

Chapter 7

Preventive Health Practices

Some preventive practices, which may include specific types of screening or physical and biochemical examinations and being vigilant about health, 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 medical check-up, screening for specific cancers and cardiovascular risk factors such as blood cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar levels.

Snapshot of Population's Preventive Practices

Indicator	Female	Male	Overall
Proportion of population who had regular medical check-up	44.1%	30.4%	37.6%
Proportion of population who ever had faecal occult blood test	17.2%	17.0%	17.1%
Proportion of population who ever had colonoscopy	14.1%	15.2%	14.6%
Proportion of males who ever had prostate specific antigen test	N.A.	9.2%	N.A.
Proportion of males who ever had digital rectal examination	N.A.	7.9%	N.A.
Proportion of females aged 25 or above who ever had cervical smear	54.2%	N.A.	N.A.
Proportion of females who ever had mammogram	25.4%	N.A.	N.A.
Proportion of population who had screening for cardiovascular risk factors:			
• Ever had blood cholesterol checked	57.2%	53.5%	55.4%
• Had blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey	77.1%	72.6%	75.0%
• Ever had blood sugar checked	60.2%	55.1%	57.7%

Note: 'N.A.' denotes 'Not applicable'.

7.1 Regular Medical Check-up

Regular medical check-up may help detect early stages of chronic diseases before symptoms occur and allow timely intervention to prevent disease progression. In the survey, respondents were asked whether they had regular medical check-up and, if yes, their frequencies of doing so.

As a whole, 37.6% of persons aged 15 or above reported that they had regular medical check-up. More females (44.1%) than males (30.4%) reported to have done so (Table 7.1a). The proportion of population having regular medical check-up was the highest among those aged 45-54 (45.9%) and the lowest in those aged 15-24 (18.2%) (Table 7.1b).

Table 7.1a: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who had regular medical check-up by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)	
Yes	1 403.8	44.1%	880.4	30.4%	2 284.2	37.6%
No	1 781.2	55.9%	2 014.8	69.6%	3 796.0	62.4%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Table 7.1b: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who had regular medical check-up by age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75-84		85 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
Yes	146.2	18.2%	277.4	28.9%	442.9	43.4%	543.2	45.9%	444.9	41.8%	232.6	41.2%	155.2	44.0%	41.9	32.0%	2 284.2	37.6%
No	655.4	81.8%	684.0	71.1%	578.3	56.6%	639.8	54.1%	620.6	58.2%	331.4	58.8%	197.5	56.0%	88.9	68.0%	3 796.0	62.4%
Total	801.6	100.0%	961.4	100.0%	1 021.2	100.0%	1 183.0	100.0%	1 065.5	100.0%	564.0	100.0%	352.7	100.0%	130.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Among persons aged 15 or above who had reported that they had regular medical check-up, 91.8% had their medical check-up at least once every 24 months (89.7% for females and 95.1% for males), with an overall mean duration of 15.7 months between each regular medical check-up. The average duration in terms of number of months between each regular medical check-up was longer in females (16.5 months) than in males (14.3 months) (Table 7.1c). Across all age groups, persons aged 85 or above had the most frequent regular medical check-up with an average duration of once every 9.9 months and those aged 35-44 had the least frequent regular medical check-up with an average duration of once every 17.8 months (Table 7.1d).

Table 7.1c: Duration (in number of months) between regular medical check-up by gender

Duration (months)	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Less than 13	952.8	67.9%	682.9	77.6%	1 635.8	71.6%
13 - 24	306.3	21.8%	154.1	17.5%	460.5	20.2%
More than 24	144.6	10.3%	43.4	4.9%	188.0	8.2%
Total	1 403.8	100.0%	880.4	100.0%	2 284.2	100.0%
Mean	16.5		14.3		15.7	

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

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

Table 7.1d: Duration (in number of months) between regular medical check-up by age group

Duration (months)	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75-84		85 or 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)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Less than 13	136.2	93.2%	187.1	67.5%	275.5	62.2%	342.3	63.0%	329.0	73.9%	187.2	80.5%	140.2	90.4%	38.3	91.3%	1 635.8	71.6%
13 - 24	8.5	5.8%	72.1	26.0%	121.1	27.3%	135.4	24.9%	74.6	16.8%	34.3	14.7%	11.5	7.4%	3.0	7.1%	460.5	20.2%
More than 24	1.4	1.0%	18.2	6.5%	46.3	10.5%	65.5	12.1%	41.3	9.3%	11.1	4.8%	3.4	2.2%	0.7	1.6%	188.0	8.2%
Total	146.2	100.0%	277.4	100.0%	442.9	100.0%	543.2	100.0%	444.9	100.0%	232.6	100.0%	155.2	100.0%	41.9	100.0%	2 284.2	100.0%
Mean	12.4		16.4		17.8		17.6		15.3		13.3		10.6		9.9		15.7	

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

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

7.2 Faecal Occult Blood Test

A faecal occult blood test (FOBT) is a test to determine whether the stool contains blood. Common FOBTs include guaiac-based faecal occult blood test (gFOBT) and faecal immunochemical test (FIT). In the survey, respondents were asked whether they ever had a FOBT and if yes, further information were collected including whether they had any symptoms or discomfort prior to the test, when was their last test, type of organisations / doctors from whom they consulted for the test and how often they had the test.

Overall, 17.1% of persons aged 15 or above (17.2% for females and 17.0% for males) reported that they had ever received a FOBT. Analysed by whether they had symptoms prior to the test, 15.0% had a FOBT with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and 2.1% had the test because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.2a). Analysed by age group, the proportions of people ever had a FOBT with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test were within 19.0% to 20.0% for persons in age groups 40-79 (Table 7.2b).

Table 7.2a: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had a FOBT by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	546.4	17.2%	490.8	17.0%	1 037.2	17.1%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test</i>	478.7	15.0%	433.2	15.0%	911.9	15.0%
<i>Had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	67.7	2.1%	57.6	2.0%	125.3	2.1%
No	2 638.6	82.8%	2 404.4	83.0%	5 043.0	82.9%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Table 7.2b: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had a FOBT by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		50-75		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	205.6	9.1%	226.6	21.1%	279.6	22.6%	183.4	22.3%	95.3	23.4%	46.7	16.4%	524.2	22.6%	1 037.2	17.1%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test</i>	189.4	8.4%	203.9	19.0%	247.5	20.0%	158.5	19.3%	79.5	19.5%	33.0	11.6%	460.3	19.9%	911.9	15.0%
<i>Had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	16.2	0.7%	22.7	2.1%	32.1	2.6%	24.8	3.0%	15.8	3.9%	13.7	4.8%	63.9	2.8%	125.3	2.1%
No	2 046.9	90.9%	848.0	78.9%	959.5	77.4%	638.3	77.7%	312.1	76.6%	238.2	83.6%	1 791.6	77.4%	5 043.0	82.9%
Total	2 252.5	100.0%	1 074.6	100.0%	1 239.1	100.0%	821.7	100.0%	407.4	100.0%	284.9	100.0%	2 315.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for FOBT, among those who had received the test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, more persons consulted private doctors (70.9%) than public clinics or hospitals (25.3%) in general. On the contrary, among those who had received the test because of symptoms or discomfort at that time, more people consulted doctors in public clinics or hospitals (60.8%) than private doctors (37.2%) (Table 7.2c).

Table 7.2c: Type of organisations consulted for FOBT by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹						
Private clinics or hospitals	337.9	70.6%	308.4	71.2%	646.3	70.9%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	118.2	24.7%	112.2	25.9%	230.4	25.3%
Non-profit organisations or universities	18.2	3.8%	9.7	2.2%	27.8	3.1%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	2.3	0.5%	1.4	0.3%	3.8	0.4%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	0.5	0.1%	0.5	0.1%
Laboratories	2.0	0.4%	1.1	0.2%	3.1	0.3%
Total	478.7	100.0%	433.2	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²						
Private clinics or hospitals	23.7	35.0%	22.9	39.7%	46.6	37.2%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	42.1	62.1%	34.1	59.3%	76.2	60.8%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.9	1.4%	-	-	0.9	0.8%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	0.6	0.8%	0.6	1.0%	1.2	0.9%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	0.5	0.7%	-	-	0.5	0.4%
Laboratories	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	67.7	100.0%	57.6	100.0%	125.3	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Analysed by age group, a higher proportion of persons aged 70 or above had received the test in public clinics or hospitals regardless of whether they had symptoms or discomfort before the test or not (Table 7.2d).

Table 7.2d: Type of organisations consulted for FOBT by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or 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)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
Private clinics or hospitals	160.6	84.8%	167.9	82.3%	191.6	77.4%	90.7	57.2%	25.7	32.4%	9.8	29.6%	646.3	70.9%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	22.9	12.1%	28.4	13.9%	48.4	19.6%	58.3	36.8%	49.1	61.7%	23.2	70.4%	230.4	25.3%
Non-profit organisations or universities	3.2	1.7%	7.1	3.5%	5.4	2.2%	8.0	5.1%	4.2	5.2%	-	-	27.8	3.1%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	2.3	1.2%	-	-	0.5	0.2%	0.5	0.3%	0.5	0.6%	-	-	3.8	0.4%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.3%	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.1%
Laboratories	0.5	0.2%	0.5	0.2%	1.6	0.6%	0.6	0.4%	-	-	-	-	3.1	0.3%
Total	189.4	100.0%	203.9	100.0%	247.5	100.0%	158.5	100.0%	79.5	100.0%	33.0	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
Private clinics or hospitals	8.3	51.2%	11.1	48.7%	13.8	43.0%	8.3	33.3%	2.4	15.4%	2.7	19.9%	46.6	37.2%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	7.9	48.8%	10.5	46.2%	17.4	54.1%	16.6	66.7%	12.9	81.8%	11.0	80.1%	76.2	60.8%
Non-profit organisations or universities	-	-	-	-	0.9	2.9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	0.8%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	-	-	1.2	5.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	0.9%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	2.9%	-	-	0.5	0.4%
Laboratories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16.2	100.0%	22.7	100.0%	32.1	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	15.8	100.0%	13.7	100.0%	125.3	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among persons who had received FOBT when there were no symptoms or discomfort, about two-thirds (64.0%) had their last tests within 24 months preceding the survey, while one-third (32.3%) had their last tests more than 24 months preceding the survey. The mean duration since their last FOBT was 32.6 months (33.3 months for females and 31.8 months for males) among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test. Among persons who had received FOBT because of symptoms or discomfort, the average duration since the last test was 51.0 months (49.0 months for females and 53.4 months for males) (Table 7.2e and Table 7.2f).

