

**SECONDARY ANALYSIS  
OF THE BANGLADESH  
NATIONAL CONTRACEPTIVE  
PREVALENCE SURVEY DATA  
1981**

**Analytical Findings  
and Tables**



MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MIS) UNIT  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND POPULATION CONTROL  
DHAKA, BANGLADESH

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"URBAN-RURAL DIFFERENTIAL STUDY IN CONTRACEPTIVE USE"

SECONDARY ANALYSIS OF THE BANGLADESH  
NATIONAL CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE SURVEY DATA

1981

*ANALYTICAL FINDINGS  
AND  
T A B L E S*

*by*

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## P R E F A C E

The second Contraceptive Prevalence Survey (CPS) in Bangladesh was conducted by the Management Information System (MIS) Unit in 1981. The final report of the study was published in April 1983.

After the completion of 1981 CPS it was felt that some secondary analysis of the 1981 CPS data would be of interest from the policy point of view. Accordingly the Government and the USAID, Dhaka agreed to take up four studies on secondary analysis. These studies are:

- 1) An assessment of the quality of the 1981 BCPS;
- 2) Urban-Rural differentials study in contraceptive use;
- 3) Characteristics of traditional method users;
- 4) Computerization of the 1981 CPS data.

This is the report on the "Urban-Rural Differential Study in Contraceptive Use". Shortly after the MIS Unit undertook the study both the Project Director and Deputy Project Director left the organization. Despite early set back due to the departure of both the Project Director and Deputy Project Director the MIS Unit brought the study to its successful completion. Mr. S.R. Choudhuri, Director, Mr. Tofayel Ahmed Assistant Director and other officials of MIS Unit deserve a word of felicitation for the good job they have accomplished.

Dr. M. Mosleh Uddin served as a Consultant to the study and deserves a special mention for the technical assistance rendered by him.

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We are grateful to the USAID, Dhaka, for providing the financial support to the study. Dr. Carol Carpenter Yaman and Dr. Sarah Harbison deserve special thanks for their continued interest in the project. They provided valuable comments at various stages of the study.



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SECTION - 1

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Research and evaluation of government and private contraceptive programs, including basic statistics on the current pattern of family planning use, are important to understanding program direction and impact. One essential aspect of the fertility and family planning program planning in the 1980's is analysis of the determinants of fertility and contraceptive practices both at the micro and macro levels. The Contraceptive Prevalence Survey of 1981 (CPS), helping mark the new decade of Bangladesh family planning, is aimed at gaining comprehensive information to assist in the planning and development of population policies.

Because of the goals of reducing population growth and ultimately the size of the population, there is a need for detailed information on population issues at national and sub-national level. In order to meet this need, there were three major surveys conducted in Bangladesh. The first major survey was the 1975 Bangladesh Fertility Survey conducted as a part of the World Fertility Survey Program. The two recent surveys are the 1979 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey conducted by the National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT) and the 1981 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey conducted by the Management Information System of the Ministry of Health and Population Control, Government of Bangladesh.

The Urban-Rural Differential Study is a part of the secondary analysis project of 1981 CPS. All national surveys carried out in this country have revealed that contraceptive knowledge and use among urban women is higher than among rural women. For example, the 1968 National Impact Survey (NIS) revealed that 6.5 percent of currently married women in urban areas were users of contraception as compared to 3.6 percent in rural

areas. 72 percent of the eligible women in urban areas and 53 percent of eligible women in rural areas expressed a desire to limit their family size. Likewise, the 1975 Bangladesh Fertility Survey found that the current use rate of contraceptives was 22.6 percent among eligible women in urban areas and 8.6 percent in rural areas. The Contraceptive Prevalence Surveys of 1979 and 1981 reported similar findings. The proportion of currently married women using contraception in urban areas was 20.6 percent in 1979 CPS and 29.2 percent in the 1981 CPS. The corresponding rates for rural areas were 11.1 percent and 17.5 percent respectively. It is evident that the contraceptive prevalence rate in Bangladesh growing more rapidly in the urban than rural areas. In order to understand and identify the factors responsible for urban-rural differentials the present study was undertaken.

#### 1. 2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of this project was to analyse in detail the urban-rural differentials in contraceptive knowledge and use from the 1981 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey.

#### 1. 3. METHODOLOGY

The detailed methodology of 1981 CPS is presented in Chapter - 2 of the main report (1981 CPS, pp 11-34). We present here a brief summary of the methodology.

The information was collected from a nationally representative sample of ever married women aged less than 50 years. The sample was drawn in terms of households. Ever married women under 50 years of age who slept in the household the night preceding the date of interview were considered eligible for interview.

A three stage stratified cluster sampling design was used. The first two stages were devoted to the selection of the area sample and the third stage of the household sample. The sample was stratified on the basis on urban and rural residence.

A total of 196 sample areas were considered of which 116 were rural and 80 urban. The obtained sample of households was 7393; 5455 for the rural and 1938 for the urban areas. The number of successfully interviewed ever married eligible women was 8510, of which 6269 were in the rural stratum and 2241 were in the urban stratum. The rural-urban differential study is based on this sample.

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SECTION - 2

KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILY PLANNING METHODS BY RURAL-URBAN DIFFERENTIALS

2.1. Introduction

In the 1981 CPS knowledge was defined as whether a respondent had heard of or knew about a family planning method or methods. In this section of the study we shall deal with the overall level of knowledge of family planning methods and see the differentials in the level of knowledge by some selected demographic and socio-economic variables for the rural and the urban areas.

2.2. Levels of Knowledge

Almost all ever married women of reproductive age knew about at least one family planning method (Table 2.1). However, there was a significant difference between the knowledge of at least one modern method and at least one traditional method. About 98 percent of the ever married women had the knowledge of at least one modern method while only about 55 percent had the knowledge of at least one traditional method. About 61 percent of the urban ever married women had the knowledge of at least one traditional method as against 54.6 percent in the rural areas. There was little difference in the knowledge of modern methods in the rural and urban areas.

Table- 2.1: RURAL-URBAN DIFFERENTIALS IN THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE<sup>1</sup> OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN

Having knowledge of	National	Rural	Urban
At least one method	98.2	98.2	98.9
At least one modern method <sup>2</sup>	98.1	98.0	98.9
At least one traditional method <sup>3</sup>	55.2	54.6	61.4
Total	6937 <sup>a</sup>	6269	2241

Source: 1981 BCPS Report, p. 74.

