

Chapter 7

Preventive Health Practices

Preventive practices, which include different types of screening or physical examination, and being vigilant about health or use of protective devices, have played an important role in reducing morbidity and premature mortality of many chronic diseases and acute health conditions. This Chapter reports on some of the population's preventive practices, including regular physical check-up, screening for specific cancers, and measurement of blood pressure, blood cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Results on preventive practices against injuries at home or work place and the magnitude of using seatbelts will also be presented in this Chapter.

Snapshot of Population's Preventive Practices

Practice	Overall %	% in female	% in male
Had regular physical examination	23.2%	28.1%	17.3%
Ever had sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy	5.2%	4.9%	5.6%
Ever had stool occult blood test	4.8%	4.6%	5.0%
Ever had prostate specific antigen test (males only)	N.A.	N.A.	4.4%
Ever had digital rectal examination of the prostate (males only)	N.A.	N.A.	4.0%
Ever had cervical smear examination (females ¹ only)	N.A.	40.0%	N.A.
Ever had mammogram (females ² only)	N.A.	17.3%	N.A.
Ever had clinical breast examination (females ² only)	N.A.	40.0%	N.A.
Ever had blood cholesterol checked	29.4%	31.4%	27.0%
Ever had blood sugar checked	33.7%	38.5%	27.9%
Had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey	62.9%	67.8%	56.9%
Had done something or taken precautions to prevent injury in the 12 months preceding the survey	36.7%	37.2%	36.1%

Notes: 'N.A.' denotes 'not applicable'.

1. Aged 18 and above.
2. Aged 35 and above.

7.1 Regular Physical Check-up

Regular physical check-up may help detecting early stages of diseases before symptoms occur and allow prompt intervention to prevent disease progression. In the PHS, respondents were asked “Do you have regular physical check-up? If yes, how often?”.

As a whole, 23.2% of persons reported that they had regular physical check-up. More females than males reported to have regular physical check-up - 28.1% for females versus 17.3% for males (Table 7.1a). Analyzed by age, the proportion of positive response increased from 11.0% for those aged 15-24 to 35.9% for those aged 75 and above (Table 7.1b).

Table 7.1a: Had regular physical check-up by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	875.3	28.1%	445.0	17.3%	1 320.3	23.2%
No	2 219.8	71.4%	2 110.5	82.0%	4 330.3	76.2%
Unknown/Missing	14.7	0.5%	18.6	0.7%	33.2	0.6%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.1b: Had regular physical check-up by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	98.5	11.0%	160.1	17.4%	335.1	25.8%	303.9	26.7%	160.5	25.3%	162.5	31.8%	99.7	35.9%	1 320.3	23.2%
No	794.4	88.5%	754.0	81.9%	960.1	73.8%	830.1	72.9%	468.8	73.7%	347.8	68.0%	175.1	63.1%	4 330.3	76.2%
Unknown/Missing	4.9	0.6%	7.1	0.8%	6.1	0.5%	5.0	0.4%	6.4	1.0%	1.2	0.2%	2.6	0.9%	33.2	0.6%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1 301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons reported that they had regular physical check-up, 90.5% had their last physical check-up within the last 24 months, with an average of 14 months. As shown in Tables 7.1c, the median number of months since last regular physical check-up was comparable between females and males (12 months). Across all age groups, the lowest median number of months that the persons reported having their last regular physical check-up were persons aged 75 and above (4 months) (Table 7.1d).

Table 7.1c: Number of months since last regular check-up by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Less than 13	646.5	73.9%	347.8	78.2%	994.4	75.3%
13-24	142.9	16.3%	57.3	12.9%	200.1	15.2%
More than 24	75.9	8.7%	24.2	5.4%	100.1	7.6%
Unknown/Missing	10.0	1.1%	15.7	3.5%	25.7	1.9%
Total	875.3	100.0%	445.0	100.0%	1 320.3	100.0%
Mean	14.7		12.4		14.0	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	11.2		9.5		10.7	

Base: The respondents who had regular physical check-up.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.1d: Number of months since last regular check-up by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Less than 13	87.0	88.3%	114.2	71.3%	221.9	66.2%	219.9	72.4%	129.0	80.4%	131.1	80.6%	91.3	91.6%	994.4	75.3%
13-24	6.7	6.8%	30.5	19.1%	69.0	20.6%	54.9	18.1%	14.5	9.0%	19.7	12.1%	4.8	4.8%	200.1	15.2%
More than 24	3.3	3.3%	12.2	7.6%	41.9	12.5%	24.3	8.0%	12.3	7.7%	4.9	3.0%	1.2	1.2%	100.1	7.6%
Unknown/Missing	1.6	1.6%	3.2	2.0%	2.3	0.7%	4.7	1.5%	4.8	3.0%	6.8	4.2%	2.3	2.3%	25.7	1.9%
Total	98.5	100.0%	160.1	100.0%	335.1	100.0%	303.9	100.0%	160.5	100.0%	162.5	100.0%	99.7	100.0%	1 320.3	100.0%
Mean	13.0		15.2		17.0		14.8		13.0		10.4		7.2		14.0	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		4.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	6.7		8.2		11.5		10.5		14.1		8.3		6.8		10.7	

Base: The respondents who had regular physical check-up.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2 Cancer Screening

Screening is one means of detecting disease early in asymptomatic people. The aim of screening for cancer is to reduce mortality and disability from the disease. Other than screening, early recognition of symptoms for cancer is crucial part for early detection. Together with prompt diagnosis and treatment, many cancer cases can be prevented or controlled. This section reports the population's practice in undertaking various cancer screening. As the risk of cancer is generally lowest in childhood and adolescence, and in adult life it increases with age, age group analysis will be specially presented in three age categories - below 45, 45-64 and 65 and above.

7.2.1 Sigmoidoscopy and Colonoscopy

Sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy are the examinations in which a tube is inserted into the rectum and colon respectively to view the bowel for signs of cancer or other health problems. In the PHS, respondents were asked whether they ever had either of these examinations, with or without symptoms or discomfort at that time. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they had these examinations at regular interval and how often if indicated.

In general, 5.2% of the persons had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy before. Males (5.6%) were more likely to have these examinations than females (4.9%) (Table 7.2.1a). The proportions of people ever received such examinations steadily increased with age, from less than 2.9% for people aged below 45, to 6.6% among people aged 45-64 and 11.4% for those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.1b).

Table 7.2.1a: Ever had sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	151.3	4.9%	144.0	5.6%	295.3	5.2%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	62.3	2.0%	59.2	2.3%	121.4	2.1%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	89.0	2.9%	84.9	3.3%	173.9	3.1%
No	2 929.4	94.2%	2 418.9	94.0%	5 348.3	94.1%
Unknown/Missing	29.1	0.9%	11.1	0.4%	40.2	0.7%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.1b: Ever had sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	89.1	2.9%	116.5	6.6%	89.7	11.4%	295.3	5.2%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	36.2	1.2%	47.0	2.6%	38.2	4.8%	121.4	2.1%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	52.9	1.7%	69.5	3.9%	51.5	6.5%	173.9	3.1%
No	3 007.2	96.4%	1 647.9	92.9%	693.3	87.9%	5 348.3	94.1%
Unknown/Missing	24.0	0.8%	10.3	0.6%	5.9	0.7%	40.2	0.7%
Total	3 120.3	100.0%	1 774.7	100.0%	788.9	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who reported ever had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy with no symptoms or discomfort at that time, 35.7% (28.9% for females and 42.9% for males) had their last examinations within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 24.0 months (24.0 months for females and 13.0 months for males). Of those persons who reported that they had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort at that time, 18.2% had their last examinations within 12 months preceding the survey (19.4% for females and 16.9% for males), with a median of 48.0 months (40.0 months for females and 50.0 months for males) (Table 7.2.1c). Analyzed by age, people aged 45-64 were the lowest in proportion (31.8%) to report that they had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy without symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey. As for those who received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey, people aged below 45 accounted for the lowest proportion (16.5%) (Table 7.2.1d).

Table 7.2.1c: Number of months since last sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	18.0	28.9%	25.4	42.9%	43.4	35.7%
13-24	11.6	18.6%	12.6	21.3%	24.2	19.9%
More than 24	25.2	40.5%	14.1	23.8%	39.3	32.3%
Unknown/Missing	7.5	12.0%	7.1	12.0%	14.6	12.0%
Total	62.3	100.0%	59.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Mean	51.2		29.5		40.6	
Median	24.0		13.0		24.0	
Standard Deviation	51.3		35.9		45.8	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	17.3	19.4%	14.3	16.9%	31.6	18.2%
13-24	8.5	9.6%	7.3	8.6%	15.8	9.1%
More than 24	47.2	53.0%	54.7	64.5%	101.9	58.6%
Unknown/Missing	16.1	18.0%	8.5	10.1%	24.6	14.1%
Total	89.0	100.0%	84.9	100.0%	173.9	100.0%
Mean	61.4		72.4		67.0	
Median	40.0		50.0		48.0	
Standard Deviation	58.3		70.0		64.8	

Base: The respondents who had received the sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.1d: Number of months since last sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	12.4	34.2%	14.9	31.8%	16.0	42.0%	43.4	35.7%
13-24	5.9	16.4%	12.5	26.5%	5.8	15.1%	24.2	19.9%
More than 24	13.2	36.5%	15.6	33.2%	10.4	27.3%	39.3	32.3%
Unknown/Missing	4.6	12.8%	4.0	8.5%	6.0	15.6%	14.6	12.0%
Total	36.2	100.0%	47.0	100.0%	38.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Mean	38.8		38.4		45.3		40.6	
Median	24.0		24.0		14.0		24.0	
Standard Deviation	37.6		44.2		54.1		45.8	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	8.7	16.5%	12.4	17.9%	10.4	20.3%	31.6	18.2%
13-24	5.0	9.4%	6.9	9.9%	3.9	7.6%	15.8	9.1%
More than 24	28.8	54.6%	40.7	58.6%	32.4	62.8%	101.9	58.6%
Unknown/Missing	10.3	19.5%	9.5	13.6%	4.8	9.3%	24.6	14.1%
Total	52.9	100.0%	69.5	100.0%	51.5	100.0%	173.9	100.0%
Mean	53.4		63.3		84.3		67.0	
Median	48.0		40.0		60.0		48.0	
Standard Deviation	37.9		57.6		85.8		64.8	

Base: The respondents who had received the sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In terms of the type of doctors consulted by those who had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, females (39.3%) were more likely than males (30.3%) to consult a private doctor for such examination when there were no symptoms or discomfort. However, no obvious sex difference was observed in the type of doctors consulted for sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy when there were symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.1e). Analyzed by age, people in the 65 and above age group were less likely than people in the younger age groups to consult a private doctor for sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy regardless of the absence or presence of symptoms or discomfort (both 21.7%)(Table 7.2.1f).