Table 7.2e: Number of months since the last FOBT by gender

Duration (months)	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹						
Less than 13	209.0	43.7%	192.3	44.4%	401.3	44.0%
13 - 24	91.8	19.2%	90.6	20.9%	182.4	20.0%
More than 24	156.9	32.8%	137.3	31.7%	294.2	32.3%
Unknown / missing	21.0	4.4%	12.9	3.0%	33.9	3.7%
Total	478.7	100.0%	433.2	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Mean ²	33.3		31.8		32.6	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³						
Less than 13	21.8	32.1%	17.2	29.9%	39.0	31.1%
13 - 24	9.2	13.6%	10.0	17.3%	19.1	15.3%
More than 24	33.5	49.5%	26.6	46.2%	60.1	48.0%
Unknown / missing	3.2	4.8%	3.8	6.6%	7.0	5.6%
Total	67.7	100.0%	57.6	100.0%	125.3	100.0%
Mean ⁴	49.0		53.4		51.0	

- Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.
3. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
4. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.

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

Table 7.2f: Number of months since the last FOBT by age group

Duration (months)	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
Less than 13	89.1	47.0%	83.3	40.9%	111.9	45.2%	64.2	40.5%	38.9	48.9%	13.9	42.2%	401.3	44.0%
13 - 24	41.9	22.1%	46.9	23.0%	53.9	21.8%	29.0	18.3%	8.2	10.3%	2.5	7.6%	182.4	20.0%
More than 24	52.9	27.9%	70.0	34.3%	72.7	29.4%	59.1	37.3%	24.8	31.2%	14.8	44.7%	294.2	32.3%
Unknown / missing	5.5	2.9%	3.7	1.8%	9.0	3.6%	6.3	4.0%	7.6	9.6%	1.8	5.4%	33.9	3.7%
Total	189.4	100.0%	203.9	100.0%	247.5	100.0%	158.5	100.0%	79.5	100.0%	33.0	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Mean ²	27.8		32.6		31.5		36.5		33.3		48.5		32.6	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³														
Less than 13	7.6	47.1%	5.9	26.2%	6.8	21.3%	6.4	25.6%	7.0	44.7%	5.2	37.8%	39.0	31.1%
13 - 24	2.4	14.7%	2.4	10.7%	6.6	20.7%	4.6	18.6%	1.4	8.8%	1.7	12.4%	19.1	15.3%
More than 24	5.2	32.0%	12.6	55.3%	18.2	56.7%	11.8	47.6%	6.5	41.1%	5.9	43.1%	60.1	48.0%
Unknown / missing	1.0	6.2%	1.8	7.9%	0.4	1.3%	2.0	8.2%	0.9	5.4%	0.9	6.8%	7.0	5.6%
Total	16.2	100.0%	22.7	100.0%	32.1	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	15.8	100.0%	13.7	100.0%	125.3	100.0%
Mean ⁴	32.4		66.0		56.4		43.2		45.8		55.5		51.0	

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.
3. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
4. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.

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

Among persons who received FOBT with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test, about half (51.4%) of them had no regular schedule of repeat tests and one-fifth (20.7%) reported that the most recent test taken was their first FOBT. 1.0% had FOBT more frequent than once per year, 15.7% generally received the test once a year, 8.3% had the test once every two years and 2.8% took the test less frequently. Among those who had FOBT because of symptoms or discomfort, 47.3% of them had no regular schedule of repeat tests and 44.2% reported that the most recent test taken was their first test. 0.8% of them had FOBT more than once per year generally, 4.3% had the test once a year or every two years and 2.9% had the test once every three years or less frequently (Table 7.2g and Table 7.2h).

Table 7.2g: Frequency of regular FOBT by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹						
More than once per year generally	4.5	0.9%	4.5	1.0%	9.1	1.0%
Once a year generally	74.1	15.5%	69.2	16.0%	143.3	15.7%
Once every 2 years generally	37.8	7.9%	38.0	8.8%	75.8	8.3%
Once every 3 years generally	10.5	2.2%	6.1	1.4%	16.5	1.8%
Once every 4 years or more generally	2.5	0.5%	6.7	1.6%	9.2	1.0%
The most recent one was the first FOBT	98.8	20.6%	90.3	20.8%	189.0	20.7%
No fixed schedule for taking FOBT	250.5	52.3%	218.5	50.4%	469.0	51.4%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	478.7	100.0%	433.2	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²						
More than once per year generally	0.4	0.6%	0.6	1.0%	1.0	0.8%
Once a year generally	1.9	2.8%	1.0	1.7%	2.9	2.3%
Once every 2 years generally	0.5	0.7%	2.1	3.6%	2.5	2.0%
Once every 3 years generally	1.6	2.3%	1.6	2.8%	3.2	2.5%
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	0.5	0.8%	0.5	0.4%
The most recent one was the first FOBT	31.3	46.2%	24.1	41.9%	55.4	44.2%
No fixed schedule for taking FOBT	32.1	47.3%	27.3	47.3%	59.3	47.3%
Refusal	-	-	0.5	0.9%	0.5	0.4%
Total	67.7	100.0%	57.6	100.0%	125.3	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Table 7.2h: Frequency of regular FOBT by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		Total	
	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%
	(’000)		(’000)		(’000)		(’000)		(’000)		(’000)		(’000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
More than once per year generally	1.7	0.9%	1.7	0.8%	4.2	1.7%	0.5	0.3%	1.0	1.3%	-	-	9.1	1.0%
Once a year generally	31.7	16.7%	34.1	16.7%	40.6	16.4%	20.9	13.2%	11.5	14.5%	4.5	13.7%	143.3	15.7%
Once every 2 years generally	13.6	7.2%	24.8	12.2%	22.6	9.1%	11.6	7.3%	2.2	2.8%	0.9	2.8%	75.8	8.3%
Once every 3 years generally	2.5	1.3%	4.4	2.2%	4.2	1.7%	4.9	3.1%	0.4	0.6%	-	-	16.5	1.8%
Once every 4 years or more generally	0.6	0.3%	1.6	0.8%	2.8	1.1%	2.1	1.3%	2.1	2.7%	-	-	9.2	1.0%
The most recent one was the first FOBT	53.5	28.2%	39.7	19.5%	41.1	16.6%	30.5	19.2%	16.3	20.5%	7.9	24.0%	189.0	20.7%
No fixed schedule for taking FOBT	85.9	45.3%	97.6	47.9%	132.0	53.3%	88.0	55.5%	45.9	57.7%	19.6	59.5%	469.0	51.4%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	189.4	100.0%	203.9	100.0%	247.5	100.0%	158.5	100.0%	79.5	100.0%	33.0	100.0%	911.9	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.6	2.6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	3.0%	1.0	0.8%
Once a year generally	-	-	0.6	2.7%	1.0	3.1%	0.4	1.7%	-	-	0.9	6.4%	2.9	2.3%
Once every 2 years generally	-	-	-	-	1.0	3.2%	1.1	4.3%	0.4	2.8%	-	-	2.5	2.0%
Once every 3 years generally	-	-	-	-	1.2	3.6%	2.0	8.2%	-	-	-	-	3.2	2.5%
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	-	-	0.5	1.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.4%
The most recent one was the first FOBT	9.7	59.8%	10.6	46.5%	12.1	37.7%	9.1	36.8%	8.4	53.0%	5.6	40.8%	55.4	44.2%
No fixed schedule for taking FOBT	6.5	40.2%	10.9	48.1%	16.4	51.0%	12.2	49.1%	7.0	44.2%	6.3	46.2%	59.3	47.3%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	3.6%	0.5	0.4%
Total	16.2	100.0%	22.7	100.0%	32.1	100.0%	24.8	100.0%	15.8	100.0%	13.7	100.0%	125.3	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The respondents who had received the faecal occult blood test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

The Cancer Expert Working Group on Cancer Prevention and Screening in Hong Kong recommended individuals aged 50 to 75 at average risk to discuss with their doctor and consider screening for colorectal cancer by receiving FOBT once every one to two years ¹. In the PHS, the proportion of persons aged 50 to 75 inclusive who had received FOBT among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test was 19.9% (20.2% for females and 19.6% for males). Among these persons who had FOBT, the proportion of those who had the test generally once a year or every two years was 22.7% (21.2% for females and 24.3% for males) (Table 7.2b).

7.3 Colonoscopy

Colonoscopy is an examination in which an endoscope is inserted into the colon to view the bowel for signs of cancer or other health problems. In the survey, respondents were asked whether they ever had the examination and if yes, further information was collected including whether they had any symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination, when was their last examination, type of organisations / doctors from whom they had consulted for the examination, and how often they had the examination.

Overall, 14.6% of the persons aged 15 or above (14.1% for females and 15.2% for males) had received colonoscopy examination, with 11.3% had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination (10.6% for females and 12.0% for males), and 3.3% had their colonoscopies because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.3a). Analysed by age group, the proportions of people ever had colonoscopy when there was no symptoms or discomfort increased from 4.0% in those below 40 years of age to 19.4% in those aged 60-69 and then decreased to 12.2% for people aged 80 or above (Table 7.3b).

Table 7.3a: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had colonoscopy by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Yes	449.3	14.1%	440.2	15.2%	889.5	14.6%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination</i>	337.8	10.6%	348.7	12.0%	686.5	11.3%
<i>Had examination because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	111.5	3.5%	91.5	3.2%	203.0	3.3%
No	2 735.7	85.9%	2 455.0	84.8%	5 190.7	85.4%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Table 7.3b: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had colonoscopy by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		50-75		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	118.3	5.3%	160.6	14.9%	260.1	21.0%	210.0	25.6%	89.0	21.9%	51.4	18.1%	526.6	22.7%	889.5	14.6%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination</i>	90.3	4.0%	129.7	12.1%	207.4	16.7%	159.2	19.4%	65.4	16.0%	34.6	12.2%	408.8	17.7%	686.5	11.3%
<i>Had examination because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	28.0	1.2%	30.9	2.9%	52.7	4.3%	50.8	6.2%	23.7	5.8%	16.8	5.9%	117.9	5.1%	203.0	3.3%
No	2 134.2	94.7%	914.0	85.1%	979.0	79.0%	611.7	74.4%	318.4	78.1%	233.5	81.9%	1 789.2	77.3%	5 190.7	85.4%
Total	2 252.5	100.0%	1 074.6	100.0%	1 239.1	100.0%	821.7	100.0%	407.4	100.0%	284.9	100.0%	2 315.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for the colonoscopy among those who had received the examination when there were no symptoms or discomfort, more people consulted private doctors (64.0%) than public clinics or hospitals (34.4%). On the contrary, among those who had received the examination because of symptoms or discomfort, more people consulted doctors in public clinics or hospitals (53.7%) than private doctors (44.2%) (Table 7.3c).