<sup>1</sup>Unprompted or prompted knowledge.

<sup>2</sup>Modern methods: Oral Pill, Condom, Tubectomy, Vasectomy, induced Abortion/M.R., Injection, Vaginal method.

<sup>3</sup>Traditional methods: Safe Period, Abstinence, Withdrawal and 'Other Methods'

<sup>a</sup>Weighted total of ever married women in the sample.

### 2.3. Method Specific Knowledge

The percentage distribution of ever married women by their method specific knowledge and rural-urban category is presented in Table 2.2.

Oral pill and tubectomy were the two most widely known methods both in the urban as well as in the rural areas. In all cases additional women reported knowledge of specific methods when prompting techniques were used. In general the level of knowledge was consistently lower for the rural women than the urban women. The least known method in the urban areas was withdrawal while least known method in the rural areas was Emko.

Table-2.2: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY AWARENESS OF CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

Knowledge method	Rural			Urban		
	Unprompt- ed	Prompt- ed	Total	Unprompt- ed	Prompt- ed	Total
Oral Pill	80.41	13.72	94.13	89.29	8.34	97.63
Condom	22.27	35.06	57.33	43.20	33.51	76.71
IUD	9.01	30.56	39.58	22.22	39.09	61.31
Tubectomy	48.14	44.03	92.17	56.27	38.60	94.87
Vasectomy	16.41	54.63	71.05	22.53	53.64	76.17
M.R.	6.70	45.16	51.86	4.06	61.67	65.73
Injection	11.45	46.87	58.32	24.63	50.07	74.69
Emko	3.88	10.96	14.84	15.17	18.56	33.78
Abstinence	0.54	28.51	29.05	1.07	32.26	33.33
S.P.	1.75	34.10	35.86	4.46	37.88	42.34
Withdrawal	0.78	20.98	21.76	1.74	26.24	27.98
Others	2.14	10.38	12.52	2.59	9.91	12.80

#### 2.4. Standardization

The procedure of adjustment of the crude rates to eliminate from them the effect of differences in population composition with respect in age or other variables is called standardization. In this study we have considered the Bangladesh urban population as the standard to compare with the rural population, we have standardized for variables like age, marital status, children ever born, children living, religion, education, employment status and administrative division. The same technique of standardization for the above mentioned variables has been used to analyze the rural-urban differentials in knowledge, ever use and current use of contraceptives among the studied women of 1981 CPS. However, with respect to contraceptive knowledge there was no difference between the actual and standardized rural rates and thus these rates are not presented. In case of ever use and current use only for those variables where some difference between the actual rural and standardized rural rates were found are presented otherwise no citation of standardization.

## 2.5. Differentials by Demographic Variables

### 2.5.1. Age

The distribution of ever married women by age group and the mean number of methods known is presented in Table 2.3. In general the mean number of methods known was consistently higher for the urban ever married women than for the rural women with the exception of women aged less than fifteen years. On the average the urban ever married women knew 7 methods compared to the 6 of the rural ever married women. The ever married women of 25-29 years age group knew the maximum number of methods both in the rural and urban cases.

Table-2.3: DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY AGE GROUP AND MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS KNOWN

Age group	Rural		Urban	
	No.of ever married women	Mean No.of methods known	No.of ever married women	Mean No. of methods known
< 15	152	4.42	25	1.60
15-19	1157	5.53	309	6.32
20-24	1162	6.05	475	7.26
25-29	1123	6.24	482	7.33
30-34	842	5.99	317	7.32
35-39	656	5.74	257	7.32
40-44	554	5.43	190	6.49
45-49	623	5.29	186	6.30
Total	6269	5.78	2241	5.98

### 2.5.2. Marital Status

The rural currently married women knew on the average 5.84 methods as against 7.15 methods of the urban currently married women (Table 2.4). In both the rural as well as in the urban areas the mean number of methods known by the women not currently married was relatively less than for married women. The figures were 5.13 and 5.61 for the rural and urban areas respectively.

Table-2.4: DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF METHODS MENTIONED BY EVER MARRIED WOMEN AND THEIR MARITAL STATUS

Marital Status	Rural		Urban	
	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known
Currently married	5713	5.84	1990	7.15
Not currently married	556	5.13	251	5.61
Total	6269	5.78	2241	6.98

### 2.5.3. Children Ever Born

The mean number of methods known to the ever married women by number of children ever born for rural and urban areas is shown in Table 2.5. For each parity level, the urban ever married women knew more methods than the rural ever married women. In the urban areas the maximum number of methods was known by women having two children ever born (7.45). In the rural areas 6.12 methods were known by women having had four children.

Table-2.5: MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS MENTIONED BY  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN

Children ever born	Rural		Urban	
	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known
0	820	5.14	290	6.30
1	834	5.96	290	6.79
2	779	6.10	317	7.45
3	683	5.95	256	7.36
4	627	6.12	254	7.25
5	575	5.85	229	7.27
6	541	5.85	182	7.04
7	432	5.82	125	6.54
8	368	5.56	110	6.76
9+	602	5.62	182	6.63
N.S.	8	4.88	6	6.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>6269</b>	<b>5.78</b>	<b>2241</b>	<b>6.98</b>

#### 2.5.4. Living Children

The mean number of methods known by women, broken down by number of living children, is presented in Table 2.6. The urban ever married women for all categories of number of living children have on the average, knowledge of more methods than the rural ever married women. The difference was at least one in favour of the urban women for each parity. In the urban areas women having three living children had knowledge of most methods (on the average 7.34 methods) and in the rural areas a maximum of 6.69 methods on the average was known by those ever married women having one child.

Table- 2.6: DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY THEIR LIVING CHILDREN AND MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS KNOWN

No. of living children	Rural		Urban	
	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known
0	966	5.19	346	6.18
1	1069	6.69	349	6.71
2	925	6.07	381	7.31
3	904	5.99	301	7.34
4	744	5.93	283	7.28
5+	1661	5.83	581	7.05
Total	6269	5.78	2241	6.98

## 2.6. Differentials by Socio-Economic Variables

### 2.6.1. Religion

Religion was dichotomized as Muslim or non-Muslim. The mean number of methods known by the religious categories of the ever married women is presented in Table 2.7. The non-Muslims, on the average had knowledge of more methods than the Muslims in both the rural and urban areas. The non-Muslims in the urban areas had knowledge of 7.31 methods on the average as compared with 6.24 methods for rural ever married non-Muslim women. The Muslims, on the other hand, had knowledge of 6.93 methods on the average in the urban areas and 5.70 methods in the rural areas.