Table 7.2.1e: Type of doctors consulted for sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Private doctor	24.5	39.3%	17.9	30.3%	42.4	34.9%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	34.1	54.8%	36.7	62.0%	70.8	58.3%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	0.7	1.1%	2.5	4.2%	3.2	2.6%
Unknown/Missing	3.0	4.8%	2.1	3.5%	5.1	4.2%
Total	62.3	100.0%	59.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Private doctor	26.5	29.8%	25.2	29.7%	51.8	29.8%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	60.6	68.1%	55.7	65.6%	116.3	66.9%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	1.9	2.1%	4.0	4.7%	5.9	3.4%
Total	89.0	100.0%	84.9	100.0%	173.9	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.1f: Type of doctors consulted for sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	12.5	34.6%	21.6	45.9%	8.3	21.7%	42.4	34.9%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	21.6	59.6%	22.9	48.7%	26.3	68.9%	70.8	58.3%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	0.6	1.7%	1.9	4.1%	0.6	1.6%	3.2	2.6%
Unknown/Missing	1.5	4.1%	0.6	1.3%	3.0	7.8%	5.1	4.2%
Total	36.2	100.0%	47.0	100.0%	38.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	18.7	35.3%	21.9	31.6%	11.2	21.7%	51.8	29.8%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	32.5	61.4%	45.1	64.9%	38.7	75.1%	116.3	66.9%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	1.8	3.3%	2.5	3.6%	1.6	3.2%	5.9	3.4%
Total	52.9	100.0%	69.5	100.0%	51.5	100.0%	173.9	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received the sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Overall, 26.7% of those people who had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy would have the examinations at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. There was not much difference in the proportion of females and males reporting so. The corresponding proportion of people who had such examinations at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort was 13.1% - 11.8% for females and 14.4% for males (Table 7.2.1g). Analyzed by age, the proportions of people reported that they had regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy with no symptoms or discomfort increased with age, from 15.2% for those aged below 45 to 35.2% for those aged 65 and above. Similarly, the proportions of people reported that they had such examinations at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort increased from 6.3% for those aged below 45 to 24.9% for those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.1h).

Table 7.2.1g: Regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Yes	16.5	26.5%	15.9	26.9%	32.4	26.7%
No	39.6	63.5%	40.1	67.7%	79.6	65.6%
Unknown/Missing	6.2	10.0%	3.2	5.3%	9.4	7.7%
Total	62.3	100.0%	59.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Yes	10.5	11.8%	12.2	14.4%	22.7	13.1%
No	74.1	83.2%	62.9	74.2%	137.0	78.8%
Unknown/Missing	4.5	5.0%	9.7	11.4%	14.2	8.1%
Total	89.0	100.0%	84.9	100.0%	173.9	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.1h: Regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	5.5	15.2%	13.5	28.7%	13.4	35.2%	32.4	26.7%
No	27.8	76.8%	29.6	63.0%	22.2	58.1%	79.6	65.6%
Unknown/Missing	2.9	8.0%	3.9	8.3%	2.6	6.7%	9.4	7.7%
Total	36.2	100.0%	47.0	100.0%	38.2	100.0%	121.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	3.3	6.3%	6.6	9.5%	12.8	24.9%	22.7	13.1%
No	46.2	87.4%	57.8	83.2%	33.0	64.0%	137.0	78.8%
Unknown/Missing	3.4	6.3%	5.1	7.4%	5.7	11.0%	14.2	8.1%
Total	52.9	100.0%	69.5	100.0%	51.5	100.0%	173.9	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who had sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy at regular intervals, 71.7% of people with no symptoms or discomfort and 81.7% of people because of symptoms or discomfort would have the examinations within 12 months apart. Females and males had the same median number of months (12.0 months) between regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy when there were no symptoms or discomfort, while the median of number of months between regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort for males (12.0 months) was twice of that for females (6.0 months) (Table 7.2.1i). Similarly, the median number of months between regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy with no symptoms or discomfort did not differ between age (12.0 months), whereas the median number of months between regular examinations because of symptoms or discomfort for those aged below 45 was 6.0 months which was half of that in the 45-64 and 65 and above age groups (Table 7.2.1j).

Table 7.2.1i: Number of months between regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	10.6	64.0%	12.7	79.6%	23.2	71.7%
13-24	3.7	22.1%	2.6	16.5%	6.3	19.4%
More than 24	1.3	7.8%	0.6	3.8%	1.9	5.8%
Unknown/Missing	1.0	6.1%	-	-	1.0	3.1%
Total	16.5	100.0%	15.9	100.0%	32.4	100.0%
Mean	17.5		11.6		14.5	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	12.5		8.2		10.9	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	8.8	83.9%	9.7	79.7%	18.6	81.7%
13-24	-	-	1.9	15.1%	1.9	8.1%
More than 24	-	-	0.6	5.2%	0.6	2.8%
Unknown/Missing	1.7	16.1%	-	-	1.7	7.4%
Total	10.5	100.0%	12.2	100.0%	22.7	100.0%
Mean	8.1		12.7		10.8	
Median	6.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	4.0		8.3		7.2	

Base: The respondents who had received regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table7.2.1j: Number of months between regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	3.5	63.1%	9.2	68.0%	10.6	78.9%	23.2	71.7%
13-24	1.4	24.6%	3.7	27.5%	1.2	9.1%	6.3	19.4%
More than 24	0.7	12.3%	0.6	4.5%	0.6	4.5%	1.9	5.8%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	1.0	7.5%	1.0	3.1%
Total	5.5	100.0%	13.5	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	32.4	100.0%
Mean	14.6		15.2		13.6		14.5	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	10.6		13.8		6.7		10.9	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	3.3	100.0%	4.1	62.3%	11.2	86.9%	18.6	81.7%
13-24	-	-	1.9	28.1%	-	-	1.9	8.1%
More than 24	-	-	0.6	9.6%	-	-	0.6	2.8%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	1.7	13.1%	1.7	7.4%
Total	3.3	100.0%	6.6	100.0%	12.8	100.0%	22.7	100.0%
Mean	8.8		16.2		8.1		10.8	
Median	6.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	3.0		9.4		4.2		7.2	

Base: The respondents who had received regular sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.2 *Stool occult blood test*

A stool occult blood test is an assessment to determine whether the stool contains blood. In the PHS, respondents were asked whether they ever had a stool occult blood test when there were neither symptoms nor discomfort at that time or because of symptoms or discomfort. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last test, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they had the test at regular interval and how often if indicated.

Overall, 4.8% of persons reported that they had received a stool occult blood test before – 4.6% for females and 5.0% for males (Table 7.2.2a). As shown in Table 7.2.2b, the proportions of people having a stool occult blood test with no symptoms or discomfort increased with age, from 2.4% for those aged below 45 to 4.6% for those aged 65 and above. The corresponding proportions of people having the test because of symptoms or discomfort also increased with age, from 0.9% for those in the below 45 age group to 3.7% for those in the 65 and above age group (Table 7.2.2b).

Table 7.2.2a: Ever had a stool occult blood test by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	142.6	4.6%	128.9	5.0%	271.5	4.8%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	89.3	2.9%	83.1	3.2%	172.4	3.0%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	53.3	1.7%	45.8	1.8%	99.1	1.7%
No	2 937.9	94.5%	2 431.9	94.5%	5 369.8	94.5%
Unknown/Missing	29.2	0.9%	13.3	0.5%	42.5	0.7%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.2b: Ever had a stool occult blood test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	100.7	3.2%	105.1	5.9%	65.7	8.3%	271.5	4.8%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	74.0	2.4%	62.0	3.5%	36.4	4.6%	172.4	3.0%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	26.7	0.9%	43.1	2.4%	29.3	3.7%	99.1	1.7%
No	2 993.4	95.9%	1 658.5	93.5%	717.9	91.0%	5 369.8	94.5%
Unknown/Missing	26.2	0.8%	11.1	0.6%	5.2	0.7%	42.5	0.7%
Total	3 120.3	100.0%	1 774.7	100.0%	788.9	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who reported that they had received the stool occult blood test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, 50.5% (50.9% for females and 50.0% for males) had their last tests within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 12.0 months for both females and males (Table 7.2.2c). Of those persons who reported that they had stool occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort, 22.7% had their last tests done within 12 months preceding the survey (26.3% for females and 18.5% for males), with a median of 36.0 months (32.0 months for females and 36.0 months for males) (Table 7.2.2c). Analyzed by age, people aged 45-64 (59.3%) were higher in proportion than their older (44.0%) and younger (46.3%) counterparts to have their last stool occult blood test with no symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey, while people aged 65 and above had the highest proportion of people (34.8%) reported that they had their last stool occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the interview (Table 7.2.2d).

Table 7.2.2c: Number of months since last stool occult blood test by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	45.5	50.9%	41.6	50.0%	87.0	50.5%
13-24	13.0	14.6%	16.3	19.6%	29.3	17.0%
More than 24	25.4	28.5%	17.5	21.0%	42.9	24.9%
Unknown/Missing	5.4	6.1%	7.8	9.4%	13.2	7.7%
Total	89.3	100.0%	83.1	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Mean	33.5		25.0		29.5	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	43.3		33.4		39.1	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	14.0	26.3%	8.5	18.5%	22.5	22.7%
13-24	7.0	13.2%	5.9	12.9%	12.9	13.1%
More than 24	23.2	43.5%	22.6	49.3%	45.8	46.2%
Unknown/Missing	9.1	17.0%	8.8	19.3%	17.9	18.1%
Total	53.3	100.0%	45.8	100.0%	99.1	100.0%
Mean	51.2		50.3		50.8	
Median	32.0		36.0		36.0	
Standard Deviation	52.7		42.8		48.4	

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.2d: Number of months since last stool occult blood test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	34.2	46.3%	36.7	59.3%	16.0	44.0%	87.0	50.5%
13-24	16.0	21.6%	6.8	11.0%	6.5	17.8%	29.3	17.0%
More than 24	19.8	26.8%	15.8	25.5%	7.3	20.0%	42.9	24.9%
Unknown/Missing	4.0	5.4%	2.7	4.3%	6.6	18.1%	13.2	7.7%
Total	74.0	100.0%	62.0	100.0%	36.4	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Mean	36.4		23.1		25.8		29.5	
Median	13.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	48.7		27.5		29.9		39.1	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	5.2	19.3%	7.1	16.5%	10.2	34.8%	22.5	22.7%
13-24	3.1	11.5%	5.3	12.4%	4.5	15.5%	12.9	13.1%
More than 24	12.1	45.4%	20.7	48.0%	12.9	44.2%	45.8	46.2%
Unknown/Missing	6.3	23.7%	9.9	23.1%	1.6	5.5%	17.9	18.1%
Total	26.7	100.0%	43.1	100.0%	29.3	100.0%	99.1	100.0%
Mean	51.1		54.5		46.2		50.8	
Median	36.0		36.0		24.0		36.0	
Standard Deviation	44.3		52.2		46.2		48.4	

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Regarding the type of doctors consulted among those who had received the stool occult blood test, females (47.1%) were lower in proportion than males (53.8%) to consult a private doctor for such test when there were no symptoms or discomfort. However, not much difference was observed between females and males in the type of doctors consulted for such test when they had symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.2e). Analyzed by age, people aged below 45 were higher in proportion than the older age groups to consult a private doctor for the stool occult blood test when there were no symptoms or discomfort (64.3%) as well as because of symptoms or discomfort (40.2%) (Table 7.2.2f).