Table 7.3c: Type of organisations consulted for colonoscopy by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹						
Private clinics or hospitals	216.0	64.0%	223.1	64.0%	439.2	64.0%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	115.3	34.1%	120.9	34.7%	236.2	34.4%
Non-profit organisations or universities	3.5	1.0%	1.6	0.5%	5.1	0.7%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	2.4	0.7%	2.6	0.7%	5.0	0.7%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	0.5	0.2%	0.5	0.1%	1.0	0.1%
Total	337.8	100.0%	348.7	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²						
Private clinics or hospitals	54.4	48.8%	35.3	38.6%	89.6	44.2%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	53.8	48.2%	55.2	60.3%	109.0	53.7%
Non-profit organisations or universities	1.4	1.2%	0.4	0.4%	1.8	0.9%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	0.6	0.5%	0.6	0.6%	1.2	0.6%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	1.4	1.3%	-	-	1.4	0.7%
Total	111.5	100.0%	91.5	100.0%	203.0	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Analysed by age group, a higher proportion of persons aged 70 or above had received the examination in public clinics or hospitals regardless of whether they had symptoms or discomfort before the examination or not (Table 7.3d).

Table 7.3d: Type of organisations consulted for colonoscopy by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or 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)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹														
Private clinics or hospitals	71.7	79.4%	103.5	79.8%	142.6	68.8%	89.0	55.9%	23.6	36.1%	8.7	25.2%	439.2	64.0%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	16.5	18.2%	24.0	18.5%	61.9	29.8%	67.1	42.2%	40.8	62.5%	25.9	74.8%	236.2	34.4%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.4	0.5%	1.1	0.9%	1.1	0.5%	1.5	0.9%	0.9	1.4%	-	-	5.1	0.7%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	1.6	1.8%	1.0	0.8%	1.8	0.9%	0.6	0.4%	-	-	-	-	5.0	0.7%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	0.6%	-	-	-	-	1.0	0.1%
Total	90.3	100.0%	129.7	100.0%	207.4	100.0%	159.2	100.0%	65.4	100.0%	34.6	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
Private clinics or hospitals	19.4	69.2%	18.6	60.1%	25.7	48.7%	18.3	36.1%	5.2	21.9%	2.4	14.5%	89.6	44.2%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	8.2	29.3%	11.8	38.1%	26.0	49.4%	31.0	60.9%	17.6	74.5%	14.4	85.5%	109.0	53.7%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.4	1.5%	-	-	-	-	0.9	1.9%	0.4	1.7%	-	-	1.8	0.9%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	-	-	0.6	1.8%	-	-	0.6	1.2%	-	-	-	-	1.2	0.6%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.9%	-	-	0.5	1.9%	-	-	1.4	0.7%
Total	28.0	100.0%	30.9	100.0%	52.7	100.0%	50.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	16.8	100.0%	203.0	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among persons who had received colonoscopy when there were no symptoms or discomfort, 55.3% had their last examinations within 24 months preceding the survey, 25.0% and 13.0% received the examination 25-60 months and 61-120 months preceding the survey respectively. The average duration since the last colonoscopy was 39.6 months (39.6 months for females and 39.7 months for males) among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination. Among those who had received the examination because of symptoms or discomfort, the average duration since the last examination was 49.8 months (51.4 months for females and 48.0 months for males) (Table 7.3e and Table 7.3f).

Table 7.3e: Number of months since the last colonoscopy by gender

Duration (months)	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (‘000)	%	No. of persons (‘000)	%	No. of persons (‘000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹						
Less than 13	121.8	36.0%	115.9	33.2%	237.7	34.6%
13 - 24	68.9	20.4%	73.0	20.9%	141.8	20.7%
More than 24	135.9	40.2%	144.6	41.5%	280.5	40.9%
25 - 60	80.9	23.9%	91.0	26.1%	171.9	25.0%
61 - 120	45.6	13.5%	43.4	12.4%	89.0	13.0%
More than 120	9.4	2.8%	10.2	2.9%	19.7	2.9%
Unknown / missing	11.3	3.3%	15.2	4.4%	26.5	3.9%
Total	337.8	100.0%	348.7	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Mean ²	39.6		39.7		39.6	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³						
Less than 13	31.7	28.4%	29.3	32.0%	61.0	30.0%
13 - 24	14.7	13.2%	16.9	18.5%	31.6	15.6%
More than 24	62.2	55.8%	42.3	46.2%	104.5	51.5%
25 - 60	35.6	31.9%	26.7	29.2%	62.4	30.7%
61 - 120	18.4	16.5%	10.2	11.2%	28.6	14.1%
More than 120	8.2	7.4%	5.4	5.9%	13.6	6.7%
Unknown / missing	2.9	2.6%	3.0	3.3%	5.9	2.9%
Total	111.5	100.0%	91.5	100.0%	203.0	100.0%
Mean ⁴	51.4		48.0		49.8	

- Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.
2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.
3. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.
4. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.

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

Table 7.3f: Number of months since the last colonoscopy by age group

Duration (months)	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹														
Less than 13	34.6	38.4%	48.1	37.1%	71.9	34.7%	47.6	29.9%	25.1	38.5%	10.3	29.7%	237.7	34.6%
13 - 24	25.3	28.1%	26.7	20.6%	44.0	21.2%	32.0	20.1%	9.3	14.2%	4.6	13.2%	141.8	20.7%
More than 24	28.3	31.3%	52.1	40.2%	84.3	40.7%	73.5	46.2%	23.8	36.5%	18.4	53.1%	280.5	40.9%
25 - 60	16.4	18.1%	33.9	26.2%	56.7	27.3%	43.5	27.3%	13.5	20.7%	7.9	22.9%	171.9	25.0%
61 - 120	9.8	10.9%	15.0	11.6%	22.8	11.0%	25.0	15.7%	8.8	13.4%	7.6	21.8%	89.0	13.0%
More than 120	2.1	2.3%	3.2	2.4%	4.8	2.3%	5.1	3.2%	1.6	2.4%	2.9	8.4%	19.7	2.9%
Unknown / missing	2.0	2.2%	2.7	2.1%	7.2	3.5%	6.1	3.8%	7.1	10.9%	1.4	4.0%	26.5	3.9%
Total	90.3	100.0%	129.7	100.0%	207.4	100.0%	159.2	100.0%	65.4	100.0%	34.6	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Mean ²	34.0		35.9		37.2		43.7		38.9		65.7		39.6	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³														
Less than 13	8.1	29.0%	10.8	35.0%	16.2	30.7%	15.0	29.6%	6.4	26.9%	4.5	26.5%	61.0	30.0%
13 - 24	6.8	24.1%	4.0	12.9%	8.6	16.2%	6.7	13.3%	3.9	16.3%	1.7	9.9%	31.6	15.6%
More than 24	12.6	44.8%	16.1	52.1%	27.1	51.4%	26.5	52.2%	13.0	55.0%	9.2	54.9%	104.5	51.5%
25 - 60	6.6	23.5%	11.1	35.8%	16.7	31.7%	13.6	26.7%	8.9	37.6%	5.5	32.7%	62.4	30.7%
61 - 120	5.5	19.6%	4.5	14.5%	7.2	13.6%	7.7	15.0%	2.2	9.4%	1.6	9.3%	28.6	14.1%
More than 120	0.5	1.7%	0.6	1.8%	3.2	6.1%	5.3	10.5%	1.9	7.9%	2.2	12.9%	13.6	6.7%
Unknown / missing	0.6	2.1%	-	-	0.9	1.7%	2.5	5.0%	0.4	1.9%	1.5	8.7%	5.9	2.9%
Total	28.0	100.0%	30.9	100.0%	52.7	100.0%	50.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	16.8	100.0%	203.0	100.0%
Mean ⁴	44.5		38.9		48.1		56.4		50.3		65.8		49.8	

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.

3. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

4. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.

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

Regarding frequency of having regular colonoscopy, 57.2% of people who had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination had no fixed schedule for repeat examinations, 26.4% reported that their most recent examination was the first colonoscopy ever received. 11.8% had regular colonoscopy once every one to two years or more frequently and 4.6% had regular colonoscopy less frequently. Among those who had colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort, 44.6% had no fixed schedule, 46.8% had their most recent one as their first colonoscopy, while only 8.3% had colonoscopy regularly (Table 7.3g and Table 7.3h).

Table 7.3g: Frequency of regular colonoscopies by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹						
More than once per year generally	0.9	0.3%	1.1	0.3%	2.1	0.3%
Once a year generally	22.7	6.7%	22.8	6.5%	45.6	6.6%
Once every 2 years generally	12.0	3.6%	21.5	6.2%	33.6	4.9%
Once every 3 years generally	4.9	1.5%	6.1	1.7%	11.0	1.6%
Once every 4 years or more generally	8.2	2.4%	12.2	3.5%	20.4	3.0%
<i>Once every 4 - 5 years generally</i>	6.8	2.0%	11.1	3.2%	17.9	2.6%
<i>Once every 6 - 9 years generally</i>	-	-	0.6	0.2%	0.6	0.1%
<i>Once every 10 years or more generally</i>	1.4	0.4%	0.5	0.1%	1.9	0.3%
The most recent one was the first colonoscopy	89.3	26.4%	92.0	26.4%	181.3	26.4%
No fixed schedule of colonoscopies	199.7	59.1%	192.9	55.3%	392.5	57.2%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	337.8	100.0%	348.7	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²						
More than once per year generally	0.4	0.4%	0.6	0.7%	1.0	0.5%
Once a year generally	0.5	0.5%	0.9	1.0%	1.4	0.7%
Once every 2 years generally	2.0	1.8%	3.7	4.0%	5.7	2.8%
Once every 3 years generally	2.1	1.9%	2.6	2.8%	4.7	2.3%
Once every 4 years or more generally	2.0	1.8%	2.1	2.3%	4.1	2.0%
<i>Once every 4 - 5 years generally</i>	2.0	1.8%	2.1	2.3%	4.1	2.0%
<i>Once every 6 - 9 years generally</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Once every 10 years or more generally</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
The most recent one was the first colonoscopy	55.5	49.8%	39.5	43.1%	94.9	46.8%
No fixed schedule of colonoscopies	48.9	43.9%	41.7	45.5%	90.6	44.6%
Refusal	-	-	0.5	0.5%	0.5	0.2%
Total	111.5	100.0%	91.5	100.0%	203.0	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Table 7.3h: Frequency of regular colonoscopies by age group