Table-2.7: DISTRIBUTION OF MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS KNOWN TO EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY RELIGION

Religion	Rural		Urban	
	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known	No. of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known
Muslim	5401	5.70	1974	6.93
Non-Muslim	868	6.24	267	7.31
Total	6269	5.78	2241	6.98

### 2.6.2. Education

The distribution of ever married women by their level of education and mean number of methods known for rural-urban areas is shown in Table 2.8. The level of knowledge of family planning methods was directly associated with the level of education for both rural and urban women. Knowledge of average number of methods increased consistently with increases in the level of education of both rural and urban ever married women. The ever married women who never attended school knew an average of 5.93 methods and 5.26 methods respectively in the urban and rural areas.

Table-2.8: DISTRIBUTION OF MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS KNOWN TO EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

Educa- tional level	Rural		Urban	
	No.of ever married women	Mean no.of methods known	No.of ever married women	Mean no.of methods known
Never attended	4434	5.26	1208	5.93
Primary level	1102	5.53	336	7.03
Completed primary level	409	7.41	221	7.91
Class VI-VII	156	8.06	140	8.24
Class VIII-IX	107	8.46	139	9.38
SSC and above	49	9.76	165	9.54
Degree and above	2	11.50	37	9.97
Not stated	10	6.3	5	7.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>6269</b>	<b>5.78</b>	<b>2241</b>	<b>6.98</b>

### 2.6.3. Employment Status

The distribution of mean number of methods known and the employment status of ever married women for rural and urban areas is shown in Table 2.9. The employment status of women did not have any systematic relationship to the level of knowledge of family planning methods. In the urban areas those not employed were found to have knowledge of more methods (7.04) than those employed with earning (6.73) or those employed without earning (5.50). In the rural areas however, those employed and earning cash were found to have knowledge of relatively more methods (6.27) than those who were not employed (5.72) or those who were employed without earning (5.94).

Table-2.9: MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS MENTIONED AND EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment	Rural		Urban	
	No.of ever married women	Mean no.of methods known	No.of ever married women	Mean no. of methods known
Employed earning cash	546	6.27	198	6.73
Employed not earning	162	5.94	48	5.50
Not employed	5556	5.72	1994	7.04
N.S.	5	6.40	1	0
All	6269	5.78	2241	6.98

## 2.7. Differential by Region

### 2.7.1. Division

The distribution of mean number of methods known by the ever married women and the divisional variability is shown in Table 2.10. In rural areas, Khulna Division had the highest average number of 6.34 methods known and Chittagong had lowest at 5.29 methods. In the urban areas of Dhaka and Rajshahi the average number of methods known was the highest (7.36) and lowest (6.07) was in Chittagong Division.

Table-2.10: DISTRIBUTION OF MEAN NUMBER OF METHODS MENTIONED BY THE EVER MARRIED WOMEN AND DIVISION

Division	Rural		Urban	
	No.of ever married women	Mean no.of methods known	No.of ever married women	Mean no.of methods known
Rajshahi	1523	5.91	264	7.36
Khulna	1423	6.34	341	7.13
Dhaka	1813	5.63	1059	7.36
Chittagong	1510	5.29	577	6.07
Total	6269	5.78	2241	6.98

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SECTION - 3

EVER USE OF FAMILY PLANNING METHODS BY RURAL-URBAN DIFFERENTIALS

3.1.Characteristics of the Sample

A brief summary of the characteristics of the women interviewed provides a reference for interpreting the findings presented in this report. Demographic and socio-economic characteristics are included. Table 3.1 presents data on some selected socio-demographic characteristics of the sample by urban and rural residence. The average age for urban women was slightly higher than the rural women. The average number of children ever born for rural women was higher than the urban women (3.9 as against 3.7). There seems to be no difference in the average number of living children by urban-rural areas. Classification of respondents by land ownership suggest that a little over 68 percent owned land in rural areas. The comparable figure for urban areas was 43.7 percent. About 9 percent of the sample in both the areas was employed. Educational attainment of the respondents shows that about 46 percent attended ever school in urban areas as against 29.2 percent in rural areas.

Table-3.1: SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS  
OF RESPONDENTS BY URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE

Areas	C h a r a c t e r i s t i c s						
	Average age	Average child- ren	Average living children	Current pregnan- cy status	Percent owned land	Percent employ- ed	Percent attend- ed school
Urban	29.2	3.7	3.0	13.5	43.7	8.8	45.8
Rural	28.9	3.9	3.0	14.2	68.1	8.7	29.2

Table 3.2 shows the age distribution for the sample population by urban and rural areas from the 1979 CPS and 1981 CPS. In 1981 about 21 percent of the rural sample was comprised of women less than 20 years. The comparable figure for urban areas was about 15 percent. Differences in the median age of the women by areas was small. Despite small differences, it should be noted that the proportion of the sample of ever married women aged 15-24 years in urban areas is smaller than in the rural areas. This may be due to higher age at marriage in the urban areas.

Table-3.2: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY AGE, 1979 AND 1981

Age Group of Women	1979 CPS		1981 CPS	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
< 15	0.9	2.1	1.1	2.4
15-19	13.2	17.6	13.8	18.5
20-24	22.3	19.9	21.2	18.5
25-29	21.1	17.8	21.5	17.9
30-34	12.3	12.7	14.2	13.4
35-39	12.0	12.0	11.5	10.5
40-44	9.4	8.1	8.5	8.8
45-49	8.8	9.8	8.3	9.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N =	1548	13933	2241	6269
Median age	25.2	24.9	25.3	25.0

### 3.2. Cumulative Fertility

In this section the mean number of children ever born and the mean number of living children are presented by rural-urban residence. Table 3.3 shows that in urban areas ever married women on the average 3.8 children, of these, approximately 3.0 children were still living. The corresponding figures in rural areas were 4.0 and 3.0 respectively. The number of children ever born and living children increased gradually by age of women. At the end of the reproductive period (age 45-49) an urban woman had an average of completed family size of 7.4, with 5.4 children still living. For rural areas the comparable figures were 7.6 and 5.3 respectively. When the rural figures are standardized by age, using the urban standard population of ever married women in the 1981 CPS, slightly higher current estimates of average number of children ever born and living children are revealed for rural areas. Cumulative fertility, measured here in terms of average number of children ever born and living children is also presented by urban-rural residence (Table 3.3).