Table 7.2.2e: Type of doctors consulted for the stool occult blood test by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Private doctor	42.1	47.1%	44.7	53.8%	86.8	50.3%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	30.7	34.4%	29.2	35.1%	59.9	34.7%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	8.4	9.4%	4.7	5.7%	13.1	7.6%
Unknown/Missing	8.1	9.1%	4.5	5.4%	12.6	7.3%
Total	89.3	100.0%	83.1	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Private doctor	13.0	24.3%	10.9	23.8%	23.9	24.1%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	37.3	69.9%	28.4	62.1%	65.7	66.3%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	0.9	1.7%	0.6	1.3%	1.5	1.5%
Unknown/Missing	2.2	4.1%	5.8	12.8%	8.0	8.1%
Total	53.3	100.0%	45.8	100.0%	99.1	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.2f: Type of doctors consulted for the stool occult blood test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	47.6	64.3%	27.5	44.3%	11.8	32.3%	86.8	50.3%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	13.3	18.0%	24.2	39.1%	22.4	61.4%	59.9	34.7%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	7.9	10.6%	4.6	7.5%	0.6	1.7%	13.1	7.6%
Unknown/Missing	5.2	7.0%	5.7	9.2%	1.7	4.6%	12.6	7.3%
Total	74.0	100.0%	62.0	100.0%	36.4	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	10.7	40.2%	9.9	23.0%	3.2	11.1%	23.9	24.1%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	14.2	53.1%	28.6	66.3%	22.9	78.3%	65.7	66.3%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	0.9	3.3%	-	-	0.6	2.1%	1.5	1.5%
Unknown/Missing	0.9	3.3%	4.6	10.7%	2.5	8.6%	8.0	8.1%
Total	26.7	100.0%	43.1	100.0%	29.3	100.0%	99.1	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Overall, 38.2% of those people who had received the stool occult blood test would have the test at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort – 39.4% for females and 37.0% for males. The corresponding proportion of people who had such test at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort was 16.2% - 12.7% for females and 20.3% for males (Table 7.2.2g). Analyzed by age, the proportions of people reported that they had regular stool occult blood tests with no symptoms or discomfort was lowest (35.6%) among people in the 45-64 age group. The proportion of people reported that they had such test at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort increased with age, from 5.2% for those aged below 45 to 30.0% for those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.2h).

Table 7.2.2g: Regular stool occult blood test by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Yes	35.2	39.4%	30.8	37.0%	65.9	38.2%
No	47.9	53.7%	46.8	56.3%	94.7	54.9%
Unknown/Missing	6.2	7.0%	5.6	6.7%	11.8	6.8%
Total	89.3	100.0%	83.1	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Yes	6.8	12.7%	9.3	20.3%	16.1	16.2%
No	42.3	79.4%	33.9	74.1%	76.3	76.9%
Unknown/Missing	4.2	7.9%	2.6	5.6%	6.8	6.8%
Total	53.3	100.0%	45.8	100.0%	99.1	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.2h: Regular stool occult blood tests by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	29.2	39.5%	22.1	35.6%	14.6	40.2%	65.9	38.2%
No	38.9	52.5%	35.4	57.0%	20.5	56.3%	94.7	54.9%
Unknown/Missing	5.9	8.0%	4.6	7.4%	1.3	3.5%	11.8	6.8%
Total	74.0	100.0%	62.0	100.0%	36.4	100.0%	172.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	1.4	5.2%	5.9	13.7%	8.8	30.0%	16.1	16.2%
No	23.7	88.9%	34.0	78.8%	18.6	63.4%	76.3	76.9%
Unknown/Missing	1.6	5.9%	3.3	7.5%	2.0	6.7%	6.8	6.8%
Total	26.7	100.0%	43.1	100.0%	29.3	100.0%	99.1	100.0%

Base: The respondents who had received the stool occult blood test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons reported that they had stool occult blood tests at regular intervals, 80.2% of people with no symptoms or discomfort and 79.2% of people because of symptoms or discomfort would have the tests within 12 months apart. Females and males had the same median number of months (12.0 months) between regular stool occult blood tests when there were no symptoms or discomfort, but the median of number of months between regular stool occult blood tests because of symptoms or discomfort for males (12.0 months) was twice as high as that for females (6.0 months) (Table 7.2.2i). Similarly, the median number of months between regular stool occult blood tests with no symptoms or discomfort did not differ between age (12.0 months), whereas people aged 45-64 had the smallest median number of months between regular stool occult blood tests because of symptoms or discomfort at 6.0 months, which was half that of their younger and older counterparts at 12.0 months (Table 7.2.2j)

Table 7.2.2i: Number of months between regular stool occult blood tests by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	29.2	83.2%	23.6	76.9%	52.9	80.2%
13-24	4.3	12.3%	5.9	19.1%	10.2	15.5%
More than 24	1.6	4.5%	0.6	2.1%	2.2	3.4%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	0.6	2.0%	0.6	0.9%
Total	35.2	100.0%	30.8	100.0%	65.9	100.0%
Mean	13.6		13.7		13.6	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	6.5		6.6		6.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time						
Less than 13	5.4	79.5%	7.3	79.0%	12.7	79.2%
13-24	-	-	1.9	21.0%	1.9	12.1%
More than 24	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	1.4	20.5%	-	-	1.4	8.6%
Total	6.8	100.0%	9.3	100.0%	16.1	100.0%
Mean	8.9		11.3		10.4	
Median	6.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	3.1		6.6		5.7	

Base: The respondents who had received regular stool occult blood tests.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.2.2j: Number of months between regular stool occult blood tests by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	23.9	81.7%	16.2	73.5%	12.8	87.5%	52.9	80.2%
13-24	4.7	16.0%	4.3	19.5%	1.2	8.3%	10.2	15.5%
More than 24	0.7	2.3%	1.5	7.0%	-	-	2.2	3.4%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	0.6	4.2%	0.6	0.9%
Total	29.2	100.0%	22.1	100.0%	14.6	100.0%	65.9	100.0%
Mean	13.4		15.4		11.3		13.6	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	6.3		7.1		5.3		6.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	0.7	48.6%	4.0	67.0%	8.1	92.3%	12.7	79.2%
13-24	-	-	1.9	33.0%	-	-	1.9	12.1%
More than 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	0.7	51.4%	-	-	0.7	7.7%	1.4	8.6%
Total	1.4	100.0%	5.9	100.0%	8.8	100.0%	16.1	100.0%
Mean	12.0		11.4		9.6		10.4	
Median	12.0		6.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	N.A.		7.8		3.7		5.7	

Base: The respondents who had received regular stool occult blood tests.

Notes: 'N.A.' denotes 'not applicable'.

Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.3 Prostate-Specific Antigen Test (Males only)

A prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test is a blood test used to screen men for prostate cancer. In the PHS, male respondents were asked whether they had the test before. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last test, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation for such test, and whether they had the test at regular interval and how often if indicated.

Overall, 4.4% of males reported that they ever had a PSA test without (1.9%) and with (2.5%) symptoms or discomfort. With reference to having the test with no symptoms or discomfort at that time, the proportions increased with age from 0.6% for males aged below 45 to 5.7% for males aged 65 and above. As regards having the test because of symptoms or discomfort, the proportion also increased steadily with age, from 0.4% in those aged below 45 to 8.8% in those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.3a).

Table 7.2.3a: Ever had a PSA test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	14.4	1.0%	43.8	5.4%	55.5	14.5%	113.6	4.4%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	8.8	0.6%	19.0	2.4%	22.0	5.7%	49.8	1.9%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	5.5	0.4%	24.8	3.1%	33.5	8.8%	63.8	2.5%
No	1 367.4	98.7%	757.3	94.0%	324.4	84.8%	2 449.1	95.1%
Unknown/Missing	4.3	0.3%	4.5	0.6%	2.4	0.6%	11.3	0.4%
Total	1 386.2	100.0%	805.6	100.0%	382.3	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%

Base: All male respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those males who reported that they had the PSA test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, over half (59.0%) had their most recent tests done within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 12.0 months. The corresponding proportion of people reported that they had the PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort was 44.0%, with a median of 16.0 months. Analyzed by age, people aged 65 and above (45.8%) were lower in proportion than their younger counterparts to report that they had their last PSA tests with no symptoms or discomfort done within 12 months preceding the survey whereas people aged 45-64 (39.9%) had the lowest proportion of people reported having their last PSA tests because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the survey (Table 7.2.3b).

Table 7.2.3b: Number of months since last PSA test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	5.2	58.7%	14.1	74.5%	10.1	45.8%	29.4	59.0%
13-24	1.6	17.9%	-	-	1.2	5.6%	2.8	5.6%
More than 24	1.4	15.4%	4.2	22.2%	4.6	20.8%	10.1	20.4%
Unknown/Missing	0.7	8.0%	0.6	3.3%	6.1	27.8%	7.4	14.9%
Total	8.8	100.0%	19.0	100.0%	22.0	100.0%	49.8	100.0%
Mean	22.7		15.3		22.8		19.6	
Median	12.0		11.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	23.0		18.3		27.6		23.4	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	2.8	50.6%	9.9	39.9%	15.4	45.8%	28.1	44.0%
13-24	1.4	25.5%	4.1	16.3%	3.1	9.1%	8.5	13.3%
More than 24	0.7	12.8%	10.2	41.2%	10.8	32.3%	21.7	34.1%
Unknown/Missing	0.6	11.1%	0.6	2.5%	4.3	12.7%	5.5	8.6%
Total	5.5	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	33.5	100.0%	63.8	100.0%
Mean	24.4		45.8		47.2		44.7	
Median	12.0		23.0		12.0		16.0	
Standard Deviation	25.4		52.1		75.6		63.9	

Base: The male respondents who had received the PSA test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Concerning the type of doctors that the men consulted for the PSA test, 49.5% of males reported that they consulted a private doctor for such test when there were no symptoms or discomfort and 36.1% of males consulted a private doctor for the test because of symptoms or discomfort. Analyzed by age, people in the 65 and above age group were lower in proportion than people in the younger age groups to consult a private doctor for such test regardless of the absence or presence of symptoms or discomfort (30.6% and 20.0% respectively) (Table 7.2.3c).