	Below 40		40-49		50-59		60-69		70-79		80 or above		Total	
	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%
	persons		persons		persons		persons		persons		persons		persons	
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹														
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.6	0.5%	0.5	0.3%	0.4	0.3%	0.5	0.8%	-	-	2.1	0.3%
Once a year generally	7.4	8.2%	9.4	7.3%	13.6	6.6%	8.2	5.1%	5.4	8.3%	1.5	4.4%	45.6	6.6%
Once every 2 years generally	4.5	4.9%	8.8	6.8%	9.8	4.7%	6.9	4.3%	2.7	4.1%	0.9	2.5%	33.6	4.9%
Once every 3 years generally	0.6	0.6%	2.4	1.8%	3.2	1.5%	4.3	2.7%	0.5	0.8%	-	-	11.0	1.6%
Once every 4 years or more generally	1.8	2.0%	3.3	2.5%	8.4	4.0%	4.5	2.8%	2.1	3.3%	0.3	1.0%	20.4	3.0%
<i>Once every 4 - 5 years generally</i>	1.8	2.0%	1.7	1.3%	7.8	3.8%	4.1	2.6%	2.1	3.3%	0.3	1.0%	17.9	2.6%
<i>Once every 6 - 9 years generally</i>	-	-	0.6	0.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.1%
<i>Once every 10 years or more generally</i>	-	-	0.9	0.7%	0.6	0.3%	0.4	0.3%	-	-	-	-	1.9	0.3%
The most recent one was the first colonoscopy	23.9	26.5%	36.9	28.5%	54.7	26.4%	40.4	25.4%	15.7	24.1%	9.6	27.8%	181.3	26.4%
No fixed schedule of colonoscopies	52.2	57.8%	68.2	52.6%	117.1	56.5%	94.4	59.3%	38.3	58.6%	22.3	64.3%	392.5	57.2%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	90.3	100.0%	129.7	100.0%	207.4	100.0%	159.2	100.0%	65.4	100.0%	34.6	100.0%	686.5	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.6	2.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	2.5%	1.0	0.5%
Once a year generally	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.9%	-	-	0.4	1.7%	0.5	3.2%	1.4	0.7%
Once every 2 years generally	-	-	0.5	1.5%	2.8	5.2%	1.5	2.9%	1.0	4.1%	-	-	5.7	2.8%
Once every 3 years generally	-	-	-	-	1.2	2.2%	2.1	4.2%	1.4	6.0%	-	-	4.7	2.3%
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	1.1	3.4%	0.9	1.7%	2.1	4.2%	-	-	-	-	4.1	2.0%
<i>Once every 4 - 5 years generally</i>	-	-	1.1	3.4%	0.9	1.7%	2.1	4.2%	-	-	-	-	4.1	2.0%
<i>Once every 6 - 9 years generally</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Once every 10 years or more generally</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The most recent one was the first colonoscopy	13.7	48.8%	12.4	40.1%	25.9	49.2%	21.7	42.7%	9.8	41.2%	11.5	68.3%	94.9	46.8%
No fixed schedule of colonoscopies	14.4	51.2%	16.4	53.0%	21.5	40.7%	23.4	46.0%	11.1	47.0%	3.9	23.1%	90.6	44.6%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	2.9%	0.5	0.2%
Total	28.0	100.0%	30.9	100.0%	52.7	100.0%	50.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	16.8	100.0%	203.0	100.0%

Bases: 1. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The respondents who had received the colonoscopy because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

The Cancer Expert Working Group on Cancer Prevention and Screening in Hong Kong recommended individuals aged 50 to 75 at average risk to discuss with their doctor and consider screening for colorectal cancer by having colonoscopy once every ten years, as an alternative to FOBT screening ¹. In the PHS, the proportion of persons aged 50 to 75 inclusive who had received a colonoscopy when there was no symptoms or discomfort was 17.7% (16.2% for females and 19.2% for males) (Table 7.3b).

7.4 Prostate-specific Antigen Test (for males only)

The prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test is a blood test used to screen for prostate cancer in males. In the survey, male respondents were asked whether they had the test before and if yes, whether there was any symptoms or discomfort prior to the test. They were further asked when they had the last test, type of organisations / doctors from whom they had consulted for the test, and how often they had the test.

Overall, 9.2% of males aged 15 or above reported that they ever had a PSA test without (7.4%) and with (1.8%) symptoms or discomfort prior to the test. Among those who had the test with no symptoms or discomfort at that time, the proportions increased from 2.6% in males aged below 45 to 14.7% in males aged 65-74, and slightly decreased to 12.7% in males aged 75 or above. Among those who had the test because of symptoms or discomfort, the proportions increased sharply from 0.1% among males aged below 45 to 10.1% among males aged 75 or above (Table 7.4a).

Table 7.4a: Proportion of males aged 15 or above who ever had PSA test by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of	
	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%
	('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)	
Yes	35.9	2.7%	54.5	9.9%	69.7	13.2%	57.3	20.2%	48.1	22.8%	265.5	9.2%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test</i>	34.7	2.6%	51.3	9.4%	59.7	11.3%	41.8	14.7%	26.9	12.7%	214.4	7.4%
<i>Had test because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	1.2	0.1%	3.2	0.6%	10.0	1.9%	15.5	5.5%	21.2	10.1%	51.2	1.8%
No	1 288.2	97.3%	493.9	90.1%	458.3	86.8%	226.5	79.8%	162.8	77.2%	2 629.7	90.8%
Total	1 324.1	100.0%	548.4	100.0%	528.0	100.0%	283.8	100.0%	210.9	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%

Base: All male respondents.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for the PSA test, among those who had received the test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, overall speaking more people consulted private doctors (68.3%) than public clinics or hospitals (30.8%). On the contrary, among those who had the test because of symptoms or discomfort, in general more people consulted doctors in public clinics or hospitals (76.4%) than private doctors (22.8%) (Table 7.4b).

Table 7.4b: Type of organisations consulted for PSA test by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or 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)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹												
Private clinics or hospitals	29.8	86.0%	45.6	88.8%	41.5	69.6%	22.7	54.2%	6.9	25.5%	146.5	68.3%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	4.3	12.3%	5.7	11.2%	17.0	28.5%	19.1	45.8%	20.0	74.5%	66.1	30.8%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.6	1.7%	-	-	0.6	1.0%	-	-	-	-	1.2	0.5%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	-	-	-	-	0.6	1.0%	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.3%
Total	34.7	100.0%	51.3	100.0%	59.7	100.0%	41.8	100.0%	26.9	100.0%	214.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²												
Private clinics or hospitals	1.2	100.0%	1.6	50.8%	3.2	31.6%	1.0	6.3%	4.7	22.2%	11.7	22.8%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	-	-	1.6	49.2%	6.9	68.4%	14.2	91.1%	16.5	77.8%	39.1	76.4%
Non-profit organisations or universities	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	2.6%	-	-	0.4	0.8%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1.2	100.0%	3.2	100.0%	10.0	100.0%	15.5	100.0%	21.2	100.0%	51.2	100.0%

Bases: 1. The male respondents who had received the PSA test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The male respondents who had received the PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among males who had received PSA test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, 71.7% had their last tests within 24 months preceding the survey while 25.7% had the test more than 24 months preceding the survey. The average duration since the last PSA test was 26.5 months among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test. Among persons who had received PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort, the average duration since the last test was 37.2 months (Table 7.4c).

Table 7.4c: Number of months since the last PSA test by age group

Duration (months)	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹												
Less than 13	18.7	53.8%	25.5	49.7%	31.5	52.7%	22.3	53.4%	9.9	36.9%	107.9	50.3%
13 - 24	8.8	25.5%	14.5	28.3%	14.1	23.6%	4.4	10.6%	3.9	14.6%	45.8	21.4%
More than 24	7.2	20.8%	10.2	19.8%	14.1	23.7%	12.0	28.8%	11.6	43.1%	55.1	25.7%
Unknown / missing	-	-	1.1	2.2%	-	-	3.0	7.3%	1.4	5.4%	5.6	2.6%
Total	34.7	100.0%	51.3	100.0%	59.7	100.0%	41.8	100.0%	26.9	100.0%	214.4	100.0%
Mean ²	19.9		19.7		21.8		34.1		48.2		26.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³												
Less than 13	-	-	0.6	17.7%	3.5	34.9%	9.7	62.6%	7.2	33.9%	21.0	41.0%
13 - 24	-	-	1.1	33.5%	3.6	36.2%	1.9	12.2%	3.4	15.9%	9.9	19.5%
More than 24	0.6	49.9%	0.9	29.3%	2.4	24.4%	3.9	25.2%	9.5	44.5%	17.3	33.9%
Unknown / missing	0.6	50.1%	0.6	19.5%	0.5	4.5%	-	-	1.2	5.8%	2.9	5.7%
Total	1.2	100.0%	3.2	100.0%	10.0	100.0%	15.5	100.0%	21.2	100.0%	51.2	100.0%
Mean ⁴	#		52.1		30.3		28.7		44.1		37.2	

Bases: 1. The male respondents who had received the PSA test, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
2. The male respondents who had received the PSA test, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.
3. The male respondents who had received the PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.
4. The male respondents who had received the PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last test.

Notes: # The summary statistics are not shown for the age subgroup "Below 45" due to statistical consideration.
Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Nearly half (45.6%) of persons who received a PSA test with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test had no fixed schedule of regular PSA tests, and 21.0% reported that the recent test was their first PSA test; 19.9% had PSA test generally once a year or more frequently, 10.8% had the test once every two years and 2.7% had the test once every three years or at a longer interval. Among people who had a PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort, 39.1% had no fixed schedule recent tests, 39.5% reported that the most recent test was their first test, while 10.6% had PSA test more than once a year and 10.8% had regular PSA tests once every one to two years (Table 7.4d).

Table 7.4d: Frequency of regular PSA tests by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons	
	(% '000)	%	(% '000)	%	(% '000)	%	(% '000)	%	(% '000)	%	(% '000)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹												
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.6	1.2%	1.6	2.7%	2.9	6.9%	-	-	5.1	2.4%
Once a year generally	5.6	16.1%	10.7	20.8%	9.5	16.0%	8.0	19.0%	3.7	13.8%	37.5	17.5%
Once every 2 years generally	4.5	13.1%	7.0	13.7%	6.8	11.3%	3.8	9.1%	1.0	3.7%	23.1	10.8%
Once every 3 years generally	0.6	1.7%	0.6	1.1%	1.8	3.0%	-	-	-	-	2.9	1.4%
Once every 4 years or more generally	0.6	1.7%	1.7	3.3%	0.6	1.0%	-	-	-	-	2.9	1.3%
The most recent one was the first PSA test	8.9	25.7%	9.2	18.0%	12.7	21.3%	8.4	20.2%	5.8	21.5%	45.1	21.0%
No fixed schedule of PSA tests	14.5	41.8%	21.5	41.9%	26.7	44.8%	18.7	44.8%	16.4	61.0%	97.8	45.6%
Total	34.7	100.0%	51.3	100.0%	59.7	100.0%	41.8	100.0%	26.9	100.0%	214.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²												
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.6	17.7%	1.5	15.0%	2.0	12.7%	1.4	6.5%	5.4	10.6%
Once a year generally	-	-	-	-	1.2	11.7%	2.4	15.3%	0.6	2.6%	4.1	8.1%
Once every 2 years generally	-	-	0.6	17.7%	-	-	0.5	3.1%	0.3	1.6%	1.4	2.7%
Once every 3 years generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The most recent one was the first PSA test	0.6	49.9%	-	-	2.4	24.3%	6.9	44.2%	10.3	48.5%	20.2	39.5%
No fixed schedule of PSA tests	0.6	50.1%	2.0	64.6%	4.9	49.0%	3.8	24.6%	8.6	40.7%	20.0	39.1%
Total	1.2	100.0%	3.2	100.0%	10.0	100.0%	15.5	100.0%	21.2	100.0%	51.2	100.0%

Bases: 1. The male respondents who had received the PSA test and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test.

