,038
30-39	100.0	3,269	100.0	1,201
40-49	100.0	2,280	100.0	842
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	99.9	5,285	99.9	2,873
Ever had sex	100.0	1,188	100.0	1,140
Never had sex	99.9	4,097	99.9	1,733
Married or living together	100.0	6,897	100.0	2,700
Divorced/separated/widowed	100.0	1,489	100.0	115
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	100.0	2,057	100.0	939
Rural	100.0	11,614	100.0	4,748
<b>Region</b>				
Kigali City	100.0	1,596	100.0	739
South	100.0	3,212	99.9	1,308
West	100.0	3,305	100.0	1,307
North	100.0	2,278	99.9	899
East	100.0	3,280	100.0	1,435
<b>Education</b>				
No education	100.0	2,119	100.0	583
Primary	100.0	9,337	100.0	3,916
Secondary or higher	100.0	2,216	99.9	1,189
Total 15-49	100.0	13,671	100.0	5,688
Men 50-59	na	na	100.0	642
Total 15-59	na	na	100.0	6,329

na = Not applicable

HIV prevention initiatives focus their messages and efforts on two important aspects of sexual behavior, namely faithfulness (having only one sexual partner) and use of condoms. The 2010 RDHS asked a series of questions to women and men related to these behaviors in order to monitor certain HIV/AIDS indicators.

Table 15 Knowledge of HIV prevention methods

Percentage of women and men age 15-49 who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse and by having one partner who is not infected and has no other partners, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who say HIV can be prevented by:				Percentage of men who say HIV can be prevented by:			
	Using condoms <sup>1</sup>	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner <sup>1,2</sup>	Number of women	Using condoms <sup>1</sup>	Limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner <sup>2</sup>	Using condoms and limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner <sup>1,2</sup>	Number of men
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	89.7	82.9	76.3	5,628	90.3	76.9	71.2	2,607
15-19	87.8	81.1	73.4	2,945	88.2	74.1	67.7	1,449
20-24	91.7	84.9	79.4	2,683	92.8	80.4	75.6	1,159
25-29	92.4	88.6	82.8	2,494	93.9	81.0	77.1	1,038
30-39	92.0	86.5	80.8	3,269	94.1	79.7	75.9	1,201
40-49	89.6	84.8	77.5	2,280	93.8	81.9	77.3	842
<b>Marital status</b>								
Never married	89.4	82.1	75.3	5,285	90.4	76.0	70.4	2,873
Ever had sex	92.6	85.2	79.7	1,188	93.2	81.0	76.5	1,140
Never had sex	88.5	81.1	74.1	4,097	88.5	72.7	66.4	1,733
Married or living together	91.8	87.5	81.3	6,897	94.3	82.4	78.4	2,699
Divorced/separated/widowed	90.3	85.1	79.0	1,489	91.8	71.7	68.5	115
<b>Residence</b>								
Urban	93.7	89.9	84.9	2,057	95.4	78.1	75.6	939
Rural	90.2	84.3	77.6	11,614	91.6	79.1	73.9	4,748
<b>Region</b>								
Kigali City	94.7	92.8	88.8	1,596	95.5	79.4	76.6	739
South	89.9	90.1	82.5	3,212	93.3	74.6	70.5	1,308
West	87.7	76.2	67.6	3,305	89.2	83.0	76.0	1,307
North	92.8	87.5	82.2	2,278	90.3	81.5	75.5	899
East	91.1	83.9	78.9	3,280	93.6	77.4	73.7	1,435
<b>Education</b>								
No education	87.6	81.4	73.3	2,119	90.7	76.4	70.1	583
Primary	90.5	85.9	79.2	9,337	91.4	79.1	73.9	3,916
Secondary or higher	94.5	85.6	81.8	2,216	95.7	79.8	77.2	1,189
Total 15-49	90.7	85.1	78.7	13,671	92.3	79.0	74.2	5,687
Men 50-59	na	na	na	0	91.2	80.0	73.5	642
Total 15-59	na	na	na	0	92.1	79.1	74.1	6,329

na = Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse

<sup>2</sup> Partner who has no other partners

Table 15 shows that 91 percent of women and 92 percent of men age 15-49 reported that people can reduce the risk of getting the AIDS virus by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse. The proportion of women and men who say that limiting sexual intercourse to one uninfected partner can reduce the risk of infection of HIV is 85 percent and 79 percent respectively. Overall, 79 percent of women and 74 percent of men know both of the HIV prevention methods.

Knowledge of both the HIV prevention methods is lowest among women and men age 15-19 years old, those who have no education, and those who have never had sex. The proportion of women who know both HIV prevention methods is higher in urban areas than in rural areas (85 percent versus 78 percent, respectively). Among men the difference in knowledge of both HIV prevention methods among urban and rural areas is small (76 percent versus 74 percent, respectively).