Table 7.2.3c: Type of doctors consulted for the PSA test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	5.3	59.7%	12.7	66.7%	6.7	30.6%	24.7	49.5%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	1.2	13.6%	5.7	30.0%	11.6	52.8%	18.5	37.1%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	0.6	3.3%	2.7	12.5%	3.4	6.8%
Unknown/Missing	2.4	26.7%	-	-	0.9	4.2%	3.3	6.6%
Total	8.8	100.0%	19.0	100.0%	22.0	100.0%	49.8	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	3.6	65.1%	12.7	51.4%	6.7	20.0%	23.1	36.1%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	1.9	34.9%	11.4	46.0%	24.6	73.3%	37.9	59.4%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	-	-	0.6	2.5%	2.2	6.7%	2.9	4.5%
Total	5.5	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	33.5	100.0%	63.8	100.0%

Base: The male respondents who had received the PSA test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In general, 40.7% of those men who ever had PSA test would have the test at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of males who had such test at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort was 32.6%. As presented in Table 7.2.3d, the proportions of males reported that they had regular PSA tests with no symptoms or discomfort decreased with age, from 52.6% for those aged below 45 to 30.6% for those aged 65 and above. Conversely, the proportion of males reported that they had such tests at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort increased modestly with age from 32.3% for males aged 45-64 to 38.2% for those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.3d).

Table 7.2.3d: Regular PSA test by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	4.6	52.6%	8.9	47.0%	6.7	30.6%	20.3	40.7%
No	4.2	47.4%	10.1	53.0%	12.8	58.3%	27.1	54.4%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	2.4	11.1%	2.4	4.9%
Total	8.8	100.0%	19.0	100.0%	22.0	100.0%	49.8	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	-	-	8.0	32.3%	12.8	38.2%	20.8	32.6%
No	5.5	100.0%	15.5	62.6%	15.1	45.1%	36.2	56.6%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	1.3	5.1%	5.6	16.7%	6.9	10.7%
Total	5.5	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	33.5	100.0%	63.8	100.0%

Base: The male respondents who had received the PSA test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those males who had regular PSA tests, 67.9% of males with no symptoms or discomfort would have the test received within 12 months apart and the median number of months between regular PSA tests was 12.0 months. Among those males who had such test at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort, 90.7% had the tests within 12 months with a median of 12.0 months as well. Analyzed by age, males aged 65 and above (45.5%) had the lowest proportion of people reported that they had regular PSA tests with no symptoms or discomfort within 12 months apart. There was not much difference in the proportions of males aged 45-64 (91.2%) and males aged 65 and above (90.5%) as regards to having regular PSA tests because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months (Table 7.2.3e).

Table 7.2.3e: Number of months between regular PSA tests by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	3.8	81.2%	7.0	77.9%	3.1	45.5%	13.8	67.9%
13-24	-	-	1.3	14.1%	1.2	18.2%	2.5	12.2%
More than 24	0.9	18.8%	0.7	7.9%	1.8	27.3%	3.4	16.8%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	0.6	9.1%	0.6	3.0%
Total	4.6	100.0%	8.9	100.0%	6.7	100.0%	20.3	100.0%
Mean	16.5		11.7		23.4		16.5	
Median	12.0		12.0		18.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	9.4		7.4		17.3		12.8	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	-	-	7.3	91.2%	11.6	90.5%	18.9	90.7%
13-24	-	-	0.7	8.8%	-	-	0.7	3.4%
More than 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown/Missing	-	-	-	-	1.2	9.5%	1.2	5.9%
Total	-	-	8.0	100.0%	12.8	100.0%	20.8	100.0%
Mean	-		6.8		9.4		8.3	
Median	-		6.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	-		6.3		4.0		5.2	

Base: The male respondents who had received the regular PSA test.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.4 Digital Rectal Examination of the Prostate (Males only)

Digital rectal examination (DRE) of the prostate is an examination in which health professional places a gloved finger into the rectum to feel the size, shape, and hardness of the prostate gland in males. In the PHS, male respondents were asked whether they ever had the digital rectal examination. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they regularly had the examination and how often if indicated.

Overall, 4.0% of males reported that they had the DRE of the prostate before – 1.6% had it when there were no apparent symptoms or discomfort and 2.4% had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort. As shown in Table 7.2.4a, males aged 65 and above were highest in proportion than their younger counterparts to have DRE regardless of absence or presence of symptoms or discomfort (3.5% and 6.7% respectively) (Table 7.2.4a).

Table 7.2.4a: Ever had digital rectal examination of the prostate by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	22.6	1.6%	42.1	5.2%	38.9	10.2%	103.7	4.0%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	10.7	0.8%	17.4	2.2%	13.4	3.5%	41.6	1.6%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	11.9	0.9%	24.7	3.1%	25.5	6.7%	62.1	2.4%
No	1 357.0	97.9%	758.9	94.2%	339.4	88.8%	2 455.4	95.4%
Unknown/Missing	6.5	0.5%	4.5	0.6%	4.0	1.0%	15.0	0.6%
Total	1 386.2	100.0%	805.6	100.0%	382.3	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%

Base: All male respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those males who reported that they had a DRE of the prostate before, 51.5% and 23.7% had their last examinations with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 12.0 and 36.0 months respectively. Analyzed by age, older men (aged 65 and above, 36.4%) were lower in proportion than younger men to report that they had the last DRE with no symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey while people aged 45-64 (15.5%) had the lowest proportion of people reported having their last DRE because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the survey (Table 7.2.4b).

Table 7.2.4b: Number of months since last digital rectal examination of the prostate by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	5.4	50.8%	11.1	63.6%	4.9	36.4%	21.4	51.5%
13-24	2.1	20.1%	0.6	3.5%	1.2	9.1%	4.0	9.6%
More than 24	2.5	23.4%	5.1	29.3%	1.8	13.6%	9.5	22.7%
Unknown/Missing	0.6	5.8%	0.6	3.6%	5.5	40.9%	6.7	16.2%
Total	10.7	100.0%	17.4	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	41.6	100.0%
Mean	24.7		20.4		13.5		20.1	
Median	12.0		12.0		1.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	25.0		18.6		15.7		20.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	4.3	36.0%	3.8	15.5%	6.6	25.7%	14.7	23.7%
13-24	1.3	11.1%	4.8	19.3%	3.7	14.4%	9.7	15.7%
More than 24	5.6	47.0%	12.4	50.0%	13.4	52.7%	31.4	50.5%
Unknown/Missing	0.7	5.9%	3.7	15.2%	1.8	7.2%	6.3	10.1%
Total	11.9	100.0%	24.7	100.0%	25.5	100.0%	62.1	100.0%
Mean	46.9		53.0		61.1		55.2	
Median	24.0		36.0		30.0		36.0	
Standard Deviation	52.2		43.4		68.2		57.1	

Base: The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Regarding the type of doctors that those males who ever had DRE of the prostate consulted, 38.6% of males reported that they consulted a private doctor for such examination when there were no symptoms or discomfort. Such figure was comparable to the proportion of males reported that they consulted a private doctor for DRE because of symptoms or discomfort (37.9%). Analyzed by age, males in the 45-64 age group (52.3%) were more likely than people in the younger and older age groups to consult a private doctor for such examination with no symptoms or discomfort. But males aged below 45 (66.8%) had the highest proportion of people reported that they consulted a private doctor for such examination because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.4c).

Table 7.2.4c: Type of doctors consulted for the digital rectal examination of the prostate by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	3.6	33.5%	9.1	52.3%	3.4	25.0%	16.1	38.6%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	5.1	47.2%	7.7	44.1%	8.2	61.4%	21.0	50.5%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	0.7	6.6%	0.6	3.6%	1.2	9.1%	2.6	6.2%
Unknown/Missing	1.4	12.7%	-	-	0.6	4.5%	2.0	4.7%
Total	10.7	100.0%	17.4	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	41.6	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	8.0	66.8%	7.6	30.9%	7.9	31.1%	23.5	37.9%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	4.0	33.2%	15.6	63.1%	16.3	64.1%	35.9	57.8%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	-	-	0.6	2.4%	0.6	1.0%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	1.5	6.0%	0.6	2.4%	2.1	3.4%
Total	11.9	100.0%	24.7	100.0%	25.5	100.0%	62.1	100.0%

Base: The male respondents who had received the digital rectal examination of the prostate.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Overall, 36.7% of those men who had DRE of the prostate before reported that they would have the examination at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of males who reported they would have had such examination because of symptoms or discomfort at regular interval was 26.1%. While there was no obvious age trend observed for the proportions of males reported that they had regular DRE with no symptoms or discomfort, the proportion of males reported that they had such examinations at regular interval because of symptoms or discomfort increased with age, from 5.9% for males aged below 45 to 35.3% for those aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.4d).

Table 7.2.4d: Regular digital rectal examination of the prostate by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	3.2	29.5%	7.2	41.4%	4.9	36.4%	15.3	36.7%
No	7.1	66.0%	10.2	58.6%	8.5	63.6%	25.8	62.1%
Unknown/Missing	0.5	4.6%	-	-	-	-	0.5	1.2%
Total	10.7	100.0%	17.4	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	41.6	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	0.7	5.9%	6.5	26.3%	9.0	35.3%	16.2	26.1%
No	11.2	94.1%	16.9	68.6%	11.0	43.1%	39.2	63.0%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	1.3	5.1%	5.5	21.6%	6.8	10.9%
Total	11.9	100.0%	24.7	100.0%	25.5	100.0%	62.1	100.0%

Base: The male respondents who had received the digital rectal examination of the prostate.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those males who had regular DRE of the prostate, 58.3% of males with no symptoms or discomfort would have such examination within 12 months apart with a median of 12.0 months between regular DRE. Among those males who had regular DRE because of symptoms or discomfort, all would have the examination within 12 months with a median of 12.0 months. As shown in Table 7.2.4e, people in the 65 and above had a higher median number of months (24.0 months) between regular DRE with no symptoms or discomfort than their younger counterparts. But the median number of months between regular DRE because of symptoms and discomfort was the same across three age groups (12.0 months) (Table 7.2.4e).

Table 7.2.4e: Number of months between regular digital rectal examinations of the prostate by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	2.4	77.6%	4.6	64.0%	1.8	37.5%	8.9	58.3%
13-24	0.7	22.4%	2.0	27.3%	1.2	25.0%	3.9	25.5%
More than 24	-	-	0.6	8.7%	1.8	37.5%	2.5	16.1%
Total	3.2	100.0%	7.2	100.0%	4.9	100.0%	15.3	100.0%
Mean	14.7		13.1		28.5		18.3	
Median	12.0		12.0		24.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	5.0		10.2		15.8		13.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	0.7	100.0%	6.5	100.0%	9.0	100.0%	16.2	100.0%
13-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
More than 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	0.7	100.0%	6.5	100.0%	9.0	100.0%	16.2	100.0%
Mean	12.0		11.5		10.2		10.8	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	N.A.		1.5		3.6		2.9	

Base: The male respondents who had received regular digital rectal examination of the prostate.