2. The male respondents who had received the PSA test because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

7.5 Digital Rectal Examination (for males only)

Digital rectal examination (DRE) of the prostate is an examination in which the doctor 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 DRE and if yes, whether there were any symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of organisations / doctors whom they had consulted for the examination, and how often they had the examination.

Overall, 7.9% of males aged 15 or above reported that they had ever had DRE of the prostate - 5.8% had the examination when there were no apparent symptoms or discomfort and 2.1% had it because of symptoms or discomfort. The proportions ever having the examination increased steadily with age, from 2.4% for those below 45 years of age to 11.5% for those aged 75 or above for those who had received the DRE when there were no symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.5a).

Table 7.5a: Proportion of males aged 15 or above who ever had a digital rectal examination by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%
	persons ('000)		persons ('000)		persons ('000)		persons ('000)		persons ('000)		persons ('000)	
Yes	38.1	2.9%	44.5	8.1%	62.6	11.9%	44.8	15.8%	39.1	18.6%	229.3	7.9%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination</i>	31.5	2.4%	35.8	6.5%	45.3	8.6%	31.5	11.1%	24.3	11.5%	168.4	5.8%
<i>Had examination because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	6.6	0.5%	8.8	1.6%	17.3	3.3%	13.4	4.7%	14.9	7.1%	60.9	2.1%
No	1 286.0	97.1%	503.9	91.9%	465.4	88.1%	239.0	84.2%	171.8	81.4%	2 665.9	92.1%
Total	1 324.1	100.0%	548.4	100.0%	528.0	100.0%	283.8	100.0%	210.9	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%

Base: All male respondents.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for the DRE among those who had received the examination when there were no symptoms or discomfort, overall speaking more people consulted private doctors (61.9%) than public clinics or hospitals (34.7%). However, the opposite was found among those who had received the examination because of symptoms or discomfort with 63.7% consulted doctors in public clinics or hospitals and 34.4% consulted private doctors (Table 7.5b).

Table 7.5b: Type of organisations consulted for digital rectal examination by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons		No. of persons	
	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)	(%000)
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹												
Private clinics or hospitals	22.6	71.6%	29.5	82.4%	32.1	70.8%	16.7	53.0%	3.4	14.0%	104.2	61.9%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	5.9	18.6%	5.2	14.7%	12.1	26.6%	14.8	47.0%	20.4	84.2%	58.4	34.7%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.9	2.9%	1.1	3.0%	1.2	2.6%	-	-	0.5	1.9%	3.6	2.1%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	2.2	6.9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.2	1.3%
Total	31.5	100.0%	35.8	100.0%	45.3	100.0%	31.5	100.0%	24.3	100.0%	168.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²												
Private clinics or hospitals	3.3	50.5%	4.5	51.1%	8.0	46.1%	2.3	16.8%	2.9	19.4%	20.9	34.4%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	2.8	42.4%	4.3	48.9%	9.3	53.9%	11.1	83.2%	11.2	75.6%	38.8	63.7%
Non-profit organisations or universities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	0.5	7.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	4.9%	1.2	2.0%
Total	6.6	100.0%	8.8	100.0%	17.3	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	14.9	100.0%	60.9	100.0%

Bases: 1. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among males who had received DRE when there were no symptoms or discomfort, 61.1% had their last examinations within 24 months preceding the survey, while 33.1% had the examination more than 24 months preceding the survey. The average duration since the last DRE was 38.6 months among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination. Among persons who had received the examination because of symptoms or discomfort, the average duration since last examination was 60.9 months (Table 7.5c).

Table 7.5c: Number of months since the last digital rectal examination by age group

Duration (months)	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹												
Less than 13	18.0	57.2%	16.0	44.6%	18.8	41.4%	14.8	47.1%	8.9	36.7%	76.5	45.4%
13 - 24	5.6	17.8%	8.7	24.2%	6.6	14.5%	3.9	12.5%	1.6	6.7%	26.4	15.7%
More than 24	6.8	21.7%	9.5	26.6%	18.8	41.5%	9.3	29.7%	11.2	46.3%	55.8	33.1%
Unknown / missing	1.0	3.3%	1.6	4.5%	1.2	2.5%	3.4	10.7%	2.5	10.3%	9.7	5.7%
Total	31.5	100.0%	35.8	100.0%	45.3	100.0%	31.5	100.0%	24.3	100.0%	168.4	100.0%
Mean ²	29.9		25.7		49.9		32.5		56.1		38.6	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³												
Less than 13	0.5	7.1%	1.4	16.3%	4.6	26.5%	5.4	40.6%	3.3	22.1%	15.2	24.9%
13 - 24	1.1	16.1%	2.7	30.8%	4.4	25.6%	2.9	21.9%	2.3	15.3%	13.4	22.0%
More than 24	4.5	67.7%	4.0	45.8%	7.8	45.1%	4.6	34.1%	8.3	55.9%	29.1	47.9%
Unknown / missing	0.6	9.0%	0.6	7.1%	0.5	2.8%	0.5	3.5%	1.0	6.8%	3.2	5.2%
Total	6.6	100.0%	8.8	100.0%	17.3	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	14.9	100.0%	60.9	100.0%
Mean ⁴	52.8		57.4		57.8		53.3		77.6		60.9	

- Bases:
1. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.
 2. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.
 3. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate because of symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.
 4. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last examination.

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

More than half (53.9%) of the males who had DRE of the prostate when there were no apparent symptoms or discomfort had no fixed schedule of repeat examinations and 23.5% reported that the most recent examination was their first DRE ever received. 13.6% had the DRE generally once a year or more frequent, 5.7% had it once every two years and 3.3% once every three or more years. Among people who had DRE because of symptoms or discomfort, 37.7% had no fixed schedule, 52.8% reported that the most recent examination was their first ever DRE received, while only 9.5% had regular DRE (Table 7.5d).

Table 7.5d: Frequency of regular digital rectal examinations by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of	
	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%
	('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination¹												
More than once per year generally	-	-	1.2	3.5%	-	-	1.7	5.4%	-	-	2.9	1.7%
Once a year generally	3.9	12.4%	5.7	16.0%	4.9	10.9%	3.9	12.5%	1.6	6.4%	20.1	11.9%
Once every 2 years generally	2.9	9.1%	1.7	4.7%	2.9	6.3%	1.3	4.2%	0.9	3.7%	9.6	5.7%
Once every 3 years generally	1.0	3.3%	0.6	1.7%	0.6	1.3%	-	-	-	-	2.2	1.3%
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	2.7	7.5%	0.6	1.3%	-	-	-	-	3.3	2.0%
The most recent one was my first digital rectal examination	8.6	27.1%	6.0	16.9%	11.2	24.7%	8.3	26.3%	5.4	22.4%	39.5	23.5%
No fixed schedule of digital rectal examinations	15.2	48.1%	17.8	49.7%	25.2	55.5%	16.2	51.6%	16.4	67.5%	90.8	53.9%
Total	31.5	100.0%	35.8	100.0%	45.3	100.0%	31.5	100.0%	24.3	100.0%	168.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort²												
More than once per year generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.7	12.4%	-	-	1.7	2.7%
Once a year generally	-	-	-	-	1.2	6.8%	0.5	3.5%	0.9	6.1%	2.5	4.2%
Once every 2 years generally	-	-	0.6	6.4%	-	-	0.6	4.4%	0.4	3.0%	1.6	2.6%
Once every 3 years generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The most recent one was my first digital rectal examination	4.8	72.9%	3.5	40.1%	8.9	51.7%	5.4	40.7%	9.5	63.6%	32.2	52.8%
No fixed schedule of digital rectal examinations	1.8	27.1%	4.7	53.5%	7.2	41.5%	5.2	39.0%	4.1	27.4%	22.9	37.7%
Total	6.6	100.0%	8.8	100.0%	17.3	100.0%	13.4	100.0%	14.9	100.0%	60.9	100.0%

Bases: 1. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination.

2. The male respondents who had received digital rectal examination of the prostate because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

7.6 Cervical Smear (for females aged 25 or above)

Cervical smear is a cytology test for cervical cancer. In the PHS, female respondents aged 25 or above were asked whether they ever had such test and if yes, whether there were no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and they were further asked when they had the last cervical smear, type of organisations / doctors from whom they had consulted for such test, and how often they had the test.

Overall, 54.2% of females aged 25 or above reported that they ever had a cervical smear - 51.0% had the test with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test and 3.2% had it because of symptoms or discomfort. Except for females aged 25-34 among whom 42.8% ever had the test, the proportion of females aged 35 or above who ever had a cervical smear decreased with age from 68.8% in those aged 35-44 to 15.2% in those aged 75 or above. The overall proportion of women aged 25-64 who had a cervical smear was 60.5% (Table 7.6a).

Table 7.6a: Proportion of females aged 25 or above who ever had a cervical smear by age group

	25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		25-64		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	216.5	42.8%	386.2	68.8%	425.7	67.1%	326.3	60.7%	116.3	41.5%	41.6	15.2%	1 354.6	60.5%	1 512.5	54.2%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test</i>	204.0	40.3%	374.4	66.7%	402.0	63.3%	305.8	56.9%	104.2	37.2%	34.0	12.5%	1 286.2	57.4%	1 424.4	51.0%
<i>Had cervical smear because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	12.5	2.5%	11.8	2.1%	23.7	3.7%	20.4	3.8%	12.1	4.3%	7.6	2.8%	68.4	3.1%	88.1	3.2%
No	289.9	57.2%	175.2	31.2%	208.9	32.9%	211.2	39.3%	163.9	58.5%	231.0	84.8%	885.3	39.5%	1 280.2	45.8%
Total	506.4	100.0%	561.4	100.0%	634.6	100.0%	537.5	100.0%	280.2	100.0%	272.6	100.0%	2 239.9	100.0%	2 792.7	100.0%

Base: All female respondents aged 25 or above.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for cervical smear among those who had the test when there were no symptoms or discomfort, generally more females consulted private doctors (55.0%) than public clinics or hospitals (37.4%). On the other hand, among those who had the test because of symptoms or discomfort, a higher proportion of females consulted doctors in public clinics or hospitals (49.0%) than private doctors (42.9%) (Table 7.6b).