Table-3.3: AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER (CEB) AND LIVING CHILDREN (LC) PER EVER MARRIED AND CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN BY AGE AND RURAL AND URBAN RESIDENCE

Age	Ever married women				Currently married women			
	Urban		Rural		Urban		Rural	
	CEB	LC	CEB	LC	CEB	LC	CEB	LC
15-19	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6
20-24	2.0	1.6	2.2	1.7	2.0	1.7	2.2	1.8
25-29	3.5	2.9	3.8	2.9	3.7	3.1	3.8	3.0
30-34	4.8	3.9	5.4	8.2	4.9	4.0	5.5	4.3
35-39	6.2	4.9	6.4	4.9	6.4	5.2	6.6	5.1
40-44	6.9	5.4	7.3	5.3	7.1	5.6	7.5	5.6
45-49	7.4	5.4	7.6	5.3	7.7	5.6	8.0	5.7
All	3.8	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.9	3.2	4.0	3.1
Age stand- ardized Rate (Standard=Urban)			4.0	3.1			4.2	3.2

### 3.3. Ever Use of Contraception

The 1981 CPS collected information on both past and current use of modern and traditional methods of fertility regulation. Current use was defined as the use of a method within the month preceding the date of interview. It must be noted that the respondents defined themselves as current users, and no data were collected to investigate the effectiveness of use. It is possible that some of the respondents reported intermittent use as current use. However, because of the method mix the effect of this factor on the reported figure is probably relatively small.

Table-3.4: PERCENT OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-49 WHO HAD EVER USED SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTION BY METHOD

Method	CPS 1979	CPS 1981
Any method	19.6	35.7
Oral Pill	11.0	13.4
Condom	3.4	6.0
IUD	0.8	1.5
Tubectomy	2.3	3.7
Vasectomy	0.9	0.8
Induced abortion/MR	0.1	0.6
Injection	0.5	0.9
Vaginal method	0.4	1.5
Abstinence	1.5	6.9
Safe period	4.1	16.8
Withdrawal	0.6	7.1
Other	-	1.6

Evidence from various surveys (BFS 1975, CPS 1979) clearly indicates that the level of contraceptive use in Bangladesh has been increasing. For instance, the proportion of ever married women aged 15-49 years who had ever used at least one method of contraception rose from about 20 percent in 1979 to about 36 percent in 1981 (Table 3.4). Most of the ever users had tried some efficient method with the pill the most widely used method. Among ever married women in the 1981 CPS more than 13 percent reported that they had used the pill. This compared with 11 percent in the 1979 CPS of ever married women who reported ever use of pill. Between 1979 and 1981 the use of almost all modern methods increased, however, with the exception of male sterilization when there is an evidence that it had declined. Proportion of ever married women who used condom, IUD and tubectomy also increased by a significant amount. The use of other methods of contraception (traditional methods of contraception) increased sharply between the two surveys.

#### 3.4. Urban-Rural Differentials

The percentage of women who had ever used a specific method of contraception varied by urban and rural residence. As Table 3.5 indicates, the level of ever use of any specific method in urban areas was about 49 percent and in rural areas was slightly over 34 percent. As Table 3.5 shows, there was also considerable variation by urban-rural residence in the use of specific methods. The pill is the most popular method of contraception in both the urban areas (26 percent) and in the rural areas (12.1 percent). The popularity of other methods also varied between the urban and rural residence. For instance, ever married women in the rural areas were more likely to have a husband who had a vasectomy than women in the urban areas. The higher use of some specific methods in urban areas was perhaps a function

of the greater availability and accessibility of methods. The increase in use of traditional methods of contraception between these two surveys was remarkable. For example, about 8.7 percent ever married women in the 1979 CPS reported that they had used traditional methods of contraception (in urban areas). This increased to about 37.2 percent in the 1981 CPS. For rural areas this figures were 5.8 percent, 30.2 percent respectively.

Table-3.5: PERCENT OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN AGED 15-49 WHO HAD EVER USED SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTION BY METHOD AND BY URBAN AND RURAL RESIDENCE

Method	CPS 1979		CPS 1981		Age standardized rates for rural standard=urban
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	
Any method	32.8	18.2	48.8	35.3	-
Oral pill	21.5	9.8	25.9	12.1	12.9
Condom	9.1	2.8	13.5	5.2	5.4
IUD	1.4	0.7	3.0	1.3	1.4
Tubectomy	4.4	2.0	5.7	3.5	3.8
Vasectomy	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.9
Induced abortion/MR	0.5	0.1	2.1	0.4	0.5
Injection	1.8	0.3	2.8	0.7	0.7
Vaginal method	1.5	0.3	3.6	1.3	1.6
Abstinence	1.7	1.4	7.5	6.9	7.0
Safe Period	5.9	3.9	20.1	16.5	17.2
Withdrawal	1.1	0.5	9.6	6.8	7.2
Others	-	-	1.7	1.6	1.7

\* Source: 1979 CPS Report

### 3.5. Age Pattern of Ever Users

It is likely that contraceptive use will vary according to age. The data presented in Table 3.6 show that the percentage of women who have ever used contraception increases in urban areas from 27.8 percent at the age of 15-19 to 59.9 percent at the ages of 35-39. At the ages of 40-44 the proportion of women who have ever used contraception declines by almost 14 percent from ages 35-39 and by as much as 20 percent after 44.

Women in rural areas also were found to have ever used contraception at a lower rate than urban women at all age groups. In general the data in Table 3.6 indicate that younger and older ever married women were less likely to have ever used contraception than women 20-39.