Notes: 'N.A.' denotes 'not applicable'.

Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.5 Cervical Smear Examination (Females only)

Cervical smear examination is a cytology test for cervical cancer. In the PHS, female respondents aged 18 and above were asked whether they ever had such examination. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they had the examination at regular interval and how often if indicated.

Overall, two-fifths of females reported that they had cervical smear examination before – 35.1% had it with no symptoms or discomfort at that time and 5.0% had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort. While females aged 65 and above (14.1%) were lower in proportion than the younger age groups to have the examination with no symptoms or discomfort, females in the 45-64 age group (8.5%) were higher in proportion than their younger and older counterparts to have such examination because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.5a).

Table 7.2.5a: Ever had cervical smear examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	623.0	39.0%	494.2	51.0%	72.2	17.8%	1 189.4	40.0%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	572.9	35.9%	412.0	42.5%	57.1	14.1%	1 042.1	35.1%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	50.1	3.1%	82.2	8.5%	15.1	3.7%	147.4	5.0%
No	954.4	59.8%	464.7	48.0%	327.4	80.5%	1 746.5	58.7%
Unknown/Missing	19.8	1.2%	10.2	1.1%	7.0	1.7%	37.1	1.2%
Total	1 597.3	100.0%	969.1	100.0%	406.6	100.0%	2 972.9	100.0%

Base: All female respondents aged 18 and above.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who reported that they had the cervical smear examination before, 53.1% and 45.2% had their last examinations with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 12.0 and 14.0 months respectively. Analyzed by age, women aged below 45 were higher in proportion than their older counterparts to report that they had their last cervical smear examinations within 12 months preceding the survey regardless the absence or presence of symptoms or discomfort (57.6% and 56.0% respectively) (Table 7.2.5b).

Table 7.2.5b: Number of months since last cervical smear examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	329.9	57.6%	194.8	47.3%	28.2	49.4%	553.0	53.1%
13-24	139.0	24.3%	80.6	19.6%	4.0	7.1%	223.7	21.5%
More than 24	87.3	15.2%	121.3	29.4%	20.5	35.8%	229.0	22.0%
Unknown/Missing	16.8	2.9%	15.2	3.7%	4.4	7.7%	36.4	3.5%
Total	572.9	100.0%	412.0	100.0%	57.1	100.0%	1 042.1	100.0%
Mean	18.0		27.1		57.6		23.7	
Median	12.0		14.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	19.6		36.2		95.6		36.0	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	28.0	56.0%	35.9	43.6%	2.7	17.9%	66.6	45.2%
13-24	7.4	14.7%	9.7	11.8%	6.0	39.6%	23.0	15.6%
More than 24	14.0	27.9%	28.4	34.5%	6.4	42.5%	48.7	33.1%
Unknown/Missing	0.7	1.4%	8.3	10.1%	-	-	9.0	6.1%
Total	50.1	100.0%	82.2	100.0%	15.1	100.0%	147.4	100.0%
Mean	20.1		37.9		107.6		39.2	
Median	12.0		14.0		24.0		14.0	
Standard Deviation	23.2		49.5		159.0		70.0	

Base: The female respondents aged 18 and above who had received cervical smear examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Regarding the type of doctors consulted for the cervical smear examination, 40.5% of those females who ever had cervical smear examination reported that they consulted a private doctor for such examination when there were no symptoms or discomfort or because of symptoms or discomfort. Analyzed by age, females aged 65 or above were lower in proportion than other age groups to have consulted a private doctor for the cervical smear examination regardless the absence or presence of symptoms or discomfort (29.3% and 23.9% respectively) (Table 7.2.5c).

Table 7.2.5c: Type of doctors consulted for the cervical smear examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	249.1	43.5%	156.6	38.0%	16.8	29.3%	422.5	40.5%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	228.1	39.8%	179.9	43.7%	27.7	48.4%	435.7	41.8%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	74.6	13.0%	52.4	12.7%	5.6	9.8%	132.6	12.7%
Unknown/Missing	21.1	3.7%	23.0	5.6%	7.1	12.4%	51.2	4.9%
Total	572.9	100.0%	412.0	100.0%	57.1	100.0%	1 042.1	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	21.1	42.2%	35.0	42.6%	3.6	23.9%	59.7	40.5%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	25.2	50.4%	45.2	55.0%	8.1	53.7%	78.6	53.3%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	2.0	4.1%	-	-	2.7	17.9%	4.7	3.2%
Unknown/Missing	1.7	3.4%	2.0	2.4%	0.7	4.5%	4.3	2.9%
Total	50.1	100.0%	82.2	100.0%	15.1	100.0%	147.4	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 18 and above who had received the cervical smear examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In general, 58.9% of those females who had a cervical smear examination before reported that they would have the examination at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of females in reporting that they would have such examination because of symptoms or discomfort at regular interval was 45.1%. Analyzed by age, the proportions of women reported that they would have regular cervical smear examination with no symptoms or discomfort decreased with age, from 63.5% for females aged below 45 to 34.3% for those aged 65 and above. A downward trend was also observed in the proportion of females having regular cervical smear examination because of symptoms or discomfort, from 48.8% for females in the below 45 age group to 13.4% for females in the 65 and above age group (Table 7.2.5d).

Table 7.2.5d: Regular cervical smear examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	363.8	63.5%	230.5	55.9%	19.6	34.3%	613.8	58.9%
No	184.0	32.1%	154.4	37.5%	29.8	52.2%	368.2	35.3%
Unknown/Missing	25.2	4.4%	27.1	6.6%	7.8	13.6%	60.1	5.8%
Total	572.9	100.0%	412.0	100.0%	57.1	100.0%	1 042.1	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	24.4	48.8%	40.0	48.6%	2.0	13.4%	66.4	45.1%
No	24.8	49.4%	35.1	42.7%	8.3	55.2%	68.1	46.2%
Unknown/Missing	0.9	1.8%	7.2	8.7%	4.7	31.3%	12.8	8.7%
Total	50.1	100.0%	82.2	100.0%	15.1	100.0%	147.4	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 18 and above who had received the cervical smear examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who had regular cervical smear examination, 60.8% of females with no symptoms or discomfort would have such examination within 12 months apart with a median of 12.0 months between regular cervical smear examination. Among those females who had regular cervical smear examination because of symptoms or discomfort, 72.7% would have the examination within 12 months with a median of 12.0 months as well. Analyzed by age, there was no age difference in the median number of months between regular cervical smear examination with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.5e).

Table 7.2.5e: Number of months between regular cervical smear examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	224.1	61.6%	133.5	57.9%	15.5	79.3%	373.2	60.8%
13-24	65.3	18.0%	56.9	24.7%	2.7	13.8%	124.9	20.4%
More than 24	63.5	17.5%	38.8	16.8%	1.3	6.9%	103.6	16.9%
Unknown/Missing	10.8	3.0%	1.3	0.6%	-	-	12.0	2.0%
Total	363.8	100.0%	230.5	100.0%	19.6	100.0%	613.8	100.0%
Mean	18.8		19.1		14.9		18.8	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	17.1		11.1		8.8		14.9	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	19.4	79.5%	27.5	68.9%	1.3	66.7%	48.3	72.7%
13-24	2.1	8.5%	6.6	16.6%	0.7	33.3%	9.4	14.1%
More than 24	1.6	6.5%	5.1	12.9%	-	-	6.7	10.1%
Unknown/Missing	1.4	5.5%	0.7	1.7%	-	-	2.0	3.1%
Total	24.4	100.0%	40.0	100.0%	2.0	100.0%	66.4	100.0%
Mean	11.7		16.5		16.0		14.8	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	8.2		10.4		5.7		9.8	

Base: The female respondents aged 18 and above who had received regular cervical smear examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.6 Mammogram (Females only)

Mammogram is the examination of the breast using special X-ray machine. To establish the proportion of females who ever had mammogram, the PHS asked females aged 35 and above the following question “Have you ever had mammogram?”. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were asked when they had the last examination, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they had the examination at regular interval and how often if indicated.

As shown in Table 7.2.6a, 17.3% of females reported that they had mammogram before – 13.3% had it with no symptoms or discomfort at that time and 4.0% had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort. Across all age groups, women in the age group 65 and above (9.5%) were less likely to report having undergone mammogram before.

Table 7.2.6a: Ever had mammogram by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	110.5	14.6%	220.4	22.7%	38.7	9.5%	369.5	17.3%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	87.0	11.5%	166.2	17.1%	30.5	7.5%	283.7	13.3%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	23.5	3.1%	54.2	5.6%	8.2	2.0%	85.9	4.0%
No	640.7	84.4%	736.3	76.0%	363.8	89.5%	1 740.8	81.5%
Unknown/Missing	8.0	1.1%	12.5	1.3%	4.0	1.0%	24.5	1.1%
Total	759.2	100.0%	969.1	100.0%	406.6	100.0%	2 134.8	100.0%

Base: All female respondents aged 35 and above.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who reported that they had mammogram before, 48.0% and 31.3% had their last mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey, with a median of 12.0 and 24.0 months respectively. As shown in Table 7.2.6b, females aged 45-64 (45.6%) were less likely to have the examination with no symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the interview. The proportion of females reported they had their last mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the interview was comparable across the three age categories (Table 7.2.6b).

Table 7.2.6b: Number of months since last mammogram by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	45.0	51.8%	75.8	45.6%	15.3	50.2%	136.1	48.0%
13-24	16.7	19.2%	38.4	23.1%	3.7	12.2%	58.8	20.7%
More than 24	16.0	18.3%	43.0	25.9%	5.4	17.7%	64.4	22.7%
Unknown/Missing	9.3	10.6%	8.9	5.4%	6.1	19.9%	24.3	8.6%
Total	87.0	100.0%	166.2	100.0%	30.5	100.0%	283.7	100.0%
Mean	18.5		23.9		22.0		22.1	
Median	12.0		14.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	17.9		27.0		24.6		24.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	7.3	30.9%	17.3	31.8%	2.4	28.8%	26.9	31.3%
13-24	5.0	21.4%	6.4	11.8%	2.2	27.4%	13.7	16.0%
More than 24	11.2	47.6%	22.0	40.6%	3.6	43.8%	36.8	42.8%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	8.5	15.8%	-	-	8.5	9.9%
Total	23.5	100.0%	54.2	100.0%	8.2	100.0%	85.9	100.0%
Mean	34.9		48.8		64.2		46.3	
Median	24.0		24.0		24.0		24.0	
Standard Deviation	29.9		53.6		65.7		50.0	

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had mammogram.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In terms of the type of doctors that those females who ever had mammogram consulted, 44.4% and 42.6% of females reported that they consulted a private doctor for such examination with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort respectively. Analyzed by age, females aged below 45 were higher in proportion than their older counterparts to have consulted a private doctor for mammogram with or without symptoms or discomfort (66.1% and 51.4% respectively) (Table 7.2.6c).