Table 7.6b: Type of organisations consulted for cervical smear by age group

	25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or 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)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
Private clinics or hospitals	126.0	61.7%	234.6	62.7%	230.3	57.3%	134.8	44.1%	43.9	42.1%	13.5	39.8%	783.2	55.0%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	62.5	30.6%	118.3	31.6%	135.1	33.6%	145.8	47.7%	52.9	50.8%	18.0	53.0%	532.6	37.4%
Non-profit organisations or universities	14.4	7.0%	17.1	4.6%	32.6	8.1%	23.6	7.7%	5.5	5.3%	2.0	5.8%	95.2	6.7%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	1.2	0.6%	3.3	0.9%	3.0	0.7%	0.6	0.2%	1.3	1.2%	-	-	9.4	0.7%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.1%	-	-	0.5	0.5%	0.5	1.3%	1.4	0.1%
Laboratories	-	-	1.0	0.3%	0.6	0.1%	1.0	0.3%	-	-	-	-	2.6	0.2%
Total	204.0	100.0%	374.4	100.0%	402.0	100.0%	305.8	100.0%	104.2	100.0%	34.0	100.0%	1 424.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
Private clinics or hospitals	5.8	46.9%	5.0	42.4%	8.9	37.6%	9.0	44.2%	5.9	48.7%	3.1	41.1%	37.8	42.9%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	6.1	48.8%	5.3	45.1%	11.5	48.7%	10.8	53.0%	4.9	40.8%	4.5	58.9%	43.2	49.0%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.5	4.3%	-	-	1.8	7.8%	-	-	1.3	10.5%	-	-	3.7	4.1%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	-	-	1.0	8.6%	1.4	5.9%	0.6	2.8%	-	-	-	-	3.0	3.4%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	0.4	3.8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.5%
Laboratories	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	12.5	100.0%	11.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	20.4	100.0%	12.1	100.0%	7.6	100.0%	88.1	100.0%

Bases: 1. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to test.

2. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among females aged 25 or above who had a cervical smear when they had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test, 66.5% had their last cervical smear within 24 months preceding the survey, 10.2% had the test between 25 and 36 months, while 20.1% had the test more than 36 months preceding the survey. The average duration since their last cervical smear was 34.5 months among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the test, as compared to 80.0 months for those who had the test because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.6c).

Table 7.6c: Number of months since the last cervical smear by age group

Duration (months)	25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or 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)	%
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
Less than 13	121.9	59.7%	198.4	53.0%	196.2	48.8%	111.9	36.6%	26.3	25.3%	5.0	14.7%	659.7	46.3%
13 - 24	48.0	23.5%	79.4	21.2%	88.4	22.0%	55.1	18.0%	14.5	13.9%	2.6	7.6%	288.1	20.2%
More than 24	31.7	15.6%	91.0	24.3%	109.0	27.1%	122.7	40.1%	55.6	53.4%	21.1	62.1%	431.1	30.3%
25 - 36	16.1	7.9%	40.1	10.7%	41.9	10.4%	30.6	10.0%	14.7	14.1%	2.1	6.2%	145.4	10.2%
37 - 60	10.7	5.3%	32.0	8.6%	35.0	8.7%	27.9	9.1%	12.0	11.5%	4.3	12.7%	122.0	8.6%
More than 60	4.9	2.4%	18.9	5.1%	32.1	8.0%	64.2	21.0%	28.9	27.7%	14.7	43.2%	163.8	11.5%
Unknown / missing	2.4	1.2%	5.5	1.5%	8.5	2.1%	16.1	5.2%	7.8	7.4%	5.3	15.7%	45.5	3.2%
Total	204.0	100.0%	374.4	100.0%	402.0	100.0%	305.8	100.0%	104.2	100.0%	34.0	100.0%	1 424.4	100.0%
Mean ²	19.5		23.4		28.2		48.2		68.6		115.6		34.5	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³														
Less than 13	7.4	59.0%	7.5	63.4%	9.6	40.5%	4.7	22.9%	1.4	11.5%	-	-	30.5	34.6%
13 - 24	2.3	18.5%	1.6	13.5%	4.5	19.1%	2.9	14.0%	-	-	1.0	13.0%	12.3	13.9%
More than 24	2.8	22.5%	2.7	23.1%	8.7	36.9%	11.8	57.8%	10.2	84.2%	4.4	57.4%	40.6	46.1%
25 - 36	1.1	9.0%	0.4	3.8%	2.1	8.7%	0.9	4.6%	-	-	0.6	7.4%	5.1	5.8%
37 - 60	0.6	4.7%	1.4	11.6%	0.4	1.8%	1.4	6.8%	0.5	4.5%	0.6	7.4%	4.9	5.5%
More than 60	1.1	8.8%	0.9	7.7%	6.2	26.4%	9.5	46.5%	9.7	79.7%	3.2	42.6%	30.7	34.8%
Unknown / missing	-	-	-	-	0.8	3.5%	1.1	5.3%	0.5	4.3%	2.2	29.6%	4.7	5.3%
Total	12.5	100.0%	11.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	20.4	100.0%	12.1	100.0%	7.6	100.0%	88.1	100.0%
Mean ⁴	23.1		19.4		43.0		93.6		189.8		216.5		80.0	

- Bases: 1. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to test.
2. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear, with no symptoms or discomfort prior to test and had valid answer on how long ago since the last cervical smear.
3. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear because of symptoms or discomfort prior to test.
4. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last cervical smear.

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

Among females aged 25 or above who had cervical smear without any symptoms or discomfort prior to the test, 43.6% had no fixed schedule of repeat test and 6.5% reported that the most recent cervical smear was their first test. 47.6% had regular cervical smear once every one to three years and 1.5% had it more frequently at more than once a year. Among those who had the test because of symptoms or discomfort, 51.2% had no fixed schedule of repeat test, 22.6% reported that the most recent cervical smear was their first test, while 18.8% had the test regularly once every 1-3 years and 5.4% had more frequent tests than once a year (Table 7.6d).

Table 7.6d: Frequency of regular cervical smear by age group

	25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to test ¹														
More than once per year generally	5.4	2.6%	5.5	1.5%	5.3	1.3%	4.5	1.5%	-	-	-	-	20.7	1.5%
Once a year generally	49.1	24.1%	101.8	27.2%	103.5	25.7%	50.5	16.5%	11.3	10.8%	3.0	8.8%	319.1	22.4%
Once every 2 years generally	26.8	13.2%	64.9	17.3%	64.8	16.1%	41.2	13.5%	8.1	7.8%	1.7	5.0%	207.6	14.6%
Once every 3 years generally	16.1	7.9%	39.1	10.5%	53.3	13.3%	36.0	11.8%	5.8	5.6%	0.4	1.3%	150.7	10.6%
Once every 4 years or more generally	0.5	0.2%	2.0	0.5%	5.0	1.3%	2.9	0.9%	0.5	0.5%	0.6	1.7%	11.6	0.8%
The most recent one was my first cervical smear	25.8	12.6%	22.8	6.1%	16.8	4.2%	15.6	5.1%	6.0	5.7%	6.3	18.5%	93.3	6.5%
No fixed schedule of cervical smear	80.4	39.4%	138.3	36.9%	153.2	38.1%	154.5	50.5%	72.5	69.6%	22.0	64.8%	620.9	43.6%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.2%	-	-	-	-	0.6	<0.05%
Total	204.0	100.0%	374.4	100.0%	402.0	100.0%	305.8	100.0%	104.2	100.0%	34.0	100.0%	1 424.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²														
More than once per year generally	0.6	4.7%	1.0	8.6%	2.2	9.2%	1.0	4.7%	-	-	-	-	4.7	5.4%
Once a year generally	2.3	18.8%	1.5	12.5%	3.2	13.4%	0.6	2.8%	0.5	4.5%	-	-	8.1	9.2%
Once every 2 years generally	0.6	4.7%	1.0	8.7%	1.9	8.2%	1.0	4.8%	-	-	-	-	4.5	5.2%
Once every 3 years generally	0.6	4.7%	0.9	7.6%	-	-	1.9	9.5%	-	-	0.4	5.8%	3.9	4.4%
Once every 4 years or more generally	1.1	9.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.3%
The most recent one was my first cervical smear	3.7	29.9%	1.0	8.6%	5.6	23.5%	3.0	14.6%	4.8	39.3%	1.8	23.8%	19.9	22.6%
No fixed schedule of cervical smear	3.5	28.3%	6.4	53.9%	10.8	45.6%	13.0	63.5%	6.8	56.2%	4.7	61.4%	45.1	51.2%
Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	8.9%	0.7	0.8%
Total	12.5	100.0%	11.8	100.0%	23.7	100.0%	20.4	100.0%	12.1	100.0%	7.6	100.0%	88.1	100.0%

Bases: 1. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to test.

2. The female respondents aged 25 or above who had received cervical smear because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

The Cancer Expert Working Group on Cancer Prevention and Screening in Hong Kong recommended women aged 25 to 64 years old who ever had sexual experience to have regular cervical cancer screening by cervical smears every three years after two consecutive normal annual smears². In the PHS, the proportion of women aged 25 to 64 who had ever had cervical smear when there was no symptoms or discomfort was 57.4% (Table 7.6a).

7.7 Mammogram (for females only)

Mammogram is an examination of the breast using special X-ray machine. To establish the proportion of females who ever had mammogram, the PHS asked females aged 15 or above whether they ever had such an examination and if yes, whether there were any symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and they were further asked when they had the last examination, type of organisations / doctors from whom they had consulted for such examination, and how often they had the examination.

Overall, 25.4% of females aged 15 or above reported that they had a mammogram before with 23.4% had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination and 2.0% had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort. Among those who had the examination when there was no symptoms or discomfort, more women in the age groups of 45-54 (35.5%) and 55-64 (34.7%) had a mammogram examination than those in the other age groups (Table 7.7a).