Table 3.6: PERCENT OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAD EVER USED CONTRACEPTION BY AGE AND URBAN-RURAL RESIDENCE 1979 AND 1981

Age	1979 CPS		1981 CPS	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
< 15	15.0	3.1	12.0	10.5
15-19	16.8	8.8	27.8	20.2
20-24	34.4	16.9	48.0	34.8
25-29	40.5	23.9	56.4	42.9
30-34	44.5	25.0	59.6	43.5
35-39	36.5	23.6	59.9	39.2
40-44	23.2	22.0	45.8	37.5
45-49	24.7	11.8	39.8	29.4
All	32.8	18.2	48.8	34.3
Age Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)				35.8

\* Source: 1979 CPS Report

### 3.6. Pattern of Use of Modern Methods

Table 3.7 gives the percent of ever married women who had ever used selected modern family planning methods by urban-rural residence. A close investigation of Table 3.7, suggests that in all instances the proportion of women who ever used modern family planning methods increased. However, the exception was male sterilization in the urban areas. The increase for some specific methods such as IUD, induced abortion and menstrual regulation and vaginal methods was remarkable (see Table 3.7). As expected the proportion of women who had ever used clinical methods were higher in urban areas than in rural areas.

Table-3.7: PERCENT OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAD EVER USED SELECTED MODERN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS BY URBAN AND RURAL RESIDENCE

Method	1979 CPS		1981 CPS	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Oral Pill	21.5	9.8	25.9	12.1
Condom	9.1	2.8	13.5	5.2
IUD	1.4	0.7	3.0	1.3
Tubectomy	4.4	2.0	5.7	3.5
Vasectomy	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.9
Induced abortion/MR	0.5	0.1	2.1	0.4
Injection	1.8	0.3	2.8	0.7
Vaginal method	1.5	0.3	3.6	1.3

\* Source: 1979 CPS Report

### 3.7. Socio-Economic Differentials

Table 3.8 presents the variation in the percentages of respondents ever using contraception with some selected socio-economic characteristics. The information provided in Table-3.8 suggests that in rural Bangladesh more educated women and women who were employed with cash payment are more likely than other women to have ever used family planning. Women who never attended school are least likely to practice family planning (34 percent in urban area and 30 percent in rural area). Similar findings were also reported in the BFS 1975. Nearly 46 percent of women in rural areas who completed primary education had ever used some method of contraception compared to 61 percent for those who completed eight to nine years of schooling, and 78 percent for those who had secondary and above education. Analysis of ever users who had no formal education surprisingly suggests that they were as likely as those who completed primary education to have ever used contraception. Women who completed less than primary education had the lowest proportion of ever users (19% in rural areas).

In the urban areas more or less a U-shaped pattern was observed between the level of education and the ever use rate. Differentials by employment status show that those who are not employed have the highest use rate compared to those who are employed with cash or employed without cash.

Investigation of ever users by religion suggests a considerable variation in percentage of women who had ever used contraception (Table 3.8). The non-Muslims were found to have ever used contraception at a higher rate than Muslims both in the rural as well as in urban areas. The contraceptive use rates for urban ever married women were estimated to be 47.1 percent for Muslims and 61.0 and that in the rural areas were respectively 32.8 percent and 43.7 percent.

However, the difference between the use rate of Muslims and non-Muslims was relatively higher in the urban areas than in the rural area. Table 3.8 also shows that there was variation in the levels of ever use of contraception by region. Women in the Rajshahi Division were more likely to have ever used contraception than women in other regions. The percentage of women who had ever used contraception varied from 40 percent in Rajshahi Division (in rural areas) to about 72 percent in Chittagong Division. As would be expected, women in the urban areas were more likely to have ever used contraception than women in rural areas.

Table-3.8: PERCENT OF EVER MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAD EVER USED CONTRACEPTION BY SOME SELECTED SDCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Socio-economics characteristics	Urban		Rural	
	%	N	%	N
<u>Educational attainment</u>				
Never attended	34.4	416	30.3	1343
Less than Primary	54.5	183	19.2	423
Completed Primary	61.1	129	45.5	186
Class VI-VII	91.0	91	56.4	88
Class VIII-IX	72.7	101	60.7	65
SSC and above	84.2	170	78.4	40
<u>Employment Status</u>				
Employed with cash	40.9	81	43.4	237
Employed without cash	37.5	18	35.8	58
Not employed	49.8	994	33.4	1853
<u>Religion</u>				
Muslim	47.1	930	32.8	1771
Non-Muslim	61.0	163	43.7	379
<u>Region of Residence</u>				
Rajshahi	52.6	139	39.9	608
Khulna	49.8	170	37.9	540
Dhaka	53.5	567	33.2	602
Chittagong	37.6	217	26.5	400
<u>Marital Status</u>				
Currently married	52.3	1042	35.7	2040
Currently not married	20.3	251	19.7	110

### 3.8. Number of Methods Ever Used

It is reasonable to suspect that women who have used contraception do not have equal experiences with different methods. In order to investigate the differences in the number of methods ever used, we analysed the average number of modern family planning methods ever used by urban-rural residence and by age of the women. Table 3.9 shows a consistent pattern of age and number of methods ever used, similar to the pattern of age and use in Table 3.6. The number of methods used has a curvilinear relationship with age. The average number of methods ever used by urban women was 2.0 as against their rural counterparts 1.7. This difference by urban-rural residences may be explained in terms of accessibility and availability of family planning methods.

Table-3.9: AVERAGE NUMBER OF CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS EVER USED BY EVER MARRIED WOMEN BY THEIR AGE

Age	Average number of methods ever used	
	Urban	Rural
15 - 19	1.5	1.6
20 - 24	1.9	1.7
25 - 29	2.0	1.8
30 - 34	2.2	1.7
35 - 39	2.1	1.7
40 - 44	1.7	1.6
45 - 49	1.7	1.5
All	2.0	1.7

In the urban areas, the mean number of methods used increases from 1.5 at the ages 15-19 as high as 2.2 at the ages of 30-34, after that the mean declines steadily to 1.7 for the ages 40 and over. In the rural areas, the highest average number of methods used is in the age group 25-29. There appears to be no significant difference in the average number of methods used from one age group of another by rural women. Despite

variations in the number of methods ever used by urban-rural residence, it can be said that Bangladeshi women have tried on an average two methods for preventing births. The average number of methods shown here would have been smaller if the traditional methods were excluded.