Table 7.2.6c: Type of doctors consulted for the mammogram by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	44.7	51.4%	70.1	42.2%	11.1	36.5%	125.9	44.4%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	30.6	35.2%	74.1	44.6%	13.4	43.9%	118.1	41.6%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	5.3	6.1%	13.1	7.9%	0.9	3.0%	19.3	6.8%
Unknown/Missing	6.3	7.3%	8.9	5.4%	5.1	16.6%	20.3	7.2%
Total	87.0	100.0%	166.2	100.0%	30.5	100.0%	283.7	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	15.5	66.1%	16.8	30.9%	4.3	52.1%	36.6	42.6%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	7.3	31.0%	35.5	65.5%	3.9	47.9%	46.7	54.4%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	0.7	1.2%	-	-	0.7	0.8%
Unknown/Missing	0.7	2.9%	1.3	2.4%	-	-	2.0	2.3%
Total	23.5	100.0%	54.2	100.0%	8.2	100.0%	85.9	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had mammogram.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Overall, 45.7% of those females who had mammogram before reported that they would have the examination at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of females reported that they would have had such examination because of symptoms or discomfort at regular interval was 32.8%. Analyzed by age, the proportions of women reported that they would have regular mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort decreased with age, from 47.6% for females aged below 45 to 40.6% for those aged 65 and above. Females aged 45-64 (35.2%) had the highest proportion of females reported that they had regular mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.6d).

Table7.2.6d: Regular mammogram by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	41.4	47.6%	75.8	45.6%	12.4	40.6%	129.6	45.7%
No	39.8	45.8%	76.6	46.1%	11.0	36.2%	127.4	44.9%
Unknown/Missing	5.8	6.7%	13.8	8.3%	7.1	23.2%	26.6	9.4%
Total	87.0	100.0%	166.2	100.0%	30.5	100.0%	283.7	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	6.7	28.5%	19.1	35.2%	2.4	28.8%	28.1	32.8%
No	16.8	71.5%	31.9	58.8%	4.5	54.8%	53.1	61.9%
Unknown/Missing	-	-	3.2	6.0%	1.3	16.4%	4.6	5.3%
Total	23.5	100.0%	54.2	100.0%	8.2	100.0%	85.9	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had mammogram.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who had regular mammogram, 61.9% of females with no symptoms or discomfort would have such examination within 12 months apart, with a median of 12.0 months between regular mammogram. Among those females who had regular mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort, 70.5% would have the examination within 12 months, with a median of 12.0 months. Analyzed by age, there was no age difference in the median number of months between regular mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort. However, females aged 65 and above had the lowest median number of months between regular mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort at 3.0 months when compared with 12.0 months among females in the younger age groups (Table 7.2.6e).

Table 7.2.6e: Number of months between regular mammogram by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	27.1	65.5%	44.3	58.5%	8.8	70.9%	80.2	61.9%
13-24	7.8	18.9%	23.6	31.1%	2.9	23.6%	34.4	26.5%
More than 24	2.0	4.9%	6.4	8.4%	0.7	5.5%	9.1	7.0%
Unknown/Missing	4.4	10.7%	1.5	2.0%	-	-	6.0	4.6%
Total	41.4	100.0%	75.8	100.0%	12.4	100.0%	129.6	100.0%
Mean	15.3		17.2		13.8		16.3	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	6.9		8.2		7.2		7.8	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	5.4	80.1%	12.1	63.5%	2.4	100.0%	19.8	70.5%
13-24	1.3	19.9%	4.3	22.3%	-	-	5.6	19.8%
More than 24	-	-	2.7	14.2%	-	-	2.7	9.6%
Total	6.7	100.0%	19.1	100.0%	2.4	100.0%	28.1	100.0%
Mean	13.6		16.1		6.9		14.7	
Median	12.0		12.0		3.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	5.6		11.3		4.5		10.2	

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had regular mammogram.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.2.7 *Clinical Breast Examination (Females only)*

Clinical breast examination is an examination of the breast by clinical observations and palpation by physician or other health professional. In the PHS, female respondents aged 35 and above were asked whether they ever had such examination. For those respondents who gave a positive response, they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of doctors from whom they had the consultation, and whether they had the examination at regular interval and how often if indicated.

Regarding clinical breast examination, two-fifths (40.0%) of females reported that they had undertaken clinical breast examination before – 35.4% had it with no symptoms or discomfort at that time and 4.6% had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort. Comparatively, females aged 65 and above (14.5%) were lower in proportion than their younger counterparts to have undertaken clinical breast examination before (Table 7.2.7a).

Table 7.2.7a: Ever had clinical breast examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	377.8	49.8%	417.9	43.1%	58.8	14.5%	854.5	40.0%
<i>Yes, with no symptoms or discomfort at that time</i>	342.0	45.0%	364.0	37.6%	49.9	12.3%	756.0	35.4%
<i>Yes, had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	35.8	4.7%	53.9	5.6%	8.9	2.2%	98.6	4.6%
No	375.7	49.5%	542.9	56.0%	343.0	84.4%	1 261.6	59.1%
Unknown/Missing	5.6	0.7%	8.4	0.9%	4.7	1.2%	18.7	0.9%
Total	759.2	100.0%	969.1	100.0%	406.6	100.0%	2 134.8	100.0%

Base: All female respondents aged 35 and above.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who reported that they ever had clinical breast examination, 54.3% and 43.7% had their last clinical breast examination with no symptoms or discomfort and because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months preceding the survey respectively, with a median of 12.0 months for both situations. While females aged 65 and above (62.4%) had the highest proportion of women reported that they had the examination with no symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the interview, females aged below 45 (54.8%) had the highest proportion of women reported that they had their last clinical breast examination because of symptoms or discomfort within 12 months prior to the interview (Table 7.2.7b).

Table 7.2.7b: Number of months since last clinical breast examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	190.4	55.7%	189.2	52.0%	31.2	62.4%	410.8	54.3%
13-24	75.0	21.9%	69.2	19.0%	5.4	10.8%	149.6	19.8%
More than 24	56.6	16.6%	90.8	24.9%	8.3	16.7%	155.7	20.6%
Unknown/Missing	20.0	5.8%	14.8	4.1%	5.1	10.1%	39.9	5.3%
Total	342.0	100.0%	364.0	100.0%	49.9	100.0%	756.0	100.0%
Mean	18.2		24.7		29.8		22.1	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	17.7		32.3		65.0		30.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	19.7	54.8%	20.5	38.0%	2.9	32.9%	43.1	43.7%
13-24	3.1	8.7%	10.5	19.5%	2.2	25.3%	15.9	16.1%
More than 24	10.4	29.0%	11.1	20.7%	3.0	34.2%	24.6	24.9%
Unknown/Missing	2.7	7.4%	11.7	21.8%	0.7	7.6%	15.1	15.3%
Total	35.8	100.0%	53.9	100.0%	8.9	100.0%	98.6	100.0%
Mean	20.2		30.7		46.8		28.1	
Median	12.0		15.0		24.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	19.8		36.8		59.6		35.4	

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had clinical breast examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Regarding the type of doctors consulted for clinical breast examination, 40.9% of females who ever had such examination reported that they consulted a private doctor when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of females reported that they consulted a private doctor for clinical breast examination because of symptoms or discomfort was 42.6%. Across the age groups, females in the 65 and above age group (19.6%) were less likely to consult a private doctor for clinical breast examination with no symptoms or discomfort, whereas females in the 45-64 age group (28.1%) were less likely to consult a private doctor for such examination because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2.7c).

Table 7.2.7c: Type of doctors consulted for the clinical breast examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	150.8	44.1%	148.6	40.8%	9.8	19.6%	309.3	40.9%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	124.6	36.4%	137.0	37.6%	29.8	59.7%	291.4	38.5%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	44.1	12.9%	41.0	11.3%	4.3	8.6%	89.4	11.8%
Unknown/Missing	22.4	6.6%	37.4	10.3%	6.1	12.2%	65.9	8.7%
Total	342.0	100.0%	364.0	100.0%	49.9	100.0%	756.0	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Private doctor	21.9	61.0%	15.2	28.1%	4.9	55.7%	42.0	42.6%
Doctor of public clinics and A&E (HA and DH)	12.0	33.4%	35.1	65.1%	3.3	36.7%	50.3	51.0%
Doctor of charitable organizations or universities	-	-	0.7	1.3%	-	-	0.7	0.7%
Unknown/Missing	2.0	5.7%	3.0	5.5%	0.7	7.6%	5.7	5.8%
Total	35.8	100.0%	53.9	100.0%	8.9	100.0%	98.6	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had clinical breast examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In general, 58.4% of those females who had clinical breast examination before reported that they would have the examination at regular interval when there were no symptoms or discomfort. The corresponding proportion of females reported that they would have had such examination regularly because of symptoms or discomfort was 47.2%. Analyzed by age, the proportions of women reported that they would have regular clinical breast examination with no symptoms or discomfort decreased with age, from 64.9% for females aged below 45 to 46.4% for those aged 65 and above. The proportion of females reported that they had regular clinical breast examination because of symptoms or discomfort tended to decrease with age as well - the proportions decreased from 50.5% for females aged below 45 to 32.9% for females aged 65 and above (Table 7.2.7d).

Table 7.2.7d: Regular clinical breast examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	221.8	64.9%	196.7	54.0%	23.2	46.4%	441.7	58.4%
No	92.7	27.1%	136.8	37.6%	21.4	42.8%	250.9	33.2%
Unknown/Missing	27.4	8.0%	30.5	8.4%	5.4	10.8%	63.4	8.4%
Total	342.0	100.0%	364.0	100.0%	49.9	100.0%	756.0	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Yes	18.1	50.5%	25.6	47.5%	2.9	32.9%	46.6	47.2%
No	16.2	45.2%	22.6	41.9%	3.9	44.3%	42.7	43.3%
Unknown/Missing	1.6	4.4%	5.7	10.6%	2.0	22.8%	9.3	9.4%
Total	35.8	100.0%	53.9	100.0%	8.9	100.0%	98.6	100.0%

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had clinical breast examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those females who had regular clinical breast examination, 67.0% of females with no symptoms or discomfort would have such examination within 12 months apart, with a median of 12.0 months between regular clinical breast examination. Among those females who had regular clinical breast examination because of symptoms or discomfort, 92.9% would have the examination within 12 months, with a median of 12.0 months. Analyzed by age, females aged 65 and above were higher in proportion than their younger counterparts to report that they would have regular clinical breast examination with or without symptoms or discomfort within 12 months apart (100.0% and 72.8% respectively) (Table 7.2.7e).