Table 7.7a: Proportion of females aged 15 or above who ever had a mammogram by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of	
	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%
	('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)	
Yes	247.2	16.9%	245.1	38.6%	202.7	37.7%	85.8	30.6%	29.4	10.8%	810.1	25.4%
<i>With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination</i>	229.8	15.7%	225.0	35.5%	186.4	34.7%	80.9	28.9%	24.2	8.9%	746.4	23.4%
<i>Had examination because of symptoms or discomfort</i>	17.4	1.2%	20.1	3.2%	16.2	3.0%	4.8	1.7%	5.1	1.9%	63.7	2.0%
No	1 212.9	83.1%	389.5	61.4%	334.8	62.3%	194.4	69.4%	243.2	89.2%	2 374.9	74.6%
Total	1 460.1	100.0%	634.6	100.0%	537.5	100.0%	280.2	100.0%	272.6	100.0%	3 185.0	100.0%

Base: All female respondents.

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

Regarding the type of organisations / doctors consulted for the mammogram examination, overall speaking more women consulted private doctors than public clinics or hospitals regardless of whether they had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination (61.6% vs 32.0% respectively) or they had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort (52.2% vs 43.2% respectively) (Table 7.7b).

Table 7.7b: Type of organisations consulted for mammogram by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of		No. of	
	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%	persons	%
	('000)		('000)	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹												
Private clinics or hospitals	179.2	78.0%	146.9	65.3%	91.6	49.1%	32.8	40.5%	9.5	39.1%	459.9	61.6%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	37.8	16.5%	60.2	26.8%	85.3	45.8%	43.0	53.1%	12.9	53.1%	239.2	32.0%
Non-profit organisations or universities	9.3	4.0%	14.1	6.3%	8.4	4.5%	4.8	5.9%	0.4	1.8%	37.0	5.0%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	3.4	1.5%	3.8	1.7%	1.1	0.6%	0.4	0.5%	0.5	1.9%	9.3	1.2%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	4.2%	1.0	0.1%
Total	229.8	100.0%	225.0	100.0%	186.4	100.0%	80.9	100.0%	24.2	100.0%	746.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²												
Private clinics or hospitals	13.6	78.1%	9.0	45.0%	6.9	42.6%	1.9	39.9%	1.8	34.4%	33.3	52.2%
Public clinics or hospitals (including Hospital Authority and Department of Health)	2.7	15.3%	10.1	50.1%	8.5	52.4%	2.9	60.1%	3.4	65.6%	27.5	43.2%
Non-profit organisations or universities	0.6	3.3%	-	-	0.4	2.5%	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.5%
Hospitals or clinics in Mainland China	0.6	3.3%	1.0	4.9%	0.4	2.5%	-	-	-	-	2.0	3.1%
Hospitals or clinics in other countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	17.4	100.0%	20.1	100.0%	16.2	100.0%	4.8	100.0%	5.1	100.0%	63.7	100.0%

Bases: 1. The female respondents who had mammogram and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the mammogram.

2. The female respondents who had mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

Among females aged 15 or above who had undergone a mammogram examination when they had no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination, 63.0% had their last examinations within 24 months preceding the survey and 32.7% had the examination more than 24 months preceding the survey. The average duration since their last mammogram was 38.0 months among those with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination, as compared to 53.7 months for those who had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort (Table 7.7c).

Table 7.7c: Number of months since the last mammogram by age group

Duration (months)	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%	No. of persons	%
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹												
Less than 13	118.0	51.3%	96.4	42.8%	67.1	36.0%	20.5	25.4%	6.0	24.9%	308.1	41.3%
13 - 24	47.7	20.7%	52.0	23.1%	43.0	23.1%	17.5	21.6%	2.2	9.1%	162.4	21.8%
More than 24	57.0	24.8%	68.9	30.6%	68.6	36.8%	36.7	45.3%	12.5	51.8%	243.8	32.7%
Unknown / missing	7.1	3.1%	7.7	3.4%	7.7	4.1%	6.2	7.7%	3.4	14.2%	32.1	4.3%
Total	229.8	100.0%	225.0	100.0%	186.4	100.0%	80.9	100.0%	24.2	100.0%	746.4	100.0%
Mean ²	26.5		31.5		45.5		59.0		88.3		38.0	
Because of symptoms or discomfort ³												
Less than 13	6.7	38.3%	8.2	40.9%	3.9	23.7%	1.6	33.0%	0.5	8.8%	20.8	32.6%
13 - 24	2.1	12.1%	3.5	17.6%	2.4	14.8%	-	-	-	-	8.1	12.6%
More than 24	8.2	47.2%	7.4	36.8%	10.0	61.5%	3.2	67.0%	4.3	82.8%	33.1	51.9%
Unknown / missing	0.4	2.4%	0.9	4.7%	-	-	-	-	0.4	8.3%	1.8	2.8%
Total	17.4	100.0%	20.1	100.0%	16.2	100.0%	4.8	100.0%	5.1	100.0%	63.7	100.0%
Mean ⁴	41.1		31.6		52.5		91.3		154.8		53.7	

Bases: 1. The female respondents who had mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the mammogram.

2. The female respondents who had mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort prior to mammogram and had valid answer on how long ago since the last mammogram.

3. The female respondents who had mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort prior to mammogram.

4. The female respondents who had mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort and had valid answer on how long ago since the last mammogram.

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

Among females aged 15 or above who had mammogram with no symptoms or discomfort prior to the examination, nearly half (49.3%) of them reported that they had no fixed schedule for repeat examinations and 14.1% reported that the most recent examination was their first ones. 0.5% had mammogram more than once per year generally, 31.1% had it once every one to two years, while 5.0% took the examinations less frequently. Among those who had the examination because of symptoms or discomfort, 42.6% had no fixed schedule of repeat examinations, 36.1% reported the most recent examination was the first ones, while 17.6% had the examination regularly once every one to two years and 1.5% had more frequent examinations than once a year, 2.3% had longer frequencies of examinations (Table 7.7d).

Table 7.7d: Frequency of regular mammogram by age group

	Below 45		45-54		55-64		65-74		75 or above		Total	
	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%	No. of	%
	persons		persons		persons		persons		persons		persons	
	('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)		('000)	
With no symptoms or discomfort prior to examination ¹												
More than once per year generally	1.0	0.4%	0.6	0.2%	2.2	1.2%	-	-	-	-	3.8	0.5%
Once a year generally	49.4	21.5%	41.5	18.4%	22.3	12.0%	8.1	10.0%	0.6	2.3%	121.9	16.3%
Once every 2 years generally	31.5	13.7%	34.6	15.4%	33.4	17.9%	9.7	12.0%	1.1	4.6%	110.3	14.8%
Once every 3 years generally	5.1	2.2%	13.7	6.1%	11.4	6.1%	3.3	4.1%	-	-	33.5	4.5%
Once every 4 years or more generally	1.4	0.6%	1.0	0.5%	1.1	0.6%	0.4	0.5%	-	-	4.0	0.5%
The most recent one was my first mammogram	37.7	16.4%	27.0	12.0%	24.2	13.0%	10.7	13.2%	5.7	23.4%	105.2	14.1%
No fixed schedule of mammogram examinations	103.7	45.1%	106.7	47.4%	91.7	49.2%	48.8	60.3%	16.9	69.7%	367.7	49.3%
Total	229.8	100.0%	225.0	100.0%	186.4	100.0%	80.9	100.0%	24.2	100.0%	746.4	100.0%
Because of symptoms or discomfort ²												
More than once per year generally	-	-	0.4	2.2%	0.5	3.2%	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.5%
Once a year generally	2.3	13.0%	3.0	15.0%	1.0	6.0%	-	-	-	-	6.3	9.8%
Once every 2 years generally	0.6	3.3%	2.6	12.9%	0.8	5.0%	0.5	10.8%	0.4	8.3%	4.9	7.7%
Once every 3 years generally	-	-	-	-	1.0	6.3%	0.4	9.0%	-	-	1.5	2.3%
Once every 4 years or more generally	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The most recent one was my first mammogram	9.4	53.8%	6.8	33.9%	3.9	23.9%	1.9	40.0%	1.0	19.2%	23.0	36.1%
No fixed schedule of mammogram examinations	5.2	29.9%	7.2	36.0%	9.0	55.6%	1.9	40.2%	3.7	72.5%	27.1	42.6%
Total	17.4	100.0%	20.1	100.0%	16.2	100.0%	4.8	100.0%	5.1	100.0%	63.7	100.0%

Bases: 1. The female respondents who had mammogram and with no symptoms or discomfort prior to mammogram.

2. The female respondents who had mammogram because of symptoms or discomfort.

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

7.8 Health Screening for Cardiovascular Risk Factors

High blood cholesterol is a risk factor for CHD 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 had your last blood cholesterol checked?”

Overall, 55.4% of people aged 15 or above had their blood cholesterol measured before. The proportion of respondents who had their blood cholesterol checked was higher in females (57.2%) than in males (53.5%) (Table 7.8a). The proportion of people who had cholesterol checked before tended to increase with age generally and people in the 75-84 age group recorded the highest proportion (82.8%) of having their blood cholesterol checked (Table 7.8b). Among those persons who reported that they had blood cholesterol checked before, 95.7% had the test done in the last five years (Table 7.8c and Table 7.8d).

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 five years. If an affirmative response was given, they were further asked when they had their last blood pressure checked.

The survey revealed that three-quarters (75.0%) of people had their blood pressure checked by a doctor or other health professionals in the past five years. The proportion was higher in females (77.1%) than in males (72.6%) (Table 7.8a). The proportion increased from 50.2% for those aged 15-24 to 90.8% for those aged 85 or above, with people in the 75-84 age group (93.1%) recording the highest proportion having their blood pressure checked (Table 7.8b). Among those persons who reported that they had their blood pressure checked in the past five years, 92.6% reported that they had their last blood pressure checked within the past two years (Table 7.8c and Table 7.8d).

Blood sugar measurement is performed to detect the presence of diabetes 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 had their last blood sugar checked.

About 57.7% of people aged 15 or above had their blood sugar checked before. The proportion was higher in females (60.2%) than in males (55.1%) (Table 7.8a). The proportion of persons who had their

blood sugar checked increased from 20.0% in the 15-24 age group to 82.4% in the 75-84 age group and 79.7% in the 85 or above age group (Table 7.8b). Around 92.4% of persons who reported that they had their last blood sugar checked within the last three years (Table 7.8c and Table 7.8d).

Table 7.8a: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had screening for cardiovascular risk factors (blood cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar) by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Blood cholesterol						
Yes	1 822.7	57.2%	1 547.5	53.5%	3 370.3	55.4%
No	1 361.8	42.8%	1 347.3	46.5%	2 709.1	44.6%
Don't know	0.4	<0.05%	0.4	<0.05%	0.8	<0.05%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%
Blood pressure*						
Yes	2 455.7	77.1%	2 102.0	72.6%	4 557.7	75.0%
No	729.3	22.9%	793.2	27.4%	1 522.5	25.0%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%
Blood sugar						
Yes	1 916.8	60.2%	1 593.9	55.1%	3 510.7	57.7%
No	1 268.2	39.8%	1 301.3	44.9%	2 569.5	42.3%
Total	3 185.0	100.0%	2 895.2	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Notes: * The item on blood pressure refers to whether the respondents had their blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey.