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SECTION - 4

4.1. Overall level of Current Use

The overall and method specific current use of different family planning methods for rural and urban areas is shown in Table 4.1.

The rate of current users of any method was estimated to be 17.5 percent for the rural currently married women and 29.2 percent for the urban currently married women. Differentiation by traditional and modern methods shows that in the rural areas 9.8 percent were using modern methods and 7.7 percent were using traditional methods. In case of urban currently married women 21.6 percent were using modern methods and 6.1 percent were using traditional methods.

Table- 4.1: CURRENT USE OF CONTRACEPTION AMONG CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE, BY METHOD

Contraceptive Status	Rural		Urban	
	No. of C.M.W.	%	No. of C.M.W.	%
Modern Methods(all)	560	9.80	429	21.56
Oral Pill	172	3.01	163	8.19
Condom	74	1.30	82	4.12
IUD	18	.32	16	.80
Tubectomy	214	3.75	124	6.23
Vasectomy	49	.86	4	.20
Injection	19	.33	26	1.31
Vaginal method	14	.25	14	.70
Traditional methods(all)	441	7.71	122	6.15
Abstinence	71	1.24	24	1.21
Safe Period	223	3.90	78	3.92
Withdrawal	104	1.82	37	1.86
Other	43	.75	13	.65
Any method	1001	17.52	581	29.20
No method	4712	82.48	1409	70.80
All	5713	100.00	1990	100.00

The method specific current use rate shows that in the rural areas the most widely used methods are safe period (3.9 percent), tubectomy (3.8 percent), and oral pill (3.0 percent). In the urban areas the widely used methods are oral pill (8.2 percent), tubectomy (6.2 percent), condom (4.1 percent) and safe period (3.9 percent).

#### 4.2. Differentials by Demographic Variables

##### 4.2.1. Age

The current use of any method by the currently married women was found to increase for both rural and urban women up to the age 34, and then it gradually declined (Tables 4.2a and 4.2b). A similar pattern was observed in the 1979 CPS. In the 1981 CPS, 42.12 percent of the urban currently married women and 23.43 percent of the rural currently married women of age group 30-34 were using a method of family planning. In the 1979 CPS for the same age groups of currently married women the respective urban and rural figures were 30.4 percent and 15.5 percent (1979 CPS, p.63).

The use of permanent method gradually increased with the increase in age up to the age group 35-39 (13.3 percent) and then again declined for the urban women (Table 4.2b). The use of temporary methods among urban currently married women followed almost a similar pattern but the peak (21.2 percent) was in the age group 30-34. In case of traditional methods the urban women showed a positive pattern between their age and the rate of use up to the age group 35-39 (12 percent) and then gradually declined.

In case of rural currently married women more or less a similar pattern was observed but with a relatively lower rates of almost all age groups of women (Table 4.2a).

Table-4.2a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY AGE GROUP (RURAL)

Age Group	1981 CPS						1979 CPS*
	No. of currently married women	Users by categories methods			Per-cent Total users	Per-cent Non-users	
		Modern methods	Tempo-rary	Tradi-tional methods			
< 15	142	-	1.41	1.41	2.82	97.18	2.5
15-19	1076	.55	3.90	4.73	9.20	90.80	5.0
20-24	1097	2.64	5.46	8.66	16.77	83.23	9.9
25-29	1065	5.92	7.04	9.39	22.35	77.65	12.5
30-34	794	8.19	6.30	8.94	23.43	76.57	15.5
35-39	576	8.33	4.86	7.97	21.18	78.82	16.1
40-44	471	7.22	6.16	9.55	22.93	77.07	16.0
45-49	492	3.66	2.24	6.30	12.20	87.80	8.5
Total	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.48	11.1
Age Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)	-	-	-	-	16.4	-	(N=12884)

\* Source: 1979 CPS Report, p.63

Table-4.2b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY AGE GROUP (URBAN)

Age Group	1981 CPS						1979 CPS*
	No. of currently married women	Users by categories methods			Per-cent Total users	Per-cent Non-users	
		Modern methods	Tempo-rary	Tradi-tional methods			
< 15	23	-	-	-	4.35	95.65	5.0
15-19	275	-	8.00	5.45	13.45	86.55	8.1
20-24	433	1.39	17.78	5.54	24.71	75.29	20.9
25-29	436	6.88	20.87	7.80	35.55	64.45	24.2
30-34	292	11.30	21.23	9.59	42.12	57.88	30.4
35-39	226	13.27	15.04	11.95	40.27	59.73	25.8
40-44	159	10.06	6.92	10.69	27.67	72.33	15.0
45-49	146	8.90	2.74	4.11	15.75	84.25	15.9
Total	1990	6.43	15.13	7.64	29.20	70.80	20.6
							(N=14443)

\* Source: 1979 CPS Report, p.63.

#### 4.2.2. Children Ever Born

Percentage distribution of current users by categories of methods and number of children ever born is shown for rural and urban areas in Tables 4.3a and 4.3b respectively.

In case of rural women the rate of use increased consistently with the increase in the number of children ever born and this was found true up to seven children ever born (Table-4.3a). About 24 percent having seven children of the currently married women were currently using a family planning method.

Table-4.3a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN (RURAL)

No. of children ever born	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Per-cent Total users	Per-cent Non-users
		Modern methods		Tradi-tional methods		
		Perma-nent	Tempo-rary			
0	717	.14	1.81	2.13	4.18	95.82
1	762	.26	4.20	6.96	11.42	88.58
2	720	3.19	6.11	9.17	18.47	81.53
3	635	5.83	7.24	7.56	20.63	79.37
4	573	6.45	5.06	9.95	21.47	78.53
5	533	8.44	6.19	7.72	21.95	78.05
6	494	8.10	6.68	8.30	23.08	76.92
7	388	9.28	4.38	10.05	23.17	76.29
8	330	5.76	5.76	9.09	20.61	79.39
9	215	3.72	4.19	7.44	15.35	84.65
10	154	2.60	5.84	12.34	20.78	79.22
11	92	4.35	4.35	6.52	15.22	84.78
12+	95	6.32	8.42	10.53	25.26	74.74
N.S.	5	40.00	-	20.00	60.00	40.00
Total	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.48
Children ever born					17.60	
Standardized rate (Standard=Urban)						

Among the urban currently married women the rate continued to increase up to five children ever born (Table 4.3b).