Table 7.2.7e: Number of months between regular clinical breast examination by Age group

	Below 45		45-64		65 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	145.6	65.7%	133.5	67.8%	16.9	72.8%	296.0	67.0%
13-24	37.3	16.8%	43.8	22.3%	5.6	24.3%	86.8	19.6%
More than 24	33.3	15.0%	14.8	7.5%	0.7	2.9%	48.7	11.0%
Unknown/Missing	5.6	2.5%	4.7	2.4%	-	-	10.2	2.3%
Total	221.8	100.0%	196.7	100.0%	23.2	100.0%	441.7	100.0%
Mean	17.4		16.2		14.0		16.7	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	9.6		8.1		6.4		8.8	
Because of symptoms or discomfort at that time								
Less than 13	17.4	96.3%	22.9	89.7%	2.9	100.0%	43.3	92.9%
13-24	-	-	0.6	2.4%	-	-	0.6	1.3%
More than 24	0.7	3.7%	2.0	7.9%	-	-	2.7	5.8%
Total	18.1	100.0%	25.6	100.0%	2.9	100.0%	46.6	100.0%
Mean	10.7		12.6		7.8		11.6	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	6.1		8.4		4.5		7.5	

Base: The female respondents aged 35 and above who had regular clinical breast examination.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.3 Blood Cholesterol Measurement

High blood cholesterol is a risk factor for coronary heart disease and stroke. The PHS included questions on measurement of blood cholesterol. Respondents were asked the following questions: “Have you ever had your blood cholesterol checked? If yes, about how long has it been since you last had your blood cholesterol checked?”.

Overall, 29.4% of people aged 15 and above had their blood cholesterol measured before – 31.4% for females and 27.0% for males (Table 7.3a). The proportion of people who had cholesterol checked before tended to increase with age and people in the 65-74 age group (55.6%) had the highest proportion of having their blood cholesterol checked (Table 7.3b).

Table 7.3a: Ever had blood cholesterol checked by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	977.3	31.4%	693.8	27.0%	1 671.1	29.4%
No	2 128.8	68.5%	1 875.8	72.9%	4 004.6	70.5%
Unknown/Missing	3.7	0.1%	4.5	0.2%	8.2	0.1%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.3b: Ever had blood cholesterol checked by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	36.8	4.1%	171.7	18.6%	341.2	26.2%	401.8	35.3%	296.2	46.6%	284.2	55.6%	139.3	50.2%	1 671.1	29.4%
No	857.6	95.5%	746.9	81.1%	959.2	73.7%	737.2	64.7%	339.6	53.4%	226.0	44.2%	138.1	49.8%	4 004.6	70.5%
Unknown/Missing	3.5	0.4%	2.6	0.3%	0.9	0.1%	-	-	-	-	1.2	0.2%	-	-	8.2	0.1%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1 301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who reported that they had blood cholesterol checked before, 94.2% had the test done in the last 5 years – 94.6% for females and 93.7% for males (Table 7.3c). Across the age groups, the proportion of people reported having blood cholesterol checked within the last 5 years did not differ much (Table 7.3d).

Table 7.3c: Number of months since last blood cholesterol checked by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
60 and less	924.4	94.6%	650.0	93.7%	1 574.5	94.2%
<i>Less than 13</i>	587.7	60.1%	432.7	62.4%	1 020.4	61.1%
13-24	172.5	17.6%	100.1	14.4%	272.5	16.3%
25-36	82.8	8.5%	64.7	9.3%	147.4	8.8%
37 – 48	45.2	4.6%	26.6	3.8%	71.7	4.3%
49 – 60	36.3	3.7%	26.0	3.8%	62.3	3.7%
More than 60	34.3	3.5%	30.4	4.4%	64.7	3.9%
Unknown/Missing	18.5	1.9%	13.4	1.9%	31.9	1.9%
Total	977.3	100.0%	693.8	100.0%	1 671.1	100.0%
Mean	19.1		19.3		19.2	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	23.2		24.8		23.9	

Base: The respondents who had blood cholesterol checked.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table7.3d: Number of months since last blood cholesterol checked by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
60 and less	33.7	91.7%	164.3	95.7%	323.1	94.7%	380.1	94.6%	282.3	95.3%	259.6	91.3%	131.4	94.3%	1 574.5	94.2%
<i>Less than 13</i>	22.2	60.3%	94.1	54.8%	176.6	51.8%	250.3	62.3%	195.6	66.0%	191.7	67.4%	90.0	64.6%	1 020.4	61.1%
13-24	4.2	11.4%	25.3	14.7%	78.5	23.0%	64.5	16.1%	39.1	13.2%	34.7	12.2%	26.2	18.8%	272.5	16.3%
25-36	4.7	12.8%	26.0	15.1%	32.6	9.6%	34.6	8.6%	23.7	8.0%	21.3	7.5%	4.5	3.2%	147.4	8.8%
37-48	0.7	1.9%	12.5	7.3%	18.7	5.5%	14.7	3.7%	14.5	4.9%	6.0	2.1%	4.7	3.4%	71.7	4.3%
49-60	1.9	5.2%	6.4	3.7%	16.7	4.9%	16.0	4.0%	9.4	3.2%	5.9	2.1%	6.0	4.3%	62.3	3.7%
More than 60	1.2	3.2%	4.4	2.6%	13.2	3.9%	16.3	4.1%	8.9	3.0%	14.1	5.0%	6.6	4.7%	64.7	3.9%
Unknown/Missing	1.9	5.1%	3.0	1.8%	4.9	1.4%	5.3	1.3%	4.9	1.7%	10.6	3.7%	1.3	1.0%	31.9	1.9%
Total	36.8	100.0%	171.7	100.0%	341.2	100.0%	401.8	100.0%	296.2	100.0%	284.2	100.0%	139.3	100.0%	1 671.1	100.0%
Mean	18.0		20.5		21.0		19.5		17.5		17.1		20.1		19.2	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	18.3		18.5		21.4		23.1		22.9		24.9		35.1		23.9	

Base: The respondents who had blood cholesterol checked.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.4 Blood Pressure Measurement

The risk of cardiovascular diseases and renal dysfunction increases with elevated blood pressure. The PHS included questions on blood pressure measurement. Respondents were asked whether they ever had blood pressure taken by a doctor or other health professional in the past 5 years. If an affirmative response was given, they were further asked when they last had their blood pressure checked.

The Survey revealed that less than two-thirds (62.9%) of people had their blood pressure checked by a medical or other health professional in the past five years. A higher proportion of females (67.8%) than males (56.9%) gave an affirmative response (Table 7.4a). Analyzed by age, the proportion increased from aged 15 – 24 (40.0%) to aged 75 and above (87.0%) (Table 7.4b).

Table 7.4a: Had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	2 107.3	67.8%	1 465.7	56.9%	3 573.0	62.9%
No	984.9	31.7%	1 095.0	42.5%	2 080.0	36.6%
Unknown/Missing	17.5	0.6%	13.3	0.5%	30.9	0.5%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.4b: Had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes,	359.1	40.0%	499.9	54.3%	837.4	64.4%	756.0	66.4%	460.6	72.5%	418.6	81.8%	241.4	87.0%	3 573.0	62.9%
No	528.1	58.8%	415.7	45.1%	460.7	35.4%	378.5	33.2%	171.4	27.0%	90.4	17.7%	35.4	12.7%	2 080.0	36.6%
Unknown/Missing	10.6	1.2%	5.7	0.6%	3.2	0.2%	4.6	0.4%	3.7	0.6%	2.5	0.5%	0.6	0.2%	30.9	0.5%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1 301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who reported that they had their blood pressure checked in the last 5 years, 88.7% reported that they had their blood pressure last checked within 2 years – 89.3% for females and 87.8% for males (Table 7.4c). Across all age groups, people aged 75 and above (94.5%) were more likely to have their most recent blood pressure checked within the last 2 years whereas people aged 25-34 (83.7%) were least likely to report so (Table 7.4d).

Table 7.4c: Number of months since last blood pressure checked by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
24 and less	1 882.3	89.3%	1 286.5	87.8%	3 168.8	88.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	<i>1 628.7</i>	<i>77.3%</i>	<i>1 109.1</i>	<i>75.7%</i>	<i>2 737.8</i>	<i>76.6%</i>
<i>13-24</i>	<i>253.7</i>	<i>12.0%</i>	<i>177.4</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>431.0</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
25-36	105.7	5.0%	81.0	5.5%	186.7	5.2%
37 – 48	56.9	2.7%	40.6	2.8%	97.5	2.7%
49 – 60	17.5	0.8%	24.9	1.7%	42.3	1.2%
Unknown/Missing	45.0	2.1%	32.8	2.2%	77.7	2.2%
Total	2 107.3	100.0%	1 465.7	100.0%	3 573.0	100.0%
Mean	9.9		11.0		10.3	
Median	6.0		6.0		6.0	
Standard Deviation	11.6		12.6		12.0	

Base: The respondents who had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table7.4d: Number of months since last blood pressure checked by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
24 and less	306.7	85.4%	418.5	83.7%	718.5	85.8%	691.9	91.5%	418.7	90.9%	386.3	92.3%	228.1	94.5%	3 168.8	88.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	244.0	67.9%	342.7	68.6%	591.7	70.7%	601.8	79.6%	389.2	84.5%	355.9	85.0%	212.4	88.0%	2 737.8	76.6%
<i>13-24</i>	62.7	17.5%	75.8	15.2%	126.8	15.1%	90.1	11.9%	29.4	6.4%	30.4	7.3%	15.7	6.5%	431.0	12.1%
25-36	22.7	6.3%	36.4	7.3%	58.5	7.0%	34.3	4.5%	19.9	4.3%	10.4	2.5%	4.5	1.9%	186.7	5.2%
37 - 48	6.7	1.9%	24.1	4.8%	33.2	4.0%	13.0	1.7%	10.8	2.3%	6.5	1.6%	3.2	1.3%	97.5	2.7%
49 - 60	3.8	1.1%	8.4	1.7%	13.2	1.6%	5.5	0.7%	4.4	0.9%	4.1	1.0%	2.9	1.2%	42.3	1.2%
Unknown/Missing	19.3	5.4%	12.4	2.5%	13.9	1.7%	11.4	1.5%	6.9	1.5%	11.3	2.7%	2.6	1.1%	77.7	2.2%
Total	359.1	100.0%	499.9	100.0%	837.4	100.0%	756.0	100.0%	460.6	100.0%	418.6	100.0%	241.4	100.0%	3 573.0	100.0%
Mean	12.1		13.3		12.4		9.5		8.7		7.1		6.1		10.3	
Median	9.0		12.0		6.0		6.0		4.0		3.0		2.0		6.0	
Standard Deviation	11.6		13.4		13.2		10.8		11.2		10.3		9.9		12.0	

Base: The respondents who had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.5 Blood Sugar Test

Blood sugar test is used to detect the development of, or a predisposition to the development of, diabetes. Many people are not aware that they have high blood sugar or diabetes until screened or signs of complications appear. Survey respondents were asked whether they had their blood sugar checked. If an affirmative response was given, they were further asked when they last had their blood sugar checked.