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

Table 7.8b: Proportion of population aged 15 or above who ever had screening for cardiovascular risk factors (blood cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar) by age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75-84		85 or 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)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Blood cholesterol																		
Yes	113.5	14.2%	365.9	38.1%	531.3	52.0%	747.4	63.2%	780.9	73.3%	442.3	78.4%	292.1	82.8%	97.1	74.2%	3 370.3	55.4%
No	688.1	85.8%	595.5	61.9%	489.9	48.0%	435.6	36.8%	284.6	26.7%	121.3	21.5%	60.2	17.1%	33.7	25.8%	2 709.1	44.6%
Don't know	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.1%	0.4	0.1%	-	-	0.8	<0.05%
Total	801.6	100.0%	961.4	100.0%	1 021.2	100.0%	1 183.0	100.0%	1 065.5	100.0%	564.0	100.0%	352.7	100.0%	130.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%
Blood pressure*																		
Yes	402.6	50.2%	627.1	65.2%	735.9	72.1%	936.7	79.2%	905.7	85.0%	502.5	89.1%	328.5	93.1%	118.8	90.8%	4 557.7	75.0%
No	399.0	49.8%	334.3	34.8%	285.3	27.9%	246.3	20.8%	159.8	15.0%	61.5	10.9%	24.2	6.9%	12.0	9.2%	1 522.5	25.0%
Total	801.6	100.0%	961.4	100.0%	1 021.2	100.0%	1 183.0	100.0%	1 065.5	100.0%	564.0	100.0%	352.7	100.0%	130.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%
Blood sugar																		
Yes	160.3	20.0%	433.5	45.1%	574.8	56.3%	752.7	63.6%	761.9	71.5%	432.5	76.7%	290.7	82.4%	104.2	79.7%	3 510.7	57.7%
No	641.3	80.0%	527.9	54.9%	446.4	43.7%	430.3	36.4%	303.6	28.5%	131.5	23.3%	62.0	17.6%	26.6	20.3%	2 569.5	42.3%
Total	801.6	100.0%	961.4	100.0%	1 021.2	100.0%	1 183.0	100.0%	1 065.5	100.0%	564.0	100.0%	352.7	100.0%	130.8	100.0%	6 080.2	100.0%

Base: All respondents.

Notes: * The item on blood pressure refers to whether the respondents had their blood pressure checked in the 5 years preceding the survey.
Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

Table 7.8c: Number of months since last screening for cardiovascular risk factors (blood cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar) by gender

	Female		Male		Total	
	No. of persons (‘000)	%	No. of persons (‘000)	%	No. of persons (‘000)	%
Blood cholesterol¹						
60 and less	1 746.5	95.8%	1 479.4	95.6%	3 225.9	95.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	1 310.7	71.9%	1 116.6	72.2%	2 427.3	72.0%
13 – 24	238.8	13.1%	187.9	12.1%	426.7	12.7%
25 – 36	104.8	5.7%	96.7	6.2%	201.5	6.0%
37 – 48	42.8	2.3%	37.6	2.4%	80.4	2.4%
49 – 60	49.5	2.7%	40.7	2.6%	90.2	2.7%
More than 60	76.2	4.2%	68.1	4.4%	144.4	4.3%
Total	1 822.7	100.0%	1 547.5	100.0%	3 370.3	100.0%
Mean	17.6		18.0		17.8	
Blood pressure²						
24 and less	2 290.9	93.3%	1 928.4	91.7%	4 219.3	92.6%
<i>Less than 13</i>	2 087.2	85.0%	1 737.8	82.7%	3 825.0	83.9%
13 – 24	203.7	8.3%	190.6	9.1%	394.4	8.7%
25 – 36	96.8	3.9%	109.1	5.2%	205.9	4.5%
37 – 48	42.5	1.7%	37.2	1.8%	79.8	1.8%
49 – 60	25.5	1.0%	27.2	1.3%	52.7	1.2%
Total	2 455.7	100.0%	2 102.0	100.0%	4 557.7	100.0%
Mean	9.1		9.9		9.5	
Blood sugar³						
36 and less	1 762.9	92.0%	1 479.8	92.8%	3 242.7	92.4%
<i>Less than 13</i>	1 432.1	74.7%	1 198.8	75.2%	2 630.9	74.9%
13 – 24	236.1	12.3%	185.4	11.6%	421.5	12.0%
25 – 36	94.7	4.9%	95.6	6.0%	190.2	5.4%
37 – 48	42.7	2.2%	26.4	1.7%	69.1	2.0%
49 – 60	45.4	2.4%	38.1	2.4%	83.4	2.4%
More than 60	65.9	3.4%	49.7	3.1%	115.6	3.3%
Total	1 916.8	100.0%	1 593.9	100.0%	3 510.7	100.0%
Mean	16.0		15.6		15.8	

Bases: 1. The respondents who had blood cholesterol checked.

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

3. The respondents who had blood sugar checked.

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

Table 7.8d: Number of months since last screening for cardiovascular risk factors (blood cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar) by age group

	15-24		25-34		35-44		45-54		55-64		65-74		75-84		85 or 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)	%	No. of persons ('000)	%
Blood cholesterol¹																		
60 and less	108.5	95.6%	355.7	97.2%	493.7	92.9%	712.5	95.3%	746.0	95.5%	427.5	96.7%	287.7	98.5%	94.3	97.1%	3 225.9	95.7%
<i>Less than 13</i>	77.3	68.2%	223.2	61.0%	330.5	62.2%	498.7	66.7%	575.8	73.7%	371.5	84.0%	263.2	90.1%	87.0	89.7%	2 427.3	72.0%
13 – 24	17.9	15.8%	76.8	21.0%	80.5	15.1%	109.8	14.7%	93.6	12.0%	30.1	6.8%	13.8	4.7%	4.2	4.3%	426.7	12.7%
25 – 36	8.0	7.1%	28.6	7.8%	43.9	8.3%	56.6	7.6%	41.1	5.3%	15.0	3.4%	6.4	2.2%	1.9	1.9%	201.5	6.0%
37 – 48	4.2	3.7%	12.8	3.5%	17.0	3.2%	24.0	3.2%	16.7	2.1%	3.7	0.8%	1.9	0.7%	-	-	80.4	2.4%
49 – 60	1.0	0.9%	14.3	3.9%	21.8	4.1%	23.3	3.1%	18.8	2.4%	7.2	1.6%	2.5	0.9%	1.2	1.3%	90.2	2.7%
More than 60	5.0	4.4%	10.2	2.8%	37.6	7.1%	34.8	4.7%	34.9	4.5%	14.8	3.3%	4.3	1.5%	2.8	2.9%	144.4	4.3%
Total	113.5	100.0%	365.9	100.0%	531.3	100.0%	747.4	100.0%	780.9	100.0%	442.3	100.0%	292.1	100.0%	97.1	100.0%	3 370.3	100.0%
Mean	19.4		19.7		22.9		19.9		17.4		13.6		10.0		10.1		17.8	
Blood pressure²																		
24 and less	359.2	89.2%	563.2	89.8%	662.2	90.0%	864.0	92.2%	848.4	93.7%	482.5	96.0%	322.7	98.2%	117.1	98.6%	4 219.3	92.6%
<i>Less than 13</i>	314.1	78.0%	473.2	75.5%	578.1	78.6%	779.9	83.3%	782.6	86.4%	464.9	92.5%	318.9	97.1%	113.2	95.3%	3 825.0	83.9%
13 – 24	45.1	11.2%	90.0	14.3%	84.1	11.4%	84.2	9.0%	65.8	7.3%	17.6	3.5%	3.7	1.1%	3.9	3.3%	394.4	8.7%
25 – 36	28.3	7.0%	39.7	6.3%	45.5	6.2%	43.3	4.6%	32.6	3.6%	11.7	2.3%	3.8	1.2%	1.0	0.8%	205.9	4.5%
37 – 48	10.0	2.5%	13.8	2.2%	19.0	2.6%	16.1	1.7%	16.3	1.8%	3.0	0.6%	1.6	0.5%	-	-	79.8	1.8%
49 – 60	5.0	1.3%	10.4	1.7%	9.1	1.2%	13.2	1.4%	8.4	0.9%	5.3	1.1%	0.4	0.1%	0.7	0.6%	52.7	1.2%
Total	402.6	100.0%	627.1	100.0%	735.9	100.0%	936.7	100.0%	905.7	100.0%	502.5	100.0%	328.5	100.0%	118.8	100.0%	4 557.7	100.0%
Mean	12.3		12.3		11.5		9.9		8.5		6.0		4.4		4.6		9.5	
Blood sugar³																		
36 and less	148.0	92.4%	393.8	90.8%	504.2	87.7%	685.3	91.0%	707.2	92.8%	416.5	96.3%	286.5	98.5%	101.3	97.1%	3 242.7	92.4%
<i>Less than 13</i>	114.6	71.5%	280.4	64.7%	372.0	64.7%	533.7	70.9%	584.0	76.7%	377.9	87.4%	272.2	93.6%	96.0	92.1%	2 630.9	74.9%
13 – 24	22.8	14.2%	80.7	18.6%	87.9	15.3%	101.9	13.5%	88.3	11.6%	27.9	6.4%	8.3	2.9%	3.7	3.6%	421.5	12.0%
25 – 36	10.6	6.6%	32.7	7.5%	44.3	7.7%	49.7	6.6%	34.8	4.6%	10.7	2.5%	5.9	2.0%	1.5	1.5%	190.2	5.4%
37 – 48	3.9	2.5%	13.6	3.1%	18.6	3.2%	15.4	2.1%	13.3	1.7%	2.7	0.6%	1.1	0.4%	0.3	0.3%	69.1	2.0%
49 – 60	2.3	1.4%	15.5	3.6%	19.2	3.3%	22.5	3.0%	16.2	2.1%	6.3	1.4%	0.9	0.3%	0.5	0.5%	83.4	2.4%
More than 60	6.0	3.7%	10.6	2.4%	32.8	5.7%	29.5	3.9%	25.2	3.3%	7.1	1.6%	2.3	0.8%	2.1	2.0%	115.6	3.3%
Total	160.3	100.0%	433.5	100.0%	574.8	100.0%	752.7	100.0%	761.9	100.0%	432.5	100.0%	290.7	100.0%	104.2	100.0%	3 510.7	100.0%
Mean	16.9		18.2		20.8		17.9		15.4		10.6		7.7		8.9		15.8	

Bases: 1. The respondents who had blood cholesterol checked.

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

3. The respondents who had blood sugar checked.

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

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