Permanent methods showed a strong relationship with the children ever born in both rural and urban women. The peak in both the areas was observed for those having five children ever born, the percentage of current users for these groups were 8.4 in the rural and 11.5 in urban areas. There was no consistent relationship between the children ever born and temporary and traditional method users in the rural areas. However,

Table-4.3b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHOD BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVER BORN (URBAN)

No. of children ever born	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Traditional methods		
		Permanent	Temporary			
0	245	-	6.53	2.45	8.98	91.02
1	239	.84	19.25	3.77	23.85	76.15
2	287	2.79	20.56	8.71	32.06	67.94
3	230	5.65	20.87	8.70	35.22	64.78
4	233	9.01	16.31	10.73	35.62	64.38
5	209	11.48	14.83	11.96	38.28	61.72
6	158	10.13	12.03	10.76	32.91	67.09
7	116	12.07	16.38	9.48	37.93	62.07
8	102	11.76	7.84	7.84	27.45	72.55
9	65	9.23	10.77	7.69	27.69	72.31
10	48	14.58	8.33	2.08	25.00	75.00
11	29	10.34	10.34	-	20.69	79.31
12+	27	7.41	11.11	3.70	22.22	77.78
N.S.	2	-	-	-	-	100.00
All	1990	6.43	15.13	7.64	29.20	70.80

among the traditional method users in the urban areas a consistent upward increase in use rate was observed with the increase in the number of children ever born and a peak of 12 percent was found for those having five children ever born. The rates afterwards gradually declined to 2.1 percent among those with ten children ever born.

#### 4.2.3. Living Children

For the rural currently married women the current use rate of any method was 4.4 percent, 11.4 percent and 18.8 percent respectively for those with no living child, with one living child and with two living children (Table 4.4a).

Table-4.4a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN (RURAL)

No. of living children	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Traditional methods		
		Perma- nent	Tempo- rary			
0	833	0.12	2.04	2.28	4.44	95.56
1	977	0.82	4.20	6.35	11.36	88.64
2	852	4.11	5.63	9.04	18.78	81.22
3	830	6.14	7.47	9.64	23.25	76.75
4	685	8.76	4.82	8.61	22.19	77.81
5	549	8.74	7.47	7.10	23.32	76.68
6	427	8.43	4.92	11.48	24.82	75.18
7	290	5.86	4.83	8.28	18.97	81.03
8	146	2.05	6.85	11.64	20.55	79.45
9+	124	3.23	8.06	12.10	23.39	76.31
Total	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.48
Living children						
Standardized rate					17.8	
(Standard=Urban)						

The number of living children had more or less same pattern of relationship with current use as the number of children ever born. In case of urban, the percentage using any contraception rose suddenly from 8.2 percent among currently married women with no living children to 21.3 percent among those with one living child and to 33 percent among those with two living children (Table-4.4b).

Table-4.4b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY NUMBER OF LIVING CHILDREN (URBAN)

No. of living children	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Traditional methods		
		Permanent	Temporary			
0	280	0.36	5.71	2.14	8.21	91.79
1	291	0.34	15.81	5.15	21.31	78.69
2	336	3.27	21.73	8.04	33.04	66.96
3	277	7.58	18.41	11.55	37.55	62.45
4	266	9.02	15.41	10.53	34.96	65.04
5	216	11.57	16.67	10.19	38.43	61.57
6	123	13.82	13.82	4.07	31.71	68.29
7	94	17.02	9.57	10.64	37.23	62.77
8	61	13.11	13.11	8.20	34.43	65.57
9+	46	8.70	8.70	4.35	21.74	78.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>6.43</b>	<b>15.13</b>	<b>7.64</b>	<b>29.20</b>	<b>70.80</b>

Regarding the use of permanent method, in the urban areas the rate of permanent method users increased consistently with the increase in the number of living children and a peak of 17 percent was observed for those having seven living children.

In the case of rural women, permanent method used showed a clear trend up to four living children where the peak occurred at 8.8 percent and then gradually declined up to eight living children.

### 4.3. Differentials by Socio-Economic Variables

#### 4.3.1. Religion

The current contraceptive use rate was higher among non-Muslims than the Muslims both in the rural and the urban areas. The current use of non-Muslims was 25.3 percent and that of Muslims was 16.3 percent in the rural areas (Table-4.5a).

In the urban areas the current rate of Muslim users was 27 percent and that of non-Muslims 44.5 percent (Table-4.5b).

Interestingly the rate of traditional method used for both the Muslims and non-Muslims was almost equal in the rural and urban areas. However, the rate of permanent and temporary method users among the non-Muslims were relatively higher both in the urban and rural areas compared with that of the Muslims in the two areas.

Table-4.5a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORY OF METHOD AND BY RELIGIOUS STATUS (RURAL)

Religious Status	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern Permanent	Temporary	Traditional methods		
Muslim	4917	3.80	5.15	7.32	16.27	83.73
Non-Muslim	796	9.55	5.53	10.18	25.25	74.75
All Religion	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.48
Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)					17.4	

Table-4.5b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY RELIGION (URBAN)

Religious Status	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Per-cent Total users	Per-cent Non-users
		Modern methods		Tradi-tional methods		
		Perma- nent	Tempo- rary			
Muslim	1743	5.34	14.52	7.17	27.02	72.98
Non-Muslim	247	14.17	19.43	10.93	44.53	55.47
Total	1990	6.43	15.13	7.64	29.20	70.80

#### 4.3.2. Education

The current contraceptive use rate was found to be positively associated with the level of education of the currently married women (Table 4.6a and 4.6b). This was consistent with the findings for both rural and urban areas. An exception was observed for the rural currently married women with Degree and above level of education. However, the number of women in this group was very small. A similar relationship between contraceptive use pattern and the level of education has been observed in almost all previous studies conducted in Bangladesh. This finding tempts us to draw the hypothesis that the higher educational levels are associated with the higher contraceptive use.

In contrast with the above findings the permanent method acceptance was inversely related with the level of education both in the urban as well as in rural areas.

In the case of the urban women, the use of temporary and traditional methods had a direct relationship with the level of education.

In the rural case, however, the traditional methods showed a direct relationship with the level of education except for those having an educational level of class VIII-IX. The temporary method users also showed a positive relationship except for those having less than primary level of education.