Overall, about one third (33.7%) of persons reported that they had their blood sugar checked before. More females (38.5%) than males (27.9%) had their blood sugar checked (Table 7.5a). As shown in Table 7.5b, a positive relationship was recorded between age and the checking of blood sugar. The proportion of persons who had their blood sugar checked increased from 7.1% in the 15-24 age group to 56.2% in the 65-74 age group and 54.7% in the 75 and above age group.

Table 7.5a: Ever had blood sugar checked by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	1 198.3	38.5%	716.9	27.9%	1 915.2	33.7%
No	1 903.2	61.2%	1 849.2	71.8%	3 752.4	66.0%
Unknown/Missing	8.3	0.3%	8.0	0.3%	16.3	0.3%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.5b: Ever had blood sugar checked by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	63.9	7.1%	238.8	25.9%	435.4	33.5%	411.3	36.1%	327.0	51.4%	287.2	56.2%	151.6	54.7%	1 915.2	33.7%
No	831.1	92.6%	678.0	73.6%	863.5	66.4%	725.1	63.7%	307.5	48.4%	222.0	43.4%	125.1	45.1%	3 752.4	66.0%
Unknown/Missing	2.9	0.3%	4.4	0.5%	2.3	0.2%	2.6	0.2%	1.2	0.2%	2.2	0.4%	0.7	0.2%	16.3	0.3%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1 301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Over four-fifths (83.7%) of persons who reported that they had their blood sugar checked before had the test last done within the last 3 years – 82.8% for females and 85.3% for males (Table 7.5c). Analyzed by age, people in the 55-64 age group (88.0%) were more likely to have their most recent blood sugar checked within the 3 years preceding the survey whereas people aged 25-34 (75.2%) were the least likely to have their blood sugar checked in the last 3 years (Table 7.5d).

Table 7.5c: Number of months since last blood sugar checked by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%	No. of persons (' 000)	%
36 and less	992.2	82.8%	611.3	85.3%	1 603.5	83.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	714.7	59.6%	467.9	65.3%	1 182.6	61.7%
13-24	173.9	14.5%	90.5	12.6%	264.5	13.8%
25-36	103.6	8.6%	52.8	7.4%	156.5	8.2%
37 - 48	53.5	4.5%	27.4	3.8%	80.9	4.2%
49 - 60	41.2	3.4%	23.7	3.3%	64.9	3.4%
More than 60	73.5	6.1%	24.8	3.5%	98.3	5.1%
Unknown/Missing	37.9	3.2%	29.7	4.1%	67.5	3.5%
Total	1 198.3	100.0%	716.9	100.0%	1 915.2	100.0%
Mean	20.7		17.6		19.6	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	27.4		24.3		26.3	

Base: The respondents who had blood sugar checked.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table7.5d: Number of months since last blood sugar checked by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
36 and less	52.6	82.4%	179.5	75.2%	353.1	81.1%	354.7	86.2%	287.6	88.0%	247.5	86.2%	128.4	84.7%	1 603.5	83.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	40.0	62.7%	121.7	51.0%	224.6	51.6%	270.6	65.8%	219.4	67.1%	204.3	71.1%	102.0	67.3%	1 182.6	61.7%
13-24	5.9	9.2%	29.5	12.4%	83.9	19.3%	52.6	12.8%	43.0	13.2%	26.8	9.3%	22.7	15.0%	264.5	13.8%
25-36	6.7	10.5%	28.3	11.8%	44.6	10.2%	31.5	7.7%	25.3	7.7%	16.4	5.7%	3.7	2.5%	156.5	8.2%
37 - 48	1.0	1.5%	21.4	9.0%	15.0	3.5%	18.4	4.5%	9.1	2.8%	10.1	3.5%	5.8	3.8%	80.9	4.2%
49 - 60	2.6	4.0%	14.7	6.2%	19.6	4.5%	11.8	2.9%	7.6	2.3%	6.3	2.2%	2.3	1.5%	64.9	3.4%
More than 60	1.1	1.8%	14.5	6.1%	36.5	8.4%	16.1	3.9%	9.5	2.9%	10.7	3.7%	9.7	6.4%	98.3	5.1%
Unknown/Missing	6.5	10.2%	8.7	3.6%	11.1	2.6%	10.2	2.5%	13.1	4.0%	12.6	4.4%	5.3	3.5%	67.5	3.5%
Total	63.9	100.0%	238.8	100.0%	435.4	100.0%	411.3	100.0%	327.0	100.0%	287.2	100.0%	151.6	100.0%	1 915.2	100.0%
Mean	15.8		24.2		24.3		19.1		15.9		14.6		18.2		19.6	
Median	12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		12.0		6.0		8.0		12.0	
Standard Deviation	16.9		26.5		28.4		29.4		20.8		21.5		29.0		26.3	

Base: The respondents who had blood sugar checked.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

7.6 Injury Prevention

Injury is more than a haphazard occurrence. It could be prevented if more attention is given to implementing preventive measures. Regarding injury preventive practices, respondents were asked whether they had done anything or taken any precautions to prevent injuries from happening in household or workplace in the past 12 months and what they had done if indicated. The PHS also included a question on how often they used seatbelt when driving or riding in a car with seatbelts such as a taxi and private car.

Overall, more than one-third (36.7%) of people reported that they had done something or taken precaution in the 12 months preceding the survey to prevent injuries at home or in the workplace and the proportion was comparable between males and females (Table 7.6a). People aged 15-24 (24.7%) were lowest in proportion than other age groups to do anything or take precautions to prevent injuries from happening in household or workplace (Table 7.6b).

Table 7.6a: Done something or precautions taken in household or workplace by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	1 158.2	37.2%	929.1	36.1%	2 087.3	36.7%
No	1 856.1	59.7%	1 577.8	61.3%	3 433.9	60.4%
Unknown/Missing	95.5	3.1%	67.2	2.6%	162.7	2.9%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.6b: Done something or precautions taken in household or workplace by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	222.0	24.7%	347.3	37.7%	511.3	39.3%	463.0	40.7%	262.0	41.2%	184.0	36.0%	97.7	35.2%	2 087.3	36.7%
No	645.5	71.9%	547.6	59.4%	751.6	57.8%	640.6	56.2%	359.6	56.6%	312.8	61.2%	176.2	63.5%	3 433.9	60.4%
Unknown/Missing	30.3	3.4%	26.3	2.9%	38.4	2.9%	35.4	3.1%	14.1	2.2%	14.7	2.9%	3.4	1.2%	162.7	2.9%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1 301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Among those persons who reported that they had done something or taken precautions to prevent injuries in household or at workplace, 88.3% had been more careful; 11.2% had received safety training and 28.6% had used protective gear. Analyzed by sex, females were more likely to report being more careful while males were more likely to have received safety training and used protective gear (Table 7.6c). Across all age groups, people in the 65-74 age group (94.3%) were more likely to report being more careful as to prevent injuries in household or at workplace; people in 35-44 age group (16.0%) were more likely to receive safety training; and people aged 15-24 (40.4%) tended to use protective gear.

Table 7.6c: Forms of precautions taken by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Being more careful	1 060.8	91.6%	782.2	84.2%	1 843.0	88.3%
Receiving safety training	88.9	7.7%	144.5	15.6%	233.4	11.2%
Using protective gear	238.3	20.6%	358.3	38.6%	596.6	28.6%
Others	12.3	1.1%	12.3	1.3%	24.5	1.2%

Base: The respondents who had done something or taken any precautions to prevent injury happened.

Notes: Multiple answers were allowed.

Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.6d: Forms of precautions taken by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Being more careful	198.5	89.4%	291.9	84.1%	428.4	83.8%	415.1	89.6%	243.9	93.1%	173.5	94.3%	91.7	93.8%	1 843.0	88.3%
Receiving safety training	17.9	8.1%	48.0	13.8%	81.9	16.0%	58.4	12.6%	20.3	7.8%	6.9	3.8%	-	-	233.4	11.2%
Using protective gear	89.8	40.4%	111.5	32.1%	171.6	33.6%	131.6	28.4%	62.7	23.9%	24.4	13.3%	5.1	5.2%	596.6	28.6%
Others	2.6	1.2%	1.7	0.5%	11.4	2.2%	6.5	1.4%	2.3	0.9%	-	-	-	-	24.5	1.2%

Base: The respondents who had done something or taken any precautions to prevent injury happened.

Notes: Multiple answers were allowed.

Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

In the case of driving or riding in a car, 70.3% of people reported that they always used seatbelts – 67.8% for females and 73.3% for males (Table 7.6e). Across all age groups, people aged 15-24 (55.8%) and people aged 75 and above (65.9%) were least likely to report that they always used seatbelts when they drove or rode in a car with seatbelts (Table 7.6f).

Table 7.6e: Use seatbelts when driving or riding in a car with seatbelts by Gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Always	2 109.0	67.8%	1 887.5	73.3%	3 996.6	70.3%
Nearly always	430.2	13.8%	347.8	13.5%	778.0	13.7%
Sometimes	251.4	8.1%	149.8	5.8%	401.2	7.1%
Seldom	118.4	3.8%	60.1	2.3%	178.5	3.1%
Never	86.9	2.8%	55.2	2.1%	142.1	2.5%
Unknown/Missing	114.0	3.7%	73.6	2.9%	187.5	3.3%
Total	3 109.8	100.0%	2 574.1	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.6f: Use seatbelts when driving or riding in a car with seatbelts by Age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 and above		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Always	500.5	55.8%	637.8	69.2%	977.3	75.1%	872.0	76.6%	476.9	75.0%	349.2	68.3%	182.7	65.9%	3 996.6	70.3%
Nearly always	145.3	16.2%	159.9	17.4%	159.8	12.3%	128.7	11.3%	86.2	13.6%	70.4	13.8%	27.6	10.0%	778.0	13.7%
Sometimes	126.4	14.1%	58.8	6.4%	83.7	6.4%	48.2	4.2%	28.8	4.5%	30.6	6.0%	24.6	8.9%	401.2	7.1%
Seldom	46.1	5.1%	16.9	1.8%	28.0	2.2%	25.0	2.2%	14.1	2.2%	23.7	4.6%	24.7	8.9%	178.5	3.1%
Never	47.4	5.3%	17.6	1.9%	12.2	0.9%	19.5	1.7%	13.8	2.2%	19.9	3.9%	11.7	4.2%	142.1	2.5%
Unknown/Missing	32.1	3.6%	30.2	3.3%	40.2	3.1%	45.5	4.0%	15.8	2.5%	17.7	3.5%	6.1	2.2%	187.5	3.3%
Total	897.8	100.0%	921.2	100.0%	1301.2	100.0%	1 139.0	100.0%	635.7	100.0%	511.5	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	5 683.9	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Note: Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.