Tables 16.1 and 16.2 present information on multiple sexual partners among women and men in the last 12 months, condom use during their last sexual encounter with a partner in the last 12 months, and the mean number of sexual partners in their lifetime.



Table 16.1 Multiple sexual partners in the past 12 months: Women

Among all women age 15-49, the percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last intercourse; and the mean number of sexual partners during her lifetime for women who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	All women		Among women who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months:		Among women who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup> :	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of women	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of women
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	0.6	5,628	(29.1)	33	1.4	1,981
15-19	0.3	2,945	*	9	1.3	432
20-24	0.9	2,683	*	24	1.4	1,549
25-29	0.7	2,494	*	17	1.3	2,178
30-39	0.5	3,269	*	16	1.5	3,153
40-49	0.7	2,280	*	16	1.6	2,248
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	0.5	5,285	(38.7)	26	1.7	1,184
Married/living together	0.4	6,897	*	25	1.3	6,892
Divorced/separated/widowed	2.0	1,489	(38.1)	30	1.9	1,483
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	1.1	2,057	*	20	1.8	1,411
Rural	0.5	11,614	21.9	62	1.4	8,148
<b>Region</b>						
Kigali City	1.2	1,596	*	17	1.8	1,099
South	0.4	3,212	*	11	1.4	2,262
West	0.6	3,305	*	19	1.3	2,237
North	0.4	2,278	*	10	1.4	1,553
East	0.8	3,280	*	25	1.4	2,408
<b>Education</b>						
No education	0.9	2,119	*	19	1.5	1,951
Primary	0.6	9,337	30.4	60	1.4	6,499
Secondary or higher	0.2	2,216	*	3	1.5	1,109
Total	0.6	13,671	28.9	82	1.4	9,559

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

Less than one percent of women (0.6 percent) and only 4 percent of men age 15-49 say that they had 2 or more sexual partners in the past 12 months prior to the interview. The proportion of women with 2 or more sexual partners in the past 12 months is higher among women who have no education (0.9 percent), live in urban areas (1.1 percent) and Kigali City (1.2 percent), and are divorced, separated or widowed (2.0 percent). Similarly, the proportion of men with 2 or more sexual partners in the past 12 months is higher among men who live in urban areas (5.6 percent) and in Kigali City (5.8 percent) and the West province (5.2 percent), and are divorced, separated or widowed (10.6 percent). The proportion of men with 2 or more sexual partners in the past 12 months varies little by level of education. More men age 25 or older have 2 or more sexual partners than those age 15-24. Even though an overwhelming majority of women and men say that the risk of getting the AIDS virus can be reduced by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse, only 29 percent of women and 28 percent of men reported using a condom during their last sexual intercourse.

Table 16.2 Multiple sexual partners in the past 12 months: Men

Among all men age 15-49, the percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner; among those having more than one partner in the past 12 months, the percentage reporting that a condom was used at last intercourse; and the mean number of sexual partners during his lifetime for men who ever had sexual intercourse, by background characteristics, Rwanda 2010

Background characteristic	All men		Among men who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months:		Among men who ever had sexual intercourse <sup>1</sup> :	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of men	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men
<b>Age</b>						
15-24	1.7	2,607	(58.0)	43	2.1	1,008
15-19	0.4	1,449	*	7	1.7	311
20-24	3.2	1,159	(53.0)	37	2.2	697
25-29	5.7	1,038	32.5	58	2.5	914
30-39	6.3	1,201	17.2	75	2.8	1,182
40-49	5.5	842	(9.5)	46	3.4	829
<b>Marital status</b>						
Never married	2.0	2,873	77.8	58	2.7	1,128
Married/living together	5.7	2,699	7.4	153	2.6	2,691
Divorced/separated/widowed	10.6	115	*	12	3.5	115
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	5.6	939	51.5	52	3.9	677
Rural	3.6	4,748	20.1	171	2.4	3,257
<b>Region</b>						
Kigali City	5.8	739	50.1	43	4.1	545
South	2.4	1,308	(21.6)	32	2.1	855
West	5.2	1,307	20.6	68	2.6	866
North	2.9	899	*	25	2.1	634
East	3.9	1,435	21.8	56	2.8	1,033
<b>Education</b>						
No education	3.8	583	*	22	2.5	509
Primary	4.0	3,916	27.1	156	2.5	2,711
Secondary or higher	3.7	1,189	35.2	44	3.6	713
Total 15-49	3.9	5,687	27.5	223	2.7	3,933
Men 50-59	6.0	642	(14.3)	39	4.0	636
Total 15-59	4.2	6,329	25.5	262	2.9	4,569

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25-49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

<sup>1</sup> Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.