When the education standardized rate was calculated a difference of 5.2 was estimated between the rural standardized and actual rates (Table 4.6a). This indicates that if the educational level of the rural women is brought to the level of that of the urban areas, the rural women would have increased in the level of ever use by about 5 percentage points.

Table-4.6a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHOD BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (RURAL)

Educational level	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods Perma- nent	Tempo- rary	Tradi- tional methods		
Less than Primary level	1001	3.88	7.57	8.54	19.98	80.02
Completed Primary level	392	5.10	7.40	10.71	22.99	77.01
Class VI-VII	146	4.11	11.64	18.49	34.25	65.75
Class VIII-IX	103	2.91	17.48	16.50	36.89	63.11
SSC and HSC	18	-	27.66	23.40	51.06	48.94
Degree & above	2	-	50.00	-	50.00	50.00
Never attended	3981	4.87	3.54	6.35	17.77	85.23
Not Stated	10	-	-	30.00	30.00	70.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5713</b>	<b>4.60</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>7.72</b>	<b>17.52</b>	<b>82.48</b>
Education Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)					22.7	

Table-4.6b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY EDUCATIONAL STATUS (URBAN)

Educational level	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Traditional methods		
		Permanent	Temporary			
Less than Primary level	304	8.55	14.14	7.89	30.59	69.41
Completed Primary level	201	6.47	20.40	9.95	36.82	63.8
Class VI-VII	135	12.59	21.48	8.89	42.96	57.04
Class VIII-IX	135	5.19	31.11	11.11	47.41	52.59
SSC and HSC	159	4.40	44.65	10.06	59.12	40.88
Degree & above	35	2.86	37.14	25.71	65.71	34.29
Never attended school	1016	5.61	5.91	5.51	17.03	82.97
Not Stated	5	-	0.40	-	40.00	60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>6.43</b>	<b>15.13</b>	<b>7.64</b>	<b>29.20</b>	<b>70.80</b>

#### 4.3.3. Employment Status

The percentage of currently married women by their employment status and current contraceptive use rates for rural and urban areas are presented in Tables 4.7a and 4.7b respectively.

There was no consistent relationship between the urban current use rate and the employment status. Those employed without cash earning were found to have higher use rate than those employed with cash earning (Table 4.7b).

In the rural areas, however, a consistent relationship between the employment status and the current contraceptive use rate was found to exist (Table-4.7a).

Table-4.7a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (URBAN)

Employment Status	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Tradi- tional methods		
		Perma- nent	Tempo- rary			
Employed with cash	411	7.79	8.76	9.73	26.28	73.7
Employed without cash	130	9.23	1.53	10.77	21.54	78.4
Not employed	5170	4.43	5.00	7.48	16.73	83.2
Not Stated	2	-	-	-	-	100.0
Total	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.4
Employment Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)					17.04	

Table-4.7b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS AND BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (RURAL)

Employment status	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods		Tradi- tional methods		
		Perma- nent	Tempo- rary			
Employed with cash	128	4.69	13.28	14.06	32.03	67.97
Employed without cash	26	11.54	3.85	19.23	34.62	65.38
Not employed	1836	6.48	15.41	7.03	28.92	41.08
Total	1990	6.43	15.13	7.64	29.20	70.80

Regarding the use of method it was found that those employed without cash were using more permanent and traditional methods both in the rural as well as urban areas.

4.4. Differential by Region4.4.1. Division

The Division-wise rural and urban contraceptive use rates for the currently married women are shown in Tables-4.8a and 4.8b respectively.

In the rural areas, Khulna Division has the highest (19.85 percent) and Chittagong Division has the lowest (13.38 percent) contraceptive use rate (Table-4.8a).

Table-4.8a: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORY OF METHODS AND BY DIVISION(RURAL)

Division	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods Perma- nent	Tempo- rary	Tradi- tional methods		
Rajshahi	1380	3.70	9.20	6.67	19.57	80.43
Khulna	1315	5.78	5.48	8.59	19.85	80.15
Dhaka	1650	6.42	3.76	7.21	17.39	82.61
Chittagong	1368	2.19	2.63	8.55	13.38	86.62
Total	5713	4.60	5.20	7.72	17.52	82.48
Division Standardized Rate (Standard=Urban)					17.00	

Table-4.8b: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE USING CONTRACEPTION BY BROAD CATEGORIES OF METHODS BY DIVISION

Division	No. of currently married women	Users by categories of methods			Total users	Non-users
		Modern methods Perma- nent	Tempo- rary	Tradi- tional methods		
Rajshahi	246	4.47	17.07	5.28	26.83	73.17
Khulna	314	5.41	14.97	9.55	29.94	70.06
Dhaka	919	6.60	17.30	7.18	33.08	66.92
Chittagong	511	4.11	10.37	8.41	22.90	77.10
All	1990	6.43	15.13	7.64	29.20	70.80

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Our secondary analysis of the 1981 CPS data shows that contraceptive use was substantially higher in the urban areas than in the rural areas. The observed urban-rural difference could in part be due to differences in educational attainment of the women in the two areas. According to the CPS data, urban residents are generally higher educated and more likely to be working, characteristics that are found to make difference in current use level.

There was little difference in the knowledge level of the rural and the urban women. The urban women were found to know seven methods on the average compared to that of six methods of the rural women.

The ever use rates both in the urban as well as in the rural areas are found to have increased considerably in the 1981 CPS compared to the 1979 CPS. The ever use rates for the rural women have almost doubled in a gap of two years (the ever use rate for rural women in the 1979 CPS was 18.2 percent and that in the 1981 CPS was 35.3 percent). This increase may largely be due to the increased family planning program efforts of the government and non-governmental agencies in the country.

Like the ever use rates, the current use rates have also shown remarkable increase both in the urban and in the rural areas when we compare the findings of 1981 CPS with that of the 1979 CPS. However, in case of current use rates in the relative increase was higher for the urban areas compared with that of the rural areas. This is in contrast with the findings for the ever users and the probable reason may lie to some extent in the explanation presented at the beginning of this section.

In conclusion, we may say that the gap in contraceptive practice between the rural-urban women is likely to increase unless the rural areas are given greater opportunities to develop the educational and employment opportunities for women.